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Mrs. S. Ghose begs to intimate to her numerous patrons that she has opened a photographic studio at the above address.
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"Sreemuttee Sarojini Ghosh, who has set up the Mahila Art Studio at 10, Cornwallis Street, is a Hindu lady artist of great skill whose works we have seen to admire. She has executed for us some orders, and the way these have been finished leave no doubt as to her efficiency and ability as a photographer. One's interest in her is the more enhanced when her excellent work is taken into consideration Sreemuttee Sarojini deserves encouragement and patronage at the hands of her countrymen, specially as she can enter the zenana and photograph the ladies of a Hindu family. She also undertakes permanent bromide enlargements on platinum types, at very moderate rates."—*Amrita Bazar Patrika*.
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ওষ্ঠ সংস্করণ।

মূল্য পাঁচ আনা মাত্র। ডাকমাণ্ডল অর্ধ আনা।
এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অনুসারে চিকিৎসা করিলে সর্পাঘাত ব্যক্তি কখনই মরিবে না। ইহার চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের ভাষা এত সরল, যে বৈজ্ঞানিকেরা পর্যন্তও এই পুস্তক পাঠ করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে পারে। গ্রন্থকার ত্রিশ বৎসর বাত এই প্রণালী অনুসারে অনেক সর্পাঘাত ব্যক্তিকে নিজহস্তে চিকিৎসা করিয়া আরাম করিয়াছেন, এবং অপ-রকেও আরাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।

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This unrivalled medicine has never been known to fail for nervous debility, premature decay of vitality, loss of manhood and memory, want of strength and energy. It also revives the drooping and languishing spirit of the despondent, imparts tone and vigour to the weak frame. In short, it makes one healthy and happy, adds joy and bliss to the conjugal life. Price for 2 weeks' use Rs. 2-4 with packing.
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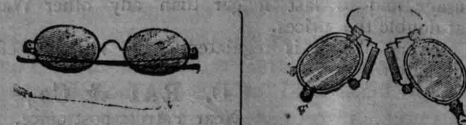
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Best sorts of Vegetable seeds—Such as different varieties of Sage, Brinjals, Kumrah, Chichingah, Karola, Uchha, okra, Cucumber &c. &c. a large packet Rs. 2, a small packet Re. 1.

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DR. BISWAS

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

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

The Hon'ble G. M. Chitnavis C. I. E. Member of H. E. the Viceroy's Legislative Council, writes:—"The Acidity Pills are giving satisfaction to all those on whom I tried them."

Baru Bhobo Tosh Bannerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Dacca, writes under date the 6th March, 1898:—"Many thanks for your Acidity Pills. I was suffering from Dyspepsia and Colic pain for the last 15 years. I tried many kinds of medicines to no effect. Some of them gave me temporary relief only for a day or two. But since I have been taking your pills (3 weeks or more) I have not had any attack for a moment even during this time. The Pill is an excellent medicine for this nasty disease which is very painful. Please send me three boxes of the Pills per V. P. P. at your earliest convenience and oblige."

The Amrita Bazar Patrika says:—"Dr. H. Biswas's Acidity Pill has an extraordinary digestive power so that men suffering from Dyspepsia may give a fair trial. It is exclusively prepared from some active herbs and hence is perfectly safe."

Babu T. K. Bakshi, Professor Government College, Jubbulpur, writes Dr. Biswas's medicine for acidity and dyspepsia has been tried in our family with marked efficacy and I can safely declare that sufferers who may give it a fair trial are sure to derive much benefit from it.

Babu, Nitraya Gopal Dutt, Zemindar Mozilpur writes:—"I have used your Pill and can bear testimony to its marvellous effects. Before I had used your Pill for a week it cured me of acute Acidity which all other remedies failed to cure."

Kumar Hemendra Krishna of the Sovabazar family, writes:—"I am glad to state that have been Red much benefit by the use of a box of your Acidity pills. Really I did not expect so happy a result. I send you two more boxes."

Babu P. De, B. A., Head-Master, Shibpur, H. C. E. School, writes:—"Dr. H. Biswas's Acidity Pill is a Evergreen remedy for Acidity and Dyspepsia in general. So is prepared from innocent drugs and therefore perfectly harmless. Those that have been suffering from Acidity and Dyspepsia will find in the said Pill a speedy and permanent cure. Dr. Biswas deserves the patronage of the public at large."

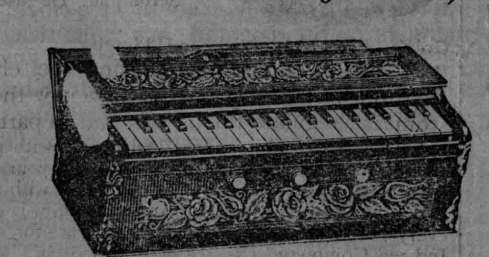
P. S. I have recommended your Pills to some of my friends who are similarly suffering. The Acidity Pill is a vegetable preparation. We guarantee a cure and

Refund the Price in case of failure.
Price Rupee One per box. V. P. charge annas 4. Do not fail to give it a trial when every other medicine pattern or prescribed, has failed to give you relief. You will realise its worth by a week's use only.

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MOHUN FLUTE-HARMONIUM
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বিশ্বাস।
মহামাত্রা মহাশয়ী ভারতবর্ষীয় বীর-
জুগলি উপলক্ষে—
মৌমপ্রকাশের মূল্য হ্রাস।
বারিক মূল্য মায় ভামাণ্ডল
অদম্য পক্ষে অর্ধ মূল্য
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শ্রীমদ্রাধি ভট্টাচার্য—কার্য সম্পাদক।
১৩নং শিবদায়াগ দানের গলি, কলিকাতা।

THE LUSHAI BOAR HUNT.

SIRDAR BHAGWAN SINGH, writes to the Pioneer:—

The Lushais are great sportsmen. A party of several hunters will often remain in the jungle for days and if, by chance, any of them succeed in shooting a wild pig with tusks, called by the Lushais Sa-nghal he leaves it in the jungle and comes to his home and informs his relatives who in their turn inform their friends: this is called shol shim by the Lushais. If he has only hit it badly and is not sure whether it is dead or not the young bachelors will gladly turn out and their spears to pursue it, thinking this good fun and exercise. But if the boar is killed outright then only women, old men and children accompany him to get the flesh; sometimes as many as 40 or 50 people including children.

The first person who reaches the pig in the jungle may cut off and take away one of the legs either fore or hind whichever he chooses the next up has the next choice and then the third. If the gun with which the boar is shot has been borrowed then the third person cannot take a leg as it will be given to the owner of the gun. The fourth leg is reserved for the chief of the village.

The entrails are taken by the four councillors of the village, cleaned by them, and some given to the man who shot the animal. The blacksmith (thir-deng) of the village is by custom entitled to three of the ribs. All these persons have to bring one pot of beer (zu) or a few bottles of (rak-zu) distilled spirit to the house of the shooter. The other flesh of the boar is divided equally among others who went to the jungle. The head is carried to the village by the children and kept in the sportsman's verandah where the paddy is pounded. All the villagers come to see the head of the boar and praise the man for his bravery in having shot it, as the wild pig is considered to be a very dangerous animal when attacked by any one and only those who are quick and brave manage to escape from its attack when once wounded.

On the return journey, as soon as the party reaches the outskirts of the village, the women and others who did not go to the jungle, come out of the village carrying some chungas of beer and bottles of liquor, as a mark of respect to the sportsman and the party, sometimes giving them a good drink. Sometimes too they let off guns and shout for joy. After this they enter the village.

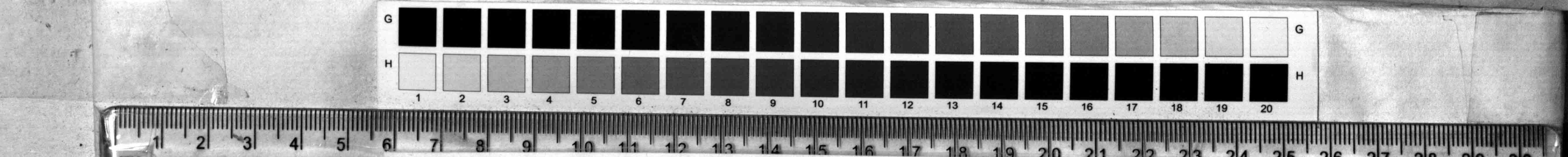
And when every one has seen the head and praised the hero's bravery, it is brought inside the house and all commence to drink and sing songs. And now the liquor is brought to the house of the successful hunter by those who took the leg and entrails of the boar—each man a big pot of beer or some bottles of liquor, likewise all other friends and villagers in whose house he had provided liquor or similar festivities. Then the poor sportsman is forced to purchase quantities of beer and liquor: the more money he spends the greater his name will become.

Youths and girls dance together and sing the whole night through, sport being the principal subject of their songs. They often lift the head of the boar in their hands and then dance and sing a song of "Rongloio-Rongloio mal-zae Rongloio," meaning that they address the boar's head and say "go and tell your fellow animals to come in the nearest jungle so that we may kill them and drink and make merriment as we are doing now." After they have kept this up for the night, he who shot the boar has to perform another ceremony which is called by the Lushais sa-ai which means killing a tame pig in the place of the wild one. If the sportsman has a pig he will kill it at once and give a feast to all who made merry with him overnight. Then the boar's head will be cleaned and stripped of all flesh from the bones. The skin of the head and ears is given away to the sportsman's best friend who in his turn will do the same by him when he happens to shoot a boar. But if, as it sometimes happens, this friend is in some distant village, the skin is roasted and sent to him there. Again when such friends are separated by some cause, such as the migration of one to too great a distance, an arrangement is made so that the sportsman can give the skin of the head and ears to some one in his own village, this person standing as it were for the absent friend. All friends living only a day or two's march away are bound to come when summoned and to bring liquor or money with them to the feast. That evening all friends and relatives live the sportsman a fowl each, all of which are killed by him and the villagers feasted. The aero of the day himself has to kill a white hock the feathers of which are thrust into the snout and skull of the boar. The beak, feet and the wings, heart, liver, etc., are strung thorough with cord and suspended as a wreath round the skull. Thus adorned it is hung in the front verandah called by the Lushais sum-hum meaning literally a place where paddy is husked.

The fowl-killing ceremony is named by the Lushais Sa-lu-shuan. It is not necessary to perform the above ceremony the day after the boar is slain. It is in fact performed when the man who shot the animal considers himself rich enough to defray all the expenses connected with feasting. I have seen the ceremony performed as long as two or three years after the boar was shot.

The fact of having performed the ceremony of Sa-lu-shuan and Sa-ai entitles the slayer to display the boar's head as a trophy in his verandah. But until these things are done the head must be kept in the house and the boar can never accompany the hunter, if he dies in the meantime, to the next world. It is a firm belief among the Lushais that all the animals a man shoots in this world will follow him to the next, if he has carried out the proper ceremonies in the case of each and be a great help to him making him honoured as a brave, rich and liberal man by all the persons he meets there. Finally seven trunks of the Thing-sia tree are brought from the jungle and fixed into the ground a circle to the west of the front door of the house to show that the man of the house has shot a wild boar and has undergone all the ceremonies in this connection.

As a Lushai has but few opportunities for merry-making besides the kuts (dances held three times a year) in connection with the sowing and reaping of the crops, the above is but one of the many ceremonies invented by them as an excuse to indulge their great love of drink. According to their customs, no ceremonies of any kind can be considered complete without their national beverage "zu."



THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 22, 1898.

HOW THE CURRENCY MEASURE
HAS ADDED TO THE PO-
VERTY OF THE INDIANS.

It is impossible to overstate the disastrous effect of the currency measure upon the vast masses of this country. In order to understand the real situation, it is necessary to realize the appalling poverty to which they had already been reduced before the closing of the mints. In good old days of the East India Company, India was plundered openly and the spoil sent across the seas. This spoliation is impossible under the enlightened rule of the Crown; but, nevertheless, owing to a variety of causes, a constant and increasing drain upon her resources is going on.

A large debt was incurred by the India Government to pay for England's conquests in India; and during the Mutiny and the two succeeding years, there was a deficit of more than thirty crores of rupees. Large sums have since been borrowed for railway and other works, the interest on which has to be paid in the equivalent of gold, and large sums are also remitted home annually by those in the military and civil services, pensioners, traders, merchants, and others whose pecuniary interests are, after all, bound up in the country from which they come, and not in the country by which they are paid.

In addition to the above, there is the most serious fact that India, whose standard is silver, has been tied to a country whose standard is gold, in consequence of which the burden of the gold debt, which she has been made to borrow, has been steadily increasing during the last two decades, so that, to the Indian people, the loss by exchange alone is not less than £3,000,000 sterling a year, for the payment of which they get no benefit whatever in return.

According to competent authorities, the financial drain upon India, combined with the increasing burden of her gold debt, which has rendered further borrowing necessary, has been so great, that if a fair valuation of her assets (including railways, irrigation works and loans for productive works) and liabilities were made, it would be found that she was in a state of insolvency while her debt was increasing, and a limit of profitable taxation had been reached.

Nor is this all. The Indian people are poor—poor beyond belief. While in England the average annual income per head of the population has been placed as high as £42, the average annual income in India is but from 20s. to 30s.; and when we consider that in this sum is included the salaries paid to the official classes, from the Viceroy downwards, we can, to some extent, gauge the poverty of a people whose annual income per head is put down at such a low figure.

The banking system of the West is unknown to the people of this country. So what the ordinary Indians do, is to convert their savings into ornaments, which they present to their wives who wear them during festivals, but, as a rule, lock them up for use in times of need. In this way, the only valuable property which the poor of India hoard up, is uncoined silver. And the hoards of the Indian people, in the form of bangles, trinkets and bullion, have been estimated at 1,000,000,000 oz.

Let us now see to what extent has this property of the Indian been depreciated by the currency measure. In 1893, with an open mint, for every 180 grains of silver that he tendered he got one rupee or 16 annas. With the closed mint with the present price of silver for the same number of grains of silver, he gets only 10 annas; that is to say, the Indian Government has taken away, by legislative enactment, without warning or notice, from the very poorest class of Her Majesty's subjects about 37½ per cent. of their hoards!

Here is the evidence of Sir David Barbour on the subject before the Currency Commission:

What do you say to the statements which have been made in this country that the action of the closing of the mints has been to rob the people of India of a proportion of their property by depriving it of its convertible character? There can be no question whatever that the closing of the mints has deprived the people of the power of converting their ornaments into rupees; but I am not aware that people want to convert their ornaments into rupees, except to sell them.

Although the practice did prevail to some extent, you do not think that it was a universal practice, the constant taking of ornaments to the mints to be coined? I think the figures show that there were very few ornaments taken to the mints. In times of famine, I believe, some have been taken.

The point is not whether they take ornaments to the mints to be coined or not, but whether or not the value of the silver in their possession—their only property—has been nearly halved by the arbitrary action of the Government. As there is no question about this matter, so what our enlightened Government should do, in righting this great wrong, is to purchase all the silver from the people at prices which prevailed before the closing of the mints, and pay them in gold. This is the only alternative left to the Government to neutralize the effects of a measure which, when properly realized, will create the greatest possible distress and discontent amongst the masses of India.

It was during times of famine, as a rule, that the Indian peasant parted with his silver property. By pledging, say, 10 tolas,

he used to get, say, eight rupees. But the Mahajan, (the money-lender) at the present prices of silver, will give him only Rs. 5 for ten tolas. By the currency measure, therefore, several times more poverty has been added to the appalling one in which the ryot had already been sunk. The position is all the more grave when it is considered that the famine in this country had always been rather of money than of food. When the last famine occurred, the Viceroy telegraphed that money was wanted, not grain, of which there was sufficient in the country as a whole; and it is an enormous loss of money that the people are going to suffer from the closing of the mints. How many deaths were caused by the great famine of the last year, will probably be never known; but it is a significant fact that while it raged a pound of rice in India was cheaper than a pound of wheat in London.

As the rupee is getting scarce day by day, people have to purchase it at a higher cost than before. This means that they have to part with a larger quantity of their produce for a rupee than before. But the Government wants its demands in rupees. Since the Government has by its action made the rupee scarce, the Government ought now, to be just, to take its dues in kind. So the closing of the mints has not only depreciated the property of the ryots, but reduced their earnings, or rather increased the Government demands upon them.

MATTERS RELATING TO MR.
TILAK.

The story published in these columns in regard to the two conditions imposed upon Mr. Tilak, is substantially accurate; but it contains one or two points which have been misunderstood. What happened was this: Mr. Brewin saw Mr. Tilak on Saturday, the 3rd. September, and proposed the conditions to him. Mr. Tilak accepted the first at once, which was that he would not take part in any demonstration held in his honour. But he refused the second, which was that the Government would have the right of putting him again to jail, without trial, for the remitted term of his imprisonment, if he wrote or spoke seditious in future. He at last agreed so far as to take the advice of his friends in regard to the second condition, and he asked permission to consult them. This was at first refused by the authorities; but when the matter was brought to the notice of the Government, the latter agreed to allow Mr. Tilak an opportunity of consulting Mr. Khare.

Thereupon Mr. Police Commissioner Vincent was wired to see Mr. Tilak's friend on the subject. Mr. Khare was accordingly interviewed by Mr. Vincent at 11 o'clock in the night, on Sunday, and was told that, if he wished, he might go to Mr. Tilak, who wanted to consult him. Mr. Khare, of course, agreed, and reached Poona on Monday morning, and saw Mr. Ollivant in the evening. The latter, without telling him what Mr. Tilak had said, placed the two conditions before him for his opinion. Mr. Ollivant wanted to make it clear to Mr. Khare that Government was not going to make any barter with Mr. Tilak; but yet he would insist upon the conditions being carried out.

What Mr. Ollivant meant by the above, we do not understand. Mr. Khare, on his part, said that he would never advise Mr. Tilak to accept the second condition. The negotiations were thus broken, and Mr. Khare was returning to Bombay by the night mail, when Mr. Brewin stopped him at the station, and requested him to wait one day more. Mr. Khare agreed, and had another interview with Mr. Ollivant the following day. It was then that Mr. Ollivant agreed to modify the second condition to the following effect, namely, that if Mr. Tilak ever committed sedition, and if he were found guilty by a regular trial, he would be awarded proper punishment. Both Mr. Tilak and Mr. Khare readily accepted it.

We believe, two previous attempts were also made by Government to induce Mr. Tilak to accept certain conditions and secure his release; but his reply had all along been the same. He himself had been firm, and he had also obtained support in the opinion of his immediate friends. He had, in fact, done nothing in which all his friends had not agreed. This course was adopted to remove the erroneous impression that Mr. Tilak was headstrong and not always reasonable. Even the petition he sent in May, was fully discussed and revised by his friends before it was submitted.

Mr. Tilak's incarceration has not gone in vain. While in jail, he utilized his spare moments in writing a valuable book. In order to complete it, he intends shortly to go to his house at Singhgad, and stay there for 4 or 5 months. In that work he hopes to prove that the Aryans originally inhabited regions near the North Pole during the last glacial period. If he succeeds in his attempt, he will elevate Hindu civilization by tracing it distinctly to at least twelve thousand years before Christ. His imprisonment has done another service to the public. People have no clear notion as to how our prisoners are treated in the jail. His experiences in this connection are very valuable, and may be utilized for the benefit of the prison population in India.

We said the other day that in the course of a few months, the authorities here succeeded in trampling many of the principles, that had hitherto been held as inviolable, under foot. We said:—

In the year 1898, newspaper editors were for the first time sent to jail. In that year

a punitive police force was, for the first time posted in a capital town. In that year, two respectable citizens were for the first time deported and kept in custody without trial. In that year, newspapers were for the first time gagged in India. It was in that year that British soldiers were allowed for the first time to enter forcibly into private dwelling-houses in time of peace, etc., etc.

Indeed, there was, as it were, a general looting of the precious blessings that the Indians enjoyed under British rule. During the confusion occasioned by these disturbances, the Government of Sir A. Mackenzie, not to be lost behind, and envying the lot of the Bombay Government, stretched its hands for its share. "And am I to get nothing?"—thought he. Finding nothing else, he clutched at the partial elective franchise which the citizens of Calcutta enjoyed, and held it tight. The British Government is despotic only nominally; but practically, it is not so. For, the people enjoy every freedom under it, because of the inviolable principles which the Government had hitherto respected, and which, in the course of a few months, were trampled under foot. The storm has now abated, leaving, as its results, the sedition laws, terror, and discontent. What have the people to do now—remain quiet or do something? That is the problem before us. As we suggested the other day, the release of Mr. Tilak should be availed of by all the Provinces to enter a protest against the way the country was governed last year.

There is another question before the public, namely, what is to be done with the balance of the Tilak defence fund? It amounts to about Rs. 9,000. No one has suffered a grievous wrong so nobly and without a murmur as Mr. Tilak. It is he who for the first time has shown that, for a principle, one can sacrifice his own life, if necessary. He might have secured his liberty if he had apologised and accepted the terms of the Government; but then the interests of his country would have been injured; and he therefore gladly agreed to pick oakum and endanger his life in jail rather than do anything which was unpatriotic. Mr. Tilak deserves some recognition of his high character from his countrymen, for doing his duty so manfully at a time when the whole country was demoralized by a policy of repression. If he could be persuaded to accept a purse, in our humble judgment, the best way of disposing of the Rs. 9,000 is to offer the sum to him. Needless to say that no donor is likely to object to this arrangement. Mr. Tilak is not in affluent circumstances; he has also suffered much. His countrymen cannot do better than offer this money to him, as a token of their regard for him.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE
MUNICIPAL BILL.

The objection of the Indians to the changes in the Calcutta Municipality, proposed by Sir A. Mackenzie, is due to the fact, that it means the transfer of the little control, that the Indian rate-payers now possess over the institution, to the hands of Europeans and Government nominees. It is said that these changes do not meddle with the elective system. But they do in this manner that, election becomes a farce when the representatives are deprived of all important powers. Under the proposed system, the control will be put, not in the hands of the representatives elected, but in Government nominees and Europeans. It is complained that the number of representatives in the present General Committee is too large; they talk much and take too much time. Assuming this to be true, the natural remedy must be this. Let the number of representatives be reduced, and let two-thirds of them be allowed to be elected by the rate-payers. Sir A. Mackenzie proposes to put the control in the hands of twelve men. All right; but let eight of them be elected by the rate-payers, and then the elective system would not be interfered with, and Sir A. Mackenzie's scheme would be practically accepted.

If Sir J. Woodburn finds it beyond his power to resist the changes proposed by Sir A. Mackenzie, backed as he is by Lord George Hamilton, in the above suggestion, His Honour ought to find a compromise, that may satisfy both parties.

But if the primary object of Sir A. Mackenzie is to deprive the Indians of the control that they possess now, and place it in the hands of Europeans, he must show good reasons for the revolution, and the wrong that he proposes. The onus is all on him. Under ordinary principles, the Municipality ought to be put under the control of rate-payers, that is to say, their representatives; for, this practice is followed not only everywhere in the world, but in every country which is under the sway of England. Sir Alexander Mackenzie is bound to show why this principle should be ignored, only in this unfortunate country, India. Another principle, which is followed by every enlightened nation, is that, no innovation should be introduced without adequate cause being shown for it. Sir Alexander Mackenzie proposes to introduce an innovation, nay, a revolution. He must show that it is essential for the good of the Municipality.

Another principle which the British Government has always followed, and that rightly, in governing its dependencies is, that when once a concession has been made, it is never withdrawn. Sir A. Mackenzie should show very good and adequate reasons for a departure from this principle; for, his proposal means the withdrawal of a conces-

sion, granted to a dependent and helpless country.

There is another principle which ought to be followed in governing India, which, we think, is even more important than those already enumerated. In an empire like that of India, governed by aliens, if the foreign affairs of the country are to be kept beyond the interference of the people, in local matters, on the other hand, the natives of the soil ought to be left alone, as much as that is possible, in the interests of good government. In such matters, the Government should never take any initiative in destroying the existing state of affairs. Thus Sir A. Mackenzie might have interfered in this matter, if the rate-payers had made any complaint in regard to the management of the institution. We see here the practice reversed. The rate-payers say nothing; it is the Government which alone, on its own motion, proposes the change! That being so, Sir A. Mackenzie must, first of all, show why this salutary principle should be trampled under foot.

The only ground upon which Sir A. Mackenzie bases his proposed revolution is, that, the present arrangement has failed, and, therefore, it ought to be supplanted. Now this is vague; for, what he says is only a matter of opinion. He says there is filth in the town. No doubt, there is; but there is filth in London also. After all, Sir A. Mackenzie's only ground is that he has an opinion on a certain subject, and that is the only ground upon which this revolution is based.

But we can pit the opinions of others, more competent than he, against his. The rate-payers, the only parties who have a right to speak with authority on this subject, don't agree with that opinion. They say that the present system has done much good to Calcutta. So say all the predecessors of Sir A. Mackenzie, who were for a larger period in charge of Bengal than Sir A. Mackenzie. So say all the Chairmen of the Corporation, who were Englishmen and officials, and who had a practical experience of the administration under the present system.

Let us leave opinions alone and come to something more definite. Calcutta is the only town in India where some sort of representative system is followed in the management of its Municipal affairs, and Calcutta is the only town which has escaped the plague. The health of Calcutta, which is in malarial Bengal, is much better than that of Bombay, Karachi or Lahore.

The question, when reduced to a point, comes to this. The Indians enjoy some sort of control, and Sir Alexander Mackenzie wants to deprive them of it and place it in the hands of the Europeans and Government nominees. But we can mention one startling fact in connection with the pious wish of Sir A. Mackenzie. Sir Alexander is anxious to place the Municipality in the hands of Europeans and the Executive. But that was exactly the arrangement when Sir Richard Temple came to take charge of Bengal. There were only few Indians then in the Municipality; it was under the absolute control of Europeans and the Government. But there was deep discontent, and it was due to this deep discontent that the elective system was introduced.

There was so deep discontent that even the *Englishman* was, in disgust, led to pray for the elective system. The editor of the *Indian Daily News* himself issued a pamphlet, advocating the elective system. When the first public meeting, under the auspices of the Indian League, was held to pray for the elective system, it was the same Editor Mr. James Wilson who presided. The Trades Association in their memorial prayed for the elective system. The feeling evinced was so strong that the *Englishman* was pleased to write on 25th October 1875:—

The monster gathering of the middle classes of the Native community at the Beadon Street Pavilion on Saturday last, is a sign of the times the significance of which it would be difficult to overstate. The meeting shows two things at least. It shows that a strong desire to be heard arising more or less out of dissatisfaction with the existing order of things in this city animates what in all civilised communities is the most important section of the public; and it shows that the section of the public in question, are not contented to leave the care of their interests in the hands of a self-seeking plutocracy. The meeting of Saturday is, in fact, the first marked sign of the awakening of the people on this side of India to political life. We have received several letters from natives calling in question both the representative character of the meeting and the motives of those who called it. To our thinking the number and character of the attendance afford a sufficient answer to these insinuations.

Though under existing conditions we do not believe that a purely elective system of Municipal government in Calcutta would be either desirable or practicable, we have no doubt that the time has come for a partial recognition of the principle. We want greater independence and greater responsibility; and we know of no other way in which greater independence, combined with greater responsibility, can be obtained. What we have to guard against are retrogression in our ideal of the objects of Municipal administration and an inequitable adjustment of the claims of the Native and European sections of the population.

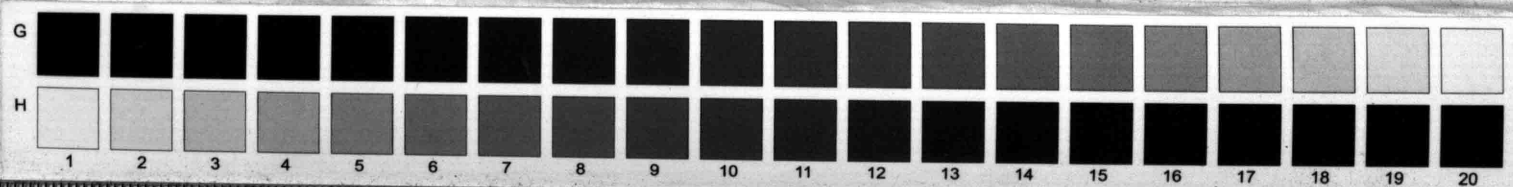
And Sir A. Mackenzie wants us to revert to the system which had existed before, but which was knocked on the head amidst universal execration, and replaced by the present one.

It is quite true, the European residents of Calcutta latterly opposed the measure of Sir Richard Temple; but let us not forget on

what grounds it was done. They did not oppose the elective system, but they objected to the measure because it contained very little of the elective principle, and the wanted more of it.

The agitation set on foot by Babu Ananda Mohun Bose and Romesh Chandra Dutt in England, should be kept a-going. Babu Romesh Chandra is there; and a public meeting may be held here in Calcutta, appointing him as a delegate to represent the rate-payers of Calcutta in the Imperial country. It would also be of advantage, if that opportunity of the public meeting could be utilized, for the purpose of sending another delegate from here. This means cost; but the interests at stake are vast. One fact ought to be borne in mind. If the Municipality be put under Government control, the rate-payers would find themselves utterly helpless if taxation was increased to its utmost limit. Now the rate-payers tax themselves; then they would be at the mercy of irresistible and possibly unsympathetic, though well-meaning, masters. So the question is one which is important, and is worth some sacrifice of money. It would thus be of advantage if a public meeting were held, appointing Babu Romesh Chandra Dutt and Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee as well as another gentleman here as delegates, to represent the rate-payers in England. But who is this another to be? Of course, Babu Surendra Nath Bannerjee. Babu A. M. Bose is not in good health and he is not likely to go to England again so soon. Babu Surendra Nath is therefore the man for the purpose. But there is one objection to this project. Babu Surendra Nath is a Congress-wallah; and Lord George Hamilton, who is an impulsive man despite his grey hair, will do anything rather than please Sir W. Wedderburn. Babu Surendra Nath will be damned as a Congressman; he will be damned once again if he appears on the scene under the auspices of Sir W. Wedderburn. If he is sent, he must go there as only a representative of the rate-payers of Calcutta. Besides, the time is not just now opportune. The English people have now taken leave of public meetings. A delegate just now in England will find none to listen to him. He must wait two or three months more to be able to secure any influential audience. Meanwhile the Bill may be passed. The first thing that ought to be done is to persuade Sir J. Woodburn to give time, and not to hurry the Bill through the Council. There is yet another name which occurs to us, that of Babu N. N. Ghose. An intellectual and cultured man, a good speaker, and well-versed in the subject in question, he may do as well as Babu Surendra Nath. He has one advantage over Babu Surendra Nath, namely, he has not identified himself with any party, though, we think, there is no doubt Babu Surendra Nath will command greater attention in England than Babu N. N. Ghose. But Mr. Ghose is engaged, and his services may not be available. Then, as we said before, there is Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, who is now in England and will stay there till January. He may be elected as a delegate along with Mr. Dutt. What is, therefore, needed now is to secure some time for the purpose of giving effect to this programme. Will not Sir John Woodburn be gracious enough to give us the time necessary to carry it out?

WHAT we now want to know, is the actual position of Sir J. Woodburn in regard to this measure. We can take it for granted that he has no heart in it. We can also guarantee that the Bill would have never seen the light of the day if Sir John had succeeded Sir Alexander Mackenzie only two months earlier. And here let us *en passant* disclose a secret which is however an open one. That Sir Alexander was incapacitated for further work, was evident almost immediately after his return to this country, from his six months' leave. The Government of India gave him a hint to that effect, but he would not take it. His insomnia and pain in the heart unfortunately continued to increase, and rendered him more and more unfit for his duties. He would yet stick to his post, and draw his pay in full. The Government of India got disgusted, and asked him to furnish a medical certificate, showing that he was in a condition to work. Upon this, Sir Alexander Mackenzie insisted that he should be again given six months' leave to recruit his health and then resume his duties. To strengthen his position, he said that he was entitled to this special leave, considering that his arrangement for the management of the Bengal Famine was excellent, and that Sir A. P. Macdonnell was allowed leave on that very ground. The Government of India was, however, inexorable and forced him to resign; and some domestic reasons also made Sir Alexander hurry home. Well, as we said, if Sir Alexander Mackenzie had not returned here, or left this country as soon as he came, the Municipal Bill would have been shelved and no one would have heard of it. Sir John Woodburn finds himself, with regard to the measure, in the position of a step-mother, entrusted with the care of a disagreeable step-child. He can have no natural affection for it; but yet he must nurse the bantling lest others say that he had neglected his charge, because it was not his own. Then, in these days of mandate-obeying Governors, he feels it will look odd if he goes against the order of the Sp-



State who, somehow or other, has been won over by Sir Alexander Mackenzie. Sir John Woodburn, however, must look the matter from another stand-point. The destinies of the people of Bengal are now entirely in his keeping. God has entrusted them to him; and they naturally look up to His Honour for protection when their rights are sought to be trampled down. In short, he is their protector now; and it is his duty to afford them that protection to which they have a claim. It is also a fact that His Honour is above ordinary run of men, and that his sense of justice is so strong that he cannot tolerate any wrong. How can His Honour then refuse the prayer of the people and tell them that, in the matter of the Municipal Bill, they must not expect any help from him? Will not His Honour do great violence to his own feelings by assuming such an attitude? For the present, the rate-payers, however, only want time, time sufficient to enable them to represent their case fully to the authorities, both here and in England. Sir John Woodburn ought to be able to grant this small favour to them.

As we have more than once said, our sugar industry, which is a means of livelihood to millions of our people, has been threatened with destruction. It received the first blow when cane sugar, manufactured at Mauritius, began to supplant it in the country on account of its cheap price. The Mauritius sugar has, in its turn, been threatened with destruction by bounty-fed sugar, manufactured by Russia, France and Germany. Our Government looked on complacently when the Mauritius sugar found its way to this country, to the great detriment of the indigenous industry. But the Home Government could not see the Colonial sugar interest jeopardised. As the result, a Sugar Commission, composed of representatives from England, France and other countries, was held at Brussels, at the instance of England, for Colonial interests. But while the Home Government is doing all that it can, to guard the interests of its dependencies, our Government is doing nothing to protect those of the Indians. But if the Government remains idle, surely those of our countrymen who are vitally and directly interested in this industry, should be up and doing. Let them combine, and devise measures for its protection. They should lose no time; for, much mischief has already been done. This is a question in which both European and Indian manufacturers of sugar are equally interested. Messrs. Turner and Morrison, of Calcutta, should take a leading part in the matter.

It may be remembered that two judgments were delivered in the so-called Burdwan murder case, one by the Chief Justice and the other by Mr. Justice Bannerjee. The latter judgment is published elsewhere, which is fuller and in which the facts are stated more clearly. In the meantime, we may say that it is one of those unfortunate cases, in which the local authorities were carried away more by *zid* than by a sense of justice, and which, being pushed to the bitter end, resulted in the humiliation of the Government. The moral of the case is that the Government should never play in the hands of its subordinates, and that it should not rush headlong into a criminal prosecution, with its eyes shut.

From the letter of Babu Kunja Lal Nag, published in our last issue, it appears that the monkey-killing and latrine questions at Puri have not yet been settled. On the other hand, it appears, the Municipal Commissioners who originated the movement, are determined to fight the battle to the last. We earnestly trust that, before the matter assumes gigantic proportions, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will please intervene, and set the matter at rest. The opinion of a few go-ahead Commissioners is worth nothing in a matter like this. Ninety-nine out of every one hundred Hindus, if consulted, will cry shame over the doings of these Commissioners. This being the case, Government should, on no account, allow these outrages to be perpetrated.

We are glad to announce that at the first general meeting of the new board for the Cossipore-Chitpore Municipality, held on Saturday, Babu Kripa Nath Dutt was re-elected Chairman. He did good service during the previous incumbency.

Is not the currency question a difficult one? Mr. Raphael, when asked to give his opinion whether the mints should be re-opened, said in reply, "decidedly, if it is possible." When Sir Samuel Montagu was asked the same question, he was pleased to reply that it would be the height of folly to re-open them. When Sir Robert Steel was asked to state his views, he said that he was opposed to the closing of mints. Here we see opinions advanced by experts, which are directly opposed to each other. How does it happen? It is because every one judges the question, keeping his own interest in view. The closing of mints has benefited those who have to send rupees home. Such men, when asked to give evidence, must give their views for the closing of the mints. But where is the man who will speak a word from the Indian's point of view? We wish approval the views of Mr. Sirdar Doyal Sing. Here is the evi-

dence given by Sir Robert Steel, formerly a merchant of India and the mercantile member of the Viceroy's Council:

Were you opposed to the closing of the mints in 1893?—I was.

Will you tell the Committee your reasons?—Because it appears to me that you must have either a silver or a gold currency. If you have a sound currency at all, it must be based on the one metal or the other. I disapprove entirely of the idea of having a gold standard without a gold currency.

But do you not think the Indian Government was suffering?—The Indian Government might have been suffering, but all they lost was going into the pockets of the people, and it was easy for the Indian Government, by some change in their fiscal arrangements, to reimburse themselves without any undue burden on the people.

Could they have reimbursed themselves without additional taxation?—It would not have been additional taxation, if the purchasing power of the rupee went down, to charge a greater number of rupees.

Do you consider, at the present time there is any insufficiency of currency in India?—Last year or two, undoubtedly, there has been a very great stringency of money.

To what do you attribute that stringency?—To the closure of the mints.

Do you attribute that at all to a deficiency in loanable capital?—Entirely.

Then you think capital is leaving India?—I have no doubt of it whatever.

To what do you attribute that?—To the uncertainty as to the value of the rupee.

Supposing the result of the opening of the mints should be to reduce the rupee say, to 100, how do you propose that the Indian Government should meet its obligations?—By additional taxation, I think, a good deal of the loss would be automatically recovered, and the deficiency could be supplied by increasing the taxation in proportion. It involves no hardship to anybody. The railway rates might be increased. It is perfectly fair if the standard of value decreases to increase the amount charged for carriage on the railways.

Have you considered Mr. Lindsay's scheme at all?—I have read it. I do not believe, it would succeed.

In fact if you had a perfectly free hand, as I understand, you would re-open the mints?—Yes.

You would let the exchange value of the rupee follow automatically the market price of bullion?—Certainly.

And whatever difficulties that might inflict upon the Indian Government, you think those would be temporary, and would eventually disappear, and that in the meantime any special financial burden could be met by temporary additional taxation?—Exactly.

And why should this supposed loss to the Government be met by taxation and not by retrenchment?—Of course, the Indians are nobodies. But the Government cannot ignore the non-official European community of India. The closing of the mints, if it has benefited the official classes, has injured the interests of British merchants and others, carrying on business in this country. Thus, Mr. Acworth, formerly Chairman, Planters' Association, South India, when asked about this question, replied that the "closure of the mints has stopped extension of tea, coffee, and cinchona."

One of the complaints of the people to Backergunj is that while they have been rendered helpless by being disarmed, the Government has afforded them no sufficient protection against the ravages of wild beasts. Says our Barisal correspondent, Babu Rohinee Kumar Sen:—

Tigers and boars have become so bold that they prowl at night in the very heart of the town. Recently, Mr. Bell, our Magistrate, shot a fine leopard, in the very compound of Kotwali Thana; and last night another leopard was seen to prowl near the stable, belonging to Babu Biraj Mohan Rai Chowdhuri, a zemindar. Some Chowkidars of the town were passing by that road at the time; and on seeing the brute, immediately raised a hue and cry, which frightened it to take to its heels, leaving some foot-prints upon the soft ground. We are afraid to go out at night, since a man died lately of the wounds, caused by a tiger. You can easily understand, sir, that while the people of the town are not secure against ravages of wild animals, how defenceless mufussil-people will fare.

It is doubtful whether the disarmament measure has stopped deaths by gun-shot or not. At least, people don't believe it. There is, however, no doubt it has produced one disastrous result. Tigers are now seen prowling in the heart of the town of Barisal—a spectacle never witnessed before. Touching this subject, in the Resolution on the Police administration, His Honour says:—

The objection urged against complete disarmament that the people would be deprived of protection against injury to life and crops from wild animals, has been met by the supply of Government guns and ammunition to village panchayets, and this expedient has attained its object.

The arrangement, it seems, has afforded very little protection. This is what our correspondent says:—

For our protection the Local Government has sanctioned one gun only to a Tahasil Panchayet, if he pays for it. Now, a Panchayet holds six or seven villages under his jurisdiction; and how, therefore, is it possible for him to protect the villagers living at considerable distance from him?

It is an impossible feat for a Panchayet to watch and protect the crops of a number of villages from the ravages of wild beasts, specially when they lie at considerable distance from one another. When will the Government relent, and do away with this barbarous measure?

SIRDAR DOYAL SING, whose untimely death has caused such universal sorrow, was a prominent figure in the country, mainly because of his connection with the *Tribune* of Lahore. To start a first-class independent English newspaper in a backward and official-ridden Province like the Punjab, required not only a large expenditure of money, but the power of selecting persons

able to conduct it with ability, spirit, patriotism and moderation. The *Tribune* has, no doubt, now and then passed from one hand to another; but the Sirdar had never made the mistake of committing his paper to incompetent persons or showing niggardliness when money was wanted for its success. We have been a diligent reader of this paper since a long time, and we can state this frankly that we have almost always perused its columns with profit and pleasure. Indeed, able writers like Babu Nongendra Nath Gupta, who, we believe, has been conducting the *Tribune* during the last five years, are very rare in this country. A more delicate subject than the late Garsianker riot case cannot be conceived. It is a case in which not only a large number of innocent persons were shot dead and wounded, but the police, which took part in this bloody savagery, were defended by the authorities. In short, the Punjab Government, having lost its head, committed grievous blunders in this connection, and was, therefore, very touchy about the matter. The Bombay Government similarly lost its head and perpetrated dreadful acts for which it is now repenting, simply because the native press ventured to offer advice to it. Nothing daunted, however, with the fate of Mr. Tilak before him, the editor of the *Tribune* took up the Garsianker riot case and worked it up in an admirable way in a series of articles, which, we believe, called forth admiration even from the authorities themselves. The best course for the Government of the Punjab, after the appearance of these articles, was to do the needful at once. They, however, sought to ignore them, and the matter was necessarily brought to the notice of the House of Commons. The result is, the Secretary of State and the Government of India are now down upon the Punjab Government, and further enquiries are being made. We do not know whether Sirdar Doyal Sing has disposed of the *Tribune* in any way in his will or how it may fare after his death. We hope, however, it will be conducted now in as able a manner, as it has been all this half a decade, under the management of its present editor.

We are glad to learn that a meeting was held at Berhampore, on the 16th August for the purpose of, devising means for resuscitating the decaying silk industry of Bengal. There were present, among others, Mr. Lyon, Director of Agriculture, Mr. Egerton, Magistrate of Murshidabad, and several representatives of the local silk factories. Mr. Lyon explained the object of the meeting, after which the factory representatives expressed the opinion that it was expedient to adopt Pasteur's method of manufacturing silk, and declared their willingness to contribute five thousand rupees a year towards the necessary expenses. A Committee was formed, consisting of the Magistrate of Murshidabad, the manager of the Bengal Silk Company, with Mr. J. C. Stack, of Messrs L. Payne and Co., as Secretary. An experiment in this direction, for three years at present, was decided upon; and Government will be asked to aid the operation with three hundred rupees annually, which, Mr. Lyon assured, will be granted. The services of Babu Apoorbakumar Ghosh, who is known to be an adept in Pasteur's method, have been engaged by the Committee to act as Superintendent on a monthly salary of one hundred and twenty-five rupees, besides travelling and other allowances. He will have two assistants—one to be placed at Birhum and the other at South Murshidabad—to inquire into and report on prospects of the industry. Mr. Norman and Mr. Rice will superintend the construction of factories in Malda and Birhum districts respectively. Persons who know to rear cocoons will be accommodated in these factories, and regular instructions will be given to those willing to learn the art.

THE commutation of the sentence of death, passed on Nyan Pramanik to one of transportation for life, has so pleased the Rajshahi public that the local paper, *Hindu Ranjika*, had recourse to verse to give expression to their feelings of gratitude to Sir John Woodburn. We wish His Honour had shown similar consideration to the case of Sashi Palui. Sir John Woodburn declined to interfere in the case because he found "no grounds" to do so. But His Honour lost sight of the fact that the signatories to the petition prayed for mercy on behalf of the convict, and not for justice. If there had been "grounds," the Hon'ble Judges would have been bound either to let off or to pass a sentence of imprisonment upon the prisoner, and the public would have had no occasion to trouble His Honour with a petition for mercy.

We are being literally inundated with letters, complaining against the management of Mr. Badsha, Comptroller of the Post Office. They all tell the same tale, namely, he makes the clerks under him work like common coolies. We have already noticed two of his circulars. We questioned the legality of one of them, namely, whether he could cut down casual leave, to which the clerks were entitled, from 15 days to 4. We hear, he has no power of issuing such a circular, and that he has withdrawn it. We are glad to hear of it; for, it must be admitted by him that it was simply cruel to deprive his subordinates of a privilege which they have been enjoying all

along and which the clerks in all departments enjoy. The clerks have other serious complaints. We shall publish them gradually, in the hope that he, intelligent and well-intentioned as he is, will remove them all, and earn the gratitude of those who are wholly dependent upon him. It is not at all agreeable to us to criticise his management in this way. Our sole object, however, is to bring to his notice complaints which his clerks do not venture to do, with a view to their removal, and not to pain or annoy or expose him. Indeed, we have the highest regard for his abilities, and what we beg him to do is to use them properly. We think, he can take legitimate works from his subordinates without treating them harshly or putting them to unnecessary trouble. As a matter of fact, he will get more work from them if he treats them kindly. On the other hand, they will try to cheat him, and cheat him successfully, if he rules them with a rod in hand. Nothing like sympathetic treatment to a subordinate. The clerks demand no indulgence from him. What they want is that they should not receive a worse treatment from him than what they got from his predecessors.

THE following is quoted by an English paper from Danvers's Report, founded upon papers in the Portuguese archives, preserved in Lisbon:—

Among the most interesting documents quoted in the report, is a letter from Albuquerque, giving a description of the re-capture of Goa in November, 1510. Albuquerque wrote: "We succeeded better than we expected to do. We killed 300 Turks in the place, besides whom numbers of the enemy were drowned in their flight across the river. After this I destroyed the city and put every one to the sword. For the space of four days, we spared not a single Moor, and we nerved their mosques; but we spared the Brahmins. The total number Moors slain, both men and women, amounted to over 6,000."

The Portuguese did well by sparing the Brahmins; for, they had been sacrificed once before by the Moors, and they were living in the place which God had given them, maintaining themselves by the produce of the lands, grown by their own labour. The Moors had no business to leave their homes for the purpose of plundering fellow-beings who had done them no harm. So the Moors massacred the Hindus, and the Portuguese massacred the Moors. When the country of the Burmans was being overrun under the rule of Lord Dufferin, we felt sympathy for that people. But Southern Bengal was at one time a thickly-peopled and wealthy country; so that when Bengal was independent under Pratapaditya, the capital city was in the heart of the Sunderbuns. But the Mughls or Burmans came in large boats and desolated that part of the country, which was thus abandoned and reduced into jungles, now called the Sunderbuns. So there is such a thing as retributive justice, which is sure to overtake every nation, sooner or later, given to rapine and plunder.

A YOUNG woman is safe to come from England to India alone, modern civilization protects her. But she finds it dangerous to travel in Indian railways. Indian ladies never travel alone, no, not even females of the lower classes, if they are young. But European ladies are more bold and thus fall a prey to the rascalities of low-class Europeans. Here is a case noticed by the *Englishman*. A lady and a friend were going from Lucknow to Simla. They were in a ladies' compartment. At about midnight on the journey between Tundla and Hattaras, and while the train was proceeding at full speed, the lady had occasion to go to the lavatory. To her surprise, there was something against the door, which she found to be her open portmanteau. She pushed her way in, and saw a European male calmly sitting down with her work-box in his hand. She said to him "there is nothing in that, you brute," he gazed at her for a while, and then took his departure out of the window on to the buffers, and then on to the foot-board. If all the trains were put under the charge of native guards, who can be recruited from the respectable classes for half the pay allowed to the European, such incidents, imperilling the person, property and honour of European ladies would have never happened.

THE American paper *Sun*, takes a good deal of interest in Indian questions. Its issue of August 18, just to hand, contains the following, regarding the new Viceroy of India:—

It is obvious that India needs an exceptionally strong man at her head just now. In foreign policy, finance and internal government, the last two years have shown abundant proofs of administrative weakness. The Viceroy of India is either a king or the chairman of a committee. If he knows his own mind and is not afraid to follow it, there is little he cannot do; but if he lacks the firmness and resolution which belonged to men like Dalhousie and Canning, he becomes the plaything of permanent secretaries and advisory councils, and sinks into semi-regal insignificance. What the Indian services have been clamouring for is a man who can govern, a man who will not shrink from playing despot at a pinch.

The difficulties before the new Viceroy are not such as can be met half way. They will have to be encountered face to face, and swept out of existence or allowed to remain as they are. The most pressing of them all is the Forward Policy. If Mr. Curzon has the mind to return to the old policy of restricting the British outposts to the hither side of the north-west frontier, he may win much commendation. The Forward

Policy has pushed British garrisons beyond the mountainous barrier that is India's natural border line, and quartered them in a barren country hundreds of miles from their proper base, among tribes who will fight to the death to maintain their immemorial independence. For this departure from the old system of thrashing the tribes, when they required it, and then retiring from their territory and leaving them to look after their own affairs, the military group at Simla is responsible; and, until the influence of that faction is considerably lessened, another uprising like that of last year may be looked for at any time.

In the Indian Government each department has practically two heads, its own permanent secretary and the member of Viceroy's Council who is unofficially in charge of it. The result is constant friction and a waste of administrative energy, and Mr. Curzon will have to grapple with plans for a change. The financial condition of the country after eighteen months of war, plague, and famine, is about as bad as it could be. A Parliamentary committee is inquiring into the "silver question." The task of the new Indian Viceroy is not simple.

THE English Court will go into mourning for a month on account of the death of the Empress of Austria. Mourning will also be ordered in India.

In February last there was an attempt to derail a mixed train at the 348th mile in the Kadiri Taluq of the Cuddapah District in the Madras Presidency; and the Joint Secretary to the Government in the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, recommended the posting of a punitive police in the neighbouring villages. We are glad to note that the Inspector-General of Police expressed himself strongly against the proposal as unjustifiable, and the Governor in Council concurred in this view. It will be remembered that Sir Alexander Mackenzie did not hesitate to post a punitive police in our province under similar circumstances.

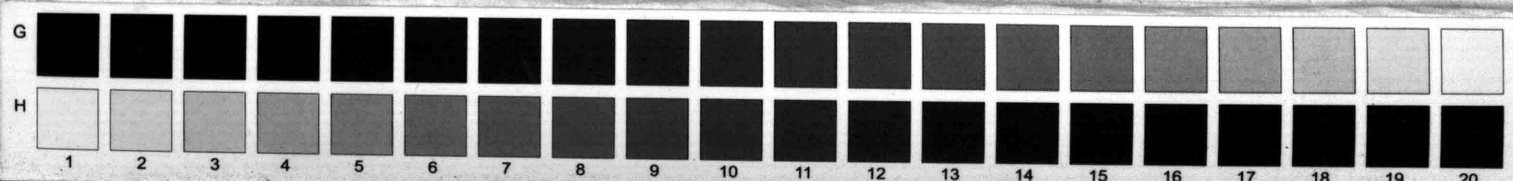
OUR Madrid correspondent telegraphs, August 29:—The newspapers here announce that a serious separatist movement is going on in Jamaica in favour of the annexation of the island to the United States, and that this movement is similar to that of Cuba which has just culminated in the destruction of Spanish sovereignty. One of the writers declares that the Jamaican movement is fully justified by the flagrant abuses of the British administration, and cites in support of his contention the famous case of Governor Eyre. Further, it is predicted that the American intrigues, begun in Jamaica, will sooner or later extend to Canada, and that we have here the beginning of the Nemesis which is to punish Great Britain for encouraging imperialism among the inhabitants of the United States.—Times.

THE Allahabad correspondent of the Lucknow *Advocate* furnishes the following particulars of a sensational missionary case in that town:—

An application was presented on the 7th September by Pandit Madan Mohan Malvia, K. A., L. B., Pandit Bhagwan Din Dube, M. A., L. B., and Babu Kunj Bihari, in the Court of W. H. Webb, Esq. C. S., Magistrate, Allahabad, under Section 100 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, praying the court for issue a search-warrant against Miss Fallon, Lady Superintendent, Zenana Mission, Allahabad.

The allegations of the complainant, one Jheengalal Brahman, of the district of Shahjahanpore, were that after the death of his son-in-law, Pandit Jagan Nath, who was a teacher in one of the Mission Schools, his daughter Gomti, aged about 22, with a son, aged one year and a half, was missing for some time. That only a week ago, he received a letter from his daughter, the contents of which were to the following effect:—"Your son-in-law died 15 days ago. I am in very great difficulties here. Come at once. I have been able to send this letter to you with much trouble. Do not answer me, because the reply will not reach me. Do not fail to come immediately at the receipt of this letter. I am in house No. 5, Kuttra Road, Allahabad." The father of the distressed girl being a poor man, the zemindars of his village raised subscriptions for his journey. He instantly set out for Allahabad in the company with another sympathetic Brahmin. On arrival he went to the Zenana Mission and insisted that he would see his daughter or die. After all he was allowed to see his daughter and grandson. It was a very awfully lamentable scene. The daughter with the child in her lap, sat near the door of a room, the father just outside of it. They embraced with tears full in their eyes. The newly-widowed daughter told her sad tale, to the great annoyance of the Christian women present there. The old man entreated to be allowed to take his daughter away. But he was ordered to leave the house. On the other hand, Christianity was preached to the aggrieved father, and a remark was made that the girl, having been baptized (this was totally false) was not fit for a Hindu. On the third day, the father re-visited the girl, but in vain. On the fourth, he was not allowed even to see her. As the mournful father was wandering, helpless and dejected in the court-compound, he was seen by Babu Kunj Biharee, whose kindness and sympathy led him to introduce the man to the other two aforesaid legal practitioners. When the application was placed before the Magistrate, the senior Vakil, out of regard for the Lady Superintendent, contented himself with only a docket in place of a warrant, in which the Magistrate ordered her to forthwith produce Musamat Gomti and her child before the court, and informed her that if the allegations of the complainant proved to be true she would be prosecuted under section 342 of the Indian Penal Code. Next day when the court was opened, it was known that the Lady Superintendent wrote back a letter to the Magistrate, in which she said she had no objection to Gomti's father taking her away, but that she could not let her go until she had received a reply to her letter from a Christian gentleman of Agra who had sent Gomti to the Zenana Mission.

The Vakils for the complainant objected to the Lady Superintendent's informal compliance with the order of the court, and insisted that she be ordered to produce the girl before the court. Notwithstanding the second order the Lady Superintendent did not herself attend the court; but sent Gomti and her child to the court, accompanied by two Native Christian women.



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THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The Indian Government has decided to send exhibits from the Geological Departments to the exhibition at a cost of about £3,000.

LS.—The Select Committee have reported on the Tenancy Bill of the provinces on Saturday last, and will publish their report on the Land Revenue Bill.

SENTENCE.—The case in which a Gorpar was charged with stabbing Tallotlah Bazar with a dagger, was heard at the Alipore Criminal Sessions, before Mr. W. Richardson. The jury unanimously found the prisoner guilty of wilful murder and the Judge sentenced him to

RE IN BEADON SQUARE.—Sriman Charan Mitra delivered his second lecture, in English, on "Love of God as taught by Lord Gouranga" last Tuesday evening in Beadon Square. In spite of rather bad weather, a large number of educated gentlemen collected to hear the address. As on former occasions, the audience were greatly moved by the stirring eloquence, pious enthusiasm, and masterly delivery of the young speaker.

THE LATE SIRDAR DOYAL SINGH.—In accordance with notices issued over the signatures of Raja Harbans Singh, the Hon'ble Nawab Fatah Ali Khan, Kailash, Rai Bahadur Bhai Man Singh and Babu Jogendra Chander Bose, a public meeting of the inhabitants of Lahore was held at the Boli Sahib on Sunday evening last, to express the grief of, and the sense of the irreparable loss sustained by, the community by the death of Sirdar Doyal Singh Majithia. The meeting was very largely and influentially attended. Two resolutions were duly passed in deep silence.

CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS.—The following congratulatory letter has been addressed to Mr. Tilak by the Honorary Secretary, the Friends' Union, Calcutta:—Dear Sir, The members of the Friends' Union ask me to tender on their behalf, their most heartfelt congratulations to you, on your release. Indeed, Sir, we look upon you as a martyr to our country's cause, for seldom do we find a man sacrificing so much for poor India. By your untimely patriotism you have won yourself over to the people, and I am far from wrong, when I say, that the heart of the entire nation moves now in thorough unison with yours. May God preserve you long to toil ceaselessly for the poor and the oppressed of the land.

A FAMILY OF ROBBERS.—On the 9th inst. at the Alipore Criminal Sessions, before Mr. T. W. Richardson, a family of robbers, consisting of the mother, daughter and the son, were placed on their trial on a charge of having systematically carried on theft and robbery for a long time in Naihati and its adjacent places. The police at first were unable to detect the perpetrators of the series of thefts which had been committed in and around Naihati. The accused were, however, arrested on suspicion, and on search being made in their house, articles, the loss whereof was reported from time to time, were recovered from them and were duly identified by their owners. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of "guilty" against the mother and son and "not guilty" against the daughter. The Judge sentenced the son to transportation for life as he was an old offender, and the mother to three years' rigorous imprisonment. The daughter was acquitted.

A FINE OF A PICE FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT.—Justices Parsons and Ranade in the Bombay High Court have just disposed of a curious application for revision of a decision of Mr. Bhailal, Surat City Magistrate, who, in June last, convicted the accused for contempt of court and fined him one pice. The Sessions Judge of Surat, Mr. C. H. Moscardi, declined to interfere in appeal. Mr. Ganpat S. Rao appeared for the accused. The accused is a pleader of the District Court of Surat, and appeared as pleader for the accused in a case going on before the Surat City Magistrate. In his finding, said the accused spoke unnecessarily loudly and was often told by the Court to speak rather slowly. He sometimes pleaded that he could not speak more slowly than he did on account of his habit; but this, said the Magistrate, was not true. When he chose, he spoke slowly. When warned he spoke even more loudly than before, and in a defiant tone. Under the circumstances, to preserve the dignity of the Court, the Magistrate fined him

one pice under section 480 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Mr. Moscardi disposed of the accused's appeal with the remark: "The matter is a mere trifle, I decline to interfere." At the hearing of the appeal before their Lordships, it was urged on behalf of the accused that the Sessions Judge was wrong in declining to decide the case on the merits, and that the conviction and sentence, if allowed to stand unreviewed, were highly prejudicial to the accused's character and position as a pleader of the District Court. It was also urged that the conviction was illegal and in contravention of the provisions of section 481 of Act of 1882, as the Magistrate did not call upon the accused to give any explanation of his conduct before convicting him for contempt of court. Accused never intended to insult the Court, and did not act in a manner which would justify a conviction. The mere fact of cross-examining a witness in a loud tone did not amount to contempt of court. The Magistrate's record was inadequate and incomplete. It failed to show when and under what circumstances the accused was warned to speak slowly. There was nothing to show that the warning was either properly given on the one hand, or that it was improperly lost sight of on the other. Mr. Justice Parsons, in giving the court's decision, said: The Sessions Judge to whom the appeal was preferred, dismissed it with the remark that "the matter is a mere trifle. I decline to interfere." We do not know to what the word "trifle" refers, whether to the act of the accused or to the punishment; but, in any case, the Sessions Judge has not heard the appeal, as he was bound by law to do, and come to a finding as to whether the conviction was legal or illegal. We reverse his order, and direct him to hear the appeal and dispose of it according to law.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

TUESDAY'S OFFICIAL RETURNS.

There was no suspected case or death on Tuesday. The total number of deaths in the city from all causes was 46.

MEDICAL COLLEGE REPORT.

There was no admission or death in the Medical College Hospital up to 6 P.M. yesterday.

DISCHARGE OF PATIENTS.

Yesterday all the patients in the Plague Ward of the Medical College Hospital were discharged.

The following telegram has been received from the Secretary of State, dated 5th instant, stating, "Calcutta is declared clean by Spain," i.e., clear of plague.

THERE were 28 attacks and 15 deaths in Bombay on Tuesday. The total mortality from all causes was 109 as compared with 127 on the corresponding date last year.

PLAGUE has made its appearance at Broach, and several cases have occurred at the butchers' quarters. The butchers have been prohibited from slaughtering for fear of spreading the disease.

It is said that the medical and sanitary authorities, Madras, have come to the conclusion that the cases that have occurred at Guntakal, Timmarchera and Cheppagiri, in the Andaman and Bellary Districts, are cases of the indigenous plague.

THE Bellary police constable, who was admitted into the plague hospital in Bangalore a few days ago died on Sunday night. This is the first case of plague there. The authorities made prompt arrangements and had deceased cremated taking all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of infection. Five cases have been reported from the city since Friday, but no deaths reported. On Friday night a party of 100 men set fire to an unoccupied plague shed near the city.

The total number of persons examined and detained during the week ending the 4th of September at the respective camps of Chakradharpur (down trains), Chousa (down trains), Chousa (down River inspection), Mairwa (down trains), and Khurdal were as follows:—Number of persons examined during the week from Monday to Sunday—870; 17,909; 156; 13,820; and 2,180; total 31,244. Number of persons examined since the plague observation camps were opened—25,155; 305; 576; 3,470; 68,258; and 92,247; total 494,706. Number of suspects detained during the week—221; 1,678; 2; 40; and 64; total 1,405. Number of suspects detained since the camps were opened—2,238; 10,747; 8; 877; and 2,826; total 16,696. Number of persons detained in camp during the week—790; 1,078; 2; 40; and 113; total 2,023.

The following is the Madras Government's Plague Report, from the 8th to the 15th instant:—In the Anantapur District the two persons reported to have been attacked at Guntakal on the 7th, died on the 10th. Two other cases occurred in the same house on the 8th, and a fifth one on the 9th. The plague has extended to Timmarchera, a village two miles from Guntakal. A railway platform coolie living in this village, and two of his sisters were attacked on the 10th. Two railway mail sorters have just been attacked. Six concealed deaths from plague have also been discovered in the Bellary District. One case of plague occurred on the 8th at Chippigiri, in the Alur Taluk; the patient died on the 10th. At Hospet one of a family of six, coming from Dharwar and detained by the inspecting medical officer, has developed the plague. In the North Arcot District there have been no further cases at Tiruvallur or Tiruvallam and the plague camps at the latter place have been closed. In the Salem District the two patients mentioned in the previous memorandum, are doing well.

MR. JUSTICE PERSONS acts as Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court pending the appointment of Sir Charles Farran's successor.

The greatest distress just now prevails in Mozaffarpore district, as the effect of the recent flood. Thousands of poor people have been rendered homeless, and they have no means to help themselves. It is feared that local measures of relief will hardly be able to cope with so great a calamity. An enquiry ought at once to be made and adequate relief afforded.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

BARISAL, SEPT. 19.

The Brojomohun Boarding versus the Liberal Club, Barisal, played a *kabati* match. The former came off victorious. The gathering was very large and respectable. The indigenous games, prevalent here, are as attractive as football.

SIMLA, SEPT. 20.

The Viceroy leaves Simla on November 7th, arrives Patiala on 8th, invests the Maharaja with G. C. S. I. and Mr. King with C. S. I., leaves Patiala on 8th, arrives Chandpur on 11th, receives visit from the Nawab of Dacca on steamer, arrives Chittagong on 12th, leaves Chittagong on Clive the same day, at sea on 13th, 14th and 15th and arrives Rangoon on the 16.

SIMLA, SEPT. 21.

At next Friday's meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, the Hon'ble Mr. Rivaz will present the Reports of the Select Committees in the Central Provinces Tenancy and Land Revenue Bills. The Hon'ble Sir Edwin Collin will introduce a Bill to amend the Marine Act of 1887, and the Hon'ble Sir James Westland will introduce a Bill to amend law relating to the forgery of currency notes.

The Secretary of State has sanctioned a grant to Mrs. Maclean, widow of Mr. Maclean, late Superintending Engineer, Punjab, a pension of £120 a year during her widowhood and to each of her sons £50 a year up to his 21st birthday, together with a gratuity of £130 for their journey to England.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, SEPT. 16.

Admiral Noel has renewed, in writing, his verbal demand to the Governor of Candia for the delivery of the arms in the possession of the Mussulman population.

LONDON, SEPT. 16.

Two men-of-war have been ordered to convey stores and provisions from Jamaica and Halifax to the islands devastated by the hurricane of Saturday last. The latest official despatches state that fifty thousands are homeless in the island of Barbadoes and forty-one thousand in St. Vincent. The Lord Mayor intends to open a Mansion House fund in aid of the sufferers.

LONDON, SEPT. 16.

The Cape Parliamentary elections are finished, and have resulted in the Africander Bond securing a majority of one. The Government does not intend to resign.

LONDON, SEPT. 17.

The *Morning Post* and the *Daily Telegraph* correspondents at Cairo telegraph that the Sirdar has been instructed to occupy Fashoda forcibly, if necessary, and to leave an Egyptian garrison there.

The Duke of Connaught's tact and good humour combined with the keen interest he has taken in the French army manoeuvres have produced an excellent impression in France. His Royal Highness has been decorated with the Legion of Honour.

LONDON, SEPT. 17.

The Parliamentary election for Darlington has resulted in the return of the Unionist candidate, Mr. Herbert Pike Pease, son of the late member by a majority of 688 over Mr. Phillips, the Liberal candidate. The voting was as follows:—Pease 3,497; Phillips 2,809.

LONDON, SEPT. 17.

MM. Zurlinden, French Minister of War, and Tillaye, Minister of Public Works, have resigned and been replaced by General Chanoin and Senator Godin, the French Cabinet, having authorised the convoking of a commission of jurists to consider the question of the revision of the Dreyfus case.

The body of the late Empress Elizabeth of Austria was interred to-day next to the tomb of her son, the Archduke Rudolph, in the Capuchin Church, Vienna. The funeral procession was of an imposing character, many royalties, including the Emperor William, attending.

LONDON, SEPT. 18.

Reuter telegraphing from Alexandria says that nothing is known to confirm the report of the *Morning Post* and *Daily Telegraph* correspondents that the Sirdar was instructed to occupy Fashoda. It is further stated that no instructions were wired to Sir Herbert Kitchener between the Battle of Omdurman and his departure southwards.

No confirmation has yet been received of the defeat of Dervishes from Gedaref.

The Sultan has ordered the disarmament of the Mussulmans in compliance with Admiral Noel's ultimatum, the terms of which have thus been completed.

The Marquis Ito, who is at Peking on a special mission to China had audiences on Saturday with the Tsung Li-Yamen and Li Hung-Chang.

LONDON, SEPT. 19.

The marines of the battleship *Revenge* have occupied the fort commanding the harbour in Candia, where they will receive the arms to be surrendered by the Mussulmans. The foreign men-of-war leave Candia to-day at Admiral Noel's request, the British force now assembled there sufficing for present requirements.

The American Peace Commissioners have sailed for Paris, where they will be joined by the Spanish Commissioners soon after their arrival.

The Duke of Orleans has issued a violent manifesto appealing to Frenchmen not to permit a revision of the Dreyfus case, which would destroy the army and ruin France.

Five more regiments have been ordered to Manila increasing the American force in the Philippines by 12,000 men.

LONDON, SEPT. 20.

The *Times* states that both the German and Italian Military Attaches with the Kharoum expedition accompanied Sirdar Kitchener to Fashoda, and will be independent witnesses of the events there. The Sirdar, it adds, can easily reduce Marchand's occupation to an absurdity by cutting off his supplies, but unless Marchand proves to be singularly unreasonable, the Sirdar is not likely to resort to such a measure.

GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS.

Mr. F. E. Taylor, Judl Commr, Chota Nagpur, is allowed leave for three weeks.

Maulvi Zakir Hossain, Dy Magte and Dy Coll, Saran, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-five days.

Babu Banka Behari Singha, Dy Coll, Kishorgani, Mymensingh, is vested with the powers of a Coll, under Act I of 1904 in that sub-division.

Babu Hari Chandra Rai, Dy Magte and Dy Coll, Cutch, is transferred to Jessore.

Babu Nabin Chandra Das, Dy Mag and Dy Coll, Chittagong, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Jogeshwar Biswas, sub. protm, Dy Magte and Dy Coll, is posted to Chittagong.

Babu Bidhi Nath Chatterjee, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Coll, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Juggo Mohun Bhattacharjee, Dy Magte, and Dy Coll, is allowed furlough for one year.

Mr. W. J. Stark, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Coll, Rajmahal, Sonthal Parganas, is transferred to Monghyr.

Babu Akshoy Kumar Sen, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Coll, is posted to Comilla.

Maulvi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Coll, is posted to Chapra.

Babu Jogeshwar Biswas, is vested with the powers of a Magte of the first class.

Babu Akshoy Kumar Sen, is vested with the powers of a Magte of the second class.

Babu Debendra Lal Shome, Sub Judge of Backergunge, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Rajshahi.

Babu Chandra Kumar Roy, Sub Judge of Rajshahi, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Saran.

Babu Gopi Nath Mattay, Sub Judge of Saran, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Tihri.

Babu Nepal Chunder Bose, Sub Judge of Tihri, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Palamau in Chota Nagpur.

Babu Atal Vihari Ghosh, Sub Judge of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Palamau in Chota Nagpur, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Backergunge.

Babu Srinath Pal, Sub Judge of Backergunge, on deputation as an Addl Sub Judge to the district of Tippera, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Tippera.

Babu Gopal Chandra Bose, Sub Judge of Tippera, on deputation as an Addl Sub Judge to the district of Mymensingh, is appointed to be Sub Judge of Backergunge, but to continue to be on deputation in his present appointment as an Addl Sub Judge of Mymensingh.

Maulvi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Babu Syama Churn Sen, sub pro tem Sub-Dy Coll, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Falcata tehsil, in the district of Jalpaiguri.

Babu Jaga Bandhu Ghosh, Sub-Dy Coll, on leave, is posted to the Madhubani sub-division of the district of Darbhanga.

Babu Prankissen Das, Sub-Dy Coll, on leave, is posted to the Ulubaria sub-division of the district of Howrah.

Babu Upendra Chandra Mukerji, sub pro tem Sub-Dy Coll, on leave, is posted to Burdwan.

Babu Koylash Chunder Chatterjee, Sub-Dy Coll, on leave, is posted to Gaya.

Mr. J. C. Lloyd, Sub-Dy Coll, on leave, is posted to the Bihar sub-division of the District of Patna.

Babu Kristo Chander Chuckerbitty, Sub-Dy Coll, Chittagong, is allowed leave for two months.

Babu Debendra Nath Bose, sub. pro tem, Sub-Dy Coll, is posted to Chittagong. Babu Debendra Nath Bose is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Maulvi Syed Azzuddin Mohamed Abul Barkaat, sub. pro tem Sub-Dy Coll, Rajshahi Division, is posted to the district of Jalpaiguri.

Brig Surg Lt-Col F. A. Smyth (retired), who has been temporarily re-employed as a Civil Surgeon in Bengal, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Darbhanga.

AN interesting discussion is proceeding on the question whether or not the new python at the London Zoo is the largest ever captured alive. It speaks volumes for end-of-the-century slapdash methods that journalists are content with hasty generalisation instead of proceeding to the Zoo and to measurement in the patient, scientific method that should characterise the age of Henry James and Herbert Spencer.

ON Saturday before last while Mr Abdul Ghaffur, Deputy Collector, Shahjehanpore, was trying a prisoner, and was taking down the statement of a witness in the case, the prisoner threw a sharp-pointed stone at the Magistrate, cutting him between the eyes. The accused then tried to escape, but was secured.

MIRZA Mashumbeig, Chief Constable, Ahmednagar, District, and Ramji Vithuj, Head Constable, were committed to the Court of Sessions by Rao Bahadur Perdshe, First Class Magistrate of Ahmednagar, for extorting confession from a barber, who was arrested on suspicion regarding a theft, and voluntarily causing him grievous hurt, from the effects of which he died while in Police custody.

NEWS was received in Quetta last Thursday of the murder of two subordinates of the Irrigation Department at Khush Dil Khan, in the Pishin District, where there are the largest irrigation works in Baluchistan, consisting mainly of an enormous bund or dam of the same name. The crime is presumed to be in connection with some water-supply dispute, of which there have been an abnormal number generally in those territories this year, owing to the exceptionally dry summer and consequent scarcity of water. Further details of the tragedy are awaited.

The question of a very considerable extension of Government Dairy Farms is occupying the attention of the authorities at Simla. Captain Meagher, K.E., was sent, some time ago on an extensive European tour for the purpose of examining thoroughly into the most approved modern methods of dairy farming, with special reference, of course, to their possible adoption in India. It is expected that Captain Meagher's report will have the result during the ensuing cold weather, of not only remodelling existing farms to some extent, but also the creation of several new ones.

MR. GOPALSAMI Rao, Station Master of Sinnakuntalli Station, S. I. Ry, has been convicted by Mr. W. M. Thorburn, Sessions Judge of Bellary, for criminal breach of trust by a servant and sentenced to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment. Rai Bahadur P. Ananda Charlu B. A. B. L., Public Prosecutor, instructed by Mr. M. Thiruvankata Chariar, Railway Prosecuting Inspector, conducted the prosecution, while the accused was defended by Mr. Raman B. A. B. L. The Public Prosecutor has written to the Agent of the valuable assistance rendered by Mr. Thiruvankata Chariar in the successful prosecution of this intricate case. The Agent communicated the same to him acknowledging his services in suitable terms in connection with the said case.

Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT VACATION BENCH.

Before Justices Stevens and Pratt.

—SEPT. 17.

THE MOZAFFERPORE PESHKAR'S CASE.

BABU RAMPUL LAL who was the Peshkar of the Senior Deputy Magistrate, Babu Sant Prosad of Mozafferpore, was convicted by the District Magistrate of that district for attempting to receive a bribe from one Tuniya Ram under section 165 I. P. Code and sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment on the 2nd of August last and the conviction and sentence was thereafter confirmed by the District Judge on appeal. The case created sensation in the town and the District Magistrate himself tried the case on account of the local feeling in the matter. Mr. P. L. Roy instructed by Babu Satis Chandra Ghose moved their Lordships to-day to set aside the conviction and sentence and to admit the petitioner on bail. Mr. Roy stated that the petitioner had been 20 years in Government service and had previous to this case held the important post of Peshkar of the Senior Deputy Magistrate of Mozafferpore. The case of the prosecution was that there was a case of abduction against one Tuniya Ram, a ghee merchant. The case was on the file of Babu Sant Prosad and in that case on the application of the defence the petitioner was sent down to the place of occurrence, to make a map of certain houses and gardens. It is alleged that while on the spot he had induced Tuniya Ram to promise to give him twenty rupees and that one Judge who is his broker in ghee and who was looking after his case stood security for this amount. The case in which Tuniya Ram was accused was decided in his favor but he did not pay the promised bribe and a month afterwards, i.e. on the 12th July last it is stated the petitioner met Judge near the thana and asked him for the money and on his refusal to pay the amount the constables at the thana beat him because they were the friends of the petitioner. Upon these facts the petitioner and the constables were tried together the former under Section 156 and the two latter under Sec. 352 of the I. P. C. Mr. Roy submitted to their Lordships that the case as put was wholly incredible and unworthy of belief and both the lower courts had convicted upon the testimony of accomplices which was an error in law. Learned Counsel urged that a man who stood surety for a bribe was in no better position than the man who offered the bribe. Both were accomplices in the eye of the law and it was to safeguard innocent people being put in peril of their liberty that the legislature had enacted Sections 114, and 133 of the Evidence Act. The combined effect of those two sections was that an accomplice was unworthy of belief unless corroborated in material particulars. Mr. Roy then cited the following cases 2, Calcutta Weekly Notes, pages 5 and 672, 14, Bony, 331, and submitted that in law all persons were considered accessories who conspired directly or indirectly, counselled, procured, commanded or offered bribes.

Stevens, J. I don't think we need trouble you any further. We shall issue a rule upon the Magistrate to show cause why the conviction and sentence should not be set aside and direct that the prisoner be released on bail.

Babu Satis Chunder Ghose subsequently upon a separate petition moved on behalf of the constables for a rule to set aside their conviction and sentence and their Lordships issued a rule in terms of the petition.

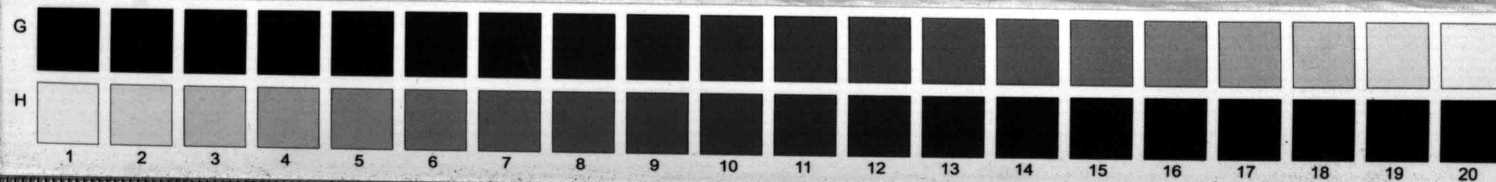
—SEPT. 20.

A CASE UNDER THE NEW PENAL CODE.

A CASE of a peculiar nature, perhaps first of its kind under the amended Penal Code, came up before their Lordships to-day for revision of conviction and sentence of one Mane Chetri by Mr. Heron, Joint-Magistrate of Kurseong. It appeared that the petitioner was charged under section 505 of the amended Penal Code with having circulated a false rumour to the effect that on the 20th May last there would be a war between the Nepalese and the British, and that he, the petitioner, who had lately been to Nepal, had seen that the Nepalese troops were collected on the frontier and were making every preparation for the war. This rumour was circulated among the coolies employed in the Liptore Tea estate, where the petitioner had been a duffadar, but was lately dismissed, and the coolies who were all Nepalese were told that at the first outbreak of war the British Government would kill all the Nepalese coolies. This had the desired effect and the coolies, 300 all told, bolted the next morning. The petitioner was accordingly prosecuted under the new section and sentenced by Mr. Heron to nine months' rigorous imprisonment. There was an appeal to the Sessions Judge of Dinapore who, without interfering with the conviction, reduced the sentence to four months' rigorous imprisonment.

Babu Surendro Nath Roy, who appeared for the petitioner, contended that the facts found did not constitute an offence under section 505. The section says "whoever publishes or circulates any statement or rumour with intent to cause or which was likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public or to any section of the public, whereby any person may be induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquility or with intent, &c." In this case, assuming the facts to be true, no person was induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquility. All that the coolies did were to bolt away. The Sessions Judge, as well as the Magistrate who was aware of the weakness of the prosecution case, considered that as the coolies instead of bolting away might have risen against the manager of the garden, beaten and killed him, it was a clear case that the coolies might have been induced to commit offence against public tranquility and accordingly convicted the petitioner under the section. The vakil contended that all these were mere contingencies and there was nothing in the evidence to show that the coolies ever thought of rising against the manager.

Their Lordships issued a rule for the set aside of conviction and sentence on



that the facts found did not amount to an offence of which the petitioner was convicted. Pending the hearing of the rule petitioner would be released on bail.

THE BURDWAN MURDER CASE.

JUDGMENT.

The following is the full text of the judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Bannerjee on the 2nd August:—

The accused Bhairab Chandra Chakraborty, Surendronath Bannerjee and Khetra Nath Gangooly were tried by jury before the Sessions Court of the 24-Pergunnas on charges of murder, culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and abetment of those offences for causing or abetting the causing of the death of Ibrahim Shaik and Jodu Shaik. The jury unanimously returned a verdict of not guilty and the learned Sessions Judge has accepted that verdict and acquitted the accused.

Against this order of acquittal the present appeal has been preferred by the Local Government under section 417 of the Cr. P. Code.

The trial having been by jury the appeal lies on a matter of law only under section 415 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. And as provided in sections 423 and 537 of the said Code, the verdict of the jury and the order of acquittal based thereon cannot be altered or reversed, unless it is shown that the verdict is erroneous owing to a misdirection by the Judge or to a misunderstanding on the part of the jury of the law as laid down by him and the misdirection has occasioned a failure of justice.

The grounds upon which we are asked to set aside the verdict of the jury and the order of acquittal based thereon are:—
First, that the learned Sessions Judge had misdirected the jury in saying in his charge to the jury that the principal witnesses to the occurrence Sarat Mohanto Sripati and Anondo "were somehow connected with that disturbance and they went or were taken to the Police station that same night just after the occurrence" when "there is nothing to show that they were so connected."

Second, that the learned Judge had further misdirected the jury in telling them with reference to the same three witnesses "If you think these three Hindus were no better than accomplices of the present accused and others their evidence can not be accepted as satisfactory unless it is corroborated in material particulars" when there is nothing to show that they could possibly be regarded as accomplices.

Third, that the learned Judge had further misdirected the jury in making the following observations in his charge, "then with regard to the three Hindu statements at the Thana at A. M. do you believe that they were recorded by the Dargah? I can hardly imagine that any Police Officer would waste his precious time in making a record of this kind before going to the spot and looking after the dead and wounded."

Fourth, that the learned Judge had also misdirected the jury in saying that "a witness can not corroborate himself" and thus excluding from their consideration the previous statements made by some of the witnesses to the Police Officers during the investigation by them.

Fifth, that the learned Judge had also misdirected the jury in saying with reference to the evidence of Jogendra Nath, witness No. 1, that "his evidence implies that none of the Mahomedans knew the names of the assailants."

Sixth, that the learned Judge had also misdirected the jury in saying with reference to some of the witnesses, "the only general remark I need make is that if these men had known (seem) the details of the assault, the first information would have been different and not limited to the outlines of the quarrel as it is."

Seventh, that the learned Judge had further misdirected the jury in saying with reference to the evidence on the question of the enmity arising between the deceased and the accused out of a dispute at the school theatre on the last Jubilee night that the evidence was at all events insufficient.

Eighth, that the learned Judge had committed an error of law in excluding the statements made by the accused before Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate as inadmissible in evidence.

Ninth, that the learned Judge had also committed an error in law in calling Ramjiban Mitra as a witness.

Tenth, that the learned Judge had further misdirected the jury in saying that the first information does not mention that Ibrahim was stabbed in the chest and is not referring to the Police Station diary which supplied the omission referred to.

These grounds might have been arranged in a different order and some of them might have been grouped together, but I shall consider them in the order in which they are stated above, that being the order in which they were urged in the argument before us.

In support of the first ground it is urged that as Sarat Mohanto Sripati and Anondo are three of the most important witnesses for the prosecution any remark in the learned Sessions Judge's charge to the jury on justly detracting from their credibility must amount to a material misdirection vitiating the verdict arrived at; and it is contended that the remark quoted above, namely, that they "were somehow connected with that disturbance and they went or were taken to the Police Station that same night just after the occurrence" was calculated to detract from the credibility of those witnesses unjustly, because there was nothing on the record to justify the remark. In my opinion this contention is not sound, for we have it on the evidence of these three witnesses themselves, that the disturbance resulted immediately from a quarrel which arose in consequence of certain improper remarks made by the accused to the deceased in the course of conversation at an apparently friendly gathering in the house of the witness Sarat, at which all the three witnesses were present. Then as to the remark relating to the witnesses going or being taken to the Thana, Sarat says "I went willingly being told by the Police"; Sripati says "the Jamadar took down the four names on a paper. He said you must go to Thana. We three went to the Thana in Ranigunj"; and Anondo says "after that we were taken to the Thana by Osman Guni. The Jamadar was with us."

The remark to which exception is taken in the first ground was, therefore, in my opinion, justified.

The second ground relates to a remark in the learned Judge's charge which is very much stronger against the same three witnesses and which would have amounted to a misdirection if it had been uncalled for and had stood alone, but in the first place I do not think that the learned Judge made a wholly uncalled for remark when he told the jury (with the qualification presently to be noticed) "if you think those three Hindus were no better than accomplices of the present accused and others their evidence can not be accepted as satisfactory unless it is corroborated in material particulars". According to the evidence of the three witnesses referred to in the remark, the occurrence resulted from a quarrel which arose in the house of one of them, in the course of conversation at a friendly meeting at which all three were present. The occurrence took place in front of the house of Sarat, who says "The police saw marks of blood on the walls of my house and on the verandah and steps" and though he says "I tried to stop the quarrel, but both sides became angry," yet after the occurrence, and after two men had been mortally wounded before his eyes he did nothing to help them or to give information to the Police but "told Sripati to close the door." "We three" he adds "Sarat on the *takhtash* (sic) namely I Anondo and Sripati" and he did not open his door until he was called by the Police. Sripati says "I saw the four accused run away to the west. I bolted the door." The witness Anondo says "I was asked by my father, and through fear I said I know nothing. Next day, till the Police came to my house I went on saying I knew nothing," and the Head Constable Ebrahim Khan says that when he was taken to the place of occurrence "Sarat Mohanta was then sitting inside with his door shut, I called twice but no reply came. I asked Osman Guni to call. He did so and they opened the door." In this state of evidence the Sessions Judge was not, in my opinion, wrong in saying what he did say. But in the second place, the remark does not stand alone. It must be taken with what precedes it and with what follows it and so taken, it loses all the effect it might have otherwise had in the minds of the jurors against the credibility of the witnesses referred to. Towards the conclusion of the third paragraph preceding that in which the remark in question occurs, the learned Judge had said, speaking of the witness Sarat, "he impressed me favourably," and in the passage immediately following that to which exception is taken he adds "but remember there is no evidence that the three Hindus were ever charged and they bore no marks of assault. Their reluctance to depose and the frequent interrogative by the Police to which they seem to have been subjected may be explained by the hypothesis already indicated but it is for you to form your own conclusions."

The remark to which exception is taken in the second ground does not therefore, in my opinion, amount to any misdirection.

The third ground is directed against a remark which I think was a perfectly fair remark to make. It is argued that as special police arrangements had been made for the town, on the night of the occurrence, which was the night of a Hindu festival, the Deroga might well have gone on recording details of statements made to him thinking that the dead and wounded would be taken care of by the Police officers stationed at the spot. He might have thought so; but the probability is in favour of the view taken in the Judge's remark, that he would much rather hasten to the spot where the dead and the wounded were.

In support of the fourth ground it is urged that by Section 157 of the Evidence Act the testimony of a witness may be corroborated by any statement made by him relating to the same fact at or about the time, when the fact took place, or before any authority legally competent to investigate the fact and that the previous statement made by the witnesses to the police were therefore admissible in evidence. But section 157 of the Evidence Act which lays down the general rule must be taken subject to the exception contained in the special rule enacted by Section 162 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which makes statements to the Police other than dying declarations inadmissible in evidence as against the accused.

It was argued by the learned counsel for the Crown that Section 162 C. P. C. only excludes statements made to a Police officer in the course of an investigation under chapter XIV of the Code of Criminal Procedure, but the Police officer to whom the statements in question were made was not holding and was not authorized to hold any such investigation. To this the answer is that the statements were clearly made in the course of a Police investigation, and the question whether the Police officer was or was not authorized to hold the investigation is immaterial regard being had to section 156 C. P. C.

The fifth ground takes exception to a remark in the Judge's charge, which, even if it was incorrect, is of an immaterial character and cannot constitute a misdirection such as would justify our interfering with the verdict of the jury, nor do I think that it was altogether incorrect; for Jogindra Nath Banerji, the witness, with reference to whose evidence the remark is made, says "when Bistu and Osman Guni came to call me they did not say who had committed *khun*." On the way no one told me who had committed the *khun*.

With reference to the 6th ground it is enough to say that the remark which is taken exception to, is, in my opinion, fully borne out by a comparison of the first information with the evidence given at the trial; for, while the first information, which is lodged by the witness Kader Bux alias Bistu Sheik omits all mention of the accused Surendra stabbing Ibrahim, with a knife and of the names of the assailants of Jodu Sheik, Kader Bux in his deposition states that he saw Surendra had struck Ibrahim in the cheek with a dagger and then plunged the dagger into different parts of Jodu's body. It is quite true that the first information may omit more details which are brought out by the more careful examination in Court, but it is somewhat singular that the omission should be in respect of important points like those noted above.

The seventh ground relates to a matter of very small importance and the remark to which exception is taken appears to me to be free from objection. The Judge was quite right in saying that the evidence on the question of enmity was insufficient. But any adverse effect of the remark was quite counteracted by the passage following it, in which

he observed "A quarrel of course may arise without any previous distinct enmity."

The eighth ground urged before us is a really important one, and requires careful consideration. If the statements of the accused, which have been excluded as inadmissible, be really admissible in evidence, then it would be difficult to hold that their exclusion has not vitiated the verdict of the jury. The question then that arises for consideration is whether the statements that have been excluded were admissible in evidence.

The statements on the face of them are not confession of guilt, but contained admission of certain facts from which inferences adverse to the accused may be drawn. They were made before the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji, who was deputed by the Deputy Magistrate under Section 159 Cr. P. C., to hold the Police investigation, and they were made before the preliminary enquiry had commenced. They were made by the accused not of their own motion, but in answer to questions put to them. They were recorded not as confession under Section 164 C. P. C., but as statements under Section 364, the certificate at the foot of each showing only that it was taken in the presence and hearing of the Magistrate and contains a true account of the statement made by the accused without stating that it was voluntarily made.

And they were tendered in evidence before the Sessions Court, as the order sheet of that Court shows, not as confessions, but as statements only. They were rejected as inadmissible by the order of the Sessions Court, dated the 1st February, 1898. The prosecution then wanted to examine the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Charu Chandra Chatterji, before whom these statements had been made, not with a view to prove that the statements recorded had been duly made, a matter which can under Section 533 C. P. C. be established by oral evidence, notwithstanding that the record may not show that certain of the required formalities had been observed, but with a view to prove by oral evidence that the accused made statements similar to those recorded. This course Section 533 C. P. C. does not authorize, and the examination of the witness, Charu Chandra Chatterji, for that purpose was disallowed by an order, dated the 1st February, 1898.

No exception is now taken to this last mentioned order, but the learned counsel for the Crown contends that the earlier order of the 1st February, 1898, rejecting the statements of the accused as inadmissible, is a wrong order, and that those statements were admissible in evidence against the accused under Section 21 of the Evidence Act and Sections 164 and 364 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. On the other hand, it is contended by the learned counsel for the accused that the statements in question are inadmissible in evidence, Section 21 of the Evidence Act being controlled by Sections 164 and 364 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the statements not being recorded in accordance with these last mentioned sections.

After a careful consideration of the arguments on both sides the conclusion I come to is that the learned Sessions Judge was right in holding that these statements were inadmissible in evidence. Section 21 of the Evidence Act, no doubt, lays down the general rule that admissions are relevant and may be proved as against the person who makes them; but that rule must be taken subject to the special provisions relating to confessions and statements of accused persons enacted in Sections 24, 25 and 26 of the Evidence Act and Sections 164 and 364 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Were it not otherwise confessions and statements of accused persons, which are not recorded in accordance with requirement of Sections 164 and 364 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, might nevertheless be proved as admissions by the accused, and the wholesome provisions elaborately laid down in those two sections practically reduced to a nullity. This could never have been intended nor can Section 533 of the Code of Criminal Procedure construed to favour that view. That section, as I understand it, means only this, that where a confession or other statement of an accused person is duly made, that is made in accordance with the provisions of the law, but in recording it those provisions have not been fully complied with, oral evidence is admissible to prove that the confession or other statement was duly made; or, in other words, when the defect in recording the confession or other statement of an accused person is one not of substance but of form only, as for instance when the Magistrate had through inadvertence omitted to state in the certificate that the statement was taken in his hearing though it was so taken, or when he has omitted to sign the certificate through mere inadvertence, oral evidence may be taken to remedy the defect by proving that the statement recorded was duly made. This view is supported by several cases of which I need only refer to *Queen Empress versus Viron* L. R. 9, Mad. 224 and *Jai Narain Roy versus Queen Empress* L. R. 17, Cal. 870.

I shall next examine Sections 164 and 364 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, to see if the statements in question are admissible under either of them.

Section 164 runs thus:—
"Any Magistrate not being a Police officer may record any statement or confession made to him in the course of an investigation under this chapter or at any time afterwards before the commencement of the enquiry or trial."

"Such statements shall be recorded in such of the manners hereinafter prescribed for recording evidence as is in his opinion best fitted for the circumstances of the case. Such confessions shall be recorded and signed in the manner provided in section 364, and shall then be forwarded to the Magistrate by whom the case is to be enquired into or tried."

"No Magistrate shall record any such confession unless upon questioning the person making it, he has reason to believe that it was made voluntarily; and when he records any confession he shall make a memorandum at the foot of such record to the following effect:—

"I believe that this confession was voluntarily made. It was taken in my presence and hearing, and was read over to the person making it and admitted by him to be correct, and it contains a full and true account of the statement made by him."

(Signed) A. B. Magistrate."

The statements here were recorded by a Magistrate, not being a Police officer, in the course of an investigation under Chapter XIV, the Chapter in which Section 164 occurs; and

at first sight it might seem that the statements come under the first paragraph of the section. But the second paragraph of the section clearly shows that that view cannot be correct, and that the "statement" which the section contemplates is the statement of a witness and not of an accused. For the second paragraph requires that the statement contemplated by the section should be recorded in the manner prescribed for recording evidence and that confessions should be recorded in the manner provided by section 364, and the mode prescribed for recording evidence (sections 355 to 363) can only relate to the statement of witnesses while the manner provided by section 364 relates to all statements of accused persons, whether amounting to confession or not. If the section had intended this term "statement" as used in it, to include statements of accused persons as well as those of witnesses, it must have directed the former class of statements, to be recorded in the manner prescribed in section 364 instead of directing, as it does, that statements within the meaning of the section are to be recorded in the manner in which evidence is recorded while confessions are to be recorded in the manner prescribed in section 364. The reason why section 164 provides only for recording that class of statements of the accused which are or purport to be confessions, and does not provide for the recording of statements of accused persons other than confessions, is that the section relates to a stage of the case, namely, the Police investigation stage, at which statements of the accused which are other than voluntary confessions, and which are to be elicited by his examination, are not intended to be obtained from him, sections 209 and 342, which are the only provisions of the Code authorising the examination of the accused by the Magistrate, clearly showing that the object of such examination is not to obtain criminal statements from the accused, but is only to enable him to explain circumstance him appearing against in the evidence adduced. This view is supported by the cases of *Emress vs. Malka*, L. R. 2, Bom. 643 and *Queen Empress versus Viron*, L. R. 9, Mad. 224. It was said that the first-mentioned case was under the Code of 1872 and the section 122 of that Code which corresponded to section 164 of the present Code was different in its terms. No doubt, there was some difference in the language of the first sentence of section 122 which made its meaning clear in favour of the view taken above; but the language of the second sentence which corresponded to the second paragraph of section 164 was in effect the same. The case of *Queen Empress vs. Viron* was, however, under the present Code of Criminal Procedure; and the view taken of section 164 is exactly the one I take. It was then argued by the learned counsel for the Crown that sections 364 and 533 of the Code of Criminal Procedure which speak of statements of accused persons other than confessions, go to disprove the correctness of this view. I do not consider this argument sound. It is quite true that accused persons may make statements other than confessions; but they are required by section 364 to be recorded in the manner thereon prescribed, and so they cannot come within the description of statements in section 164 which are by the section required to be recorded in the manner prescribed by section 364. Moreover though the accused may make a confession of his guilt at any stage of the case before the enquiry or trial commences, and during the Police investigation the time for his making statements other than a confession does not, as I have already indicated, arrive until after the trial has commenced, as a reference to sections 209 and 342 of the Code of Criminal Procedure will clearly show. The two last-mentioned sections point out that our law authorises the examination of the accused to obtain statements from him, only "for the purpose of enabling the accused to explain any circumstance appearing in the evidence against him" and not for the inquisitorial purpose of making him confess his guilt or assist the prosecution by admitting facts which may go to his disadvantage. Such a course has always been severely condemned. [See: In the matter of Chintabhai Ghose, L. C. R. 436 and *Birbhadra Mad. H. C. 199*.] In the present case the examination of the accused which led to the statements in question being recorded, is open to objection not only because it was commenced with the question "did you murder Ibrahim and Sheik Jodu last night?" but also because the examination, as we learned from one of the witnesses for the prosecution, Ananda Lal Misser, was allowed to be conducted by the Police Inspector, a course which ought never to have been tolerated and which practically made these statements of the accused no better than statements made to the Police, which are expressly declared to be inadmissible against the accused by Section 162.

If these statements are treated as confession, they are clearly inadmissible under section 164, the appended certificate not showing that they were voluntarily made, there being nothing to show that they were so made or that the Magistrate enquired whether the questions which elicited them and the fact just referred to above, being against the view that they were voluntarily made. And if they are statements other than confessions under section 364, they are equally inadmissible, they having been made before the case reached the stage at which the examination of the accused is authorized. They are, therefore, in my opinion, inadmissible in evidence under the letter as well as the spirit of our law. The view I take is fully supported by the case of *Queen Empress vs. Viron* L. R. 9, Mad. 224, already cited.

In that case referring to certain answers given by the accused on the 5th of June, which were tendered in evidence against the accused and which were given under circumstances similar to those under which the statements now under consideration were made, Parker J. observes: "On the 5th June when the prisoners were placed before the Magistrate, there was no evidence on the record against them. Such evidence as was afterwards obtained, was not obtained till later in the month and all previous proceedings appeared to have been under the *Mopila Act*. The statements which they had previously given, had not been made legal evidence against them; nor, as it appears from the examination itself, had they up to that time been brought on the record of the preliminary enquiry under sec. 342 of the C. P. C.; therefore the Deputy Magistrate was

not justified in putting any question at all to the accused since it is only for the purpose of enabling an accused person to explain circumstances appearing in the evidence against him that a question ever can be put, and still less of course, was the Magistrate justified in putting questions for the purpose of getting the accused to incriminate themselves—a procedure which section 342 was specially designed to prevent. Had the accused on the 5th June offered to confess; such confessions could, no doubt, have been taken and recorded before the commencement of the enquiry under section 164; and after the Magistrate has satisfied himself upon questioning the accused they were going to make voluntary confessions, such confessions could then have been recorded with the declaration prescribed by section 164. But these statements were not given and do not profess to have been given under section 164, but under section 364 in answer to questions put by the Magistrate, and not only did the Magistrate put questions to each accused when there was no evidence in the record against him which he could be asked to explain, but he actually cross-examined each prisoner at great length with regard to the part supposed to have been taken by the other prisoners, a course of proceeding most unjustifiable and which has often been noticed with censure by this Court. I am of opinion that the procedure of the Deputy Magistrate, on 5th June, was illegal, and that the questions put to and the answers then obtained from the prisoners must be excluded from the record of this trial.

The ninth ground is completely met by the section 540 of Criminal Procedure Code, which empowers the Court to examine any person as a witness at any stage of a trial; and I do not understand how the prosecution can be justified in opposing the exercise of that power.

It remains now to consider the tenth ground. The learned Judge is quite right when he tells the jury that the first information does not say that Ebrahim was a cheik. Nor does the diary, the mention which constitutes this objection say so, though it says that he was murdered with knife and any view of the matter, the omission to the diary can not constitute a misdirection to the jury when it is mind that the learned Judge in his remark pointed out to the jury that the information was a *bonafide* document not one that was subsequently concocted.

In my opinion, therefore, it has made out that the learned Sessions Judge charge to the jury is vitiated by an misdirection, such as would justify interference with the verdict of the jury on order of acquittal based thereon. so it is not open to us to enquire whether the verdict is right on the merits or not. It is, no doubt, much to be regretted that two persons were mortally on a bright moon-lit night in a thoroughfare in the town of Burdwan the perpetrators of the crime have been brought to justice yet.

But so far as the present case goes, the prosecution can not have much reason to complain. To ensure a fair and impartial trial, an application was made on behalf of the prosecution for transfer of the case from Burdwan to Alipur, and that application was granted. The trial was held before a special jury. The learned Sessions Judge charged the jury in a careful and elaborate summing-up, in which no material misdirection has, in my opinion, been shown. The jury unanimously returned a verdict of not guilty and the learned Judge accepted the verdict and acquitted the accused.

In my opinion the order of acquittal must, therefore, stand and this appeal must therefore be dismissed.

3rd August, 1898.

(Sd.) Goro Das Bannerjee.

His Excellency the Governor of Bombay has nominated Mr. A. Wingate to be additional member of the local Legislative Council.

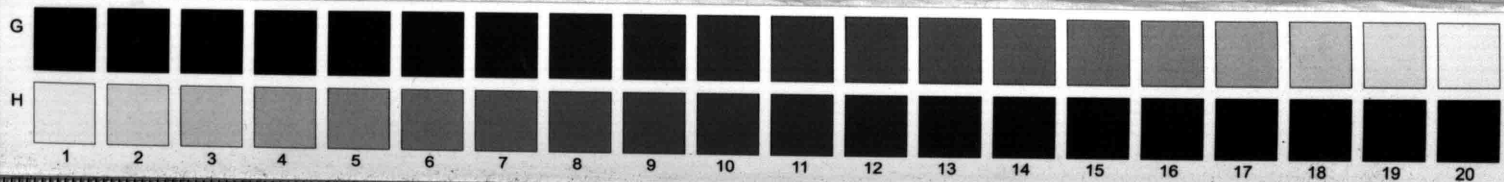
The *Simla News* hears that Lord Elgin will visit the Patiala and Nabha States en route to Burma.

The opium revenue continues to dwindle at a rapid rate and the receipts to date are Rs. 7,04,150 worse than the estimate.

HERE is a curious story, hailing from Chittagong. An official communication, addressed by the Legal Remembrancer, somehow or other found its way to the columns of the *Sunshodini* of Chittagong; and in consequence, the Divisional Commissioner ordered the suspension of the pay of clerks in his office and of those in the Collectorate and the Court of Wards Office. We now learn that the Commissioner has, of his own motion, withdrawn the order, and allowed the clerks to draw their pay. The Mahafiz in the Commissioner's office, who was suspended, has also been permitted to resume his duties.

In former days almost every district in Bengal was famous for its manufacturing industry; and although imported articles have now well nigh crushed indigenous industries, yet people have not altogether forgotten the arts. For instance, in the district of Barisal all sorts of cutlery are made in Uzirpore, and weaving is carried on in Kashipore, Madhavpasha and Uzirpore. But it is feared that these industries will cease to exist soon; for, nobody cares to purchase indigenous articles, and the manufacturers can not, therefore, make the two ends meet. Cannot there be found a band of Bengali patriots, to foster and resuscitate these decaying or dead industries?

In connection with a private dispute about money between a Shirani and a contractor working on the Chuhar Khel Dhana road, a collision has occurred between the Shiranis and the Military guard stationed on the road. It appears that towards the end of August, thirty Shiranis of Parwara collected to enforce the payment of some money due by the contractor, and were on the point of carrying him off when the labourers working on the road reported the matter to the officer in charge of the Military guard, and asked him to obtain the contractor's release. The troops proceeded to the spot and the officer ordered the Parwara people to release the man, but they refused and fired a shot at the officer which the sepoys returned, killing one Shirani and wounding another. The tribesmen were then arrested and their arms taken away.



THE "DAILY MAIL" ON MR. YULE.

INDIA'S SUFFERING COMMERCE.

SHORT OF CASH—WITHOUT CREDIT.

The commercial world of India, says the London *Daily Mail*, is in the throes of a dire revolution. No one can foretell the issue. Its standard unit of value is now nothing but a silver token. The rupee has the exchange value of 1s. 4d., or thereabouts, but its intrinsic worth is only about 10d. This has been caused by an artificial contraction of the currency. Were an Act of Parliament to be passed closing the Mint, and thereby creating scarcity in sovereigns, so that every man, who desired to possess one, had to pay 30s. for it, although the actual value of the gold contained in it continued at the present level, the result would resemble the financial condition of India to-day. Every single individual who has a pound invested in India or Ceylon stock, of any description whatever, be it Government paper or railway scrip, tea plantations or gold mines, has a direct personal interest in the Indian currency question. This has been so obscure by the arguments and disputations of these two interminable bores, the monetarist, and the bimetalist, that a busy man shies at it like a bicyclist at a mad cow. He knows it to be a great dilemma, and he has not the slightest intention of being impaled on its horns. This, he feels, is sure to happen if he gets drawn into a discussion. So he avoids it. But a matter that affects the whole commercial prosperity of an empire cannot be lightly cast aside. Five years have elapsed since the Government of India dared, with unsurpassed audacity, to meddle with the currency, and some of the effects are now only too apparent. So scarce are rupees in India to-day, that merchants in Bombay have had to pay as much as 18 per cent interest for advances on the security of gold bullion, and 24 per cent, on the security of silver. Banks have refused to make advances on Government paper. Influential native firms have failed on account of their inability to obtain cash on the ample securities they possessed. Their failure has caused widespread disaster, for it has involved the ruin of hundreds of little firms, financed by them all over the country. During the plague scare in Calcutta at the beginning of the year, sound men of business sold out any goods or securities they held at sacrifice in order to buy gold which they took off to their villages. They had lost faith in Government scrip. The Presidency Banks of India are semi-Government institutions, holding much the same position as the Bank of England. Their Directors are men of light and leading in the commercial world, whose opinions are authoritative. These are the words of the President of the Bank of Bombay, uttered at the annual meeting held in that city last month:—"I regret to say that the implicit confidence hitherto reposed by the natives of India in the convertibility of Government paper into cash at a moment's notice, has been considerably shaken, and Government will find this to their cost when floating loans in future." Mr. Yule, a leading Calcutta merchant and Chairman of the Joint-Stock Bank of Calcutta, declared at the annual meeting of shareholders that the credit of the people of India had been seriously damaged, and most of the country's industrial and agricultural undertakings no longer offered any inducement in the way of investment to the foreign capitalist. A plentiful and persistent inflow of capital is the lifeblood of commercial India. Check it, and of development is stopped; private enterprise sinks feebly into a state of inanition. The Mill-owners' Association of Bombay, representing a new and important industry, in which European and native capital is equally engaged, have recorded the statement that the contraction of the currency resulted in such a scarcity of money during the last busy season as to make their business uncertain and unremunerative. Forty million pounds sterling may be said to be the amount of British capital invested in the planting industry of India and Ceylon. The Kolar gold mines are still in their infancy, but, nevertheless, two-and-a-half millions sterling are sunk in them. Both planters and miners protest loudly against a policy that has placed on them the heavy impost of an artificial rupee. The Government of India endeavours to give comfort. "These," it says, "are but the years of wandering in the wilderness of short dividends and small profits. The land of promise is at hand; a golden dawn will soon break over its rich pastures. And it points to the Pishah, where Sir Henry Fowler and his committee. But commercial India suffers, and will not be comforted. The words of the President of the Bank of Bombay have now been verified. For the new three and half per cent rupee loan of 1-15 crore, only 170 lakhs were tendered and the average rate realised was Rs. 94-2-5. One year ago for the three and-a-half per cent loan of 5 crores, the average rate realised was Rs. 94-5-1, the amount being applied for twice over. Two years ago a three per cent loan of 10 crores was raised at Rs. 103. This steady decrease in India's power of borrowing emphasises the serious position of her present financial situation.

MAJOR DEANE has recovered from the Aghra Utman Khels a rifle stolen from the sepoy who was lately wounded at Marden. The thieves were two Talibs and the Jirga brought in the rifle directly they heard that reprisals were like to be effected on their property passing down to British territory.

THE Nawab of Bahawalpur has expressed a wish to visit England, and the matter is now receiving the consideration of the Government.

THERE was a heavy landslide on the Darjiling-Himalayan line on Friday, about a mile and-a-half out of Darjiling. Passengers were transhipped on Sunday.

J. W. Baggett, of Oak Grove, Fla., had an attack of the measles, nearly three years ago, and the disease left him with very severe pains in the chest. He thought, "I would die," and wrote, "but to my great joy I was saved by Chamberlain's Pain Balm." J. gains in the chest nearly always indicate the approach of pneumonia, and by promptly applying this liniment on a flannel cloth, which should be bound on the chest, an attack of pneumonia may be prevented. Keils always prompt and effective. For sale at 25 cents per bottle by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO., Chemists.

ABOUT IVORY.

[SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE Pioneer.]

REAL ivory is obtained not only from elephants' tusks but also from those of the prehistoric mammoth. Although these animals became extinct as a living species many thousand years ago, their remains are still found in considerable numbers, not only as perfect skeletons but also as well preserved bodies, buried in the eternal ice of Siberia and the Arctic regions. So extensive are these remains that on more than one occasion the different North Pole expeditions have drawn attention to them as perhaps the only profitable article of commerce in these inhospitable regions. The principle ivory firm in the world is that of Ad. Meyer of Hamburg who with a view of exploiting these mammoth remains has sent several expeditions to Siberia. The result, however, has been that only 30 per cent of such tusks are of any commercial value as ivory, the remaining 70 per cent being useless, so that they would scarcely pay for the cost of transport. The market price of such ivory averages about 3 s. 6d. per kilo, against from 10 to 25 shillings per kilo for the ivory in ordinary use.

Many persons are of opinion that the ivory market is largely supplied from East India and Ceylon. This however is not the case. Tuskers are every year becoming more rare, and in Ceylon only about one in a hundred is to be found with fully grown tusks. The total supply of ivory from India is only about 7,000 kilogramme a year (say 15,000 lbs.) or about 1-7 part of the world's supply. The demand for ivory in India is however a very large one. This demand dates from centuries back, and it is said that in no other country in the world has so much ivory been used both for personal ornaments, architectural purposes and divine worship as in India. At the present day ivory is extensively used for wedding presents, even the poorest brides endeavouring to get a pair of ivory armlets. The richer the bridegroom the broader the rings and the more profusely ornamented with gold. In Guzerat these rings are worn as anklets and in their manufacture a very large amount of raw material is required, as only certain portions of a particular size can be used. Now-a-days the elephant in India is used chiefly for domestic purposes, and the native ivory dealers, who at one time used to have caravans of more than 500 elephants, have had to look to other countries for their ivory supply.

Africa is now the country from which the ivory market is principally supplied. Elephants are found almost throughout Africa from the borders of the great desert of Sahara down to Cape land. It is true that from year to year the area of their habitat is being contracted, and of late years with such rapidity that if steps are not soon taken to check this profuse slaughter, the time is not far distant when the elephant of Africa will be extinct. For the last 20 years the export of ivory from Africa has been regularly and steadily decreasing. The quality of African ivory differs; that coming from the West Coast being more valuable than that from the East Coast. The coarsest ivory comes from the northernmost portion of the territory; and the best, the hardest and most transparent from the regions towards the south where there is more water and thicker vegetation. The finest ivory comes from Gabun and the coast from Senegambia and Damara land. A good ivory judge is able without ever having visited Africa to not only at once point out the part of Africa the tusk has come from, but from the quality of the tusk to specify the animal's food, the nature of the soil and of the climate, &c. The average export trade of African ivory is about 83,000 kilos (or rather more than double that amount in lbs.) valued at very nearly £1,000,000; this alone, without reckoning the ivory used for local consumption, represents 65,000 elephants killed every year simply for purposes of trade. But ivory, or rather a substitute for ivory is also obtained from the hippopotamus, the walrus and from two different species of whales (the *phyceter macrocephalus* and the *monodon monoceros*). The quality however is very inferior, and as regards the walrus that animal seems to be almost extinct. Formerly 60,000 lbs. of walrus teeth was reckoned an average catch for an expedition, but now only few shipments are made from the most northern ports of Europe and America.

The total yearly consumption of ivory is computed at nearly 2,000 tons. The largest European market is, as is natural, England. Ivory is sent home by purchasers in Africa and is sold at periodical auctions in London and Liverpool which are resorted to by dealers from every part of the world. This system involves, of course, a number of middlemen, brokerage, warehouse charges, &c., thereby ultimately increasing the cost of the article. There is only one firm in the world which claims to do everything, from the finding and acquisition of the ivory *in loco*, to the manufacture of the various objects for which it is used by means of its own agencies and factories. This is the firm of H. A. Meyer of Hamburg. Not only does this firm send out large caravans into the interior of Africa, to buy ivory, but it has agents in all parts of the world through whom the various markets are supplied. Thus there are agencies in Cairo, Tripoli, Zanzibar, Bagamoyo, Usagira, Uyanwesi, Quilmane, Uurban, Capetown and Port Elizabeth, as well as at New York, Toronto, Bombay, Bangkok, Hongkong and other centres of trade. These agents not only supply the raw material for local manufacture, but also if required the articles which are manufactured in the Hamburg factory which has the command of the Continental market. Many attempts have been made to find out substitutes for ivory, but none have met with any material success. In the matter of billiard balls especially, celluloid, Indian rubber and various composites have been tried, and although in the first instance an article can

be turned out which has exactly the appearance of an ivory billiard ball it soon turns out to be something quite different. Not only does it not possess the same durability, but it has not the same elasticity or specific gravity. Ivory consists of millions of minute cells filled with animal matter, each one hermetically closed and all closely connected with each other. In this way a degree of elasticity is obtained which cannot be procured by artificial means. Ivory itself is liable to be affected by sudden changes of climate, and before billiard balls are finally turned and polished they are kept for three months in a room of equal temperature to enable them to get thoroughly dried. Even then they are liable to be affected by a change of climate, as, for instance, billiard balls which have passed through a hard European winter and are then sent out to a hot climate like India are liable unless gradually warmed before being played with to get warped and out of shape. As might be expected in a material used entirely for articles of luxury, ivory is liable to great fluctuations in price. The acquisition of the raw material is attended by so many difficulties and is dependant upon so many conditions that no reliance can be placed upon a regularity of supply: thus the market may be nearly empty at one time and be overstocked a few weeks later. Fashion, too, is an important factor, and in India, especially the Northern Provinces which are amongst the largest consumers, a fad like 1897 has a very serious effect upon the trade.—J. D. B. G. in the *Pioneer*.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

At the International Congress of Zoology on Aug. 26, a telegram was read from the Prince of Wales, congratulating the Congress upon its success. Professor Haeckel subsequently delivered an interesting address upon the Descent of Man. He insisted that all living and extinct mammalia known to us are descended from a single common ancestral form which had existence in the Triassic or Permian period, and was probably derived from a Permian or carboniferous reptile, which, in turn, traced its ancestry to Devonian fishes and the lower vertebrates. The Congress held its closing meeting on Saturday. It was resolved that the next congress be held in Germany in 1921, the place of meeting being left to the decision of the German Zoological Society. Various votes of thanks were accorded. In the afternoon the members of the Congress came to London and visited the Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park. In the evening Sir John Lubbock, president of the Congress, held a reception in the central hall of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington.

Nature publishes a letter from a correspondent at Bettwys-y-Coed recording an extraordinary experience. On killing what was supposed to be an adder, about thirty-eight inches long, its captors opened him, and found inside a large toad, about halfway down the snake's interior. It was thought that the toad, whose head was much wider than the snake's, and whose body was many times as large as his enemy's head, must be dead, but as he shortly began to move, water was poured over him and whisky and water down his throat, the result of which heroic measures was that he revived, stood up on all fours, distended like a balloon, and darted at the stick in a most comical way, eventually disappearing. The correspondent who christened the toad "Jonah," asks for information as to similar cases of resuscitation and the probable duration of the toad's entombment.

It is stated that Professor J. H. Gore, of the Columbian University, Washington, has just returned from making the first of a series of most interesting experiments for determining the force of gravity at various points on the earth's surface. Professor Gore has spent several days at Dunes Island, where he made an elaborate series of observations with the pendulums of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. The observations taken at Dunes Island are intended to record the force of gravity at this high latitude, and Professor Gore also took observations at Tromsø and Leyden. His intention is to make observations at a number of stations between Dunes Island and the Equator, the stations being approximately equidistant and covering eighty degrees of latitude.

Two important railway inventions are being tested by the Austrian Ministry of Railways. The first, which is a new form of signalling, is described as follows:—When the signal is placed at danger the apparatus is moved near the rails in such a position as to come into contact with a corresponding mechanism attached to every engine. At the moment of contact this mechanism automatically causes the engine's whistle to blow, shuts off the steam, and simultaneously applies the brake. At the official trials on the Staatsbahn, a train travelling fifty miles an hour was brought to a standstill within 800 yards by this contrivance. It is claimed that this invention would render such accidents as arise through misunderstanding or inattention to signals almost an impossibility.

Another proposed method of checking existing signals is the division of the railway into so-called electric sections. When the train enters such a section, it would cause an electric current to flow through the whole section. Another train entering the same section would cause a counter current, and by an ingenious method electric bells would be immediately set in operation on both engines. This invention would reduce the possibility of collision of almost to nil. Herr Stauffer, a prominent engineer of Austrian State Railways, declares, says the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, that both inventions are practicable, and, if introduced, would contribute greatly to the safety of the travelling public.

IN our issue of the 9th instant, we protested against the treatment accorded to the Plague Inspector at Perambur by Capt. Smith, Honorary Magistrate of St. Thomas Mount. Of all men, a Magistrate ought to be the last person to violate any injunction issued by Government, and we thought the conduct of Capt. Smith was strange under the circumstances. We have been waiting since then to know what steps, if any, the Madras Municipality intended to take against Capt. Smith. The Municipal Executive were evidently hesitating to do their duty till at last a telegram from the Madras Government has set them right. An application was made to-day for the issue of a summons to Capt. Smith, but the issue of summons strangely enough is postponed by the Magistrate on the ground that the complaint is "too brief."—*Madras Standard*.

To Whom It May Concern:

Have been in the drug business for twelve years, and during that time, have sold nearly all the cough medicines manufactured, and from my personal knowledge of such remedies, I say that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gives better satisfaction than any other on the market.—W. M. Terry, Elkton

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO., Chemists.

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

AN account has just come to hand, says the *New Castle Daily Leader*, which confirms in the most unmistakable manner the prevalent but hitherto indefinite belief that, early in the recent conflict between the United States and Spain the English Government performed a service of the most single value to the former country.

Not long after the opening of the war the Government of a certain Continental Power conceived a brilliant and thorough conception, the object of which was to rescue Spain, to administer a humiliating rebuke to American ambition, and to assert complete European supremacy in the foreign complications of the western world. This power, it is perhaps almost superfluous to mention, was France. By a combination of good fortune and diplomatic adroitness the French Government secured the support of the other Continental Powers, Germany and Russia among them, whose aid was necessary to success. The stroke was all but completely prepared, and nothing remained but to secure, if not the active adherence, at least the tacit consent of neutrality of the English Government. At this point, unhappily for the ambition of France, the first and last check to the scheme was received. "The English people," so reasoned the French Cabinet, "have suffered more from 'American aggression' of late years than any other nation; deeply angered by the worst part of the American Press, they must have reached their limit of endurance under the menaces of President Cleveland; here, therefore, is their opportunity for an easy and overwhelming revenge." Accordingly the proposition of intervention diplomatic if that should be sufficient by force of arms if needful—was definitely submitted to Lord Salisbury; but to the unmeasured surprise and grief of the French Cabinet, a reply after due consideration was delivered to the effect that of the plan were not directly abandoned, not only would her Majesty's Government refuse to countenance execution, but would join forces with the American Government and declare war on France and such supporters as should come to her assistance. The negotiations at once fell through and the French Government was compelled to beat an abject and unqualified retreat.

CENTRAL ASIAN NOTES.

PERSIA.

THE Teheran correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on Aug. 26:—The disturbances at Tabriz continue. Fifteen persons are reported to have been killed. The houses on three properties belonging to Nizam ul Alema and his family have been razed to the ground; the loss is estimated at from 8,000 to 10,000. The agitation is against the principal holders of corn.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* has received the following letter from Bombay:—

The course which affairs are taking on the Persian Gulf, is being followed with great attention in India. Because Germany has established a Consulate at Bushire, though there are said to be only half a dozen German subjects there, it is believed here that the Consul will have to concern himself with other matters than Germany's commercial interests; and people even go the length of maintaining that Germany wishes to secure a station on the Persian Gulf. This is supposed to be in connection with the progress of the Asia Minor Railway, the concession for which is in German hands. A considerable number of Turkish troops were sent to Basorah lately, and as the Turkish-German relations are very friendly, and the otherwise already known that they are to support the scheme of a station, in case of resistance. Russia is increasing the number of her Consulates in South Persia in a remarkable manner, and it is supposed that if Germany gets a station on the Persian Gulf, Russia will secure Bander Abbas, which lies, indeed, on the Persian Gulf, but seems to be specially well adapted for Russia's purposes.

THE SIMPLON TUNNEL.

TWELVE AND A HALF MILES UNDERGROUND.

THE fourth and longest of the great Alpine railway tunnels—that under the Simplon—has at last been begun. The summit tunnel on the St. Gothard Railway measures nearly nine and half miles, and the Great Arlberg tunnel slightly over six miles, but the Simplon tunnel, from the present terminus of the Jura-Simplon Railway at Brieg to Iselle in Italy, will be twelve and a half miles in length. In other respects, however, it will be a much less difficult piece of engineering than either the Mont Cenis or the St. Gothard tunnel, for the gradients will be easy, and the greatest height above sea-level will be 6,312 feet. It will probably be driven through the mountain more quickly and more cheaply than even the Arlberg tunnel; for drilling machinery has been made more efficient, and every tunnel Mont Cenis took fourteen years to pierce. The average rate of progress was about two-and-a-half yards a day, and the cost was 226s. a lineal yard. The St. Gothard tunnel was begun in 1872, a year after the Mont Cenis tunnel had been finished, and went forward at the rate of six yards a day. It cost 143s. a yard, and was completed in 1881. The Arlberg tunnel was made at the rate of nine yards a day, at a cost of only 108s. a yard, and was finished in a little more than three years. The great sacrifice of workmen's lives that was so painful a feature of the St. Gothard works will, it is hoped, be avoided in the new undertaking. In the St. Gothard the discharge from the compressed air drills was trusted to for ventilation, but the heat met with in the heart of the mountain was so great, the atmosphere so impure, the change from the temperature of the tunnel to that of the air outside on the mountain so sudden and extreme, and the provision made for the men's health so slight that hundreds of deaths occurred. The makers of the Simplon tunnel seem to be determined that these lessons shall not be thrown away upon them, for a correspondent of the *Times* describes in detail many wise precautions that they are taking. Not only is a liberal supply of fresh air to be driven into the tunnel by fans—this was done at the Great Arlberg—but a house is to be built at the entrance in which every man who comes out of the tunnel will have his clothes dried and cleaned ready for the next day's work. He will be given a substantial meal there and required to rest for half an hour before going out of doors, and the day and night shifts will be provided with separate sets of beds. It is pleasant to read of such forethought on the part of the contractors, and it will doubtless result not only in the saving of a great many lives, but also in a large saving of time and money.

A CURIOUS incident has occurred in connection with the appointment of Mr. Spencer to the Acting Presidency Magistracy in Bombay. Recently he sentenced a prisoner charged with theft, to a term of imprisonment. Against that conviction and sentence the accused through his pleader, appealed to the High Court which it appears has held that the sentence is illegal inasmuch as Mr. Spencer's appointment is illegal under section 577 of the new Criminal Procedure Code, which prohibits a pleader practising in the Presidency Magistracy's Court from acting as a Magistrate. Mr. Spencer has been called upon, through notice served on him through the High Court, to appear in person, and show cause why the sentence should not be quashed for the reason given.

THE CZAR AND INTERNATIONAL DISARMAMENT.

THE Emperor of Russia has issued an invitation to the Governments to meet in conference to consider a basis for the disarmament of the nations. The text of the Czar's message which was published in the *St. Petersburg Official Messenger*, for Aug. 27, is as follows:—

"By order of the Czar, Count Muraviev on the 24th inst. handed to all the foreign representatives accredited to the Court of St. Petersburg the following communication:—

"The maintenance of general peace and a possible reduction of the excessive armaments which weigh upon all nations present themselves in the existing condition of the whole world as the ideal towards which the endeavours of all Governments should be directed. The humanitarian and magnanimous ideas of his Majesty the Emperor, my august master, have been won over to this view. In the conviction that this lofty aim is in conformity with the most essential interests and the legitimate views of all Powers, the Imperial Government thinks that the present moment would be very favourable to seeking by means of international discussion the most effective means of ensuring to all peoples the benefits of a real and durable peace; and, above all, of putting an end to the progressive development of the present armaments.

"In the course of the last twenty years the longings for a general appeasement have grown especially pronounced in the consciences of civilised nations. The preservation of peace has been put forward as the object of international policy. It is in its name that great States have concluded between themselves powerful alliances; it is the better to guarantee peace that they have developed in proportions hitherto unprecedented their military forces, and still continue to increase them without sharing from any sacrifice. All these efforts, nevertheless, have not yet been able to bring about the beneficial results of the desired pacification. The financial charges following an upward march strike at public prosperity at its very source. The intellectual and physical strength of the nations, labour and capital, are for the most part diverted from their natural application and unproductively consumed.

"Hundreds of millions are devoted to acquiring terrible engines of destruction which, though to-day regarded as the last word of science, are destined tomorrow to lose all value in consequence of some fresh discovery in the same field. National culture, economic progress, and the production of wealth are either paralysed or checked in their development. Moreover, in proportion as the armaments of each Power increase, so do they less and less fulfil the object which the Governments have set before themselves. The economic crises, due in great part to the system of armaments *à outrance*, and the continual danger which lies in this massing of war material are transforming the armed peace of our days into a crushing burden which the peoples have more and more difficulty in bearing. It appears evident then that if this state of things were prolonged it would inevitably lead to the very cataclysm which it is desired to avert, and the horrors of which make every thinking being shudder in advance.

"To put an end to these incessant armaments, and to seek the means of warding off the calamities which are threatening the whole world, such is the supreme duty which is to-day imposed on all States. Filled with this idea, his Majesty has been pleased to order me to propose to all the Governments whose representatives are accredited to the Imperial Court the meeting of a Conference which would have to occupy itself with this grave problem. This Conference would be, by the help of God, a happy presage for the century which is about to open. It would converge in one powerful focus the efforts of all the States, which are sincerely seeking to make the great conception of universal peace triumph over the elements of trouble and discord. It would at the same time cement their agreement by a corporate consecration of the principles of equity and right on which rest the security of States and the welfare of peoples."

BALKRISHNA CHAPEKAR.

ANOTHER REPORTED CAPTURE.

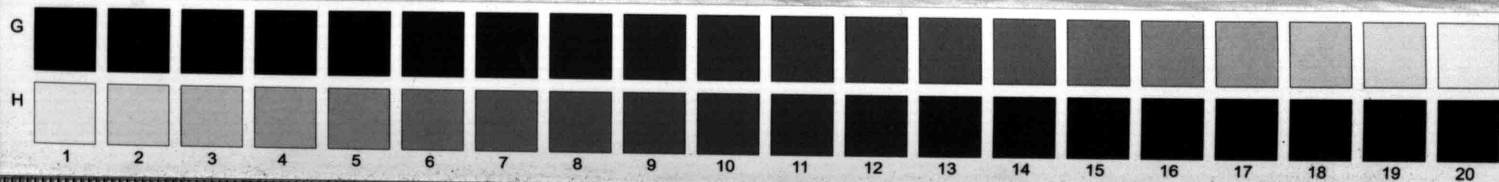
A *Madras Mail* correspondent, writing from Adoni on September 8th, says:—Two Police constables belonging to the Nizam's Police force at Shorapur, in the Lingasur District, arrested, at the Tungabhadra plague camp, a Sanyasi of about five-and-twenty summers, suspecting him to be Balkrishna Hari, the brother of Damodar, and produced him before the Deputy Magistrate, Adoni, yesterday evening, under the orders of the District Magistrate of Raichur. A statement was taken from one of the Police constables and from the Sanyasi, who was remanded. A report appears to have been sent to the District Magistrate of Bellary. The constable has detailed in his statement the circumstances which led to the Sanyasi's arrest. It appears that this young Sanyasi sojourning at Shorapur for some time in the military lines, coming occasionally to the town. Happening to pass by the road one day, he was accosted near the police station by a jemadar, who questioned him as to his whereabouts. On his replying that he was a Sanyasi of Jhansi bound on a pilgrimage for Rameswaram, he was left alone; no suspicion was then aroused, albeit the police were on the look out to see if any man or Balkrishna Hari's description had come there. He was appalled in red cloths whereas in the description roll furnished to the police it was stated that Balkrishna Hari Chapekar wore white cloths. The very same night the Sanyasi left the place. Four days after information was received that the Sanyasi in question was Balkrishna Hari Chapekar, one of the Poona murderers and forthwith the police repaired to the military lines to arrest the man. His departure four days back being ascertained, three police constables left Shorapur tracing his movements. After searching in several places they came to Raichur and there they got information that the Sanyasi had taken a ticket for Bellary. At Tungabhadra, a plague frontier inspection station, where the Sanyasi was kept in quarantine, the pursuers arrested him.

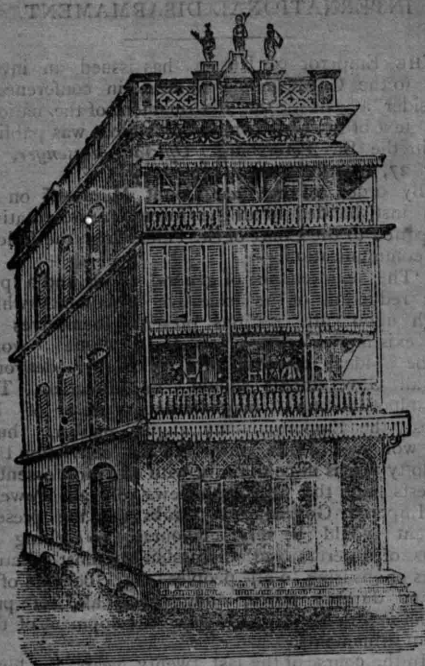
The Sanyasi also has given a statement to the effect that his name is Biharinand and his father's name is Brahmanand; he has six brothers and his parents live in a village in Jhansi District. He sojourned in Bombay for eleven months and in Poona for about six months. He also mentioned the names of some persons in Poona and Bombay who know him. He appears to be intelligent and not at all perturbed by his arrest. It remains to be seen whether the suspicion proves to be a reality or otherwise.

A SPECIAL Board of Examiners meets at Simla on the 30th of October, to examine candidates in the higher standard of Hindustani.

HIS Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, leaves Simla on Monday morning, October 17th, and arrives in Lahore on Saturday night, October 22nd, visiting Patiala, Nabha, Jind and Makr Kotla on the way.

MR. A. F. D. CUNNINGHAM, lately officiating as Commissioner of Peshawar, will be associated with General Egerton, Commanding the Khyber Force, in carrying out the settlement with the Afridis, which is now on the eve of being announced.





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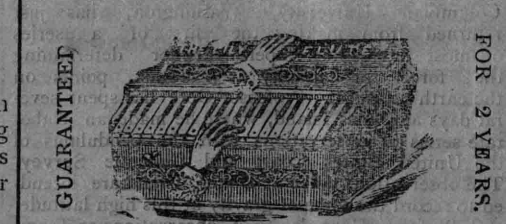
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