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## পদক পতক।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে।  
মূল্য আ. টাকা।  
পরিশিষ্ট বস্ত্র।

অমৃতবাজার-পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

## অমৃতগব্বা।

শ্রীমদেব দাস প্রণীত।  
এই গব্বা উপদেশ বৈষ্ণব গ্রন্থ। দুই শত  
বর্ষের পুঁর্বে লিখিত।  
মূল্য দুই আনা। ডাঃ মঃ অঃ আনা।  
অমৃতবাজার-পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

## শ্রীঅদ্বৈত-প্রকাশ।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত প্রভুর প্রিয়মহুচর ও শিষ্য  
শ্রীমান রক্ত।  
শ্রীশ্রীমহাপ্রভুর গীতা সম্বন্ধে অনেক  
নতুন কথা আছে এবং শ্রীঅদ্বৈত-প্রভুর সমস্ত  
গীতা বিশদরূপে বর্ণিত হইয়াছে।  
মূল্য বার আনা। ডাঃ মঃ অঃ আনা।  
বাগবাজার, পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

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অনেকে প্রশংসা করিতে শ্রীশ্রীবিষ্ণুপ্রিয়া পত্রিকা  
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The Hon'ble G. M. Chitnavis O. I. E. Member of H. E. the Viceroy's Legislative Council, writes:—“The Acidity Pill is giving satisfaction to all those on whom I tried them.”

Babu Bhoob Toshi 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 16 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 Nilmoni Dey Assistant Settlement Officer, writes from Camp Patepur, Dt. Mozaffarpur:—I have tried your Acidity Pill and found them to be an excellent remedy in removing acidity immediately. They are a great boon after a heavy dinner. They are invaluable in the Moffussil. They should find place in every tourist's bag. Please send me two boxes immediately.

Babu Sarasi Lal Sarcar, M. A. writes:—I have tried Dr. Biswas's Acidity Pills, and found them to be of great use not only in the case of Acidity but in general Dyspepsia. The medicine, it seems, is prepared solely from indigenous herbs, and perfectly harmless. Dyspeptic persons will find it to be a great boon for curing this dread disease.

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THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, OCTOBER 2, 1898.

## THE REMEDY.

It is said that the mints cannot be re-opened without imposing taxation to the tune of ten crores of rupees per annum. But have we been saved from the payment of these ten crores by the closing of the mints? If that were the case, no Indian would have objected to the currency measure. But the real fact is, we have yet to pay this huge burden though in an indirect way. In other words, the people are being sucked in directly. The position is thus made clear by Sir Antony MacDonnell in his evidence before the Currency Commission:—

Of course, I am aware that the effect of the closure of the mints might possibly tend to increase taxation, because, although the number of coins paid in is the same, nevertheless the coin might represent more commodities. But this effect is produced unconsciously; the people are conscious of no additional burden. I do not see anything in the economic condition of India to lead me to believe that this burden, when it comes, cannot be borne; but I do see the extreme dislike of the people to any new form of taxation of which they will be conscious and which will be novel, a serious political danger.

So here is the Governor of an Indian Province who admits that the ryots are being bled but bled secretly. And why are they bled "unconsciously"? Because, says Sir A. MacDonnell, "if taxation to the extent of 8 crores of rupees, not to say 10 or 12 crores, were imposed, we should not be able to hold the country to-morrow without constant danger of real insurrections." So the dumb people cannot speak, who feel the

But know not the cause of their distress, who are utterly helpless and whose patience is proverbial—should be indirectly taxed, and the eight or ten crores of rupees realized. "Bled them secretly but not openly,"—that is the policy of the supporters of the currency measure. But is this moral? Is this humane? Is this just? "The number of coins paid in," says Sir Antony "is the same, nevertheless the coin might represent more commodities." That is to say, the ryots have now to part with a larger amount of produce for the same number of rupees than before; and the closure of the mints has thus imposed an indirect burden of ten crores annually upon the country, not to mention the reduction of the value of uncoined silver, the only lasting property of the Indian masses, to the extent of 150 crores of rupees, according to the official estimate!

The Exchange difficulty owes its origin to the systematic drain to which India was subjected. All our difficulties would be removed if the drain could be put a stop to. What does our generous masters say to this proposal? It has ever been the boast of Englishmen that they have conquered India for the good of the country and they maintain the empire for the benefit of the people. It has been over and over again claimed that the connection of England with India is purely platonic, interest not entering into the arrangement at all. What Englishman is there who will not admit the proposition that the only justification for the rulers of the land to be in India lies in their ability and willingness to make the people wealthy and happy?

When Sir G. Campbell was led to let slip an observation from his unguarded pen that "India paid a tribute of twelve crores of rupees to England" he was taxed in the Imperial country by some English newspapers for his statement. "Tribute? Tribute we never take from India!" said the Englishpapers in disgust. But what is the fact? Has or has not India to remit twenty to twenty-five millions of pounds to England every year in commodities, without no or very little return for the same? If it is alleged that the blessings of British rule are great, and we have to purchase them at the market value, it may be said in reply that in that case the philanthropy of England altogether falls to the ground. They give the Indians blessings and the Indians pay for them adequately, and they are quits, is it not? But that is not it. No Englishman will ever acknowledge it, even to himself, that his country sells blessings at their market value to the people of India.

Leaving aside the question of philanthropy, we have the question of the relative resources of the two countries. The two countries, India and England, are bound by ties which are indissoluble. When India is in need, England must help her; and when England is in need, India must do the same. India is poor, England is rich. England, therefore, must help India with money, and not India, England. But it is just the opposite that is the practice. Poor India has to pay rich England a sum which is equal to about one-third of its entire resources. The situation, however, is this. If famine overtakes India, the English people will have to feed the people. Already they have begun to do it. Any additional taxation is simply impossible; it will breed famine and discontent. The only way, therefore, out of the difficulty, is for the English people to help India with money or to manage India more cheaply. Why does not England, which is wealthy enough to be able to do it, take the Home Charges off our shoulders? If it cannot do that, why not be introduced. Let the costs of the Military administrations be met by the Civilian Government, so that they succeeded in securing

for themselves. Let twenty-five thousands of the British soldiers, who are now doing no useful work here, be sent home, and India will be again in solvent condition. Of course, the conditions are hard. It will be hard for the Civilians to part with their compensation, and it will be hard for the fire-eaters at Simla to reduce the strength of the standing army; but then, the British Empire must be maintained and the Indian subjects of Her Majesty must have their meals.

The beauty of the whole thing is, that every one looks to his own interest. The man who gives his evidence before the Currency Commission, does not care for the Empire, nor for his neighbours. He is only for himself. The honest, safe, and feasible course is for each to share his burden according to his capacity. Let the wealthy bear their share, as the poor are doing now. The wealthy who have plenty, are only after augmenting their wealth, at the cost of the starving! It is indescribable poverty here in India; they would help more to increase the burdens of such people. Up till now none has yet ventured to propose retrenchment, because retrenchment means personal loss to the witnesses. But even if the highly-paid officials are not willing to part with their compensation, the reduction of the standing army to reasonable proportions would bring the necessary relief. Fancy India, starving India, maintaining the most efficient army in the world for fighting the half savages like the Afridis!

## HINDU PREACHERS IN CHRISTIAN COUNTRIES.

It must be intolerable to a Christian to see a pagan preaching religion in Christian countries, at the cost of the blessed Christians themselves. The privilege of preaching religion to others than Christians is enjoyed by the Christian missionaries alone. Any non-Christian, therefore, who takes to preaching religion to others, especially in a Christian country, is therefore an interloper. The case of Swami Abhedananda, "who" to quote the *Missionary Review of the World*, "poses as a Hindu saint and a man of learning," and who is a man "over whom, many of the cultured Americans, male and female, seem to rage," is thus noticed by the *Calcutta Statesman*:—

The said Swami, writes Dr. Macdonald, is not a real Swami, is not a Brahmin, and knows but little Sanskrit. Dr. Macdonald adds: "The 'Swami' Abhedananda passed the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University, and no more. His brother tells me that on being taxed by him for the title he was living, he answered that it was the easiest and pleasantest way to earn a livelihood. He liked traveling about and seeing the world. By donning the yellow robe, taking the begging bowl, and changing his name and preening it with the word 'Swami,' he could go all over India, and live as a prince on the fat of the land—nay, more, accumulate money to pay his passage to England and America—nay, to any and all places all over the world, while he (the elder brother) had to slave from morning to evening in a Government Office on a pittance scarcely able to keep his large family in comfort. He professed to pity his poor elder brother, chained to a desk in a Registrar's Office, while he, on the other hand, was free as the birds of the air or the wild beasts of the forests. Such is the man over whom many of the cultured Americans, male and female, seem to rage."

The above spiteful remarks come very naturally from a missionary, though they are not exactly suited to the high character that Dr. Macdonald enjoys. The most natural thing in the world, according to the Christian missionaries, is that Christians should subscribe handsomely for the spread of Christianity and send batch after batch of missionaries to heathen countries. The most unnatural thing in the world, according to the same authority, is for the heathens to penetrate into the country of these Christians and preach religion, and that at the cost of the Christians themselves! Naturally, the sight of Abhedananda being honoured, feted and fed in the United States of America, is hateful to the sight of the missionaries.

Viewing the thing from an impartial stand-point of view, we think that Abhedananda committed no wrong, and that the missionaries do commit a wrong in coming to this country. It may be all true that Swami Abhedananda is not a Swami, or that he is not a Brahmin or a learned man. But he presents himself with all his so-called imperfections to the Americans, and the latter are absolutely free to accept or reject his advances. Everything in the conduct of this Abhedananda is straight-forward and honourable. But that cannot be said of many of the missionaries. There is no doubt of it that one of the ways of raising money for missionary purposes in India is to blacken the character of the Hindus, by exhorting pious Christians to save the black pagans of India "who ate babies alive, burnt their women, offered human sacrifices and worshipped hideous idols!"

Babu Amrita Lal Roy, the first Hindu in America, found all doors shut against him in that country because he was a Hindu "who ate babies alive." Now many Hindus have as much faith in Christ as the Christians have; and they do not at all resent the enterprise of the missionaries, who come here to awaken them to a sense of their duty to God. But then, these missionaries, to be successful and living forces, must come as beggars and live as beggars as Christ did, and as he bade his followers to do. Their lives in India are too comfortable to inspire the Hindu mind with any confidence in their

teachings, and in the sincerity of their motives.

Now, sir, the real fact is that the Hindus do not need that looking-after as the Christians themselves do. As fighting men, as men of energy, the Christians are immensely superior to the Hindus; but in morality the Hindus are probably better than the Christians. And in proof of this we can show that the Hindus do not touch liquor. Charity must begin at home; and the duties of Christian missionaries and pious Christians is first to put their own house into order before saving strangers. A drunken Christian saved, is likely to be a more pleasing sight to Christ than a sober heathen rescued. For, a drunken Christian disgraces his name and religion.

We presume, there is much to do nearer home, in Christian countries, than even in a heathen country like India. Besides, a Christian reclaimed, is a solid piece of work. The Christianised heathen in India is a farce,—he gains very little, as a rule, by his conversion. We have seen a good many converts who have only learned to give air and nothing of any value. Our humble idea is that pious Christians should, first of all, try to improve the moral tone of their own community; and that will do more to spread Christianity than mere precepts.

But we have no need to thrust our advice upon the Christians, though we have some to offer to our own countrymen. It is that, as Hindus, they have a duty to their fellows, namely, the humanization of their fellow-beings. By Buddhism they humanized Asia, and by Vaishnavism they should humanize Europe and America. Is not the Czar trying to reduce the number of fighting men? What a reflection this against Christ and his teachings! What a piece of criticism this against the religion, which taught the brotherhood of man and fatherhood of God, and which further taught man to turn the right cheek when the left is hurt! Let Hindus send batch after batch of missionaries to all parts of the world, carrying the flag of Lord Gauranga,—preaching love as the highest blessing of God to men.

## CRIMINALS IN INDIA AND ENGLAND.

As we said the other day, we would have been glad if His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal could find his way to commute the capital sentence passed on Sassi Palui. First of all, he received great provocation when he committed the crime. Secondly, if a criminal in the position of Sassi Palui is hanged, what punishment is to be meted out to those who commit really diabolical murders? The civilization of a country is measured by the humane treatment of its criminals. From this point of view, India is perhaps the most barbarous country in the world. Here, not only are prisoners treated with great hardship, but capital sentences are often passed with the lightest of hearts. Nor is this all. "Eye for eye," and "tooth for tooth" is the rule in other parts of the world. Here, in India, two, three, sometimes half-a-dozen are sent to the gallows for the murder of one.

The reader may remember how Mr. Nicholls, Judge of Benares, made himself famous by sentencing four men to be hanged for the alleged murder of one, upon the slenderest evidence possible. Some time ago, the Sessions Judge of Naskik condemned two men to death, (one of whom was subsequently acquitted by the High Court,) because a man was supposed to have been murdered by them. In the Barisal rioting case, two of the High Court Judges sent three men to the gallows for the offence of what is called "constructive murder." Indeed, a most dangerous principle was laid down in connection with the case, namely, that when a man is killed in the course of a riot, all or any number of persons taking part in the disturbance may be sent to the gallows!

The Balladnan case created a sensation even in England. In this case, capital sentences were passed upon four innocent men because a tea-planter was murdered by somebody; and the Calcutta High Court was moved to pass similar sentences upon three others, who had been transported for life, though the assessors, who heard the evidence direct, disbelieved it and found the prisoners not guilty. If the men were tried under the system which prevails in England, nay, in Ceylon and other civilized countries, they would have been acquitted. It will be remembered, they were all afterwards released by the High Court.

But this is not all. In India, there is scarcely the exercise of clemency. In England, the Queen is almost always ready with her gracious pardon. In some countries, the Royal pardon has almost become a part of the law. There are others where no one will agree to hang a man. In a good many countries, capital sentences have altogether been abolished. In India, not only are death sentences often passed, as a matter of course; but when the sentence is once passed, it is, with rare exceptions, never revoked.

Thousands of men were capitally sentenced during the last decade in India. We very much doubt if even a score of them were reprieved by the rulers of the Provinces. Just see how the case stands in England. At the instance of Sir Joseph Pease, M. P., a Return was submitted before the House of Commons by Mr. Herbert Gladstone, showing the number of persons sentenced to death in England and Wales from 1st

January, 1884 to 31st December, 1892. The Return is before us.

We shall begin with 1884. In that year, forty persons were adjudged to be hanged. They were found guilty not by Sessions Judges as here, but by their own peers. No one is hanged in England unless he has been found guilty of committing a most outrageous murder. In England, the law gives every facility to the accused to defend himself. So, we may take it, all these forty prisoners were rightly convicted. But twenty-three of them got their sentences commuted!

Let us now examine the nature of the crimes of which some of the reprieved persons were convicted. The Return furnishes very meagre information in this respect. It only gives the cases in which infants or children under the age of 12 were murdered. We find that Sarah Jane Holmes murdered a boy, eight years of age, the son of a man with whom she had been living; Emile Wilcox drowned her illegitimate child, two years old; Matilda Riber drowned her illegitimate child, two years old; Ellen Shepherd drowned her step-daughter, eight months old; John Sullivan murdered his son, two years old; Edward B. Edwards murdered his two children, aged seven years and ten months respectively; Edna Carter murdered her illegitimate child, two years old.

We shall give below an analysis for the next eight years from the Return. In 1885, twenty-five persons were sentenced to be hanged, and capital sentences were commuted in the cases of thirteen persons, most of whom were found guilty of drowning their children. In 1886, out of thirty-five persons sentenced to be hanged, the death-sentences were commuted in the cases of sixteen, one of whom, Alfred Bligh, murdered his three children, aged respectively 6, 4, and 1½ years. In 1887, out of thirty-five persons sentenced to be hanged, fourteen were respited, of whom Thomas Thomson murdered his son, four years old. In 1888, '89, and '90, out of thirty-six, twenty, and twenty-four persons sentenced to be hanged respectively, the death-sentences were commuted in the cases of fourteen persons in 1888, in those of eight persons in 1889, and in those of

1890. In 1891 and 1892, the Governor commuted twenty-two persons with the death-sentences, the death-sentences were commuted in the cases of seven persons in 1891, and four persons in 1892. Judges. But let us now summarize than those soas, sentenced to be, Thompson, and Wales during the wife be the prerogative of, mercy, possible of the cases of 108 persons, and offer three-sevenths of the con deadly were saved.

His Honour the Lieut. mind. found no reason to interfere inno sentence in the case of Soshi less; murder of his wife was chas of "brutal" by the High Court. was his crime more atrocious ne of Holmes, Sullivan, Bligh, it, Booth, &c.? Soshi murdered hisy cause she gave him the greatest provocation that a Hindu wife co to her husband, and then inflicted wounds upon his own person, which that he was then in an insane state of But Holmes and others murdered the cent little children who were totally help leutta: "The natives of the class had no clemency by the Crown.

In England and India, the same humane ad ministers justice. How is then, that capital sentences are so glibly inflicted in this country? How is also that Royal prerogative of mercy is exercised so rarely in this country, though here criminal justice is administered by aliens, ignorant of, or imperfectly acquainted with, the manners, customs, and language of the people, and though the law here gives greater facility to the prosecution than to the accused?

We call the following precious paragraph from yesterday's *Indian Daily News*:—

One of the most wicked things about the new Municipal Bill is, according to the Congress, that members of the Executive Committee will be paid one or two gold mohurs, we forget which, per sitting. This "squandering" of the rate-payers' money is too criminal for words, they say, and they lift up their hands in virtuous indignation. There is, however, an excellent anecdote on this subject of Talleyrand, who was consulted by Louis xviii as to the constitution of the French Upper House. The King proposed that the members should give their services gratuitously. "Gratuit Sire!" said Talleyrand "ah, c'est une trop cher!" (that would be too dear.)

The writer quotes French, and we shall quote Sanscrit:—"Atmabath manyatne jaya," which, when translated freely into English, means, "one judges another by his own standard." For instance, an honest man thinks that every one is honest; a thief looks upon everybody as a thief like himself. The writer says in effect, though not in so many words, that the elected Commissioners, being unpaid, rob the rate-payers of their money; but, the corruption will cease to exist if the members of the proposed General Committee are each paid one or two gold mohurs per sitting. We believe, the practice of all fair-minded men is that before they make a serious allegation against anybody, they advance proofs in support of it. The *Indian Daily News*, however, insinuates that the Commissioners are corrupt, but bring forward no evidence to justify his charge. So it is "too dear" in Calcutta, because the members of the Corporation give their services gratuitously. Is it also "too dear"

in London, Birmingham, Glasgow &c, where also the custom of paying gold mohurs to members of the Executive Committee does not prevail? So, you see, by his attempts to libel the Bengalee Commissioners, the *Indian Daily News* fouls his own nest, that is to say, libels his own countrymen also. Evidently, our contemporary draws his inspiration from some historical facts. It is well known that the majority of the servants of the East India Company took bribes because they were insufficiently paid, and that in order to cure them of this bad habit, it was necessary to increase their salaries. The natural inference from this incident is that corruption will flourish so long as services are not adequately remunerated. This is very true; but our contemporary forgets that those servants of the Company who had to be made honest and respectable by increased salaries, were not Bengalee Babus or Congresswallahs, but Europeans.

The *Indian Daily News* is indignant, because the Congresswallahs object to the provision of paying gold mohurs to the members of the proposed General Committee. Has our contemporary any idea as to the amount of money to be expended for this purpose? As provided in the Bill, the General Committee shall meet every week, and every member of the Committee shall receive a fee of thirty-two rupees for each meeting. That is to say, there are to be four meetings of the Committee every month, (there may be more,) and the fees of the twelve members will amount to Rs. 1,536 per mensem. Besides, every member of a Sub-Committee shall get a fee of sixteen rupees for each meeting, and the number of these Sub-Committees are many. These Sub-Committees may, therefore, consume another 1,500 or more. It is thus quite fair to assume that the amount of fees, to be paid monthly to the members of the General Committee and the Sub-Committees, will come up to Rs. 3,000 or more. Is not this a most pleasant feature of the Municipal Bill? Thirty-six thousand rupees or more, wrung out of the poor rate-payers of the town, will annually go to fatten the members who

of the patriotic and public-spirited that and Municipal meetings

by the present This pro a bad ca of the Macke

duced to two o has not only since the Corpor of the elected Com the present moment

ling state of filth," present arrangement, sioners are nowhere If we shall take up the

If there is not a sufficient pean Commissioners in the fault lies with themselves and ment. We can guarantee the

a good many Europeans, provid give an undertaking to the effect that will do their duty properly. But the fact is, they do not care twopence for the Municipal affairs of the town. Why should they? Are they not mere, "birds of passage" ere? Said Sir Stuart Hogg when the

ective system was first introduced into leutta: "The natives of the class had no ing interest in the city to which no opean could attain." Mind, this was the

of Sir Stuart Hogg who so ously opposed the local self-govern measure of Sir Richard Temple. Then the Europeans live in quarters which no improvement; or if anything be

there, a word from the Chairman to extort the sanction of any of money, necessary to supply it, ells of the Commissioners are thus Caplain to look after the places

abst the lower classes of the Indian Eur But will a European Commis opinio visit a dirty lane or a latrine strent or a Goabagan bustee? Mr. ment rat, as Port Commissioners, again, do very well. That is

require understand and are directly wanting business relating to the is enough there in the Municipality amount ere? That the authors of

The service are fully aware of this required part of the Europeans, inhabited by the fact that they population. sion of heavily feeling sioner agree tmissioners who shall in a Barrabaza the General Commit

Risley says thubers of the Gene the Europeans induced to attend because they ur the payment of

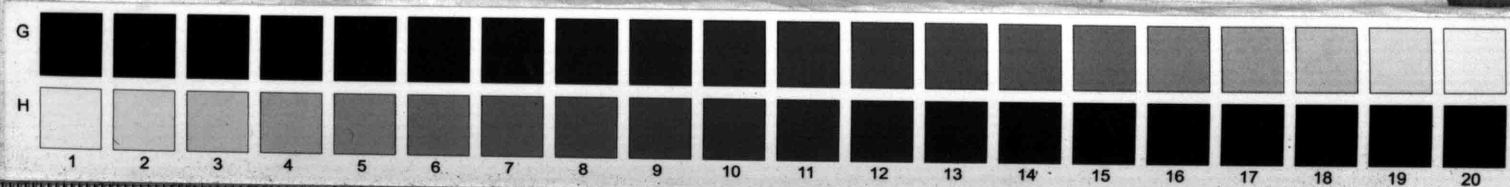
interested in the the number of Port. But what is so small in th to attract them they do not choose the Municipal Bill utter apathy on the

is, evident from British Indian have made a prov an elaborate those European Concing the de attend the meetings of This mean

Fancy that the me attack the al Committee are to be need we say Municipal meetings by money! Plainly then, if European Commissioners Corporation, it is because th to be there.

We understand that the Association have submitted memorial to Government, crit tails of the Municipal Bill very little, so long they do not principles of the measure. And

reduced, pension the





that the principles underlying the Bill, if accepted, will entirely do away with the little of self-government that the citizens have been enjoying for the last twenty-two years? Under the present state of things, the Municipal government is carried on by the representatives of the people; under the proposed arrangement, an irresponsible and irresponsible executive, and a Committee divested of the popular element, will rule the affairs of Calcutta. In short, the rate-payers will be left entirely at the mercy of the executive, uncontrolled by any authority, if the principle of the Bill be not given up. Hitherto the Municipality was the property of the rate-payers; but, it will pass into the hands of a close bureau of twelve men, of whom only four are to be their representatives, if the Bill be passed. There is no doubt of it, every large-hearted Englishman deprecates this retrograde move from the self-governing to the centralized official model. We met such an Englishman, a big merchant, the other day; and he went so far as to suggest that all the twelve members of the proposed General Committee should be elected by the citizens. The British Indian Association, however, need not go so far as that. If they propose the Bombay method, that is to say, eight elected, and four nominated Commissioners in the General Committee, they will say what they should have said long ago. They will, however, fall short of their duty, if they propose six or even seven, elected, and the rest nominated, as some of their members intended doing. They must also protest against the Corporation being reduced to a nonentity and the executive rendered all-powerful. The feeling against the B. I. Association is very bitter in the town. The only way in which they can retrieve their position, is by strongly opposing the principles of the Bill.

The Czar's peace manifesto has excited universal comment; but the subject is beyond the range of an Indian. It is of no moment to an Indian whether there is peace or war, though we would, no doubt, be delighted if Christianity was followed in Europe. Our impression is that the Czar is a

system was introduced. And the Government is going to re-introduce what failed so miserably! As we said above, there is nothing in the Municipality to interest a European in its work. The Indian Commissioner is differently circumstanced. If he does not do his duty properly, his constituents will make his existence intolerable. He is also personally interested in seeing that his ward is kept well-cleaned, well-lighted and well-watered. We shall take up the other ground in a future issue.

In *Pearson's* magazine a writer shews with pride how great the British Empire is, and how greater it can be made if the Americans throw in their lot with England. Universal Empire is, no doubt, the ambition of a good many Englishmen; but they must bear this in mind that to deserve Universal Empire, Englishmen must learn to be more cosmopolitan in their views. Why will God give them Universal Empire unless they deserve it by expanding the capacity of their hearts? Imperialism is not compatible with insular prejudice. Let them, first of all, learn to treat an Indian as a brother, and then God may give them another slice. The fact is, England never acquired its Empires by external help. The English nation owes its greatness to the genius and heroism of its individual members. England could have possibly never acquired India if Clive had not been its Governor. The other day we related the story as to how three Tommy Atkins captured Chandernagore! In our younger days we came across an English soldier whose daring made such an impression upon us that we have never been able to forget it. He was coming from Dacca and passing through Jessore. Possibly he was a deserter; but we did not know his true position. He had a sword in hand, his only weapon of offence and defence. From Dacca to Jessore he had cut his way, fighting and levying blackmail. We saw him taking his rest under a banian tree, his sun-burnt face indicating that he had gone

gathered in the school boys, of the Police. He did not, how, and the Magistrate, and so up he came. He came. The look that he had in his eyes, how far he knew not. The police to kill all whom he saw, smiling towards him. Of course, Atkins received in all directions. He wanted drink, not overtake the boys, great tact in pursuit. He sat again sent to Clee, as a knight offering escort. He came that way. People the British, but he defied them all. He did not to approach him. He wrote himself had at last to mem- cautiously, not exactly know who Atkins would receive his ad- the Magistrate, however, came for- know, with an extended hand, and are the advances graciously. He for which was given. He was by deprived of his sword and then Calcutta in a carriage under Police it is such dare-devils that founded an Empire.

this Mr. "Charles Johnson, retired of the Bengal Civil Service," is, wrote an article on the "Future of the Philippines" in the *American Review*; but, we are glad to see that there inaugurated by the Government under Englishmen and in the service, who are impulsive of panic and passion to punish a policy of trust. What the natives of India claim, is a policy of trust, and what they object to, is a policy of distrust. Now there is no doubt of it that the English rulers here, as a rule, are proud of the Empire, which means that their highest ambition lies in making the people happy and earning their blessings. But a policy of distrust keeps these administrators of India bound hand and foot. It is our firm conviction that a policy of trust will remove much of the evils which lead the people now to grumble at their fate. The rulers have tried the natives of the soil by giving them the highest posts, one of them being the Chief Justiceship of Bengal and another the Commissionership of a Division; but did they fail? Have the Indians who have been put in charge of districts, failed to give satisfaction? The natives of India are home-loving, unambitious, unenterprising and non-political in their instinct. It is not a difficult feat to please them. They are not like the Irish, who claim equality and so forth. Those who have given this policy of trust any chance in India, have found that it is very easy to win the hearts of an Indian.

Those who do not understand the Currency question, should carefully study the evidence given by His Honour Sir A. MacDonnell of the North-West Provinces. To the question what would be the effect if the mints were re-opened, he replied that in that case the Government would be compelled to meet its requirements by imposing taxation to the amount of 8 or 10 crores of rupees. That is to say, the closing of the mints means a burden of 8 or 10 crores of rupees to the Indians; or, in plain language, the Government has, by closing the mints, imposed a burden of ten crores upon India! Is it so? Sir A. MacDonnell makes this quite plain by the following answer:—

Of course, I am aware that the effect of the closure of the mints might possibly tend to increase taxation, because, although the number of coins paid is the same, nevertheless the coins might represent more commodities. Is there any difficulty in understanding the above? The man who had to pay Rs.

100 before the closure will have to pay the same Rs. 100 now, and not a pice more. But, then, if he could procure the 100 Rs. before closure by disposing of fifty bags of paddy, he will have now, after the closure, to dispose of seventy-five bags to secure the same 100 rupees. Sir A. MacDonnell's view is that the closure of the mints has this advantage, that, though the people have been burdened with an additional taxation by the measure, they do not know it. But if the mints are re-opened and the ten crores secured by additional taxation, the people will know it, and then they will grumble! Such is the state of affairs! It is dangerous to do things openly; the wiser way is to proceed with secrecy!

The only way out of the difficulty is economy. Mr. Manisty, Commissioner of Chittagong, has been blamed for his economical habits. He does not pay the Municipality for the carriage which he keeps, but which he ever uses. He uses others' carriages for his own purpose. We think, he is the man after our own heart. Let every one follow his example and make money, and that will enable him to act generously. Every civilian can forego his compensation allowance for the benefit of poor Indians, and make up the loss by sheer economy. Why should civilians live in princely style? Why should not they live less luxuriously, and make the poor here happy, by foregoing that compensation? Well, if the Government is in such straits, its only wise course is to cut down its expenses. There is no other way out of the difficulty; for, the Indians have become now too poor to be able to meet these additional demands upon them.

MR. MACKERICH, the Senior Deputy Magistrate of Midnapur, has not only acquitted all the accused in the Ghatal rioting case, but has put a complexion upon the affair, which the Government is bound to take note of. Here is an extract from his judgment:—

The Sub-divisional Officer of Ghatal had no legal right, (vide Plague Regulations P. D.) to select a site for the purpose of a plague hospital and camp. The regulations empower the District Magistrate, and he has not been given the discretion to vest his powers in his subordinates, that there was no evidence to connect the prisoners in the dock with the unlawful assembly; that the evidence of conspiracy failed, to a man; and that he must, therefore, dismiss the case and acquit the prisoners.

There can be no gainsaying the fact that all the troubles at Ghatal owe their origin to the attempt of the local authorities to erect a plague hospital at a particular spot. The people very strongly objected to its erection there, but the Sub-divisional Officer would pay no heed to their representation. He would have the hospital on that very site at any cost, though, as Mr. Mackerich says, he had no legal right to do it. So it is the Sub-divisional Officer who was acting illegally; and, we all know how much the people have suffered. Not only was there blood-shed, but a punitive police has since been imposed upon the gentle people of the neighbouring villages. The decision has raised an important point. It now appears that the conspiracy theory, which has proved so disastrous to the Poona people, was also raised by the Ghatal authorities, to bring the ire of the Government down upon the devoted heads of the people. But the trying Magistrate says that there was no conspiracy. After this expression of opinion, how can the Government continue the punitive police? The Ghatal people have suffered much, and the decision of Mr. Mackerich proves that they have suffered without any fault on their part. The Government is bound to make some amends for the wrongs done to them.

THE letter of Mr. N. N. Ghose to the *Pioneer*, a copy of which is placed at our disposal and published in another column, will speak for itself. It proves, what is already known in this country, that fair-mindedness is a commodity which is rare amongst the generality of Anglo-Indian writers, when they have to deal with the educated Indians. Mr. Ghose said a quite different thing from what has been sought to be put into his mouth; but, if he had been fairly represented, the *Pioneer* would have lost the opportunity of catering some amusement for his constituents at the expense of the educated men of India. As regards the question of overcrowding, the custom in all countries is the same. The rich and the well-to-do, here as in England, live in spacious houses, while the poorer classes cannot afford to do it. Overcrowding in this country is, however, not such an insanitary arrangement as it is in cold countries like England, where the rooms have very few windows, and these windows are kept shut up when people sleep. It is really a wonder how poorer classes manage there at all. Overcrowding has been carried almost to its perfection in East London. Says the *New Age*: "East London is poor; its poverty carries with it overcrowding, bad house accommodation, lack of open spaces and fresh air." Yet those who live in East London are not attacked with plague or any other epidemic disease. The evils, said to arise from overcrowding, would thus appear to be the product of the fertile imagination of some sanitary faddists.

THE Chief Commissioner of Assam authorizes the engineers engaged to enter upon the survey of land for a branch line from Telagaon to Sylhet on the Assam-Bengal Railway; the route being from mile 167 3/4 on the Assam-Bengal Railway passing through Balaganj, and terminating at the south bank of the Surma opposite the town of Sylhet.

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RANAGHAT-KRISHNAGORE TRAMWAY.—The work of this tramway is fast progressing. The earth-work and most of the bridges are complete. Plate-laying has already been taken in hand. The line from Krishnagore to Santipore will, it is hoped, soon be ready.

FLYING KITES.—Two lads were charged at the Calcutta police court with flying kites on the public street and they were sentenced to pay a fine of annas four each. The youngest of the two on hearing the sentence wept bitterly and said that he had no one to pay the fine for him. His Worship Nowab Bahadur Syed Ameer Hossein, then ordered him to be detained till the rising of the court.

REPORT ON LUSTIG'S SERUM.—Dr. Choksey, in charge of the Bombay Municipal Plague Hospital, reports on Professor Lustig's curative serum with which 207 cases have been treated up to the 23rd instant in the plague hospitals. Of these, 170 died, and 90 recovered, which shows a death-rate of 56.50 per cent. It is considered to have been better by nearly 20 per cent. than the average attained at the other hospitals. Dr. Choksey's opinion is that the serum had the effect of ameliorating symptoms and prolonging life.

PANDIT DEENDOLAL SHARMA.—The Founder and General Secretary of the Bharat Dharma Mahamandal delivered a couple of lectures on "The Incarnations (Avatars) of God" on the evening of the 24th and 25th instant at No. 5, Basantolal Street, Bara-Bazar. The spacious courtyard of the house was crowded. The audience consisted chiefly of Marwarees and Hindustanis with a sprinkling of Bengalees. The Pandit addressed the gathering for nearly 2 hours on both days. The speeches were highly instructive and evoked the admiration of all who heard.

CROP PROSPECTS IN BENGAL.—There was generally heavy rain during the early part of the week ending 26th instant, but since then the weather has turned fine and settled over the Province. The change is favourable, and the floods are gradually subsiding. The *bhadai* crops are being rapidly harvested, but in the north of Bihar they have suffered considerably from the floods. In Midnapur grass-hoppers are still doing damage to the crops in several thanas, and in Balasore an insect pest is said to have appeared. The price of common rice in some districts showed a slight fall. The fodder supply is generally sufficient, except in the flooded tracts. Some cattle-disease is still reported.

PINE-APPLE FIBRE.—Says the *Englishman*:—Another Indian economic product which promises to have a brilliant future is pineapple fibre (ananas sativa). Some time ago the Hon. Mr. Buckingham sent a small sample of this fibre to Dr. Watt, Reporter on Economic Products, who forwarded it to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of obtaining a quotation of its market value. The Secretary of the Chamber replied that there was no market for the fibre in India, but suggested that a quotation might be forthcoming in London. This suggestion was acted on by Dr. Watt, and samples were sent to the Imperial Institute. The Institute submitted the samples to its expert referee, who reported that, after practical tests, he found the yield of "line," or long spinning fibre, was much higher in proportion than that obtained from medium European flax; and that the spinning qualities of the long, as well as of the shorter, fibre were good. The samples sent, however, were too small to yield exact practical results, but, so far as can be judged, the fibre is very promising in character, and when well prepared, yields material more nearly resembling flax in character than hemp, and would be very suitable for spinning into fine twine, or for textile purposes, if properly softened. At the present time, it is believed, the value of fairly clean pine-apple fibre in the London market would probably be from £20 to £25 per ton. It is also considered that the results furnished by the sample under examination are sufficiently good to warrant the recommendation that a sample shipment of at least five tons be made to England for trial purposes. That quantity, the Imperial Institute considers, would suffice to yield exact practical results on a fair working scale, as to its application by spinners to various purposes. Here this interesting matter stands for the present. As the Hon. Mr. Buckingham points out, it is quite impossible to obtain the large quantity required at short notice as the plant must be grown specially for fibre not fruit, the plants being grown in shade so that the fruit under such circumstances is practically nil. The Hon. Mr. Buckingham has, we understand, laid out about five acres as an experimental plot, and it is hoped that the quantity required by the Imperial Institute will be ready for despatch in the near future.

LEOPARD SHOOTING IN MALDA.—"One of the party," writes to the *L. A. News*: This year the floods being very much higher than usual, a party of four of the Malda District, viz., W. W. J., W. A., H. D. and C. M., had a very pleasant little shoot. All the game had taken refuge in the higher strips around villages; the "Khubber" of leopards and other game was excellent, and the party had the good luck to account for six fine leopards in three days, together with a variety of other game. One of these, an old leopardess, made a good fight of it, charging the elephants several times, and fell to H. D.'s gun. W. A. was lucky enough to get one, as were also C. M. and W. W. J., who accounted for one each; the other two being fired at simultaneously by the whole party, it was not decided as to who drew first blood. W. A., who had never been to leopard hunt before, and was very enthusiastic, was presented with the six skins. The weather becoming very stormy and heavy rain falling, we gave up the hunt for a few days, agreeing to meet again when the weather cleared. The re-appearance of fine weather saw W. W. J., C. M. and H. D. again on the move. W. A., owing to pressure of business, was unable to rejoin the shoot; so we had as a substitute H. K. A leopard having badly mauled a boy a few days previously, close to W. W. J.'s factory, and the jungle in which she was reported being very small, we hunted her on foot, with the result that C. M. and one of the beaters got mauled and bowled over, the leopard running into a thick cane-brake, where, as it was getting dusk, we left her until the next morning. This time we hunted her on elephants, and we had scarcely been seated in the *howdah* and quite unprepared, when the brute started out with a growl, running fast ahead into another cane-brake, giving no one a chance of a shot. Every effort made by us to turn her out of the cane was repulsed by her repeated ferocious charges on the elephants, and she took a little time to kill and died very game. We only attribute her ferocity to her having been having cubs somewhere near at hand, which we made a futile search. The next day we went to another place, not far away, where two leopards were reported; on our reaching the place, to our disgust, we found the carcass of a beautiful large leopard hacked to pieces by some native *shikarees* who had caught it in the net they had set for wild pig; however, we beat up and succeeded in getting a fine large leopardess, after a great deal of trouble, as it was in heavy tree jungle. Our bag consisted of eight leopards, ninety-five partridges, twenty-eight pea-fowls and twenty-six hare. We caught a very big python and a small monkey, which became quite familiar in two days, and was a nuisance to all of us, continually coming to grief by grabbing some one's lighted cigar or pipe, and showing a decided weakness for the whiskey peg. Thus ended a very pleasant little shoot.

THE relations between the members of the Cawnpore Police force and Sikh soldiers stationed there are strained.

PARROTS are being put to a practical use in Germany. They have been introduced into the railway stations, and trained to call out the name while the train stands there thus saving people the trouble of making inquiries.

THE Vernacular papers are unanimously praying the Local Government to use its prerogative of mercy in favor of the unfortunate Editor of *Jami-ul-ulam*.—*Advocate*.

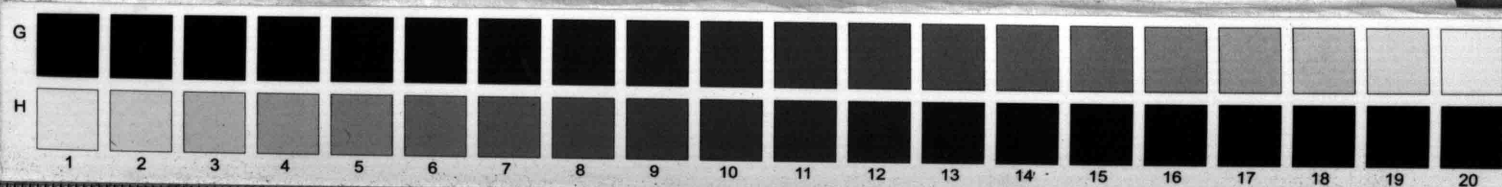
YET another and quite novel demand has been made upon India in connection with the exploration of Africa. Captain N. Verhellen of the Congo Free State and Dr. R. Horace Castellote, who are now in Simla, have applied for leave to enlist men in this country as a sort of armed police to accompany them on an expedition which they are about to undertake in the Congo region.

IT is stated that the will of Sirdar Dyal Sing has not satisfied his relatives who have expressed an intention to contest it in a court of law. The will provides for the establishment of a first-class college, with boarding-house and gymnasium, and a free public library. For the former he has left the bulk of his property, valued at 25 lacs, and Rs. 60,000 for the latter. He has left all his household effects, furniture, jewellery and a monthly allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem to his widow, and a number of villages of an annual rental of Rs. 6,000 for his nephew.

THE reader, no doubt, remembers the case of Mr. H. Kreig who, charged with criminal misappropriation in respect of property, valued at Rs. 1300, and convicted of the offence by the jury and Judge at the Alipore Sessions last week, was released, under the new Criminal Procedure Code, with a security of Rs. 1,000 a year for good conduct. An Indian, named Dharm Das Ghoshal, has, however, just been sentenced to 18 months' rigorous imprisonment at Allahabad for criminal breach of trust in respect of five rupees. He is a young man of about twenty-two, and this was his first offence. The new humane provision in the Criminal Procedure Code ought to be given effect to without distinction of race.

SCARCELY has the Cretan difficulty been over than the British Government has been confronted with another. This time it has to deal with France, about the possession of a town in Egypt, called Fashoda. Its position is most advantageous; for, this town practically commands the supremacy of a large tract of territory covering all the navigable Nile between it and the great lakes. With the downfall of Abdulla, the British Army in Egypt, as they advanced, looked upon its occupation as a matter of course. To great surprise and that of the British people, a French General, named Marchand, anticipated them and taken possession of the city. Three flags—the British, Egyptian and French—are now flying in Fashoda.

SOLOMON BOLAH and Dohary Roymai, who have passed the B. A. Examination of the Calcutta University, 1898, have each been granted by the Chief Commissioner of Assam, a special case, subject to the usual conditions of good conduct and satisfactory progress, an extra scholarship of Rs. 20 per mensem to enable them to continue their study at M. A. Examination with effect from August, 1898. The Scholarship is tenable at the Free Church Institution, will terminate on the 30th November. Bhaji Ram Das has obtained a Scholarship tenable at the Ch. Vernacular School.





## PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

## OFFICIAL RETURNS.

FROM Saturday the 24th instant to Thursday the 29th instant there were no "suspected cases" nor death reported. So, up to the 29th instant, the total of the "true cases" remained 230 and deaths 192.

THERE is now only one patient under treatment in the plague-infected area in the city, and it is hoped that within ten days or so the patient will be discharged, when the Province will be declared free of plague.

THE Madras Municipality is enforcing strict rules regarding plague passports, the holders of all classes having now to attend the medical stations for inspection instead of being visited at their private residences.

THE plague figures of 29th instant from Bombay show fifty new cases and twenty-seven deaths. There were 141 deaths from all causes. On the same date last year there were seven seizures and eight deaths from plague, and 113 deaths from all causes. The week's total mortality was 864, being equivalent to a death-rate of 52.26.

THE Karachi Plague Committee have been asked to allow death certificates of medical practitioners to be countersigned by two Municipal Commissioners instead of the Superintendent of the quarter. They have decided that they cannot assent to this while the Superintendents are retained.

PERSONS arriving by sea from uninfected places will not be detained at Keamary if they deposit Rs. 100 as a guarantee that their correct address has been given in Karachi, and that they will report themselves daily at the Civil Hospital for ten days, giving immediate notification of any illness during that period. The deposit of Rs. 100 covers a party, not exceeding five persons, to one house. Arrangements are being made to examine the women and children at Malir as much as possible.

THE following is the Madras Government's report of the plague in the Madras Presidency: In the Bellary District at Hospet there was one death—that of a person from Kharwar, who was detained at the inspection station. At Chippigiri, there were four seizures—three indigenous and one imported. In the Anantapore District there was one death. In Guntakul four deaths and one indigenous seizure were recorded, and in Timmancherla, near Guntakul, there were two seizures. In the North Arcot District one seizure and one death were reported—the latter imported from Bangalore. In Bangalore there were sixty-four seizures and twenty-three deaths from the 16th to the 24th instant.

THE plague scare prevails in Barisal. Dr. Justice, who was appointed to Calcutta in connection with plague operations, is now, says a Barisal correspondent, at that station. Recent some suspected cases were reported from recent villages and the people getting alarmed commenced to leave. At the village of Goyari, cases began to multiply so fast that dead bodies were left in some of the deserted huts. The Chairman of the Nalchity Municipality at once telegraphed to the District Magistrate, who traversed the distance, fourteen miles, on foot, and, it is said, found the place deserted. In one house a man was found dead, all his relations, except his wife and children, having deserted him.

THE Karachi Plague Committee have decided to dispense with the death certificate of the Superintendent of the quarter in the case of children under two years. At whatever age death occurs a certificate is to be obtained only from certain native gentlemen who have consented to undertake the duty.

So, the plague has firmly taken its hold of Bangalore, which is only one night's journey from Madras. Naturally, the latter city is up and doing in taking precautionary measures. The Local Government has appointed a Plague Commissioner, who shall have power and authority, through the Collectors of Districts, to carry out all the plague rules issued by Government. He may appoint Special Officers either by name or virtue of their office, to carry out plague measures, provided that in case of officers drawing above Rs. 200 per mensem, the sanction of the Government shall be obtained. All correspondence about plague, addressed at present to Government, shall in future be addressed to the Plague Commissioner who will also control all expenditure connected with plague operations. Municipal Chairmen and all others dealing with plague, shall carry out the orders of the Plague Commissioner.

THE cases of plague and deaths therefrom reported to Government during the week ending the 23rd instant are as follows:—In the Cities—Bombay recorded 165 cases and 120 deaths; Karachi, to cases and 7 deaths; and Poona, one case. In the districts—Ahmedabad and Kaira recorded a clean sheet; Broach, twenty-six cases and seventeen deaths; Surat, thirty cases and twenty-nine deaths; Thana, fifty-nine cases and forty-nine deaths; Nasik 126 cases and ninety-one deaths; Poona, thirteen cases and eight deaths; Satara, 271 cases and 201 deaths; Solapur, sixteen cases and fourteen deaths; Belgaum, 861 cases and 547 deaths; and Dharwar, 1,112 cases and 943 deaths. In the Political Agencies—Baroda recorded 156 cases and 96 deaths; Kathiawar, 164 cases and 132 deaths; Kolhapore, 435 cases and 272 deaths; Cutch, eighty-five cases and sixty-five deaths; Rewa Kantha, six cases and six deaths; Palanpur recorded a clean sheet; Sachin, nine cases and six deaths; Akalkot twenty-three cases and eleven deaths; Aundh thirty-nine and twenty-eight deaths; and Bhor, a sheet.

THE Dacca Gazette learns that some Judicial officers in that town seem to be very fond of whipping as a mode of punishment, in spite of the recent circular of the Lieutenant-Governor. This, if true, is to be regretted, for unless His Honour's subordinates choose to loyally carry out the humane intentions of their Chief, the circular would be of little good to the public.

THE Bombay Municipality has voted Rs. 1,000 for the illumination of the address, and the preparation of a casket, to be presented to Baron Curzon, Viceroy-elect of India. On similar previous occasions, Rs. 1,500 were generally voted for the purpose; but considering the present exceptional strain on the Municipal finances, the amount had to be reduced to one thousand rupees.

## Mortuall News.

## KHARUKPUR (MONGHYR), SEPT. 25.

A SENSATIONAL murder case is now pending in the Deputy Magistrate's court here. Two persons, Shurke Sing and his brother, have been charged with the murder of a woman. The case for the prosecution is that the accused, who are zemindars, went to one Pariag's house for the purpose of forcibly engaging them on work in their field. The deceased, a woman, having objected, was beaten by the accused so severely that she died. I shall at the proper time let you know the result of the case.

## CHAPRA, SEPT. 28.

THE want of a Bar Library at Chapra had long been keenly felt by the members of the local bar. No doubt, the idea of establishing a Bar Library was conceived more than once; but the matter had never been taken up in right earnest, on account of some difficulties or other standing in the way. Finally, the idea was again conceived in 1896; and, through the invaluable assistance of our District Judge, Mr. G. W. Place, the matter, having encountered many difficulties, this year actually received a practical shape, and the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Bar Library came off yesterday at 4.45 P.M. The whole gentry of the town was invited on the occasion. The District Judge who kindly condescended to lay the foundation-stone, arrived at the spot just at quarter past 4. After the assembly had taken their seats, Mr. R. Ghosh, Bar-at-law, gave a brief history of the Bar Library in lucid language. The Judge then took up the silver trowel, prepared for the occasion, and proceeded to the foundation which he declared as well and truly laid. A bottle, containing the current coins of the realm, and a paper giving a brief history of the ceremony, were laid under the foundation. The District Judge then addressed the assembly a few well-chosen words. The gathering then dispersed.—The disastrous effect of the great flood of 1898 will linger long in the memory of the Sarun people. The flood water is gradually receding, and the paddy crop stalks have commenced to reappear here and there. That a famine of a serious type is staring people in the face, is the unanimous verdict of the peasantry class.

## THE PIONEER AND MR. N. N. GHOSE

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE Pioneer.

SIR,—My attention has just been called to an article on "Calcutta Municipal Reform" in the Pioneer, in which I read the following concerning myself: "Mr. N. N. Ghose, the accomplished Barrister and Editor of the Nation, sadly thought aloud that 'though there might be overcrowding among natives and though they might live in insanitary surroundings, their fathers and grandfathers had lived in the same way and under very much more insanitary conditions, and had attained greater age.'"

Will you be good enough to allow me to explain myself? What I did say was to the following effect: "Though there might be what Dr. Simpson considers overcrowding among certain classes of people, and though they might live in surroundings which he holds to be insanitary, their fathers and grandfathers had lived, etc." The words in italics mark the difference between your version and mine.

I make no complaint, however, against the reporter from whose version you have quoted the passage. It is his business to report only the substance of the speeches, made in Municipal meetings. No persons, not even Municipal Commissioners, ordinarily care to read the reports of those speeches. I am sure, those who heard me would never be misled by any report, however imperfect; and I was concerned in making myself understood only to my audience.

When I made those remarks I was not "thinking aloud," "sadly" or otherwise, but was making an indignant protest against certain proposed precautionary measures against the plague, which, however well-meant, appeared to me, as they appear now, to be impractical, uncalculated-for, dangerous and insane. I do not remember all the regulations that were laid before the Commissioners; but, unless I am greatly mistaken, there were proposals to the effect that if the Health Officer considered a house to be overcrowded or insanitary, he might call upon all or any of its inmates to leave it upon a notice of twenty-four hours. There was then (1896) no plague in Calcutta; and the rules required that a house, though not plague-infected, might be compulsorily vacated if only in the Health Officer's opinion it was over-crowded or insanitary. Where the expelled men, women, and children were to go, the rules did not say.

I hold, sir, that considerations of common sense, humanity and social order, are higher even than those of scientific sanitation; and hence my protest. The remarks you have quoted, were meant by me to express a simple truth, namely, that rules of sanitary living are not abstract and universal, but particular and relative, and must vary according to the habits, the needs and the resources of the people whose living we seek to regulate. It would be evidence, not of culture but of fatuity, to deny this truth. And the practical application I had to make of it in my speech, should be obvious. Should men be turned out of houses,—in which, or in houses like which, they and their fathers have lived in perfect health,—merely because a Health Officer holds them on ideal and abstract grounds to be insanitary? Fortunately, the rules were never passed or never carried into effect; but their enforcement, however disastrous to the people, would have carried its own moral and relieved me of the necessity of stating my arguments in a formal way.

The Indian Nation  
Office, Calcutta  
September 26, 1898.

N. N. GHOSE.

MR. James E. Ferrell, of Burnt House W. Va. has discarded all other diarrhoea medicine and now handles only Chamberlain's Colic Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. He has used it in his family and sold it to his customers for years and has no hesitation in saying that it is the best remedy for colic and diarrhoea, he has ever known. It not only gives relief, but effects a permanent cure. It is also pleasant and safe to take, making it a real remedy for bowel complaints. For sale by

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

## ALSACE LORRAINE AND DISARMAMENT.

## A RUSSIAN VIEW OF THE QUESTION.

COMMENTING ON the proposed Peace Conference the *Novosti* says:

Its principal subject must be the question of Alsace Lorraine, for the solution of which the proper time has now come. The wounded *amour propre* of the French is longing for satisfaction for the severing of portion of French territory. It would be strange to expect that they should abandon their claim without compensation. There is now the possibility of obtaining such compensation by participation in the realisation of the high idea of the establishment of universal peace before which single international disputes particularly in such problematic questions as the reconquest of lost territory, will have to sink into the background. Really civilised nations should shirk no sacrifice for such a lofty idea. We are convinced that all the political and moral forces of France will unanimously give an affirmative answer to the categorical question whether they, in order that this high idea may triumph concede the possibility that Alsace Lorraine will be left to its own fate on the basis of a compromise which will insure its welfare and freedom. We also regard as just the *amour propre* of the Germans, who are resolved to hold fast to land acquired after a sanguinary war which Germany did not provoke.

The partly German origin of the Alsations and Lorrainers and the administration for twenty-seven years by Germany of the provinces also contributes to that idea. The Germans will not consent to the retrocession of Alsace Lorraine or to the granting to it of neutral independence without compensation which would be equivalent to possession. Now, however, such compensation is possible. The national *amour propre* of the Germans can be satisfied because the compromise will not be made under threats of war or out of fear of the superiority of hostile arms, but on behalf of the realisation of a high idea of universal peace for which every sacrifice is justifiable. In a word, what appears to be impossible before the proclamation of the idea of a peace conference owing to inimical relations between the two Powers, must now, after the proclamation, become entirely practicable. We are of opinion that the neutralisation of Alsace Lorraine, the idea of the neutralisation of disputed provinces has already matured in the consciousness of European nations. It must be clear to every one that the independent existence of Alsace Lorraine would not only not depreciate, but would improve its welfare, and at the same time create a neutral zone between Germany and France which would remove the necessity of expensive armaments on both sides. But these are only subordinate results of the solution of the question. The chief interest would lie in the complete restoration of friendly relations between the two hostile nations in a reconciliation which would save them milliards and further bring about an exchange of spiritual and material interests and deliver mankind from the burden of armed peace. This *amour propre* of both nations unfortunately stood in the way of the idea of the neutralisation of the provinces. Now this impediment disappears. Let it be our aim that France and Germany in face of this high initiative of the powerful Russian monarch answer it with an act of self-sacrifice just as high. Mankind is justified in demanding such a sacrifice.

ENGLAND AT THE TSAR'S MESSAGE.  
Mr. Balfour has sent a sympathetic message to Count Mouravieff in reply to the circular on the subject of international disarmament recently handed by the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the name of the Tsar to British Ambassador at St. Petersburg.

## THE YUSSUF-UD-DIN CASE.

## SECUNDERABAD, 27th SEPTEMBER.

THE case of Yussuf-ud-din against the Secretary of State for India came on for hearing before the District Judge of Secunderabad to-day. The plaintiff claims (Lali Sica) Rs. 4,86,690 for damages sustained by illegal proceedings and wrongful arrest at Shankarpalli, a station on the Nizam's State Railway, by a native constable under a warrant endorsed by Mr. F. C. Crawford, Railway Magistrate at Secunderabad, on charges preferred against him by the Government under Sections 101 and 109, I. P. C., namely that of offering gratification other than legal remuneration to a public servant in respect of an official act. Mr. Ookerjee, pleader, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Ram Chandra Pillai, pleader, for the defendant.

The plaintiffs pleader raised a preliminary objection to Mr. Pillai's appearance on behalf of the Secretary of State in the case, on the strength of Sections 416 and 419 of the Civil Procedure Code, and argued that as the suit was against the Secretary of State for India in Council with regard to proceedings taken by a Punjab official, the authority for Mr. Pillai's appearance should emanate from the Punjab Government and not from the Resident of Hyderabad, particularly as notice of the suit was given direct to the Punjab Government and the requirements of Section 22A, C. C. complied with. The appointment of Mr. Ram Chandra Pillai by the First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad, therefore, was not a proper appointment. Mr. Pillai could only appear by direction of the Punjab Government and not by the Resident or Local Government.

Mr. Ram Chandra Pillai pointed out that the summons was served upon the Local Government. Mr. Ookerjee admitted that the service of the summons was improper.

The Court ruled that Mr. Pillai could appear. The defendant's pleader thereupon called upon the plaintiff to furnish security for whatever costs might be incurred under 380 C. P. C.

The plaintiff's pleader stated that the plaintiff held property in Hyderabad city, and that under the new judicial arrangement the court exercised civil jurisdiction there. In any case if the plaintiff were called upon to furnish security he was prepared to do it.

The Court: Will you file an affidavit to the effect that the plaintiff has immovable property and that it is not encumbered.

Mr. Ookerjee: It is partly encumbered on account of this case, but we will furnish the required security before the next hearing of the case. As this stage Mr. Ram Chandra Pillai asked for an adjournment for two months to enable him to communicate with the Punjab Government and other quarters, to obtain certain documents connected with the case; also to secure copies of the proceedings against the plaintiff before Mr. Beadon, Simla Magistrate, and the local Railway Magistrate.

Mr. Ookerjee contended that it was nearly five months since the plaint was instituted, and should another two months' adjournment be allowed half a year would be spent over nothing in the case.

Mr. Ram Chandra Pillai: It is not fair to expect five lakhs in five months.

Mr. Ookerjee: I don't mind two months' adjournment if Mr. Pillai will undertake not to ask for further time.

Mr. Pillai: Oh, I cannot promise that.

The Court finally ruled that the plaintiff should furnish security to the necessary amount, and the further hearing was adjourned until the 17th November.—Pioneer.

## To Whom It May Concern:

I 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, or by

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

## Telegrams.

## [INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

## SIMLA, SEPT. 29.

It is generally believed here that Lieutenant Colonel Hunt, late of the Hussars and lately the Remount Agent at Calcutta, will be Military Secretary to the coming Viceroy.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis will probably move four amendments regarding details only to the Central Provinces Bills, as he is convinced that it is useless disputing their principles.

An application will be made to-morrow for the probate of the will of the late Sirdar Doyal Singh. It is certain to be contested by the Sirdar's widow and his collateral heirs.

Surgeon General Cleghorn retired from service from the 25th instant. Dr. Harvey now acting for him will be confirmed in the appointment.

## PURI, SEPT. 30.

A meeting of the Puri Municipality was held yesterday. Baboo Harish Chander Ghosh, a pleader-Commissioner, proposed: "Considering that the majority of the local Pandits are for killing monkeys, that the rate-payers consider monkeys a great pest of the town, and that the present agitation is purely a got-up one, at the instance of some Bengalees, the Municipal Commissioners continue to kill monkeys, as they are bound to destroy noxious animals by the law." Babu Bidhubhusan Bannerjee, also a pleader-Commissioner, moved an amendment: "The list of Pandits upon whose opinion the present proposal is based, is not exhaustive; there are the opinions of other Pandits, which should be taken into consideration before the proposal be considered." The amendment was first put to vote, and five Commissioners, including the Chairman, Dr. Gillman, were for it, and six, including the proposer, were against it. So it was lost. The Vice-Chairman, after counting the number of Commissioners who were for and against the amendment, was wise enough to reserve his vote. Another Commissioner, Babu Harihar Misra, a pleader, also reserved his vote. The original proposal was not put to vote, though pressed by the mover of the amendment. This was the result of the Municipal meeting. The majority of the Pandits, who, as alleged by the mover of the original proposal, were for the killing, was composed of six against four local Pandits. The opinion against monkey-killing, of Pandits Haraprosad Shastri, Rajendra Chandra Shastri, Chandrakanta Tarkalankar, Modhusudan Smrititratna, Babu Nilkanta Mozumdar, Principal, Cuttack College, and of other eminent Pandits, was not at all put before the meeting, as was promised at the last meeting. We appeal to the Hindu public to take up the matter into their serious consideration; and we shall be glad to see that these unjustifiable proceedings be brought to the notice of the higher authorities. Here it should be mentioned that the majority of the rate-payers are strongly against monkey-killing. No further step was taken about the privy matter, though it was an item of business for yesterday's meeting.

## [FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

## LONDON, SEPT. 27.

It is stated at Vienna that Great Britain, France, Russia, and Italy have presented an ultimatum to Turkey demanding the withdrawal of the Turkish troops in Crete by the 15th of October. It is believed that, failing Turkey's compliance with their demand, the Powers intend to blockade certain places on the island by and sea.

## LONDON, SEPT. 27.

Another Edict issued at Peking revokes all recent reforms in China.

## LONDON, SEPT. 27.

The Egyptian Government is sending home the Khalifa's Abyssinian prisoners.

## LONDON, SEPT. 27.

News has been received that a French force has twice severely defeated Samory's troops, taking quantities of arms and a number of prisoners.

## LONDON, SEPT. 28.

The surrender of arms at Candia, has been stopped. It is known that the Mussulmans are withholding two thousand Martinis and ten Lee-Metford rifles.

## LONDON, SEPT. 28.

The decision of the Cabinet to refer the question of the revision of the Dreyfus case to the Court of Cassation, has produced a calming effect in France.

## LONDON, SEPT. 28.

The Republican Convention held at Saratoga has nominated Colonel Roosevelt for the Governorship of New York. The convention has adopted the platform declaring that the responsibility incurred by the United States forbids returning the Philippines to Spain.

## LONDON, SEPT. 28.

It has transpired in Paris that Sirdar Kitchener informed Marchand that he intended to occupy Fashoda, and asked the latter if he wished to enter a protest to which Marchand replied in the negative. The Sirdar thereupon hoisted the Egyptian flag (not the British flag). No formal negotiations are anticipated till the French Government receive Marchand's report and M. Cambon the newly-appointed French Minister arrives in London.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

The *Times*, whilst recognizing the courteous and calm tone of the French papers in discussing the position at Fashoda, declares emphatically that immediate and complete French evacuation of the Nile Valley and the Equatorial Provinces is a condition that must be precedent to all ulterior discussion.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

It is reported that Sirdar Kitchener retires from the command of the Egyptian Army in October, and will be succeeded in the Sirdarship by General Hunter.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

The *Times* Pekin correspondent telegraphs that an edict has been issued which regrets the increasing ill-health of the Emperor and commands the attendance of physicians from all the provinces.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

The Queen of Denmark is dead.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

General Djedav Pasha has consented to withdraw and encamp the Turkish troops outside Candia. Colonel Chernside takes military possession of Candia whenever the reinforcements arrive.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

The Natal Government has contributed five hundred pounds towards the relief of the distress in the West Indies.

## LONDON, SEPT. 29.

Lord Lansdowne has decided that officers commissioned after the 1st of December may, in case of voluntary retirement, be called upon, as a condition of receiving full retired pay, to serve for a time with the Militia.

## LONDON, SEPT. 30.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has consecrated the new Bishops of Bombay and Mauritius in Westminster Abbey.

## LONDON, SEPT. 30.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* telegraphs that Sirdar Kitchener, on arrival at Fashoda, furnished supplies to Marchand, who gladly received them, as otherwise he would soon have been compelled to leave his position. Marchand was unable to show any authority from the French Government for his occupation of Fashoda.

## LONDON, SEPT. 30.

It is stated that Sirdar Kitchener will probably be appointed the first Governor-General of the Sudan.

## LONDON, SEPT. 30.

Reuter, telegraphing from Peking, says that although the reinstatement of Li Hung-Chang to office is probable, it is unlikely that the Dowager-Empress will countenance Russian schemes. It is also stated that six Chinese reformers have been executed.

## LONDON, SEPT. 30.

The Democratic convention assembled at Syracuse has adopted a programme ignoring the silver question.

## Correspondence.

## IS IT THE EFFECT OF ROSE?

## TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I have read a paper by Mr. Olden in which the remarkable scientific discovery of that distinguished Venetian Doctor P. Fabris is described. It is said that the doctor subjected a number of girls to different perfumes, and they came out with their characters changed. The effect of the perfume of rose is thus described:—"The girls of the rose class grew thin, abnormally neat, excessively prudish, and decidedly unamiable. A curious unwillingness to tell the truth was developed in twelve of the thirteen girls, subjected to this experiment." Everybody who is acquainted with Ghazipur knows that the men there are seldom plump. And every Sub-Judge who had the misfortune to be posted to Ghazipur, also knows how difficult his work becomes by the deliberate suppression of truth by the witness. The inhabitants are quarrelsome and not easy to yield. That they are more litigious than people in any other city in the Province, is a dead certainty. Few districts create so knotty questions of law as Ghazipur. Is, then, the effect of the perfume of rose on the inhabitants, in which the district abounds?

ANGEL.

## A KINDLY ACT.

## TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Lately in a Shankhari's house in this town, a man was found to be stone dead. His relatives and kinsmen fled, from fear of catching contagion. The poor widow only remained by the side of her dead husband with a number of young children to lament the irreparable loss. Our kind-hearted Magistrate, Mr. N. B. Beaton-Bell, on hearing it, immediately proceeded to the place. He asked why the dead body was not yet cremated, and in reply he was given to understand that the kiths and kins of the deceased had fled from fear of catching infection and the corpse had been thus left behind. Mr. Bell then enquired whether the deceased's wife had any objection to allow him to cremate the corpse and whether she was ready to help him in carrying the dead body to the cremation ground. The woman complying with this proposal, Mr. Bell caught hold of the dead body, took it to the cremation ground and burnt it to ashes. The cremation business he did without any one's assistance. The public thronged on all sides to witness this extraordinary act of humanity.

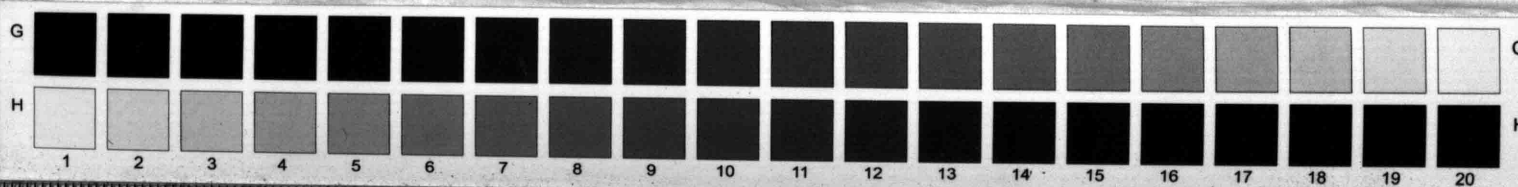
ROHINI KUMAR SEN GUPTA.

Barisal.

THE *Akhbar-i-am* reports a trick played on a poor widow at Delhi by a Mahomedan named Maulvi Hamid-ul-din, also of Delhi. He spoke to the woman in confidence, telling her that he was in possession of some hairs from the Prophet's beard and head, together with a sandal from the same source. Moreover, he had offered it to the Nawab of Bahawalpore for Rs. 40,000, but the Nawab would only give him half that sum. He was, however, willing to part with it for Rs. 2,000 to her, and she could either go to the State and sell it at her own terms, or better still, the Nawab's accredited agent was expected in Delhi, and she could sell it to him. The woman was credulous enough to believe the story and gave the man Rs. 2,000; he further impressed upon her the necessity of keeping silence about her acquisition. Later, the Police were communicated with, but the Maulvi had disappeared. A warrant was issued, and the man arrested, but was released on bail.

JW. Baggott, of Oak Grove, Fla., had an attack of the measles, nearly three years ago, and the disease left him with very severe pain in the chest. "I thought I would die," he writes; "but to my great joy I was saved by Chamberlain's Pain Balm. Pains 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. It is always prompt and effectual. For sale at 25 and 50 cents per bottle by"

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





BAD DIAGNOSIS AND WORSE  
PRESCRIPTION.

It is a matter of regret that the Poona public have not yet come forward with their united protest against the onslaught made by Government upon their Municipality by imposing eight more nominated members on behalf of Government. Perhaps Poona has not yet sufficiently recovered from the effects of the terrifying shock she received at the hands of Government, rushing out with fury, running amuck, and making havoc among the reputation and franchise of the people. But it is duty to raise our voice and protest against the high-handed measure of the increase of the nominated members of the Municipality, and it has to be done whether we are or are not in our usual spirits. A great question of principle has been raised by the Government of Lord Sandhurst silently changing the constitution of the Municipality, and the protest of the Poona public ought to go forth and be recorded whether Government heed it or not. Our readers are aware that we have discussed the question on its merits long ago, and proved that the Municipality has not deserved this sort of ill-treatment. Though the Poona Municipality may not be an ideal Municipality still nothing has happened since the higher elective franchise was first given to the people in 1885, which renders our Municipality disintegrated to that privilege now in 1898. The Municipality has shown consistent progress during all these years, and earned good opinions from the responsible officers of Government whose duty it is to control its affairs and ensure it if necessary. The clamour about the alleged inefficiency of the Municipality was raised for the first time when the Plague broke out. But that was a time when Government could not keep its head cool and wanted somebody to throw the blame upon. The subsequent experience and trials of Government, however, ought to have made them wiser and induced them in all fairness, not to countenance the allegations against the Poona Municipality, or at least prevented them from persisting in their unwise and high-handed interference with its constitution. But there seems to be a sort of fatality working of late years so as to force the hand of the Bombay Government to unwise and ungracious acts of repression. Consequently we see that though the Plague is gone, though it is proved that the breaking out of the Plague has not had the least connection with the so-called inefficiency of the Municipality and though the wild accusations of Dr. Barry have now been discredited on all hands, still Government must insist on increasing the nominated members of the Municipality. We can think of no better instance of bad diagnosis and worse prescription than the one which the Bombay Government have supplied by their attributing the Plague to the insanitary condition of Poona, and seeking to remedy that evil by increasing the strength of nominated members. We had certainly expected Government to shew better sense in the matter. We expected them to grant a large loan to the Poona Municipality on very easy terms, in order to enable them to undertake to costly reforms in the sanitation of the city, to give them gratis their advice and the assistance of their professional experts in Sanitation and Engineering, to give increased powers to the Municipal Secretary so as to make him a really useful and respected executive officer, and to take the necessary measures to increase the strength of the representation of the more intelligent and educated electorate. But Government have done nothing of the kind, but only imposed eight more members on their behalf, upon the Municipality and shaken public confidence in Government doings with regard to local self-Government generally. We have to recognise that Government perhaps as a result of the loud protests made in these and other columns of the native press, shewn some care in making their nominations this time. But that fact can in no way justify on principle the encroachment upon franchise of the people. Government have succeeded in showing not so much a real anxiety to better the sanitary condition of Poona, as a besetting craving to humiliate Poona. For, if it were otherwise, they would have done something which would have enabled the Municipality to effect the necessary reforms, and not embarrassed it as at present. The conduct of Government is all the more inexplicable to us, because a recent Resolution issued by them with regard to Dr. Barry's attack upon the Municipality and the answer given to it by that body duly recognises the fact that the work of reforming an oriental and ancient city like Poona was really very great, and practically exculpates the Municipality from the blame which Dr. Barry had sought to fasten upon it. The people, it must be admitted, have as much a desire to vastly improve the city, as Government themselves have expressed in the Resolution to possess. But the question is with regard to the method by which the desired reforms would be best effected, and we have not the least hesitation in saying that the method adopted by Government, viz., that of diminishing the strength of the popular representation upon the Committee is not at all calculated to be beneficial.—*Maharaja.*

## MUSIC AND METEOROLOGY.

MR. K. E. CLARK contributes to the "London Musical Courier" an interesting article on "Warm Weather Music." In the course of his observation he remarks that all who read the musical papers and magazines have seen lately many examples of the soothing effect of a certain music upon nervous and sleepless patients. Medical journals have frequently pointed out its real usefulness as a sedative in certain forms of nervous disorders. As a hypnotic it has been tried in the London Temperance Hospital with a fair measure of success. A particularly curious instance given by a Russian physician was that of a mother who soothed her nervous child to sleep by one of Chopin's waltzes. Ordinarily one would not regard Chopin as especially soothing, and in the case of a child it is probable that generally some cradle song might be equally effective. It is possible, though, that something in the rapid sequence of notes and the rippling rhythms occupied the nervous child's mind just sufficiently to induce a dreamy sense of quiet. Many of the modern composers are so impressed with the restlessness and the complications of modern life that their music should be eschewed in warm summer days. Wagner is not in the main a warm weather composer, nor Dvorak, nor Tschakowsky, nor Liszt. Grieg generally displays even in his wildest music something of the cool glitter of Northern fords, some sparkle of icy sunlit cliffs, whose dark bases are marked by foaming waters. Gde is refreshing as flower-bescent meadows, Haydn, Mozart, the early Italian composers, Scarlatti, Rameau, Euterpe, Couperin, and the early English composers, Dunstable, Dufay, I'ye, and the madrigalists of the sixteenth century, all may awaken a feeling like that awakened by wide green fields and open pasture lands. Sober is much too formal and intellectual for summer and so also for the most part are Brahms and Raff and Reinecke. Schubert is never more delightful than in warm weather; so sunny, so tender, so fascinating, of such high musical purity is he that he can always render us oblivious to earthly ills. Justly Schumann said of him:—"Schubert has tones for the most delicate shades of feeling thoughts, even accidents and occurrences of life. . . . That which his eye sees his hand touches becomes transformed to music." Schubert is never morbid. His music is ever a lyric side of life. Nor does Schumann ever agitate us with rest-destroying problems, although his imagination is so active, dishing so rapidly from one ideal scene to another, that one must have

quick responsive imagination to enjoy thoroughly his interlacing themes. How dreamily fascinating he can become. Nearly all the adagios and andantes of Beethoven are cool leafy shades to rest in. But all tarantellas and gipsy dances should be set aside. Polkas are abominations and waltzes snare and delusions fantasias are foolish and nearly all the more brilliant movements of sonatas and symphonies are but "sound and fury signifying nothing." Any vocalist who has even a "modest reputation" can recall certain songs which are well-spring of pleasure to singer as well as listener on any summer day when it is not too warm for the singer to breathe properly—songs that bring pleasurable images to the mind as well as pleasant sounds to the ear. As to piano music, I may perhaps, as an amateur pianist, speak feelingly, if not dogmatically, and say that for certain musical reasons somewhat subtle perhaps, I should prefer no piano music at all in warm weather. Without making any serious plea for so-called descriptive music, or expecting music to express with any definiteness out door life and scenes, we do know that it may express moods in harmony with nature's loveliness, and may surround us with that restful atmosphere which we particularly need in summer and which nature always gently diffuses around those who try to understand her.

KASALI DEFAMATION CASE.  
ALLEGED BRIBERY.

THE Assistant Commissioner of Kasauli, Mr. Wilberforce, has been hearing an interesting case. The parties were Sergeant C. W. Saunderson, Sub-divisional Officer, Military Works Department, and present at Peshawar, complainant, and James Wilson, of Kasauli, accused. The charge was made on the 26th February, the accused, who was performing certain works for the contract, or the Military Works Department made statements to Major Appleton, Executive Engineer, Military Works Department at Kasauli and Umballa, to the effect that complainant had asked him for 100 per cent. on the amounts of his bills; that he had also made similar defamatory statement in open court in a criminal case, and also in a departmental investigation at Sabathu before Colonel Glennie, R. E., and other officers. The complainant denied that there was any truth in those statements, which had damaged him in reputation. He had received Government sanction to prosecute under Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code. The case stands adjourned.

HORSES WHICH WIN THEIR WEIGHT  
IN GOLD.

It must be a little surprising even to lovers of horseracing to learn that sixteen horses have won for their owners an aggregate sum of £517,305, or an average of £32,331 for each horse. At least two of those horses, Isinglass and Donovan, have won their weight in gold; and the total winnings of the sixteen horses would be sufficient to pave a race-course, nearly a yard in width and three miles in circuit, with half-crowns. The king of all these doughty steeds is Isinglass, which brought its owner, Mr. McCalmont, 57,185, or almost the equivalent of 9cwt. of sovereigns. The Duke of Portland has received 112,357 in the winning of three of his horses. Donovan, which ranks second on the list of gold-winners, brought him 54,957; Ayrsire won 39,900, and Memoir 21,512. If His Grace were to count the sovereigns thus added to his exchequer at the rate of one a second the agreeable task would occupy him over thirty-one hours, and would represent a week's hard work. In Orme and Ormiston, the Duke of Westminster found two gold mines. Orme enriched him to the extent of 32,926, and Ormiston brought him £28,465, the two horses thus winning more than sufficient to pay Lord Salisbury's official salary for twelve years. The Prince of Wales ranks next to Mr. McCalmont, and the Duke of Portland among owners of a lucky horse. Persimmon enriched the Royal owner by £34,726. Other race-horses which have won over £30,000 for the owners are Baron Hirsch's La Fleche, Mr. Leopold Rothschild's St. Frusquin, Mr. Merry's Surefoot, and Count Lagrange's Gladiator. In all no fewer than eighteen horses have exceeded the gratifying minimum of 20,000 each, and, as money-makers, have eclipsed the life earnings of hundreds of men of genius.

SCHOOLS FOR THIEVES AND BEGGARS  
IN TOKIO.

MR. ADACHI NORITADA, director of the 'Homes for the Poor' at Tokio, has just published an extremely interesting article in a Tokio magazine, the *Shakai Zasshi*, on the life and habits of the thieves and beggars of the Japanese capital.

There are, it would appear, two classes of children who become professional beggars, viz., those small unfortunate who have run away from home in order to escape barbarous treatment from inhuman parents, and children abandoned by their parents, whose nomadic instincts induce them to get rid of their too numerous offspring, and thus avoid the trouble of dragging them round from one village to another. These latter consider their children to old professional beggars, who soon teach the young outcast to earn his own livelihood.

Some of these chiefs of the mendicant profession enjoy a wide reputation, and have scores of beggars and thieves in embryo under their tutelage. There even exists in Tokio a well-known house, Kodomo no Souryoya, which is a regular agency for the getting out of children beggars of forty or fifty years of age (nearly always thieves *hors de combat*, and crippled in some way or other) call upon this firm every day, and hire a child of four or five years old, in whose company they prey upon the charity of the public. The price per day for a child is from three to ten (3-4 to 1-2), and as the object of the child is to inspire pity, weak and ailing children fetch the highest prices.

From five years upwards the children do their begging by themselves. At the age of fourteen or fifteen, under the pretext of gathering waste paper and other rubbish, they prowled round the courtyards of the houses, and commence to thieve.

Their usual weapon is a long stick, the end of which is steeped in glue, and with which they effect very adroit in removing trifles from open windows, etc.

At sixteen they are taught the art of picking pockets with skill and despatch, and from being beggars rise to the rank of Botahajiki (pick-pockets) of Koppurari (thieves).

There is no real difference between the thief and the beggar. The child commences as a beggar, becomes in due course a thief, and takes to begging once more when old age overtakes him.

Daily lessons are given to the young thieves by the chiefs (Oykatara) of each band, and the apprenticeship last as long as from twelve to nineteen. The whole thing has been reduced to a regular system, pick-pocketing and burglary are carefully taught in every detail, and Mr. Adachi Noritada mentions one instance of a specialist who spent a year in Berlin in order to acquire perfection in the art of subtilising a purse. Since this gentleman's return to Tokio, his class has been very successful, and has a hundred intelligent pupils at the present moment.

The whole thieves' colony is regulated by a code of laws, and these are administered with the utmost sternness. The youngest thieves keep 10 per cent. of their earnings, the better class of

pickpockets 40 per cent., and some 50 per cent. or even 60 per cent. The surplus of the profits is invested in the teaching of pupils, and employed as the chiefs of the community deem necessary for the general well-being.

The thieves are, as a rule, great adepts in disguise of any sort, and the Japanese police rarely succeed in asking one of their number red-handed. In this perhaps they do not differ greatly from our own police in England.

## A FROG'S ENDURANCE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Newcastle Chronicle*, writes that when a boy placed a frog in a piece of pipe about 3 ft. long and 2 1/2 in. in diameter. He plugged the pipe tightly at each end, and buried it for a period of twelve months. He then took it up to examine it, and found to his surprise a much more beautiful frog than he had buried a year before. Then he buried it for twelve months more. At the end of the second year, he again took it up, and found the frog more beautiful than ever: all covered with red spots and stripes. He did this again, thus burying him for three years in succession. Shortly afterwards he changed his place of work, and he did not look for the frog again. Where is that frog now?

## BALLOONING IN THE ALPS.

SCIENTIFIC ballooning is going on abroad as well as at home. Signor Spelterini, the aeronaut, who during his career has made 497 ascents and carried some 800 passengers, is preparing to cross the Alps in the balloon Vega, constructed by the French engineer M. Georges Besancon. The balloon is 18 metres in diameter and 1,065 metres in circumference. It will be filled with hydrogen gas, and should the weather prove fine, Spelterini will ascend from Sion toward the middle of this month, when he hopes to cross the highest Alps and descend on the opposite side in the valley of the Rhine. The object of the ascent in scientific. Spelterini will be accompanied by Professor Hermin of the Polytechnic School at Zurich, and an assistant. Spelterini says the Roma, besides being the pilot, will manage the photographic apparatus. The undertaking, was initiated by a committee of Swiss scientists.

## BACK OF THE MOON.

SPEAKING with strict accuracy, instead of presenting an unchanging face towards us, the moon appears to be never still, but always rocking backwards or forwards, falling towards us or away from us, and by the amount of these variations—small, it is very true—regions of the hemisphere turned away from us are disclosed. They are placed unhappily, in the situation best calculated to defeat curiosity. We are permitted to take just a glimpse of "the other side," but to bring away only the minimum of information as to its condition. Perhaps it is rash to say we shall never know more of the "other side" of the moon, so marvellous have been the recent advances in astronomy. Some day, perhaps, new discoveries after the manner of Roentgen rays may enable us to get a photograph through the moon. Short of that, we must needs wait for some stray visitor from outer space to come, into collision with the moon and turn it round, in order to enable us to satisfy our curiosity; and patience may well be stimulated by the knowledge that the result of such a collision, should it ever occur, would in all probability be not less disastrous to the earth than to the moon itself.—*Windsor.*

## CUPID AND MARS.

OPINION differ very much, even in the service itself, as to which cavalry regiment in the army, though the palm is usually awarded to the 10th Hussars, of which regiment the Prince of Wales is Colonel, and which included among its officers, the late Duke of Clarence. Admission to the commissioned ranks of the 10th is, as might be imagined, more difficult than to those of any other regiment, the social position of the candidate, being a matter of such importance, while considerable private means are also essential. Officers have lived in the 10th with an allowance of only £500 a year in addition to their pay, but they have rarely lived long, and the average income of the officers is very much higher. The feeling about matrimony may be summed up as follows:—The colonel should be married; a bachelor Colonel in the mess is not always a joy for ever; Majors, especially if grumpy and lively in the mornings, may be married; Captains should not be married; and subalterns must be bachelors—though, sad to say, they often prove quite as susceptible as their seniors. The chief reason for this feeling against matrimony is that it is bad for the mess. Married officers only pay half the usual mess subscriptions through their agents and, as they seldom dine in the mess, the cost of maintaining a proper establishment, being divisible into fewer parts, falls more heavily on the bachelor members. Also the sociability of the mess suffers; and, though this is strictly between ourselves the addition of a new lady to the married roll of a regiment is not always found to increase the harmony of its regimental life. In some corps would-be bachelors have to pay a fine of £100 to the funds of the mess as a compensation for their intended desertion.—"A British Officer" in *Harper's*.

A HONGKONG telegram to the *Times* of Ceylon states that the Russians hold a large force at Port Arthur in readiness if the Empress needs it at Pekin. The British fleet has assembled in the north of the Gulf of Pechili to prevent the landing of anything larger than a legion of guards. The Chinese reformer, Kang-zwei, now on board the steamer *Ballaarat*, is going from Shanghai to Hongkong, conveyed by the gunboat *Phanix*.

ACCORDING to a correspondent in New York, fifteen dying Roughriders, who were wounded at Santiago, arrived by special hospital train from Montouk. The train stopped at the down of Quopue, a fashionable sea-side resort to get fresh water. The daughter of the Mayor, accompanied by several other girls, boarded the train. The Mayor's daughter kissed each of the men, and gave a bouquet of flowers as well. This courtesy had a marked effect on the men, and the physicians state that they were perceptibly brighter afterwards.

IN America, where divorce is easy, marriage is naturally the same, and a pleasing story is told of a dinner-party at Hoboken near New York, which resulted in a second marriage. There was a widow aged 30 (not an importunate), and a hotel proprietor (bachelor), who sat next each other at dinner. They talked and found one another agreeable at the soup; at dessert, they were in love—madly in love. At the coffee after dinner, he proposed and she accepted. The people round suggested fixing the day. "Why not to-night?" said the lover. The host was told of his guest's fancy and said he would do his best for him, and telephoned to the local Justice of the Peace. At 10 o'clock he arrived and at five minutes past the two were legally married.

## Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT: VACATION BENCH.  
—SEPT. 30.

(Before Justices Stevens and Pratt.)

## THE CHITTAGONG MURDER CASE.

THE further hearing of the appeal in the case of Empress vs. Nama Choudhury from the decision of the Sessions Judge of Chittagong, sentencing him to death for the murder of two persons in the course of a dacoity, reported in our yesterday's issue, was resumed to-day. Mr. K. N. Sen Gupta, counsel for the appellant, after reading the charge to the jury, proceeded to place the evidence before their Lordships. He had not concluded when the Court rose for the day, adjourning the case till Monday.

## AN IRREGULAR TRIAL.

MR. P. L. ROY, instructed by Babu Dasarathi Sanyal, appeared in support of the rule, granted to Rit Lal Sing and two others, who were convicted by Babu Ashoo Toshir Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Monghyr, under Sections 148 and 149-320 of the Indian Penal Code, and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. There was an appeal to Mr. Vincent, District Judge of Bhagalpore, who upheld the conviction and sentence. The case for the prosecution was that they were in possession of a certain plot of land intervening between the respective homesteads of the complainant and the accused. On the date of the occurrence, there was an altercation between the parties when the petitioners, with other persons, armed with swords, inflicted injuries upon them. The defence, denied the occurrence and claimed to be in peaceful possession of the land in dispute. Evidence was gone into on both sides, and the Magistrate thereafter visited the locality, made a note of his inspection and decided the case mainly upon what he saw and heard on the spot. The learned Judge, on appeal, also relied greatly upon what the Magistrate had stated to be the result of his local investigation. Mr. Roy submitted that he was not in a position, under the terms of the rule, to argue that the accused should be acquitted at this stage, but he urged that the conviction and sentence should be set aside and that this Court should order a fresh trial of the case by some Magistrate other than the one who had tried the case. Learned counsel stated that the judgment of the Magistrate shows that he was greatly influenced by what he saw and heard in the locality, and the procedure adopted by him, of going to the disputed locality, after all the witnesses had been examined, was highly prejudicial to the accused, inasmuch as the Magistrate thereby assumed the character of a witness to whose evidence, it was impossible for the petitioner to apply the usual tests, provided by law for sifting the truth or otherwise, of a witness's statement. The learned Judge had also greatly relied upon the result of the Magistrate's local investigation. Their Lordships, having perused the causes shown by the Magistrate, set aside the conviction and sentence, and directed a new trial by another Magistrate.

"W. A. R." WRITES to a Madras paper: "One of the streets in Black Town was the scene of lamentation this morning by two aged Hindu women, when a belted knight put in an appearance. All the neighbours turned out to enquire what was the bewailing about, while others were under an apprehension that the demon disease had set foot in the Metropolis and some body was being carried away to the segregation camp; but on much closer enquiry, it was discovered that parrots which had been brought up from its infancy and could rattle away, had flown and found shelter in a neighbouring tree, preferring a change from the cage.

An instrument for measuring the flight of birds was made a few years ago. This instrument has been adapted to measuring the flight of insects. It has been discovered that a house-fly flies faster than birds. It can fly twenty-five feet a second, and when frightened it increases its speed to one hundred and sixty feet a second. A swallow is considered the swiftest of flying birds. A naturalist saw a swallow chasing a dragon fly but it could not catch the fly. Bees and wasps not unfrequently keep up with a fast train for some distance trying to get in at the nearest open window.

IN the discussion on Mr. Curzon's age in connection with the Viceroyalty it is incidentally mentioned that Mr. Chamberlain continues to be considered by some as a young man, though he is, in his sixty-third year. Mr. Chamberlain, however, is considered a young man because he is young in spite of his age. He both feels and looks young. He has the springy step of youth. There is hardly a line on his face, and he gives one the impression always of possessing an unlimited reserve fund of strength. Curiously enough, while Mr. Chamberlain looks twenty years younger than he is, Mr. Curzon, who is thirty-nine, does not look thirty. Mr. Balfour, who is only fifty, is turning grey, and though his face retains its bright geniality, and his step is young and springy lines of care have begun to ettle on his face, for he has perhaps more on his shoulders than any other Minister.

"WHEN the Dervishes took Rejaf from Emin's troops ten years ago, the Egyptian soldiers lost their heads: they had a strong superstition that these Donagla were under some charm, which made them impervious to ordinary bullets. They said that, when they fired at the Donagla, they could see the bullets dropping off them like rain. Numbers of Hawah Effendi's dollars were therefore moulded into bullets, each dollar making a bullet. It was supposed that these silver bullets would be able to penetrate the charm. The ordinary bullets were also hollowed out, and a peg of ebony-wood or copper was fixed firmly in, these being supposed to be almost as efficacious as the silver bullets. For several days the artisans were at work on these, and, finally, when a great number had been finished, a further reinforcement of sixty soldiers was despatched to Muggi armed with these bullets. They departed with renewed hope and carriage, for they had immense faith in the virtue of these charming bullets, with which, they felt convinced, they could kill the devil himself.

## INDIAN NEWS.

It has now been arranged that Sir Mackworth Young leaves Simla on the 21st October and arrives at Lahore on the 22nd.

A SUDDEN change in the weather occurred on the Western Himalayas on Wednesday. At Simla a thunderstorm caused a remarkable fall in temperature.

THE HON. MR. ARNOLD WHITE, Advocate-General of Madras, was examining a witness in a suit on the Original Side of the High Court on Thursday, when he was suddenly seized with a fainting fit and had to be carried to the Judges' chambers, where he recovered after a time.

ALL the breaches on the East India Railway (Loop line) caused by the recent floods have been repaired, and the trains are running now without any interruption. From Budwan to Mokameh the country is one vast expanse of water, and great caution has to be taken with the rail traffic. The loop line portions are all safe.

It appears from a Rangoon telegram that the members of the Municipality are being canvassed for a vote at the general meeting, next Tuesday week, for a grant of Rs. 1,000 towards the expenses of the Viceregal reception. The Committee's success seems doubtful, and probably no grant will be proposed.

THE *Bombay Gazette* hears of good authority that the successor to Sir James Westland has been already designated. The name of the next Minister of Finance is, however, guarded as a secret in Simla. The new incumbent will not enter on his arduous functions until March next, when Sir James Westland retires.

It is now definitely decided to summon the Jirgahs of all the Khyber Afridis to the headquarters of the Political Officer with the view of communicating the final decision of Government on all matters relating to the country. The principal objects of the future friendly relations are: (1) payment of tribal allowances; and (2) management of the pass. It is expected that the Jirgahs will come in by the 15th or 20th of October.

An experiment of some importance is to be tried with a view to encouraging mule-breeding in the North-West Provinces, the Government of India having sanctioned the purchase by the Civil Veterinary Department of mule colts bred by zemindars from cast mares, which are to be handed over to local native breeders for the purpose, the young stock to be run in a mob on the Hissar Farm until they are old enough to be of use.

THE Patna City Bench convicted a zemindar for keeping an elephant with a municipal permit without a licence. The finding is extraordinary. The Court finds that no offence was committed on the date alleged, and the elephant was not in town at the time, but that it was in town a month previous, and the municipal jamadar made a false report after the removal of the elephant, as he did not get the promised reward. An appeal is pending before the District Magistrate.

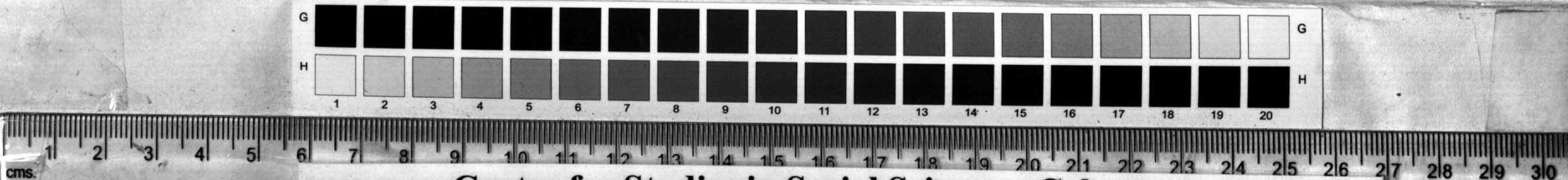
THERE have been heavy floods in Burma. The railway line has recently been further damaged by floods. Besides that reported for the north of Pyuntaza, a large new bridge near Zigon, on the Prome section of the railway, is badly damaged by floods. Through communication was restored on Thursday. A few days ago a landslide near Nankhar Mu Valley, blocked the line. Communication probably will be restored about one week from now. Reports come that the Byn bridge south of Toungoo, has gone, and traffic is being carried on by transhipment.

MR. EDGAR THOMPSON, Superintendent of the Central Museum, Madras, has been giving a course of anthropological demonstrations. He stated some of the difficulties he encountered in measuring jungle tribes. He said that he found two-anna pieces and alcohol the most effective means of conciliation among such wild folk, and the inducements were supplemented by cheroots for the men and cigarettes for the children. Measuring appliances sometimes frightened his subjects, especially the one used for estimating the facial angle, which certainly had the appearance of an instrument of torture. An Irula man, wanted for shooting an elephant, mistook the highest standard for a gallows and bolted.

ALTHOUGH no Indian witness has as yet been called to give evidence before the Currency Committee, we are glad to see Mr. Ralli quoted the opinion of an Indian friend of his before that body. "We consider," said the Indian gentleman, "that the closing of the mints is much more serious to us, Indians, than the famine, the earthquakes, the plague and the war on the frontier. You understand that we, Indians, especially under the present legislation, cannot speak; we cannot write; therefore it is impossible that the officials should know our feelings and our opinions; but let me assure you that there is great dissatisfaction in India."

SOME of the English papers received by the last mail have commented on Mr. Tilak's release. The *Star*, while glad that Mr. Tilak is now out of jail, wants us not to forget that the "purport of Justice Strachey's monstrous, summing-up in his case, has been incorporated in the new law of sedition in India." The *Morning Leader* writes in the same strain, and holds Lord George Hamilton responsible for the blunder of sending Mr. Tilak to jail. The *Daily Mail*, on the other hand, like the *Times* of India, thinks that in remitting a third of his sentence the Government have acted with misplaced leniency.

OUR attention has been drawn to an article appearing in the leading columns of the *Mail* of Saturday, the 17th instant, entitled "The Gift of the Gods." "The Gift of the Gods" is the name of a Brahmin archaika temple of Tirupati who takes advantage of an unsuspecting woman who had gone to Tirupati, determined to wipe out the disgrace of being barren, by making propitiatory offerings to the Deity. The article is most vulgarly suggestive, and is an insult to the religious feelings of the Hindus. Apart from the absurdity of any professing Christian making fun of a belief in immaculate conception, seriously question if our contemporary which is so ready to lecture to others, has not exceeded the bounds not only of decorum, but of the law, in allowing an article so outrageous to the most cherished religious feelings of a large section of the community to appear in its columns.—*Hindu.*





## BENARES NEWS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

BENARES, SEPT. 27.

I CONCLUDED my last letter with a complaint against the expressiveness of

## THE RAIN

but I am glad to say that since the publication of that letter the state of things has improved. No shower of rain, worth the name, has fallen for over a week, and the roads, now and then get full of dust. Then comes a slight shower, just enough to water the roads. So it seems to me that, what of earthly gods, the celestial beings are also amenable to criticism; and they have so tamed down by my adverse comments that they have stooped to work for the Municipality. But after the rain, the next thing of importance to the agriculturists is the

## PRICE OF FOOD-GRAINS

which, again, I am glad to say, is easy. Nay, they are cheaper than what they were at the harvesting season. You may perhaps want an explanation of this unusual occurrence. Here I am with it. God has sent down little insects, which, in this province, are called *ghuns*, to attack the Bania's stock; but although, to my mind, they were sent for the Banias only, they have not spared other people. Like most of our officials they love power, and they want to make it felt as widely as possible. So, the people, finding that their stocks are being damaged, have thrown them into the market to make as much profit out of them as they can; and in the competition that has followed, the prices have naturally gone down. Wheat is 13 seers, barley 21 seers and *dal* 14½ seers, for the rupee. The rice stock seems to be safe; for, it is selling at 9 seers only. But the agriculturists have, moreover, been surprised by the falsity of the

## TIME-HONOURED PROVERBS

this year. One saying generally believed in, is that if the sun shines bright on the morning of *sun sukta samiti* (this year it corresponded to July) and if there is thunder on that day, the rains would cease and there would be a dry season. But although both of these things have happened, the rains have not ceased, and the prices are abundantly cheap. In spite of this, however, the men continue to fix their faith in the ominous forebodings regarding

## SAMBAT 1956

which has been declared by astrologers to be a year of disturbance and trouble. Not only war, but it is prophesied that internal commotion and scarcity will be the characteristics of that year. The cry that escapes every lip is, "God help me next year." But what has added to this popular apprehension is

THE APPEARANCE OF A STAR IN DAY TIME which has been seen by hundreds of people. This star was visible for two days only, the 20th and 21st instant, at about 4 o'clock, when the sun was strong. It regarded a phenomenon and an evil omen. But whatever calamity may overtake this province, we people of the N-W. P. are sanguine of sympathetic treatment under the rule of

## SIR ANTONY MACDONNELL

who will be returning in a month's time to this country. Sir Antony has succeeded in inspiring public confidence in his rule, though, if we consider the details, he has not done one act of public beneficence for which the people may remember him after his retirement. But I do not think that it is easy for a Lieutenant-Governor to render any important public service, although he can very easily do a lot of mischief. Sympathy is the only thing which he is capable of bestowing on his subjects; and this is enough in these days of degeneration. Speaking of Benares, however, I should say that our strength lies more in

## GOD VISWANATH AND BHAIKAR.

than any earthly protector. The city of Kashi is in their special charge; and we have always been free from disasters. The spectre of famine kept roaming on the skirts of the city, but was not allowed an inch of ground within it. Likewise, let us hope, we shall pass through the apprehended difficulties of the coming year smoothly. Ours is

## A RELIGIOUS CITY

and our talk is about gods and swamis only. No wonder that Mrs. Annie Besant and other religious leaders should think of making Benares their home, and the Buddhists, of holding a Parliament of Religions here. There are a number of saints here who have attained to perfection. Among them may be mentioned Swami Bhaskarananda, Swami Bishudhananda and Mayiji. These three devotees live at three ends of the city, but the fame of Swami Bhaskarananda has eclipsed that of the other two. He has come to be worshipped, and receives visits from the biggest personages. There are few Viceroys who have not made the Swami's acquaintance, and his images of marble, stone and clay are beautifully made and sold by some of local artists. The workmanship of the image is exquisite, and the best man for its sale is Mangla Prasad of Buriur Singh Gardens, Benares City. It is a good specimen of native art, and a lovely article for all drawing-rooms.

Other items of news, worth communicating to you are, one, the visit of

## MRS. ANNIE BESANT

who is now among us and has given an interesting lecture to her pupils, the students of the Central Hindu College, and, the other, the

## FLIGHT OF A SOLDIER

from the Shropshire Regiment. The soldier was for some time suspected to be of unsound mind, and strangely decamped a few days ago. His whereabouts are unknown up to now.

## THE 10th JAT REGIMENT

left this station on the 15th instant for Cuthbert via Calcutta. A ship was sent here to meet them thither.

The *Englishman's* Cachar correspondent writes:—It is a regrettable fact that we are having a very bad season of it in tea this year. Many gardens are hundreds of maunds behind, and hopelessly beyond the possibility of making the loss up before the close of the season. The weather at the commencement of the season has been almost wholly to blame for this result, as, owing to the failure of the usual early rains (*chhotabar*) in April and May, large tracts of tea were scorched up and became irretrievable so far as prosperous growth was concerned, while in some gardens such young sprouts as had begun to show vitality were soon withered up for want of moisture.

## GREAT FLOOD IN DURBHANGA.

"COSMOS" writes from Laheria-Serai, Durbhanga, under date the 25th instant:—

The whole district is now under water. This is not the case with this district alone; but even Chuprah, Matihari, Bettia and Mozufferpore have met with the same fate as well.

On the 13th instant, the sky became cloudy, but on the 14th it began to drizzle with a light easterly wind. The wind gradually became stronger and stronger, when on the 15th it began to blow with all the fury of a cyclone. It was then no longer drizzling but pouring as if the flood-gates of heaven were opened; but it continued with the same force till the 16th when (*barrah*) flood came in.

It came all on a sudden during night. People tired of ceaseless rain and storm, in the midst of their slumber, on a pitch dark night,—the heaven pouring on them and the storm lashing them with all its fury,—were roused from their beds, to see watery grave yawning at them.

Then there was a struggle for life and limb. Poor people with wife and children and with cattle, their only wealth, struggled to come to town or to any other high place that they could find; but many succumbed in the attempt. Those that could reach the town, finding no shelter and seeing the same state of things there, took their way to the Nepal frontier where they would find high lands and ample pasture grounds for their cattle.

In Darbhanga proper and this civil station, at dawn the people saw water gradually entering into their houses and both the places were slowly submerged. Huts and old buildings could not withstand the rushing water, and began to fall in numbers, in consequence whereof there were general deaths. It was found that the rivers Bagamuttee and Kamala which encircle these places as well as others, were pressing their water towards each other; and hence the general belief was that if the rivers both would jointly work in doing mischief, there would be no trace of these places.

At this state of panic the people rushed to the telegraph office to send messages to their friends and relations in other districts, with a view to know their state of things; but to their utter chagrin, they were told that the telegraph lines had been washed away and hence communication stopped. You can imagine the people's state of mind now. The telegraph line was closed for three days.

The railway lines to Mozafferpore, Bettia, Hajipore, Chuprah and Sitamari were closed. The line to Mokamah ghat only worked and that only during day. It is reported that in the Hajipore line a ballast train has gone down into the Gundak.

On the 18th and 19th there was a short respite. The sky became clean and the storm ceased. Water was also gradually subsiding; but from the night of the 19th, it began to pour again in torrents and the weather became cyclonic. From the evening of the 20th, water again began to rise by leaps and bounds.

During the night the whole town was under water. On the roads and streets there was water up to waist, and this state of things continued till last night. Most of the roads are now above water; but the last downpour has seriously damaged the Mokamah-ghat line, the only line that was working. Bridges have been severely breached, and the line washed away for several miles. The authorities do not issue Calcutta tickets. Only tickets to Samastipur are issued. From Samastipur to Semeria-ghat, the mail is now carried in country boats. Hence we get our Calcutta mails on the 4th day instead of on the 2nd, when we used to get before the breach.

The distress of the people in the interior is indescribable; their sufferings unimagined. Most harrowing tales of children washed away in the presence of parents, and parents washed away in the presence of children, wife separated from husband and husband separated from wife, come from every quarter of the district.

The whole district is now like a vast ocean; and you will find dead bodies of men, cattle and even of wild beasts like elephant and tiger carried away by the current.

The death-sentence on Jowar Singh, convicted of murdering Mr. Murphy in Karachi, will be executed on the 7th October.

A BANKIPORE correspondent writes:—Lately a curious case was tried in the Sessions Court here. A woman charged her parents and brother with attempting to murder her by drowning her in a well. This case was committed to the Sessions by Mr. A. N. Moberly, Joint-Magistrate of Barh. During the cross-examination at the Sessions Court the woman plainly admitted that she was instructed by her paramour's son to bring this charge against the defendants, who were acquitted by the Judge.

THE Judicial Commissioner of Burma was engaged a few days ago in hearing an appeal from a Burmese woman against the decision of the Myook of this Central Township, Tavoy, who sentenced her to pay Rs. 100 damages for defaming the character of another woman by calling her a witch. The reasons given for awarding damages are "that people in general as well as friends and relatives would break off association with the plaintiff, and further she would be discarded by her husband—also it was a well-known fact among Burmese that they were very careful as treating with and associating with a witch." After hearing the arguments on both sides the Judicial Commissioner confirmed the decree and dismissed the appeal.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Santipore:—On the proposed introduction of the latrine system into this town the local Ratepayers' Association submitted to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal a numerously signed memorial adopted at an extraordinary general meeting attended by over 3,000 ratepayers. The majority of the Municipal Commissioners were among the memorialists. On a requisition signed by more than two-thirds of the Commissioners, a meeting was convened, when the Divisional Commissioner was here on inspection, and the resolution about the introduction of latrines was rescinded. A reference was made to the Local Government, which has, in accordance with the opinion of the Advocate-General, accepted the recommendation of the requisitionists. This action of the Municipal Commissioners has undoubtedly saved many of the poverty-stricken rate-payers from deserting their homes for increased taxation.

## AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

In his "Problems of the Far East," Mr. G. N. Curzon tells the story of the Emperor's accession as follows:—

His Imperial Majesty, whose ruling title is Kuang Hsu, is now twenty six years of age, and succeeded his cousin the Emperor Tung Chih twenty-two years ago, under circumstances that throw an interesting light upon the inner mysteries of Court existence in Peking.

Tung Chih also was a child when he succeeded his father Hsein Feng, the fugitive of the Anglo-French campaign, in 1861.

During his minority the Government was virtually in the hand of two ladies, one of whom, the Empress of the Eastern Palace, had been the principal wife and Empress of Hsein Feng, while the other who, though the mother of Tung Chih, had not been Empress, was in consideration of the accession of her son named Empress-Mother and Empress of Western Palace. Seizing the reins of the Government by a bold "coup d'état" in which they were assisted by one of Hsein Feng's brothers, well-known to Europeans as Prince Kung, these ladies administered the State as Regents, with Prince Kung as Chief Minister until 1873.

Tung Chih attained his majority, and shortly afterwards married. The young wife then became Empress, and the two elder ladies retired nominally into the "back-ground."

Tung Chih, however, was addicted to dissipation, and very soon gave signs of failing constitution. During his illness a decree was issued no doubt at his initiative, in which the Emperor, passing over his own wife, invited them to resume their former functions until his restoration to health.

By this clever step the two ladies, who foresaw a second and not less agreeable lease of power during the minority of a second infant, found themselves in a highest place, when, in January, 1875, the Emperor Tung Chih died childless, but leaving a widow who expected before long to become a mother. They were now in a position. To Manipulate the Succession according to their own desires. The natural course following the ordinary practice of Imperial successions would have been to wait for the birth of the deceased Emperor's posthumous child, and in the event of its being still-born or a girl, select from among the members of the Imperial family a child who should be adopted as his son, and during whose minority the widowed Empress should rule as Regent.

This, however, was not at all to the taste of the two ex-Empresses Regent. Of these the one who was mother to the late Emperor had a sister married to Prince Chun, the younger brother of Prince Kung, the child of which union was therefore twice over a nephew of the Emperor Hsein Feng and cousin of Tung Chih.

Ignoring the pregnancy of the Empress Al-lu-ta, and passing over the sons of Prince Chang's elder brother, they selected this infant, whose name was Tsaitien, and who, having only been born in August, 1871, would insure them a second long spell of Regency. He was adopted as a son to Hsieh Feng, thus ensuring to them a continuation of their functions as Dowagers, and was elevated with the ruling title of Kuang Hsu (Glorious Continuity) to the Dragon throne, the Regents further producing what purported to be a nomination of the child by the late Tung Chih as his heir.

The only step that remained to complete the success of the arrangement was the disappearance of the young widowed Empress of Tung Chih before the birth of her child could upset the plot, and Chinese opinion can have been little surprised when the early announcement of her death was made, the catastrophe being generally explained by the popular Chinese practice of suicide, though whispers were not lacking of a more sinister doom.

It will be seen from the above account that there was quite a cluster of irregularities to use no stronger term in the nomination of the reigning sovereign. But according to the Chinese ideas, the main flaw in his title consists in his belonging to the same generation as the Emperor Yung Chih, and in his consequent disqualification from performing the sacrifices that are due from a descendant to his Imperial predecessor whose legal successor therefore he cannot be.

It was this injury done to the memory of Tung Chih that formed the protest of the censor Wu-ko-tu, who committed suicide during one of the Imperial visits to the ancestral tombs in order to attract public attention to the scandal.

The second Regency lasted for fourteen years until, in 1889, the young Emperor assumed the reins of power and married his cousin Yeh-ho-na-la.

Providence has not yet favoured him with an heir, although, according to the Chinese practice, several appointments have already been made to the titular office of guardian to the Heir Apparent.

The senior of the two Regents, the Empress-Dowager of Hsein Feng, had died in 1881, but the second or mother of Tung Chih, the Empress Tzu Hsi, continued and continues to survive, and, in spite of her nominal withdrawal from public life, still wields a predominant influence in the government of the Empire.

SURGEON-GENERAL CLEGHORN, Director General of the Indian Medical Service, retires from the 15th instant.

MR. J. THOMSON, of the Madras Board of Revenue, has been appointed Additional member of the Local Legislative Council.

THE Hon'ble Mr. G. Stokes has been appointed Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras; the Hon'ble Mr. Forbes, as Revenue Secretary; Mr. Tremeneere as Secretary in the Local and Municipal, Educational and Legislative Departments.

THE latest news from Khyber is to the effect that a petty Khusrogi, malik, named Tor, on learning the decision of the Afridi *jirga* regarding the surrender of rifles by the Zakka Khel, started at once for Kabul to interview the Amir. He has been there before, but he is not a person who is likely to receive much consideration at the hands of Abdur Rahman.

THE Madras Government, which, as we recently stated, is in financial straits, has just been compelled to refuse either to give or lend any money to the Madras Municipality for plague expenditure.

It is likely that Mr. H. J. Maynard will retain the appointment of Junior Secretary to the Government of the Punjab for another year and not take over charge of the Umballa district.

THE Punjab Government has given orders for a revenue survey of the station of Simla, when the boundaries of the different estates, which are at present in a chaotic condition, will be definitely determined.

"MAZLOOM-I-DECCAN," an Urdu print published at Pondicherry, has been making libellous attacks on the British Government. As the paper circulates through the British post, an officer of the Nizam's Government is taking measures to prevent the entrance of the paper into the Nizam's Dominions. The editor was deported from Bombay some time ago for scurrilous writing, and was also sent away from Hyderabad for the same reason.

## TELEPHONES FOR A PENNY A DAY.

AMONG the contents of the new volume of the *Strand Magazine* is an article by Mr. Arthur Mee, which gives a striking description of the "News and Entertainment Telephone," the invention of a Hungarian, which is stated to be now in practical operation in Buda-Pesth, while preparations are already making for its installation in London. A very important feature is its cheapness, the charge to subscribers—so trivial is the outlay that it necessitates—being only a penny a day, or thirty shillings a year. The power of resistance of this new development of telephony is said to be enormous and we are told that it would be possible with its aid, for one man's voice to be heard by the whole five million inhabitants of London. At Buda-Pesth we are told:—

"Each subscriber has a time-table of the various items which will be telephoned during the day. Beginning as early as half-past eight in the morning, every hour is amply provided for as long as there is anything going on in the city. At half past eight the subscriber is given the substance of the principal telegrams received throughout the night, which are condensed so as to be delivered in a quarter of an hour. Only the main facts are given, such as generally satisfy the average man, thus early in the day, but, in case any of the news is sensational, the fresh telegrams are transmitted as they arrive later on. After this foreign matters comes the news of the capital, with a programme of the day's events, and at nine o'clock news of an official nature is given. A little later after a pause for breakfast follows a concise review of the principal papers, with the substance of the leading articles. This lasts half an hour, and is followed by reports on the opening of the stock and corn exchanges. The subscriber who is not interested in those matters has only to put down his receivers and wait a few minutes for the local news, the theatrical, art, or science notices, or the ecclesiastical intelligence. Next come the latest foreign, provincial and sporting information and all kinds of society and political matter. The morning having been devoted to an exhaustive study of all the papers, the afternoon is spent mainly in keeping subscribers up-to-date concerning current events which are frequently dispatched within a few minutes of the actual occurrence."

So much for news; but the most popular feature is the new telephone's connection with the theatres, concert halls, and other places of amusement of the great Hungarian capital, where, we are told, that there is not now a public building where it is not in a actual working—the process of supply being greatly facilitated by the fact that, with this apparatus it is not necessary that sound should be conveyed directly into the telephone, the transmitter having only to be within reach of the voice of singer or speaker to carry the sound far and wide along the wires. Mr. Mee states that, by special arrangement, the great concerts in Buda Pesh are sometimes listened to throughout the whole of the Empire, and even beyond its borders.

LIEUTENANT R. H. Macdonald, R. E. Lance-Naik Habib Khan, Sapper Sheikh Abdool Sammand, and Sapper Kalan Khan of No. 6 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners, have been recommended for the Albert medal of the 2nd class for their gallantry in saving the life of a sepoy of the 27th Bengal Infantry and in endeavouring to save the lives of the Native officers and men of that Corps who were overwhelmed in an avalanche near the summit of the Lowarai Pass on the 16th of May last.

## FAIRLY WELL ISN'T WELL ENOUGH.

LET us say that your wages are twenty shillings a week. You have worked hard, done your best, and feel that you have earned your money. Very good. Now imagine that when Saturday night comes your employer hems and haws, and wants to put you off with fifteen. Till he boud you would think yourself hardly treated. What are the great strikes in this country commonly about? Why, in some fashion they are about wages or hours; it comes to the same thing. Be it understood that the writer uses this fact as an illustration of another fact—that is all. What is that other fact? We will work it out of the following personal statement.

"Nearly all my life," says Mrs. Sarah Dalby, "I have been subject to attacks of biliousness, accompanied with sickness, but got on fairly well up to the early part of 1882. At this time I began to feel heavy, dull, and tired, with an all-gone, sinking sensation. My skin was sallow, and the whites of my eyes of a yellow tinge."

As everybody knows, or ought to know, the colouring matter was bile. The liver being torpid, and, therefore, failing to remove the bile from the blood, it entered the skin; and showed itself on the surface. But the discolouration isn't the worst mischief done by the vagabond bile, containing many poisonous waste elements; it disorders the whole system and sets up troublesome and dangerous symptoms, some of which the lady names.

"I had a bad taste in the mouth," she goes on to say, "and, in the morning particularly, was often very sick, retching so violently that I dreaded to see the dawn of day."

"My appetite was poor, and after eating I had pain at my chest and side. Frequently I couldn't bring myself to touch food at all; my stomach seemed to rebel at the very thought of it."

[This was bad, but the stomach was right, nevertheless. More food would have made more pain, more indigestion matter to ferment and turn sour, more of a load for the sleepy liver, more poison for the nerves, kidneys, and skin. And yet *without the food*, how was she to live? It was like being ground between the upper and the nether millstones.]

"After this," runs the letter, "I had great pain and fluttering at the heart. Sometimes I would have fits of dizziness and go off into a faint, which left me quite prostrated. Then my nerves became so upset and excitable that I got no proper sleep at night, and on account of loss of strength I was obliged to lie in bed all day for days together. I went to one doctor after another, and attended at Bartholomew's and the University Hospitals, but was none the better for it all."

"In September, 1883, my husband read in *Reynolds' New paper* about Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and got me a bottle of it. After taking it for three days I felt relieved. Encouraged and cheered by this I kept on taking the Syrup, and in a short time all the pain and distress abated, and I was well—better than I had ever been. That is ten years ago, and since then I have never ailed anything. With sincere thanks, I am, yours truly (Signed) Mrs. Sarah Dalby, 93, Tottenham Road, Kingsland, London, N., January 2nd, 1894."

Now run your eye back to the first sentence of Mrs. Dalby's letter, and you will come upon these words, "*I got on fairly well*," &c. This is the sad thought. Her life has always been at a discount; she has always got less than her due; she lost part of her health—wages. Do you take my meaning? Of course. Whatever may be our differences of opinion as to the rights of capital and the value of labour, it is certain that every human being is entitled to perfect health—without reduction, without drawback. All the more, as nobody else loses what one person thus gains. No, no. On the contrary, a perfectly healthy person is a benefit and a blessing to all who are brought into relations with him.

But do all have such health? God help us, no; very, very few. Why not? Ah, the answer is too big; I can't give it to-day. To the vast crowd who only get on "fairly well" I tender my sympathy, and advise a trial of the remedy mentioned by Mrs. Dalby.

## A FISH LIZARD.

A VERY fine specimen of the great extinct marine fish lizard (*Ichthyosaurus*) nearly 20ft. long, has been discovered in Warwickshire. The fossil is from the lower lias of that country, and the owner of the property has offered to present the specimen to the Natural History Department at South Kensington. One of the officials has been despatched to the scene of the discovery to examine the fossil and to take steps for having the slab of rock in which it rests removed to London.

STATEMENTS showing all important thefts of arms and ammunition from Ordnance establishments and Fort armaments in India during the last twenty years, have, the Lahore paper hears, been submitted to the Secretary of State. The statement of losses from Corps in India during the past fifteen years is now under preparation, and will be submitted shortly.

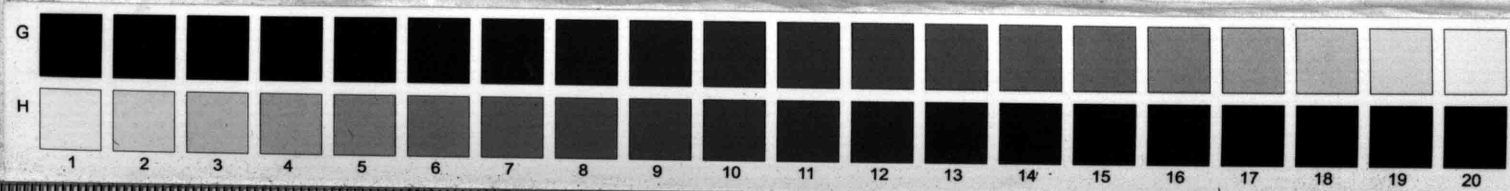
SEVERAL members of the Telegraph Department have expressed their discontent at being transferred from Burma to India. Some of the employees who came to this Province in the eighties and earlier, have married and settled in the country, knowing the language and becoming undoubtedly acclimatized. It is pointed out that very little benefit will be derived by the public service from sending these men back to India, practically to start life afresh, and sending new hands into this trying climate, especially when the former would remain.

WE take the following curious story from the *Karachi Chronicle*:—On Sunday night last we happened to be present at the Karachi City station at the starting time of the mail train, when we noticed a lot of Pathan passengers there and some police officials arranging for their departure by the train. One of the Police officials who happened to be our acquaintance, told us that the "Pathans were Hajjees who had returned from Haj and that he had come to pay their fare and see them off to their homes. This reminded us of the Resolution which the Government had passed some time back, sanctioning the payment of fares for the Hajjees. It so happened that there was a Hindu pilgrim in another compartment who had come from Gya or some other place of worship (not from Jeddah, to be sure) and curiosity led us to enquire if Government had also paid for his journey. "Not a bit of it," he said. Then why should Government pay fares for the Pathan pilgrims, most of whom, if not all, are merchants and well-to-do people?

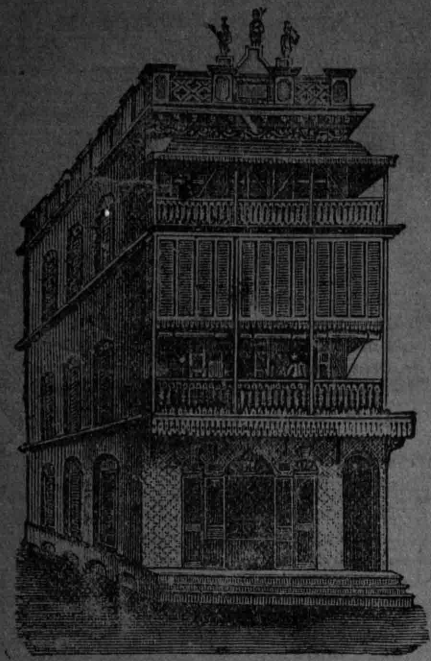
THE Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal reports 2,341,632 deaths in the year 1897 as against 2,428,830 in the previous year, and finds that in the districts where the rainfall was deficient in 1896, the death-rate during 1897 was below the average. From this premises, he argues that the lesser saturation of the soil produces less malaria, and that for this reason the year succeeding an unusually dry season is generally healthy. The Civil Surgeon of Puna, however, has a quite different theory to propound; for, he attributes the abnormally high death-rate in his district, especially from fever, in 1897 to the scanty rain-fall in 1896. It is said—who shall decide when doctors disagree? Yet our Lieutenant-Governor, in his Resolution, seeks to accommodate both when His Honour says that it is probable that the effect of short rainfall on the public health must depend, to some extent, on the character of the country and that a dry high-lying district will be differently affected from one of which a large part is covered by swamps and marshes. His Honour thinks the matter is well worth considering, and desires a fuller enquiry.

ACCORDING to the *Burdwan Sanjiban* there was an unpleasant scene in the court of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Raniganj the other day. In a case, the Magistrate recorded only a portion of a reply, given by a witness for the prosecution during his cross-examination. The prosecution pleader requested the Magistrate to record the remaining portion also. The Magistrate, however, declined, saying that that portion was, properly speaking, not a reply to the question asked. There was some discussion between the Magistrate and the pleader, in course of which the former said, "don't interrupt me, sit down" Upon this, the pleader remarked that under the circumstance it was impossible for him to do his duty towards his client and that the best course for him was to leave the court. There was some further conversation; and it is reported that the Magistrate lost his temper, and addressing the pleader, said, "if you don't leave the court, I will turn you out." At this, the pleader left the court, entrusting the case to his junior, who, however, expressed his inability to take the responsibility of conducting the case. Accordingly an application was made on behalf of the prosecution for adjournment, and this was granted. The pleader is well known and much esteemed in Burdwan, both for his professional ability and social virtues; and the *Sanjiban* thinks that in the interest of the public an inquiry ought to be made as to the circumstances which led the Magistrate to lose his temper and treat so roughly, as alleged, a distinguished member of the Burdwan bar.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made to raise a portion of the superstructure of the bridge over the Nerbudda, near Broach, so as to allow the cap on the right third girder, counting from the south, to be fitted in. It is believed that the girder had gone a little out of line, consequent upon the rubble packing having been washed out from the bottom during the floods. On hearing of the matter, Mr. Middleton, the Bridge Engineer of the B. & C. I. Railway, who had just returned to Bombay from England, went to Broach to ascertain the correctness of the report. The cap was removed and preparations made for filling-in of the girder with rubble masonry, and for otherwise strengthening it. The trains travel at present over the southern half of the bridge very slowly; and not without receiving a special signal to pass on. Until the signal is obtained they stop midway on the bridge. Hydraulic jacks have been requisitioned for raising the superstructure about a couple of inches in order to allow the cap to be refitted on top of the girder. The superstructure will then be lowered and set upon it. The railway and the Government engineers will inspect the bridge, and if satisfied allow it to be used as freely as formerly. The bridge was built at a cost of close upon one crore of rupees, and was opened to traffic on the 16th May, 1881. It consists of twenty spans of wrought-iron girders, 180 feet apiece.







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AND

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" Indian Medical Association,  
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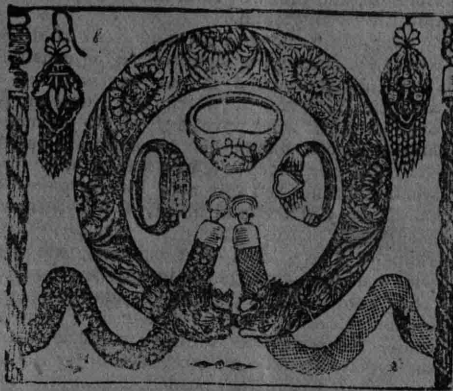
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হুত্রপতি শিবাজী ১৯০

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