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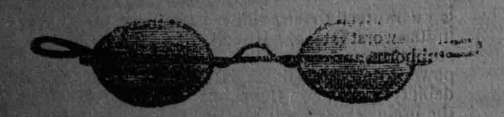


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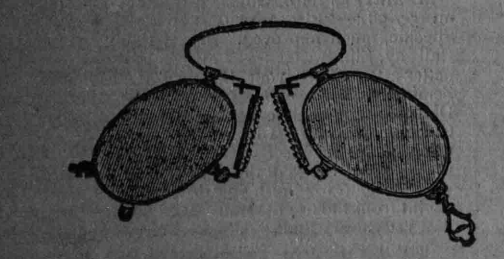


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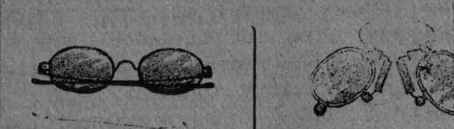


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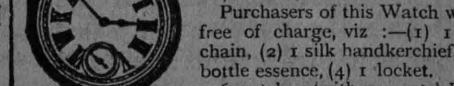
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After years of incessant toil and experiment, I have discovered a medicine which, I can confidently say with cure the patient of acidity, and its worse stage of Dyspepsia in a short time, effectively and radically. However chronic and long-standing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

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

Baru Bhobho Tosh Bannerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Dacca, writes under date the 6th March, 1898:—'Many thanks for your Acidity Pills. I was suffering from Dyspepsia and Colic pain for the last 4 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 ative herbs and hence is perfectly safe.

Babu Nilmoni Dey Assistant Settlement Officer, writes from Camp Patepur, Dt. Moraripur:—'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 Mofussil. They should find place in every tourist's bag. Please send me two boxes immediately.

Babu Sarasi Lal Saroar, 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.

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

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

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

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

P. S. I have recommended your Pills to some of my friends who are similarly suffering. The Acidity Pill is a vegetable preparation. We guarantee a cure and Rebound the Price in case of failure. Price Rupee One per box. V. P. P. charge annas 4 Do not fail to give it a trial when every other medicine patent or prescribed, has failed to give you relief. You will realise its worth by a week's use only.

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CRISIS IN CHINA.

THE Daily Telegraph's correspondent at St. Petersburg telegraphed on Saturday:—

Something like a panic was created in Government circles here by the news of Li Hung Chang's fall, for the success of the Far Eastern policy of Court Muraviev depended almost entirely on Li Hung Chang's cooperation. The moment the information reached the Foreign Office the situation was anxiously discussed, and a resolution was taken to adopt all possible measures in order to insure the return of the Russophile Chinese statesman to power. Four lengthy telegrams in cypher were sent in the course of a few hours to M. Pavloff in Peking, and he was instructed among other things to employ all diplomatic means and to put the strongest pressure upon the Chinese for the purpose of reinstating Li Hung Chang.

It is admitted here that even if the Chinese statesman should completely disappear from the political horizon, the check which Russian policy will receive in the Celestial Empire will prove merely of temporary and of secondary significance. The next really important moves which Russia can advantageously make there would in no case be carried out for a considerable time to come.

Very characteristic of the extent of Russia's influence in China is the following fact, which has just come to my knowledge. The Russo-Chinese Bank is having printed in St. Petersburg 2,000,000 bank notes, which will be put in circulation in the Celestial Empire as and in lieu of metallic coin. Of these notes 500,000 are of the value of 3 lms each, 500,000 of 10 lms each, 500,000 of 25 lms each, and 500,000 of 100 lms each. They are being, or rather have just been, executed by the Imperial Institution for the Engraving and Printing of Government Scrip here. In China these notes will be officially stamped and signed, after which they will differ in no wise from Chinese Government bank notes.

GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

The Times correspondent at St. Petersburg reported on Sept. 10. The report that an arrangement had already been arrived at between England and Russia as to their respective spheres of influence or activity in China is premature. I am informed on good authority that no such arrangement or settlement has yet been accomplished. Negotiations are proceeding and there is an intense desire on the part of both Governments to arrive at a solution that will be mutually satisfactory.

GERMAN INTERESTS IN CHINA.

The Cologne Gazette (Sept. 11) says:—'News has just reached us from Peking that the construction of the railway from Shanghai to Nanking, the contract for which German banks have for the last six months been actively endeavouring to secure, has been definitely entrusted to an English company. The construction of the Hankow-Pekin Railway was entrusted just prior to this to a Franco-Belgian syndicate. We have here not only to deplore a severe blow dealt to German industry by the loss of both those railway lines, but also—and this is of more importance—we have to lament that German prestige has thereby considerably sunk in the eyes of the Chinese.'

TRADE MARKS IN CHINA.

France, Germany, Belgium, and Holland have agreed on a reciprocal protection of trade marks in China, and the Consuls of each Power will have jurisdiction in infractions committed by any of his fellow-countrymen to the prejudice of persons of the three other nationalities.

HONG KONG, Sept. 12 (Times).—L'Avenir du Tonkin announces that difficulties in regard to the plans have arisen between the representatives of the Lille contractors and the Chinese officials delegated to assist in the construction of a railway from Ha-noi to Lung-chau-ting. Failing satisfaction, the contractors threaten to abandon the project, claiming a heavy indemnity for the work already performed and for lost time. General Soa and his suite are accused of placing obstacles in the way of the project; but, as the opinion of the Tonquin resident favours reaching Yunnan-fu by a different route, believing that the Lung-chau-ting line will act as a feeder to the Si-kiang, I suspect that the contractors would welcome the withdrawal of the scheme, especially if by placing the Chinese in the wrong they could claim an indemnity.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Pekin, Sept. 12 (Reuter).—The Marquis Ito arrived yesterday in Tien-tsin, and is expected here shortly. The visit of the Japanese Envoy is regarded by the Chinese as likely to result in an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and China. It is stated that the Marquis Ito is commissioned to make investigations unofficially, and report on the possibility of China recovering her lost ground, and her ability to become a useful ally. Undoubtedly there has been a strong bias here lately towards Japan, whose reforms the Emperor of China has been studying with the greatest attention.

An Imperial Edict orders Hu, director of the Northern Railway, to commence a branch line to the Western Hills. A short time ago the Russians attempted to obtain the contract for this line.

সর্পাঘাতের চিকিৎসা।

শুষ্ক পাঁচ আনা মাত্র। ডাকমাসুল অর্ধ আনা। এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অল্পদিনে চিকিৎসা করিলে সর্পদংশন ব্যক্ত কখনই মারবে না। ইহার চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের ভাষাও এত সরল, যে গ্রীষ্মকালের পর্য্যন্ত এই পুস্তক পাঠ করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে পারি। গ্রন্থকার ত্রিংশৎ বৎসর যাবৎ এই প্রণালী অল্পদিনে অনেক সর্পদংশন ব্যক্তকে নিজহস্তে চিকিৎসা করিয়া আশ্রয় করিয়াছেন, এবং অপরকেও গারাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।

এই সকল কারণে প্রতি গৃহে ইহার এক এক খানি পুস্তক রাখা এবং বালক বালিকাদিগকে অন্যান্য পুস্তকের সহিত ইহা পাঠ করান বিশেষ কর্তব্য।

শ্রীশোলাপাল দ্বারা। অমৃতভাজার পত্রিকা আফিস, কলিকাতা।

BISMARCK'S HEAD.

SOME accurate particulars as to the form and measurement of Prince Bismarck's head have been contributed by Herr Friedrich Kranz, the present head of the old Frankfurt firm of hat makers, Martini and Co., to the Hamburger Nachrichten. As the Bismarck family objected to a cast of his head being taken after death, the trade statistics supplied by Herr Kranz may be valuable to future biographers and physiologists. Fifty years ago, according to the first record of the Martini 'Kopfmass-machine,' Bismarck's head had a width of 59½ centimetres. During the later years of his life his head had swollen to the width of 62 centimetres. His skull was of a peculiar formation, the 'bumps' being considerably larger on the right side than on the left.

SOME FAMOUS DWARFS.

THERE are many historical records of dwarfs whose lack of inches has served to make them celebrities in their day, and side by side with their numerous appearances has existed the belief that the world contained whole nations of dwarfs in its remotest confines, not to mention the part that the little men have played in heaven according to ancient mythology.

Thus Aristotle peoples the banks of Nile with pigmies, and Pliny describes the habits of dwarfs, whilst other ancient writers place them in Thule and beyond the Ganges.

In the beliefs of our own remote ancestry, it was dwarfs who forged the armor of the gods, and did not they give Odin his spear, and Thor his hammer?

In our own times the nearest authentic approach to proof of the existence of a nation of dwarfs was, perhaps, that furnished by M. Stanley, who in his journey to the darkest Africa was much worried by the kas, who stood aft. 4 in.

There is a smaller people, the M'Kabba, who are supposed to stand about 4 ft. 6 in. high, whilst the Olyngos on the Gaboon, and the Batwas have been described as only 2 in. high.

Other existing nations under 5 ft. high are the Andaman islanders, made famous by the Conan Doyle; the Aetas, in the Philippines; the Samangs, of Malay; the Kalangs, of Java; the Lapps, the Fuegians, and the Veddas.

The figures of the little men—in a double sense—are eclipsed by those recorded of single individuals of all times.

Aniletas, the poet, who died in 280 B. C., was so small that he wore leaden shoes in order to prevent his being blown away by the wind, or according to another account carried weights in his pocket for the same purpose. With him compare Aristaratos, another poet, who was so small that Athenians say, no one could see him. Nicephonos Calistus speaks with airy definiteness of an Egyptian dwarf, not bigger than a partridge. Andromeda, one of Julia's maids, was only 4 in., over 2 ft.

Until about little more than a century ago, dwarfs were frequently kept as curiosities. Records of them might be multiplied indefinitely.

Bebe, the dwarf of Stanislaus, King of Poland, lived to be ninety years of age, in Paris in 1858, and is variously described as having measured 35 in. and 23 in. Julia, of Augustus, had two dwarfs each 28 in. high, and Henrietta Maria had two whose height was 7 ft. 2 in. The emperor Augustus had a dwarf named Lucius, whose height was 2 ft., and weight 17 lb. The last Court dwarf in England was Copperrin, who belonged to the Princess of Wales, mother of George I.

There have been distinguished dwarfs and poets. Count Borowlaski, a distinguished pole who died in England in 1837, measured 3 ft. 3 in., when he was thirty years of age. He lived to be ninety-eight, and had a brother and sister both dwarfs. Prince Colobry of Sleswig, was 25 in. high, and weighed 25 lb. Owen Farrell, who was born at Cavan, died in 1742, and was possessed of enormous strength, had the same stature as Jeffrey Hudson in 'Peveril of the Peak' viz, 3 ft. 6 in.

Sir Jeffrey Hudson, who was born at Osham, and lived from 1619 till 1678, measured 18 in. in length, according to the records; and Phillips, who was born at Bridgewater, Massachusetts, in 1791, weighed less than 2 lb., and had thighs not bigger than a man's thumb. Presumably this was at the time of his birth.

John Decker, an Englishman (1610), had a height of 2 ft. 6 in.; and Nicholas Ferry, who was a contemporary of Browlaski, was 3 in. taller. Richard Gibson, and his wife, Anne Shepherd, were neither of them 4 ft. high. Gibson was a noted portrait painter and painter of the Backstairs in the Court of Charles I., who was present at the wedding. The couple had nine children.

Famous among modern show dwarfs are Chung, who exhibited with the giant Chang and Flynn, a New Yorker, who was known as General Mite, and was 21 in. height. The Dutch dwarf, Tom Thumb, was 2 ft. 4 in.

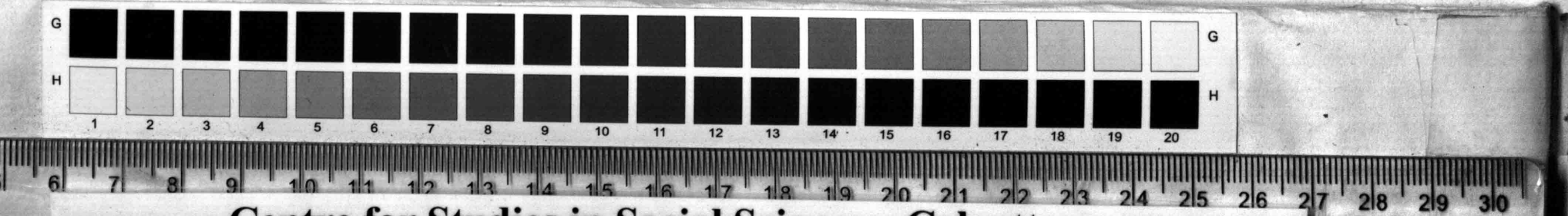
Most famous of all, however, was the group of which the American Tom Thumb was a conspicuous member, Tom Thumb's real name was C. S. Stratton, an Englishman born in 1832 at Bridgeport, Connecticut. At twenty-five he was 25 in. high and weighed 25 lb. He ultimately reached a height of 31 in., and died in 1883.

He was shown in England by Barnum in 1840 and married Lavinia Warren, who was one in. taller. In 1864 he and his wife and child, as well as another dwarf named Nutt were shown in England together.

Mr. BRUNGATE, Under-Secretary of Government of India, Financial Department, probably takes two months' leave in weather.

FEW men in this country are better or more farable known to the drug and medicine trade than Mr. E. J. Schall, buyer in the proprie medicine department of the Meyers Bros., 10, St. Louis. He says: 'My boy came home school with his hand badly lacerated and bleeding and suffering great pain. I dressed the wound with applied Cham-berlain's Pain Balm, freely, all day, and in a remarkably short time, it healed without leaving a scar. For wounds, sprains, lings and rheumatism, I know of no medicinal prescription equal to it. I consider it a household necessity.' Sold by

MITH STANLETTRETT & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO., Chemists.





THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, OCTOBER 6, 1898.

DISARMAMENT OF BACKERGUNGE.

Mr. BAYLEY, possibly an official connected with the police of Barisal, writes, justifying the disarmament of the district and contradicting some of the statements, brought forward by Rohinee Babu, opposing the measure. His letter appeared the other day in our columns. Mr. Bayley says that the depredations of wild animals and bad characters have not increased after the disarmament, as stated by Rohinee Babu. Assuming that to be so, Mr. Bayley has yet to justify the measure itself, viz. the disarmament of Barisal. The disarmament of a whole district is unknown in Bengal, in India, in Asia and in the world. Disarmament is resorted to by conquerors in the beginning of their rule, to keep down the conquered. Measures like disarmament are always violent, and resorted to by conquerors from motives of purely selfish considerations. But the present rulers of the land, if conquerors in the beginning, cannot be called so after two hundred years of glorious rule of this country. Disarmament means practically mutilation and emasculation, and can never be justified except perhaps under the most extreme circumstances; and even this we concede not very willingly.

Man is naturally weak, and Herschell has described in glowing language how nature made him, of all animals, absolutely provided by nature, of all creatures, is not defenceless. Man, with means of offence the mercy of even a cat with a weapon, is a thick skin of a rhino, that he has not the turtle, or the quills of a porcupine, to protect him; he has not the fleecy skin of a sheep, or the wings of a bird, the strong leg of a deer, or the claws of a tiger, or the strength of an elephant, to exist in peace with his fellow-man. Man, therefore, needs a weapon to defend himself. When deprived of it, he loses confidence in himself, he becomes timid, he loses eventually his manliness. Amid, and some sort of disarmament throughout here is here one cannot keep a gun without a license, and this license is not always to be had for the asking, and at the fixed price. This disability is producing naturally disastrous effects. It is taking all manliness out of the nation. But we protest with all our might against this policy of our rulers, which takes away the manliness of the Indians.

The main object of this disarmament is to prevent insurrection in the country. But the Government must provide against these insurrections in other ways than by emasculating the nation. We have a right, not only to intellectual, but also physical, growth. Let it not be thought that because the rulers have provided the people with educational institutions, their duty towards them is done. What is the good of education without good physique and without manliness? The Afghans are intellectually weak, but physically strong. That nation will never die. The Hindus, considering the manner in which they are losing their manliness, may disappear totally from the face of the earth in due course.

So the policy of disarmament itself is a piece of cruel wrong, and which, we believe, ought not to be allowed to remain for a day. But the case of Barisal is peculiar. Because there were some gun-shot murders in the district, therefore the district itself is to be punished with wholesale disarmament! This is a very easy way of governing a district,—is it not? But why should the innocent be punished along with the guilty? There are many good men in that district, and why should they be punished for the sake of a few badmashes? Why are the two millions of the innocent men of the district punished for the crimes of two hundred badmashes?

There are special reasons why the people of Backergunge (Barisal) should not be deprived of their arms. It is the largest rice-producing district in Bengal, and, at the same time, it is full of wild animals, such as the bears, buffaloes, &c., which commit such as havoc of the crops. There is a special class of people in the district, whose special class is to arm themselves with guns, and to kill these noxious beasts. Rice drive are, however, now at the absolute fields of these animals; and this means loss only to the people of this country but not whole world, for there is scarcely a big game in Europe, America or Asia where that baram rice of Backergunge is not used.

The population of Backergunge is made of the same classes as that of the neighbouring districts of Dacca, Faridpore, Jessore and Khulna. If there is crime in Barisal, due to the incompetence of the executive authorities. The establishment of a punitive force, the disarmament of the district, and so forth, are all drastic measures, which only show the incapacity of the local magnates and possibly of those who control them.

Since the above was in type, we have received a communication from Barisal traversing the facts and arguments of Mr. Bayley. It is published elsewhere. It appears from this letter that Mr. Bayley is not an official, but a non-official European in the confidence of the local authorities, a

HOW GOVERNMENT IS INCREASING ITS DIFFICULTIES.

THE Sepoy revolt caused a breach between the Anglo-Indian administrators and the Indians. The rulers here were, however, forced to adopt the generous policy, inaugurated in the Imperial country, where it was decided that conciliation and not repression ought to be the basis of British rule in India. A second revulsion of feeling was created against the Indians, when the National Congress threatened to be a power. This led to a combination of officials and non-officials, nay, Eurasians and Mussalmans, to put down the national movement.

The result of this combination proved disastrous to the Hindus in every way. This disaster reached its acme when low-class Mussalmans were encouraged to slaughter cows and pick a quarrel with their fellow-countrymen. It was this policy which begat the cry that the Mussalmans had not a fair share of the public services. At first, this cry was confined to a certain class of officials; but at last, it was adopted by the Government.

Later on, it was unblushingly announced in the Government Gazette that for District Police Superintendentships, "none need apply who was not a European." How was this announcement reconciled with that portion of the Queen's Proclamation which provided equal treatment to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, without distinction of creed, colour and race, in the matter of public appointments? Well, this portion of the Proclamation was openly trampled under foot. At a moment of generosity, the State scholarships were granted, and the next year they were withdrawn because a few Bengalee scholarship-holders succeeded in passing the Civil Service Examination!

But what is the good of detailing, step by step, the new attitude taken by the administrators here? One of the results of this policy was the importation of a large number of Europeans in this country. The policy now is, at least in certain quarters, never to appoint an Indian where a European is procurable for the same pay. We now see Europeans everywhere,—in the Police, Postal, Railway and other departments,—young beardless European youths, vested with large powers, doing responsible duties! Some of them are so young that it is a pity to make them do serious work, instead of flying kites.

Now we do not envy the lot of these Europeans on poor pay; but we say this that this importation of European youths to do duties which the Indians were doing before, or could do, and for duties which should be done by ordinary men on small salaries, is a mistake and a wrong all round. It is a wrong to the Indians; it is a wrong to the Europeans; and it is a wrong to the administrators.

The reason why Europeans are preferred by the certain administrators, is very clear. We think that it is an advantage to be able to provide for a countryman, police also possibly thought an act of good policy to import a large number of Europeans in this country. Possibly it is thought that these Europeans would form themselves into volunteer corps and defend the Empire in times of danger!

Well, take the second proposition first. Did the Europeans,—non-officials and those doing civil work,—prove a source of strength or weakness in those days when the Government found itself threatened with destruction by its rebellious Sepoys? In those days, these European settlers, located all over the country, took away a good deal of the energies and resources of the Government to protect them. To cope with the Sepoys alone, was an easy matter with the Government. But the Government had to protect the European residents, and it was this duty alone that rendered the Government helpless and weak. Any increase in the number of European settlers in the country will only increase the weakness of the Government. The Government will have to provide for their protection, scattered as they are over all parts of this vast country in the midst of a vast alien population.

On the other hand, the Government will have to provide protection for the people from the violence of many of the European settlers. A European settler with the knowledge that he is a European, is likely to treat the Indians with contempt; and the result may be frequent frictions between the two races. These frictions are not only possible, but have already become frequent. In such cases the Government has to protect the Europeans from the ire of a lakh of Indians, and protect the Indians from the guns of the Europeans. We do not think that these importations of Europeans in India are in any way increasing the strength of the Government; on the other hand, they are weakening its prestige and power.

Those who think that it is an advantage to provide for a countryman, should remember that all these Europeans, provided with the lower appointments, are but half-starved men. A couple of hundreds of rupees is enough for an Indian gentleman; for, he does not drink liquor, and he lives upon simple food. But the sum is quite inadequate for a European to keep his body and soul together. Europeans with small salaries either starve themselves or take to drink to drown their sorrows, or they do something worse. They do not maintain certainly the prestige of the race from which they have sprung, nor do they find life happy here, though they are provided with an appointment. They are tempted to come; and when they have an

experience of Indian life, they curse their fates.

The English have a vast Empire, and they can provide for almost every Englishman if they like. But then, if they provide for all their countrymen and banish them from their native country, who will till their land at home? Who will cook their food? Who will serve their mills, navy and army? Continental and American manufactures are day by day gaining an ascendancy in markets where the British held the supreme place before. One reason for this is that in England operatives and workmen are getting scarce and dear. And why will men in England serve as operatives, when the prospect is held out to them of a Government employment in India? Instead of killing himself in this uncongenial climate for a couple of hundred rupees a month, would it not be better for a Britisher to serve on a lesser pay and remain at home in the midst of his friends and dear surroundings?

As for the Government, it is day by day making itself helpless by these importations of Europeans in India. The lesser the number of Europeans in India, the greater its power and prestige. The greater the number of such people, the lesser the power and prestige of the Government, &c.

Of course, the Pioneer may exclaim that unless the Europeans were imported, his paper would not sell. But we are now dealing with the lower classes of Europeans who do not purchase the Pioneer, and who are day by day flooding the country,—many of them only boys.

The Government cannot reopen the mints; for, that means that it will have to increase taxation to the amount of ten crores. This means that the closing of the mints has imposed an indirect taxation of ten crores upon the people,—is it not? But why talk of taxation at all? Why not find the means by retrenchment? Retrenchment does not, however, meet with the approval of the Government; for, if it had, it would have sought to secure a cheap agency for the administration of the country, and not supplanted cheap Indian labour by European.

THE CENTRAL PROVINCES TENANCY BILL.

We think that no apology is needed if we take up for discussion the contents of the Central Provinces Tenancy Bill, which is to become law a few days hence. The Bill is not a mere amending legislation, but introduces new ideas and new principles which the Province has not known or understood. Indeed, the measure seems to us of a far-reaching and revolutionary character, affecting, as it does, interests, vast, ancient and vital. In some cases, it modifies and even destroys ancient rights; while, in others it creates new ones. Now a measure of such magnitude and importance ought not, we think, to be passed into law in the heights of distant Simla where the public opinion of the plains makes itself but little felt. It is true that the able representative of the Central Provinces in the Council has done his best to expose the objectionable features of the Bill; but there has been little or no discussion on its provisions outside the Council Chamber. The Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis urged the Council most earnestly to postpone the debate on the Bill till the first meeting of the Council in Calcutta. To us, this appeared to have been a very fair proposal, as, in that case, the public would have had at last 3 months to read and digest the new provisions introduced by the Select Committee, and to offer their criticisms thereon.

We confess, we have not been able to give as much time and thought to the consideration of this measure as we should have liked; but the reader will not have to proceed far before he discovers that this radical legislative measure has been taken in hand on the supposition that the ryot in the Central Provinces is being "rack-rented", and the average Malguzar or Zemindar there is so fond of money or is habitually so cruel as to deserve being styled avaricious and hard-hearted. In other words, the one object of the Bill is to protect the tenant against the presumed exactions of the landlord. We have the authority of the Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis and the Commissioners of Jubulpore, Nagpore, Nerbada and Chattisgarh to state that there is not the least foundation for these charges against the landlord. Nay, as Mr. Chitnavis puts it in his minute of dissent, "in the Central Provinces, the Malguzars, generally speaking, have been very fair in their dealings with tenants", and, as if to support the mere ipse dixit of one who may be called an interested party, he quotes an observation of Sir Alexander Mackenzie who in 1888-89 observed that "except in a few well-marked tracts there has been very little general enhancement of rent since settlement, and that what increase had taken place was due, for the most part, to extension of cultivation and not to rent enhancement."

In view of these indubitable facts, it seems to us that the cry against the usurping landlord in the Central Provinces is an exaggerated one, and that the present legislation is quite uncalled-for. If the tenants, for whose benefit the Bill is intended, had complained of any grievance, or if the judicial court had pointed out some defect or other in the existing law working seriously, we could have said that there was some plea for altering the present law. But to the best of our knowledge, no such complaint has been made. Why then this quixotic chivalry? Why move heaven and

earth to rescue the tenant from an evil which is only conspicuous by its absence? Why then, we ask, meddle and muddle? The present law has been in force for 15 years. Those of the people who can read and write, and practitioners of law are familiar with it as it stands; judicial decisions have filtered clear what is obscure; it is but exchanging old lamps for new, in our opinion, to throw aside all the benefits of experience, for the object of legislating for an idea, viz. that the tenant is imbecile and stupid, and that he is being swindled out of his rights by the landlord.

And how, think you, the Government proposes to rescue the helpless and imbecile tenant from the clutches of the absorbing landlord? By making the Revenue Officer the final arbiter in all cases of dispute between the tenant and his landlord! The interference of the Revenue Officer has, therefore, been called in to determine the amount of rent—both to enhance it and to reduce it,—to commute rent in kind to money rent, in fact, to mediate in all manner of disputes between the Malguzars and their tenants, and also to mediate between them even when there is no dispute whatever. What is most astonishing is that there is no provision in the Bill, limiting or regulating the exercise of such large discretionary power.

It will not be disputed that Revenue Officers, generally speaking, do not possess any close acquaintance with the civil laws. The provisions of the civil courts are but rarely followed in the proceedings before them. Moreover, unlike the judicial officers, they delegate, not uncommonly, their functions to subordinates of the lowest grade, who, we all know, are, in many cases, innocent of everything that goes to make up an efficient Revenue Officer. That being so, it goes without saying that chances of failure or miscarriage of justice have been more increased than ever by the Bill under review.

Then again, the expenses incurred in connection with summary suits before Revenue Courts, are certainly not less than the costs incurred in a civil court. In view of all this, it is difficult to see the wisdom of the Legislature in investing Revenue Officers with large discretionary powers.

The provision, we think, will entail great hardship on the Malguzars who will have to dance attendance, either in person or through their agents, almost for every transaction connected with the management of their estates, upon the Revenue Officials of the district. It seems to us that the ryots, for whose protection the Bill has been taken in hand, get no extraordinary privilege either from a provision of this character, unless it be a privilege for them to have to go to the Revenue Officer's head quarters which may be miles away from their homes, to complain against their hereditary patron and landlord. Indeed, the tenour of all the sections, which invest Revenue Officers with large discretionary powers, is to reduce the landlord's status almost to the zero point, because, as we have already pointed out, the sponsors of the Bill seem to think that the tenant is no match for him and that unless the Revenue Officer steps in, he (the tenant) would be humbugged and cajoled into many a contract which would complete his ruin. The suspicion underlying such proposals regarding the conduct of the Malguzars, seems to us as unjust as it is unfounded. At least, the so-called friends of the ryots have not been able to prove it by unimpeachable evidence. And unless the Council is in possession of strong evidence to question the fairness of Malguzars in dealing with their tenants, there, we think, can be no justification for legislation on lines which place the Malguzars completely under the thumb of Revenue Officers. Further, it is neither safe nor politic to compel men to go to law in cases where a private compromise saves time, money and worry to all.

We shall resume the subject in a future issue, and show how the measure will cause immense mischief, if passed into law.

We said the other day that the position of Abhedananda is less blameworthy than that of the missionaries here. Why do the missionaries come to India at public expense at all when they have so much to do at home? But Abhedananda goes to America at his own expense or at the expense of his friends, and there he presents himself as a teacher. If he succeeds in pleasing the Americans, he gets his bread; if not, he has to starve. Don't you see there cannot be any reasonable objection to such an enterprise? The Americans are a shrewd people, and a pure humbug has no great chance in that country. Possibly, therefore, Abhedananda does give something substantial to the Americans for the bread that he gets from them in return. There is no doubt of it that both Vivekananda and Abhedananda have done a piece of good service by going to America and making themselves heard. They have shown that the Indians have a work in the West—the same work which their forefathers had performed in days of yore. The degenerate Indians must bear in mind that their forefathers carried civilization to the remotest corners of the known globe,—indeed, as far as China and Japan. Latterly Hindu established a colony in Armenia, which was annihilated by the Christians, who had the like the Mussalmans, taken up arms to spread the faith by the sword. And it was only four hundred years ago that the followers of Lord Gauranga spread themselves all over India and beyond it, to teach the religion of bhakti and love. Vivekananda

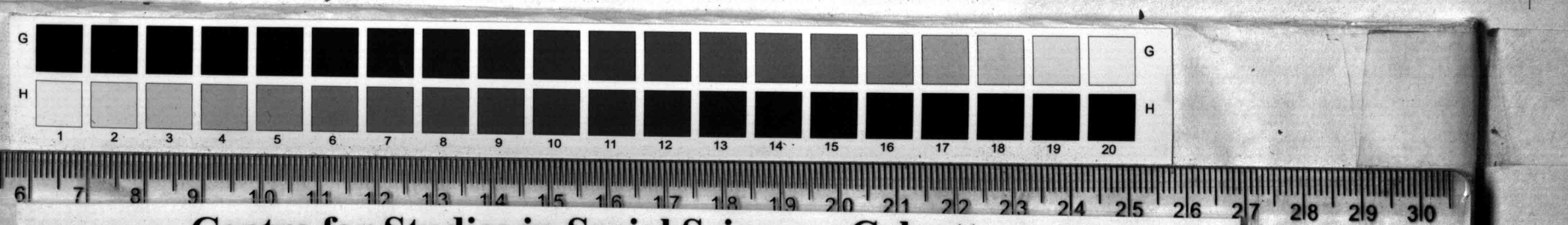
and Abhedananda are only showing the instincts of the nation from which they have sprung, by proceeding to America to preach. But Abhedananda and Vivekananda can do no substantial good. They are now presenting principles; but not principles, even when accepted, will cause the re-birth of a man. The way to cause re-birth, is to present a Personality, the Western nations, as the Christians, are doing now in presenting Jesus Christ to the Indians. Indeed, it was a living mission which the Indians had sent under the flag of a Person in Buddha, and penetrated Japan. It would be in the same manner a living mission if the Indians were now to send missions to the West, under the flag of Lord Gauranga.

The Mysore Government has accomplished what was hitherto considered an impossible task. They have succeeded in inducing the Mysoreans to cheerfully submit to the plague regulations, introduced in that State. This is what the Bangalore correspondent of the Pioneer telegraphs in that paper:—

The Mysore durbar authorities have achieved in a quiet way what has been found nearly impossible in other plague-affected places in India. Within a month of the detection of the first case of plague, the authorities have succeeded in inducing plague patients and contacts, belonging to such conservative classes as Brahmins and Lingayets, to move out into the general plague hospital and the contact camp, and it is surprising to learn that one of the persons in the general camp is a well-to-do Satri, occupying a high position in native society, and another is a Puranic Achari, belonging to the priestly class. Similarly among Lingayets a priest and his belongings have been segregated without much fuss or complaint. The State authorities, from an early stage of the outbreak of the epidemic, did not consider adequate such measures as those of house segregation and caste hospitals in the heart of the city, and trusted more to health camps in the open ground and to inoculation as preventives of plague. In the beginning there was positive repugnance and hostility on the part of the people to the Government health camp; but through the patient and well-directed working of the Plague Commissioner, this unwillingness has been overcome; and not only has a large health camp at Mayhalli been occupied by families from the infected locality, but applications are pouring in from representatives of the different communities for sites and for health camps of their own on the high-lying maidans around Bangalore. The durbar having anticipated demands of this kind, has provided a large staff of upper and lower subordinates, all working under the Sanitary Engineer, mainly for the purpose of marking out sites for the well-to-do classes and building sheds for the lower classes. The engineering staff is engaged in two new extensions of the city and in opening up the congested parts and providing good drainage. The people have taken very kindly to inoculation; and the demand is so great that the supply of serum has already run short. Repeated urgent appeals are being made to Dr. Haffkine; but it is feared that the professor will not be able to supply a fourth of the quantity the city requires. This popularity of inoculation is doubtless due entirely to the example and labours of the durbar officials, as under neither the rules or orders, hitherto issued, has inoculation had any special privileges attached to it. The present camps on the Magadi road are to be enlarged to meet the growing requirements of the situation.

In British India, the plague measures have invariably been followed by disastrous results. These very measures have been, however, introduced into Mysore without causing a ripple of disturbance! This proves that the people of British India are not unreasonable; it is the rulers who do not know how to manage them. They are foreigners here, and it should be their duty to obliterate all traces of distinction that mark them out from the children of the soil. In this way, they should make the latter feel an awaness for British rule, which the subjects of the Native States do for their own Government. In short, in governing British India, the rulers should be always guided by a policy of trust, conciliation, sympathy and justice. To the misfortune of both the ruled and the rulers, not only is there one law for the rulers and another for the ruled in several matters, and not only is the administration of justice carried on differently when the two races are concerned, which emphasises race distinction, but many of the authorities try their best to remind the people constantly by their action that they are a conquered and inferior race, and, therefore, do not deserve that treatment to which an Englishman is entitled. By this, the gulf between them has been widened; and each looks upon the other with suspicion, and there is a want of sympathy between the two. The people howled under the unsympathetic way in which they were subjected to the operation of the plague rules; but the more they howled, the greater was the stringency with which the regulations were enforced. At last, the impression was created upon the masses of the people that the object of the Government was not pure, and that the best thing they could do was to resist its authority! We are quite willing to concede that the subjects of the Native States are not governed under enlightened principles; but there is no doubt of it, they are more contented than their confederates in British India. The great problem before the British nation is, how to render the people of India happy under its rule. They can easily solve the question if they study the manner in which the subjects of the Native States are treated by their rulers.

We desire to call the attention of the Government of India to some cases of jobbery which we are told, have





allowed to be perpetrated in the office of the Accountant-General, Bengal. Under the rules, apprentices should not ordinarily be admitted into the office without passing an examination in certain specified subjects. The passed apprentices are given small allowances varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 15 a month; and when duly qualified, they are appointed to the lowest grade of clerks on a monthly salary of Rs. 30. As a rule, it takes an apprentice three or four years to get a *pu ka* appointment in the lowest grade. We understand that four European or Eurasian boys have been brought from outside, and without any examination or apprenticeship, admitted into the office and given appointments, carrying a salary of Rs. 40-55 per mensem. Thus not only have the standing rules of the office been violated, but a great injustice has been done to many senior and better-qualified clerks and apprentices. We are also assured that Mr. Rebero, another European or Eurasian clerk, has been unjustly promoted over the heads of many a deserving senior man. We cannot say for certain who is responsible for this disobedience of the rules; but the general impression is that somebody has taken advantage of the goodness of the present Officiating Accountant-General, who is new to the post, to pitchfork these outsiders into the office. Be that as it may, the Government should enquire into the matter and remove the alleged wrong. The clerks in the various offices are worked so hard and paid so inadequately that prompt notice whenever any piece of injustice is drawn to its attention, and protect them against it. We are further informed that Mr. C. W. Sanford, who succeeded the late Rai Hurrish Chandra Mitra Bahadur in the post of Chief Superintendent, now practically rules the office. This is all right; but Mr. T. Michael, the Officiating Accountant-General, has his duty also; and it is to control the Chief Superintendent who is subordinate to him. If this were done, we are assured, there would be then very little cause for complaint.

The proceedings of the Puri Municipality in the monkey-killing matter, are published elsewhere. It will be seen that the crusade against the monkeys began after the 14th of April, 1897. What is most strange is that this un-Hindu step was taken on the report of a Brahmo, Babu Troylakho Nath Chackrabarty, Head Master of the Puri Government School and a Municipal Commissioner, and on the note of the Conservancy Inspector, who is a Eurasian! It was given out by one of the monkey-killing Commissioners that action was taken on a petition of some 100 rate-payers; but the proceedings show no trace of it. On the other hand, we see that, at the meeting of the 29th August last, a petition, with 422 signatures, was submitted against the slaughter of the monkeys; while another, with some 80 signatures, was sent long ago for the same purpose. As Puri is visited by the Hindus of all places, the opinions of the Pundits throughout India should be collected on the subject. Shastric texts in a matter like this, however, go for nothing. Usage and custom are superior to these texts. The belief is ingrained in the mind of every Hindu that it is a great sin to kill baboons or monkeys. That being the case, it is an outrage upon the feelings of the Hindus, even if some Shastric texts could be cited in favour of the destruction of the monkey race. A telegraphic summary of the proceedings of the meeting held on the 29th September last, has already appeared in these columns. We think, it is time for the Lieutenant-Governor to interfere, and nip the rising scandal in the bud.

ELSEWHERE is reproduced an article on the currency question from the *Statist* over the signature of Mr. T. Lloyd. The writer has put the subject as clearly as possible. The Indians are by this time fully aware of the serious nature of the measure. They must lose no time in representing their case to the Currency Commission through memorials, largely signed.

WHEN it was announced in some Bombay papers that Mrs. Leaster, who had murdered her husband in a most brutal manner, was to be released, the news was considered so scandalous as to lead the *Pioneer* to hasten to say that there was no foundation for the rumour. We now learn that Mrs. Leaster is actually going to be sent home shortly by one of the transports. It is husbands who murder their wives. That is the custom all over the world. When there is a departure from this rule, and a wife takes the life of her husband, even under grave provocation, it creates universal disgust. But the case of Mrs. Leaster is altogether unique in the annals of crime. It is quite true that she and Mr. Lister often quarrelled; but the latter had not the slightest notion, even a minute before the murder, that his murderess was so close to him. Indeed, Mrs. Lister shot him from behind while he was undressing himself to go to his bed, and then coolly watched her unfortunate victim, who struggled for a short time and then died. Such conduct in a woman, unless she is a monster, is inconceivable. She was, however, not hanged, neither was she transported for life, but given only, we believe, seven years' imprisonment. She has not been permitted to serve out even the full term of her incarceration, and she is about to be set free and sent home at the cost of the tax-payers.

ment. We are, therefore, glad that Mrs. Leaster was not hanged, a she-wolf though she was. We are also glad that she is going to be released and sent home; for, possibly she may yet repent and make her peace with God before she pays her debt to nature. What, however, we object to is, that a different treatment should be accorded to criminals of Indian nationality. Why should death-sentences be passed so glibly upon Indian murderers, when they under provocation are led to commit the crime? Was ever an Indian, convicted of murder under far more favourable circumstances than those surrounding the case of Mrs. Leaster, given seven or ten years? As a rule, he is hanged; if there is very grave provocation, he is occasionally transported. As for his release, after having served out a portion of his term, it is out of the question. This severity serves no useful purpose whatever. It deadens the fine feelings of those who administer justice.—feelings which mark out a man from a beast and which were bestowed upon human beings to cultivate and not to destroy them, so as to enable them to make onward progress towards God. It also creates abhorrence for the administration of justice as carried on in this country. Of all nations the Indians are the gentlest and the least criminal. Of all people, the Indian criminals deserve the most lenient treatment.

If the enforcement of the plague measures was followed everywhere by disastrous results, the people were not to blame for it. Here is the testimony of one, who is not noted for his pro-Indian sympathy, to prove the same thing. This is what Mr. Tremearne, editor of *Capital*, said to the shareholders of the Howrah Jute Mill:—

The Government have shown an utter absence of knowledge of, and sympathy with, the manners and habits of the people. They have tinkered with the currency, and with the same unhappy result. This is not governing; this is playing at government; and it is making the game as offensive as possible for those who, under these circumstances, have the misfortune to be governed. The people of India are a patient, long-suffering nation, docile, and obedient; but they are very tenacious of their long-established customs, and will resent, to the utmost of their strength, any interference with them. I am quite satisfied that the Government of India were only actuated by the very best intentions, and that the rules which they promulgated they thought would be for the public good; but it cannot be in any way for that good that the minds of the people should be stirred up and their worst passions inflamed, as was the case when these rules were promulgated.

Of course, the educated Indians did not for a moment doubt the good intentions of the Government. In Calcutta, when the plague policy was announced by Sir John Woodburn, it was hailed with so much delight that a public meeting was immediately held at Sovabazar, presided over by Rajah Binoy Krishna Bahadur, to give expression to it and thank His Honour. The full text of the Rajah's speech was at the time published in newspapers; and the sentiments that he expressed, were those of the entire educated community in the country. The illiterate masses, however, horribly misinterpreted the motives of the Government, and committed acts of lawlessness. And why? Because of the unsympathetic treatment accorded to their brethren in other parts of India. If they could read newspapers they might have known that, though in the beginning the Bombay Government committed blunders which subjected people to great distress, the rules were afterwards relaxed, and that the authorities were not at all disposed to again introduce the Bombay method anywhere in India. But it is through messengers that information is brought to them. They were informed of the hardships of the Bombay people; but there was none to tell them that the Bengal Government would not put them to the same treatment. Or, if the educated classes attempted to disabuse them of the wrong impression, they were only taken for *khair-khans* and heard with incredulity. Thus the masses were overtaken by panic and distrust, and they openly declared that the object of the Government was to kill them by inoculation and dragging them into hospitals! The plague scare has taught the authorities a lesson which we hope, they will never forget. Treat the people with some little kindness, and they will be your slaves; trample under foot the customs and usages held sacred by them, and they will rise to resist the authorities, even at the risk of losing their own lives.

"A MYSORIAN" asks us, "what has become of the proposed memorial of the late good Maharajah of Mysore at Kalighat?" On enquiry we gather the following facts in this connection. The custom in Mysore has always been to erect a memorial at the place where the corpse of a member of the royal family is cremated. The cremation of the late Maharajah, it is known, took place at Kalighat; and it was determined by the Mysore Government, in accordance with the prevailing custom of the Raj, to build a temple at that place. But although it is now four long years since the Maharajah died, no active steps, it seems, have been taken to give effect to this resolution. An officer of the Mysore Government, we believe, was deputed to Calcutta last year to confer with the authorities here on the subject, but he had to leave the city without having accomplished his object. The matter has made no progress since then; and

somehow or other, it is being neglected. It is a significant fact that, while nothing has been done regarding the memorial in question, the Tipperah and other memorials, taken up long after the demise of the Maharajah of Mysore, were completed many months ago. Now, who is to be held responsible for this delay, we know not. We think, if the Mysore Government had shown some energy and promptitude, the authorities in Bengal would have gladly given the project all possible attention, and the memorial would have been an accomplished fact by this time.

TIME is flying fast, and the Committee, appointed in connection with the Municipal Bill, should commence work at once, if they have not done it already. As we pointed out the other day, funds are needed to carry on the agitation in a systematic and sustained manner. We hear, already some big sums have been subscribed; but every ward should do its duty. The Plague Vigilance Committees might be utilized for the purpose of collecting subscriptions and signatures. The presidents and secretaries of these organizations gave ample evidence of their power for work. But a greater calamity than plague threatens the city; they should, therefore, work with still greater zeal and energy in averting it. The Vigilance Committees raised large amounts of money for maintaining caste and ward hospitals. After meeting hospital expenses if any balance is left, it may be made over to the Municipal Bill Committee for the purposes of agitation. No rate-payer, we believe, will object to this arrangement. The Government is labouring under some erroneous impressions, and the first duty of the Agitation Committee is to remove them at once. A gentleman was telling us yesterday that a big official in the course of a conversation told him that some Indian leaders of good position had assured one of the Secretaries to the Bengal Government that the present Bill was wanted by all men of property. Our informant asked the official to give him a list of these "leaders" of Indian society, and was, of course, not furnished with it. Sir Alexander Mackenzie also said the same thing in one of his speeches; and when we requested him to name these men, he did not accept the challenge. Of course, there are some *Bhownguggars* in our community as they are everywhere in the world. One such *Bhownguggari* is a man who styles himself "Ultra Conservative," and has vomited a letter in the columns of the *Pioneer*, denouncing the Congress, the Vakeels and all that is dear to his country, and supporting the Calcutta Municipal Bill which has caused so much popular indignation. But surely, Government is too honourable and high-minded to attach any importance to the utterances of men of this stamp, who are held in utter contempt in every clime and in every age. The Municipal Bill Agitation Committee should, however, prove to the Government by bringing incontrovertible evidence, that there is not one independent and respectable man in the town who supports the Bill, and those who tell the authorities that they are in favour of the measure, do so to serve their own selfish ends and are nobodies in the country, though they may be possessors of wealth and title. By the way, the *Pioneer* is conducted by an Englishman. How is it that he could soil his paper by publishing such an abominable communication as the one signed by "Ultra Conservative"? He ought to have told the writer that English instincts forbid that such despicable creatures as foul their own nests should be encouraged. This sneaking coward does not dare to appear in his own name, nor does he dare address a paper conducted by his own countrymen. If he is a gentleman, let him come forward with his name in print. He knows very well that if his name was made known, his countrymen would shun him as a leper. This very fact of his running to the *Pioneer* with a *nom de plume* shows that he has an unholty cause to support. The letter is written in the name and interests of the B. I. Association by one of its deadliest foes.

MR. J. N. TATA'S gift of thirty lakhs of rupees, or rather a landed property fetching an annual income of nearly Rs. 1,25,000, for the purpose of maintaining an institution for post-graduate studies, is an event which ought to be published in golden letters by every newspaper in India. Such princely munificence has never been heard of in this country. Instances may be found in America or England, of people endowing educational institutions with large sums of money; but, it is very doubtful if there were even half-a-dozen men in those countries who had shown magnanimity like that of Mr. Tata. The endowment of Mr. Tata, however, transcends its kind when it is remembered that India is a very poor country; and that while there are thousands in America and England who can easily spend thirty lakhs, there are scarcely dozens here who are rich enough to part with even one-third of that amount without difficulty. From this point of view, there is no parallel to the grandeur of Mr. Tata's charitable act. It is impossible for the nation to discharge the debt of obligation under which they have been laid by Mr. Tata. Even if they were to vote a golden statue for him, it would be nothing, compared with the welfare which he seeks to confer on them by his donation. It is God alone who can give him proper reward for his noble work, not here, but in a better world; it is not in the power of human beings to

do it. Such deeds as those of Mr. Tata prove conclusively the existence of a Heaven, for, it is not in this earth of empty bubbles but in a celestial region where all is bliss, that they can be rated at their proper worth and their authors adequately recompensed. What a pity that others, blessed by God with immense wealth, are not moved by the same divine feeling to follow the example of Mr. Tata, and use it for the benefit of their fellows! In this way, a dozen Indian Zemindars and millionaires may remove half the misery of the country, and store up endless happiness for themselves in another world, where all of us must go sooner or later. It is not for us to advise Mr. Tata how best his money could be utilized. He himself is a highly educated and shrewd man of business. He has also appointed a Committee to help him in the matter. It, therefore, goes without saying that every pice of his munificent donation will be advantageously expended. The details of his scheme, as published in the *Times of India*, and re-produced in another column, do not give a thoroughly clear idea of the subject. Apparently no plan has yet been matured. What we beg to suggest is that technical education of a practical nature is a great desideratum in the country, and this demands first consideration. There are other matters, which are equally important; for instance, the establishment of laboratories to enable men like Professors Jogodish Chander Bose, Profulla Chander Roy and others to carry on their scientific and chemical investigations. Now that the nucleus of the institution has been founded by Mr. Tata, we hope, other millionaires will come forward with offers of princely donations and establish it on a footing of permanent efficiency.

WE have received a copy of a petition, addressed to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by the inhabitants of a large number of villages within the jurisdiction of thanas Jamalpur and Rayna in the district of Burdwan, praying for the re-erection of the embankment of the Damodar between Berogram and Sadipur, which was removed by the orders of Sir Charles Eliott about six or seven years ago. These embankments had been in existence since the wahomedan rule, and the people on both sides of the Damodar were safe from inundation. The memorialists say that it was under the orders of Sir Charles Eliott that these bunds were removed as an experimental measure; and since then, they had two heavy floods, causing immense loss of life and property, as described by a correspondent in another column. Sir Charles, however, promised to re-erect the bund at Government cost, if his experiment proved a failure. The memorialists now pray that the removal of the embankments has proved a "sad mistake." Government may re-erect the embankments and thus save about five hundred villages from these periodical visitations. Elsewhere we publish a letter from "a sufferer," describing the destructive character of the recent flood.

LORD SANDHURST left Bombay on Monday and arrives in Simla on Thursday afternoon, remaining there until the following Thursday.

REPORTS from the Far East received fully describe a deliberate and careful planned attempt which has been made upon the life of the Emperor of Corea and the princely members of his suit residing in the Royal Palace at Seoul. The coffee of the Royal Party was dosed with arsenic and the condition of some of the victims is considered very critical. Numerous arrests have been made inside and outside the palace. The Emperor is now guarded by a posse of thirty European policemen.

ONE Adam Saheb suspected the fidelity of his wife. One morning, on his return from the field, he discovered his wife in the company of Bandagai Saheb, the man with whom her wife was suspected to be in criminal intimacy. Maddened at the sight, he struck the man several times with his hatchet, resulting in the death of Bandagai. The accused was put on his trial in due course, convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, and sentenced to eight years' rigorous imprisonment by the Sessions Judge of Krishna. On appeal to the High Court, the Hon'ble Judges considered that the man acted under great provocation and reduced the sentence to one of one year's rigorous imprisonment. It is a wonder that such a simple fact did not occur to the Sessions Judge, while passing the sentence upon the accused.

FURTHER information regarding the outrage near Jandola is as follows:—A party of five Bhattanni Levies, two Bhattanni dak-runners, and two Mahsud Levies, while proceeding to Jandola from Sarwaki on the 29th September, were attacked by Mahsud raiders, said to be about fifteen in number, inside the Shahur Targi, below Haidar Kach. One Bhattanni Levy was shot dead, and another was wounded, and also a dak-runner. The Mahsuds took away one snider and one muzzle-loading gun. A cavalry escort which was passing up to Haidar Kach, reached the spot almost immediately, but were fired at by the raiders, and found themselves unable to return the fire. It retired, and informed the Officer Commanding Jandola. That officer with a pursuit party searched the country up to Haidar Kach, but could find no trace of the raiders.

FURTHER particulars have come to light regarding the case of Mrs. Powell who stands charged with poisoning her husband. It would appear that her husband, an employe of the E. I. Railway at Tundla, died from what appeared to be bowel complaint, and was interred in due course. A suspicion as to the cause of his death was aroused by Mrs. Powell's certain movements. An enquiry followed, which elicited the fact that the deceased had received very bad treatment at her hands during his illness and that the woman was alleged to be in a criminal intrigue with the family cook. Under orders of the District Magistrate, the body of the deceased was exhumed for medical examination. Chemical analysis detected large quantities of arsenic in the viscera. This discovery was followed by the issue of warrants, and the woman and the cook were arrested at Dinapur. The case comes off for hearing before the Joint Magistrate of Agra on the 12th instant. Sensational developments are expected.

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OBITUARY.—A correspondent from Arrah writes to say that the well-known Pundit Ambika Dutt Vyas died on the 25th ultimo at an age of forty. The deceased was held in great veneration in Behar as a profound Sanskrit scholar and brilliant Hindu religion preacher.

SERAMPUR DACOITY CASE.—The evidence adduced at the preliminary trial of the mistress of the case goes to show that the dacoits as soon as the house was killed recognised one of them. The she said that she recalled when the dacoits were murdered was committed with their party, leaving the house.

TIGER AT BARISAL.—The local paper complains that since the disarming of the whole district, tigers have appeared in many places and have attacked defenceless people. About a week ago, in a village called, He About a week within the jurisdiction of Medinipur thana, a tiger appeared and killed two persons (namely, a woman and a child). Another tiger was shot in a village called Aicha; but it was shot by Mr. M. Hossein, barrister-at-law, the Zemindar of Shaistabad.

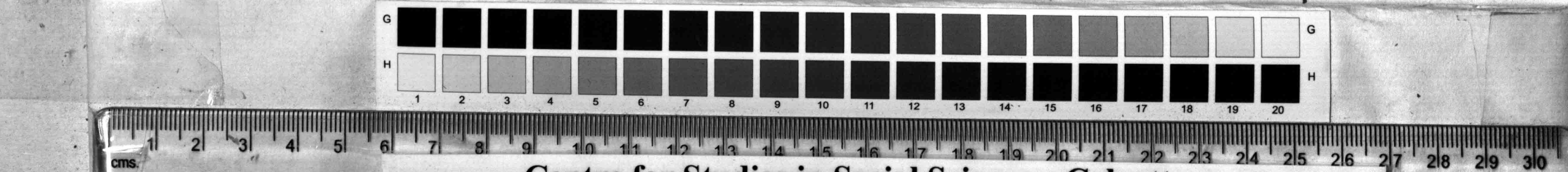
GEMS FROM THE BENCH.—It is not often that the solemn serenity of a Session Judge is varied by vicissitudes such as that we occasionally come across in the judgment of Mr. Wolfe-Murray, Sessions Judge of Ganjam. It was only last week that we noticed a couplet from a ballad, imported by him into a judgment, sentencing a man to death; and again to-day, we see he has written the following poetic prose in another judgment, which came up before the High Court on appeal:—"I think a sentence of two years' rigorous imprisonment will meet the case, and to that I sentence him along with one month's solitary confinement therein in which he can reconsider himself and think on the disagreeableness which his pugnacious inclinations bring him into."—*Madras Standard*.

THE BARUPORE RIOT CASE.—Twelve villagers, being the first batch of the accused in the Barupore riot case, were on the 3rd inst., placed for trial before Mr. E. E. Forrester, Joint-Magistrate of Alipore. The matter had stood over for a long time, as the accused had obtained a rule from the High Court, calling upon the Joint-Magistrate to show cause why the case should not be committed to the Sessions, and pending the hearing of such rule, why proceedings should not be stayed. The High Court had observed that the Joint-Magistrate was wrong in rejecting the application of the accused to commit them to the Sessions and had directed him to hear the application and decide it on its merits. The Magistrate thereupon went carefully through the evidence, heard the arguments on both sides, amended the charges, and, having made up his mind to dispose of the case himself, released four of the accused on bail.

THE BARRIPORE RIOT CASE.—On the 4th inst., Mr. E. E. Forrester, Joint-Magistrate of Alipore delivered judgment in the Barupore riot case (the second batch) in which thirteen (lagers were charged with being members of an unlawful assembly, rioting and causing loss to several salt and police officers, on the burning of the 20th May last. The Magistrate found six of the accused guilty and sentenced the three accused to two years' rigorous imprisonment, and the remaining one to two months' rigorous imprisonment, and to sit the remaining seven.

ALIPORE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—A public meeting, held on Saturday last at Alipore, presided over by Mr. J. A. Claven, Serap-divisional Officer, two gold medals and the number of silver medals and certificates awarded to the successful exhibitors, among whom there were several Bengali ladies. One of the exhibitors was also a European lady, Mrs. A. S. West. Among those present were Rai Kedarnath Chatterji, Deputy Magistrate, Babu Mahendra Chunder Ahiri, Government Pleader, Ra's Bihari Chandra, Haris Chandra Gossain, zemindar, and Dr. V. Rai, munsiff.

CONVICTION OF A MILL STRIKER.—An Indian Sirdar, a Sirdar coolie in charge of the leaving department of the Clive Jute Mill, was on the 3rd inst., tried by Mr. E. E. Forrester, Joint-Magistrate of Alipore, on a charge of being wrongfully and illegally kept in confinement about one hundred mill hands. It appeared in evidence that the accused was imprisoned by his superior in consequence of certain practices. The accused, with a view to take revenge, induced the mill hands employed by him to strike from their work and kept them in confinement to prevent them from doing their work. It was contended on behalf of the mill, as there was no law in India on









THE JUTE CROP OF 1898.

THE following is the final report on the jute crop for season 1898.

Explanatory.—The original date for the publication of the final jute report was fixed for the 1st of September. In order to meet the wishes of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce the date has been postponed to 1st October. The present report deals with the condition of the crop up to the middle of September and is compiled from information received from the 26 important jute-growing districts. The little jute that is grown outside these districts has been left out of consideration.

Character of the Season.—The character of the season up to the middle of June was briefly described in the preliminary forecast of the jute crop issued on the 30th of June, 1898. The rainfall in January was in excess of the normal in most of the jute-growing districts. In February, it was deficient in all jute districts except in parts of North Bengal and in Malda. In March and April, the rainfall was also generally deficient. In May it was slightly below the normal in most parts of the province. In June, it was above the average in Bengal Proper, and in defect in Orissa; and in July it was below the normal. In August, the rainfall was above the normal everywhere except in parts of North Bengal. In September, the rainfall has been heavy in most parts of these provinces.

Area Cultivated.—In the preliminary forecast the area cultivated during the present year was shown as 1,670,100 acres. The total area as now estimated by District Officers in the returns appended to this note amounts to 1,624,400 acres. The difference is due to a revision of figures in the district of Jessore, Rangpur, Faridpur, Backergunge, Patna, and Cuttack. The decrease in the area previously estimated is most noticeable in the districts of Rangpur and Faridpur. The area cultivated last year, as shown in column three of the appended returns, amounted to 2,151,600 acres. The decrease as compared with the area cultivated this year—vide column two of the statement—is considerable, amounting to 527,200 acres (i.e., 24.5 per cent.) and is due, as has been already explained in the preliminary forecast, partly to the unfavourable character of the season at the time of sowing, and partly to the low prices of jute prevailing last year, and to the high price of foodgrains, in consequence of which some lands which usually grow jute have been utilised for the cultivation of paddy.

Character of the Crop.—On comparing the estimates of outturn for last year and this year as given in columns seven and eight of the appended statement, it will be seen that out of the 26 districts from which jute reports have been received 15 districts, including such important districts as Rajshahi, Jalpaiguri, Rangpur, Bogra, Pabna, Dacca, Faridpur, Tippera and Patna, report worse crops for this year than for last year; four districts report equal crops and seven, inclusive of Mymensingh, report better crops. It is thus clear that the crop this year is inferior to the one which was harvested last year. Out of the 26 districts, only one reports a crop above the normal, and in that district, Cuttack, the area under jute is very small. Six districts, Baidwan, Hooghly, 24 Parganas, Dinajpur, Backergunge and Bhagalpur, report normal crops; 13 districts report crops estimated between 75 per cent. and the normal; and six districts, inclusive of three important districts, Jalpaiguri, Bogra, and Faridpur report crops less than 75 per cent. Taking the eleven most important jute-growing districts, it will appear from a comparison of the present and preliminary jute reports that in three districts the prospects of the crop have improved since the issue of the first forecast; in three districts there has been no change, and in the remaining five districts they deteriorated. On the whole the jute crop of the present season, which has been grown in the restricted area described above, may be finally estimated at 88 per cent. of a normal crop. In the notation formerly used, this would have been described as a 14-anna crop.

Gross Outturn.—In the preliminary forecast of last June, the gross outturn was estimated at 48 lakhs of bales. Considering the revised estimates of area and outturn now received from District Officers, this estimate must now be somewhat reduced. It must not be forgotten however, that of late year there has been a natural expansion in the cultivation of jute. Allowing for this and for a tendency sometimes observed on the part of District Officers to underestimate, it seems probable that the total outturn will reach 46 lakhs of bales. It is to be noted that this is a smaller outturn than any that has been estimated by this Department in the past five years, but attention must be again drawn to the fact that the above is at best only a rough estimate, based on the best information available to this Department. The district returns are published in full, and those who are interested in the trade are in a position to make such deductions from them as their experience may suggest.

THE PRESS GAG IN INDIA.

ONE extraordinary thing about the present political situation is that the Ministerial organs are the most persistent and malignant assailants of Ministerial foreign policy. If the Indian Press Law, which was briefly debated at the close of the Session, were enforced in England there is hardly a Conservative paper or editor who would not be liable to be laid by the heels for exciting hatred and contempt against the Government of the country. Never was an English administration so universally condemned by its own supporters in the Press, or more faithfully supported by its followers in Parliament. The influence of newspapers on Parliament men has never seemed to be at a lower ebb. Lord George Hamilton's defence of the new law which he forced down the throats of the Indian Council in order to assimilate the law of sedition in India with that of England was anything but satisfactory. It is something like Colonel Henry's excuse for forging evidence against Dreyfus. Lord George Hamilton is quite sure that the English Government in India ought to be universally popular, and therefore, he introduces a measure to gag any unfortunate journalist who ventures to give utterance to popular discontent. As for Lord George Hamilton's zeal in assimilating the law of sedition in India, it is an assimilation which reminds us of the famous ruling

that the word "he" in all Acts of Parliament must be interpreted as referring to women as well as men whenever it imposes a liability, but that it must be read as referring only to men when it confers a privilege. The English law of sedition is only tolerable because it is administered subject to the safeguard that the accused person must be tried by a jury of his peers. To allow an English judge without a jury to send an editor to prison because he excited disaffection, which, according to recent judicial ruling, included all feelings of enmity against the Government, would be simply intolerable. Protests, however, were of no avail, and the English House of Commons by a majority of 66 to 30 approved the action of the Government.—Review of Reviews.

THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

MUNIFICENT OFFER BY MR. J. N. TATA.

MR. J. N. TATA, the well-known millowner and merchant of Bombay, has, we hear, offered, under certain conditions, to put at the disposal of a properly-constituted body, landed property which is calculated to bring an annual income of about Rs. 1,25,000, for the purpose of maintaining an institution for post graduate studies. Mr. Tata is known to value higher education even as a preparation for industrial and commercial vocations, and he frequently selects a number of graduates to undergo training for about three years to one or other of his mills, the graduates, contrary to the prevalent custom, being paid during the period of their apprenticeship. He finds sufficient compensation in the intelligent service of these young men on the completion of their apprenticeship, and they are apparently in great request. Mr. Tata, however, has felt for some time the need of making an advance in our University education. The address of Lord Reay as Chancellor set him thinking, and his ideas were confirmed by the agitation now happily concluded for a teaching University in London. He felt that it was no small disappointment that while Japan could produce men whose researches brought them world-wide renown, and while two Japanese gentlemen have even been appointed Professors at Chicago, that the Indian Universities should have no such record to show. The development of the resources of the country, too, Mr. Tata is persuaded, in a large measure must depend on a number of talented youths working at the scientific problems which arise in industrial pursuits. Latterly, also, educationists have considered it of some importance that the teachers in our secondary schools, should have some special training, and this training, it was found, can be best given by the University. To induce the students of this country to undertake researches on the problems of tropical diseases or tropical chemistry, to investigate the vast and neglected materials of our national history and Indian philology, it is necessary to found laboratories and libraries, where students may work under the direction of great teachers. At first Mr. Tata thought that it would be advisable to train men with such aspirations in Europe, but the difficulty was the absence of facilities when these students returned to India without laboratories and an adequate sympathetic atmosphere. It was suggested to Mr. Tata that either a new University, or a development of some one of our existing Universities on the model of the Post-graduate Universities of the United States, like the Johns Hopkins or Clark, would be the first step towards the creation of the spirit of research in India; and after preliminary investigations made in Europe, and advice sought and obtained from the highest educational authorities of England and the Continent, he has decided to make the abovementioned offer. Mr. Tata perfectly realizes the difficulties of making a start. Above all, he perceives that much more money than he can give will be required to establish his scheme on a footing of permanent efficiency. A provisional Committee is about to be formed to take the business in hand.—Times of India, September 28.

MR. TATA'S EDUCATION SCHEME.

POST GRADUATE INSTRUCTION IN AMERICA.

MR. J. N. TATA, in making his munificent offer to endow an establishment in India for the encouragement of post-graduate education and the development of original research, had in view the founding of an institution similar to the Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore. This famous University has been selected as a model, not only because it focuses in one centre many suggestions gathered from various seats of learning in England and the Continent, but because it is considered to provide a system peculiarly suited to the needs of India. A brief outline of some of the characteristics of the Johns Hopkins University will be of peculiar interest at the present juncture, because it will indicate more clearly than has yet been done the lines upon which Mr. Tata and his co-adjutors are working. We have ample material for such a sketch in the evidence given by Professor George H. Emmott, Professor of Roman Law and Comparative Jurisprudence at the University, before the Gresham University Commission in 1892.

The Johns Hopkins University was founded in 1874, the funds being vested in a body of trustees who were given the fullest discretion in regard to administration. This body pitched upon Dr. Daniel Gilman, President of the University of California, to work out the details of the trust, who accepted the presidency of the new University in 1875. Dr. Gilman came to the conclusion that there was a distinct gap in American University life, in that although there were a number of Colleges there was no institution carrying on distinct University work; and that there was no institution which gave on the part of its professors and students not only facilities for original research, but also for the publication of such researches. Therefore, the Johns Hopkins University was started primarily as a school for advanced students, for those men who had gone through the ordinary collegiate training and who wished to spend one or more years in the study of advanced work under competent teachers.

In the collegiate department of this University there are seven groups, as they are termed—seven elective courses, each of which leads

up to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. These groups are called by distinctive names—Group 1 is called the classical Group; Group 2, Mathematical-Physical; Group 3, Chemical-Biological; Group 4, Physical-Chemical; Group 5, Latin-Mathematical; Group 6, Historical-Political; and Group 7, Modern Languages. The two words indicate that in that particular group those two studies are specially emphasized. For instance, in the first year in each of the seven groups, a knowledge is required of Physical Geography, of History, and of English. For the third year, in each of the seven groups, a knowledge is required of Logic, Ethics, and of Psychology. So that in the two combinations of studies, Physical Geography, History, and English in the first year, Logic, Ethics, and Psychology in the last year, all the groups are like; but otherwise a considerable variety obtains amongst them. The degree given in any of the groups, Bachelor of Arts, is precisely the same.

In the University Classes the principle of election is very great. A large part of those who enter upon University work do so in the hope of obtaining the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In order to obtain that degree they must study for at least three years certain advanced studies. They have it in their option to take one subject, which is called their principal subject. They are also obliged to select two other subjects, which are called subordinate subjects, and the rule is that the principal subject must be studied for three years. The first subordinate subject must be studied for two years and the second subordinate subject must be studied for at least one year. In the principal subject the student must not only obtain a precise knowledge of the leading literature, but he must also write a thesis containing the results of some original investigation of his own. The object is not simply to encourage the student to collect an enormous amount of information, but to cultivate his critical faculty and his powers of original thought. The length of a full course, first to obtain the B. A. degree and then to obtain the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, is at least six years, and it often takes more.

A number of medical courses are given at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, an independent foundation with a staff of physicians, to which no one is admitted to the lectures who is not already a graduate of some reputable medical school. Instruction at this hospital corresponds to the University work. It is the best equipped hospital in the United States, and is intended only for cases which had baffled treatment elsewhere, and of which a special study might be made under favourable conditions and careful monographs written; something that would form a distinct contribution to medical science.

Students enter the College side of this University at the average age of 17 years, so that the students who go to the University side would in many cases be 20 or 21 years of age; with this comment that there are in the University a great number of men who have been teaching elsewhere, often for many years, and who, having saved money, go to the University with a view to broadening their scholarship, perfecting it more than they have been able to do, and in that way taking more advanced positions in educational work, becoming, perhaps, professors of Colleges when they may have been teachers in high schools or occupying subordinate positions in other American Colleges. The endowment of the University is a little over three million dollars; the endowment of the hospital is about three and-a-half million dollars. This is apart from the buildings. The annual income is between thirty and thirty-five thousand pounds sterling. The fees are a hundred and twenty-five dollars per annum for the collegiate and university courses, and this charge includes access to all the privileges of the University for all subjects. The University, which includes about two hundred students on the collegiate side and three hundred on the university side, is growing steadily year by year, which shows that there was an undoubted want of it in the United States.

Throughout the whole history of the University a sharp distinction has been made between the methods of university instruction and those of collegiate instruction. By the college is here understood "a place for the orderly training of youth in those elements of learning which should underlie all liberal and professional culture." The collegiate instruction of the University is thus intended to provide a thorough and systematic training in liberal studies. It is organized and administered in reference to the wants of two classes of persons; first, those who look forward to an academic, professional, or literary career, and who desire such a discipline as shall best fit them for further study; and, second, those who do not intend to continue their studies beyond the period of the college course, and who wish to find in it a sufficient preparation for life. The degree of Bachelor of Arts is conferred upon those students who have successfully completed the collegiate course. Considerable opportunity is given to the student to vary the proportion and to some extent the character of the studies which he will pursue, in accordance with his individual tastes and needs through the organization of several distinct and parallel courses of instruction which are known as "groups."

In the University more advanced and special instruction is given to those who have already received a college training of its equivalent and who desire to concentrate their attention upon special departments of learning and research. Advanced and graduate students are received into the University with or without reference to their being candidates for a degree, and they are permitted to attend such lectures and exercises as they may individually select. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy is offered to those students who continue their studies in a University for three years or more after having attained the baccalaureate degree. Their attention must be given to those studies which are included in the faculty of Philosophy and the liberal arts, and not to the purely professional faculties of Law, Medicine, and Theology. It is desirable that the student accepted as a candidate should reside there, continuously, until his final examinations are passed, and be required to spend at least the third year of his graduate work in definite courses of study at the University. Before he can be accepted as a candidate he must satisfy the Board of University Studies that he has received a good collegiate education, that he has a reading knowledge of French and German, and that he has a good command of literary expression.

He must also name in his application principal subject of study, and the subordinate subjects. There are several of the proficiency of the candidate in addition to the constant observation of his instructor. He must present a carefully prepared thesis subject approved by his chief adviser, and this must receive the approbation of the Board of University Studies; the candidate is required to print the thesis in full or in part, and part, to the extent of not less than 24 octavo pages, under the supervision of his chief adviser, within one year of the time when the degree is conferred. The candidate is also examined writing both in his principal subject and in each of the subordinate subjects, and if these tests successfully passed, there is a final oral examination in the presence of the Board in principal and first subordinate subjects.—7 of India, September 30.

QUEER PETS OF SOLDIERS.

[FROM THE PARIS "FIGARO"]

THE love of animals is a national passion all the subjects of Queen Victoria, without of age or rank. It is manifested to such an extent among the soldiers of the British regiments the higher authorities displayed less vigilance in the barracks of Great Britain, Ireland, and India soon be turned into menageries.

It may be difficult to understand why the of the United Kingdom take so much training animals. Very likely men, submit discipline and obliged to lead a life that home, feel the need of having companions from the domestic fireside. To this, perhaps added considerations of another pure kind. A young recruit feels no desire to animal; but, for an old soldier, who has uniform for a long time, there is no greater than the training of a dog, a goat, or a adoption, by the regiment, of an animal trained and forming, as it were, a part of presents a feature in the collective life of serving under the same officers and under colours.

According to a universal legend among every ship has a soul. This fiction is reality when we speak of the soul of a That soul has its heroic qualities as well as weakness. It lives not alone in the glorious of battles, the names of which are written the flag—it is also manifested in all sort Every English regiment that respect itself, create its destiny with some domestic or trained which, in time of peace, and in time of war its fatigues, its hardships and its exploits.

In the military annals of Great Britain legions of heroic dogs. Jack was under the Sevastopol with the Scots Guards. At Im he fought like a lion, and was wounded in the fore-foot. When he returned to England he the Victoria Cross and the Crimean medal.

In 1879, Bob, the famo dog of the Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment went through the war of Afghanistan covered himself with glory at the battle of Maiwand. He was badly wounded in the but with great medical care he was at last. When he returned to the metropolis he to the head of his battalion under the eye Queen, who herself tied to his neck the commemorating the campaign.

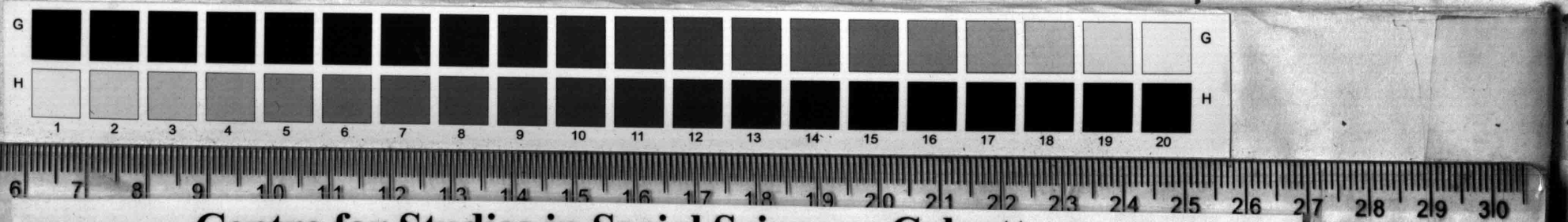
Tiny, who belonged to the engine wounded at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir; he the Egyptian medal and the Star of the but it is hardly necessary to add that the land of the Pharaohs had nothing to decoration.

But these brilliant services did not dogs from losing the high favour which formerly in the British Army. Now fashion, and the fancy of Queen Victoria, somewhat to replace them, she tributed somewhat a magnificent goat to the Queen's Highlanders, and a white the three battalions of the Welsh of these three Welsh goats was named each wore the number of his battalion and easily fed, these animals are as all the fatigues of a campaign, and the corps is not wanting in them. During manoeuvres, Taffy III. knew the difference a regular soldier and a volunteer, as the call their National Guard. Angered at the appearance of those second-rate soldiers, the goat missed a chance to make them feel their inferior to the regulars. He amused himself by but them and chasing them around. Unfortunately Taffy was utterly wanting in that most indispensable of military virtues—discipline. One day Colonel, in full uniform, was talking his officers and was about to mount his when the goat, without any respect for the of military hierarchy, charged Jim and send him at full length on the ground. This outrage, course, merited an exemplary punishment; the Colonel could not very well make a com against a white goat, and especially one that upon his forehead a silver plate upon which engraved the following inscription:—"Taffy, of the Third Battalion of the Welsh Regiment, Majesty the Queen, 1894."

Deer are also difficult to discipline. M name given to the deer of the Royal Scotch during their stay in Ireland, was guilty, on occasions, of breaches of discipline. He with officers and soldiers, loved to chase and fought furious battles with dogs. III., given by the Queen to the Seafo landers, was not fond of fun. He was a and somewhat savage animal, and ve to approach. Only one man in the regi do anything with him and that was major.

But the idea seemed strange to der the British colours an animal gushes itself by its ability to run ever it is in danger. The Sevent were better inspired when they of the military aptitude of the bear regiment was in India, Prince Adol who was then a Lieutenant in the a female bear in the Himalaya Moun tured her cub. He made a present of regiment, and the animal soon I pet; it was a she-cub, and the Lizzie. She was stolen by a hand glers, and sometime afterward, w exhibited their trained bears in on near Lucknow, the soldiers recog among the accomplished performer recaptured Lizzie, who was one under the colours of the Queen, soldiers with her new acquire upon bread and milk, but was and took regularly a pint of the canteen. Lizzie was a n and docility.

When it became known in Seventeenth Lancers had a Hussars determined to ha what a bear! They got a bear that would make pr the inoffensive little bear of so proud. Unfortunately, he did not reserve for the enem like qualities with which he contrary, as a subject of the der the British colours with acted as if he would like t all the officers and soldiers o





INDIAN CURRENCY COMMISSION

(The Statist, September 3, 1898.)

are certain well-known precepts in morals—unwritten laws. These are taught the children by their parents, and are upheld by the headmen and council. There is no public opinion, or whatever the headmen decide as correct is obeyed implicitly. Children are never ill-treated or punished. Hospitality is extended towards all men. It is wicked to refuse it and mean to stultify it. It is wrong to deceive or steal except in regard to enemies. Reverence to the aged is an absolute virtue. The land does not belong to the chiefs, but to the tribe as a community. Females and infants cannot hold land under any circumstances. The eldest son has no special privileges, all sons having equal shares. Daughters have no rights whatever from birth to death. Regular courts of justice are held for the trial of offenders. Proved perjury is punishable with death. The chief is not usually appointed, but takes the position by seniority. His power is very great, in fact absolute. He may declare war or make peace, and decides all important questions in his own name. He may separate husband and wife, but in such an event he must find a new husband before the decree of divorce can be made absolute. After briefly explaining the methods of hunting and fishing, Rougemont explained the modes and means of making and carrying on war. All the tribes take part in it from the time when they are seventeen—that is, after initiation. They invade an enemy's territory they are known to such enemies by remarkable signals. Offensive and defensive wars are common to all tribes, but in the case of the latter, the latter are usually an open challenge beforehand. Nomadic, and for trading purposes, the tribes are generally divided into small groups, and these again subdivided into families, which may consist of seven or eight persons, two wives, and four children. In some tribes there are, perhaps, as many as thirty families. These cannibal tribes have a very primitive idea of astronomy, and the earth is flat and the sky is placed at the edges. The sun, moon, and stars, lives in the milky way. Every moon is supposed to be different from the last. The numbers only up to four are regarded as a religious ceremony, and avoids his mother-in-law. He believes that if he even looks at her, his hair will turn grey. In certain tribes, group marriage is common, and the husband of all the women is of equal rank. Naturally, the women, usually on the side of the husband, are in the event of a divorce, would retire from the husband, and they are allowed to blow on the horn at parrying—which is a woman's life, so great cowardice is shown by the husband. In the case of a young and relation, the husband would retire from the wife, and they are allowed to blow on the horn at parrying—which is a woman's life, so great cowardice is shown by the husband. In the case of a young and relation, the husband would retire from the wife, and they are allowed to blow on the horn at parrying—which is a woman's life, so great cowardice is shown by the husband.

WHAT a force! is the judgment drawn from on running one's eye over the Blue Book issued last week containing the evidence given before the Indian Currency Commission. India is a vast country, as large as all Europe outside of Russia. It has an immense trade—at the very lowest 2,000 millions sterling per annum. It has a population of nearly 300 millions of souls. Every one of those 300 millions—men, women, and children—is interested most intimately and most closely in the kind and the goodness of the money he uses. Even the landless labourers are paid in money. Everyone above these has innumerable money contracts. And the welfare of the women and the children depends upon the ability to fulfil those contracts of those who have entered into them. Moreover, the civilisation of India is one of the oldest in the world. It contained powerful kingdoms and prosperous cities when the natives of British were painted savages, and when even Rome itself was an insignificant village. And yet our Government is now considering how it is to get rid of the old rupee, and substitute for it an entirely new and untried standard of value, and the Government does not think it worth while to appoint a Commission which he is to justify it in the eyes of the public in carrying through the policy upon which it has resolved. Worse still, there is not one single Indian witness amongst all those whose evidence is given in the Blue Book to which we have referred. We in this country are fond of boasting that we govern our dependencies for their own good, not as foreigners do, for the welfare of the dominant nation. And yet we have not even the decency to summon so much as one single native witness to tell us whether Indian opinion is for or against the proposed change. Surely the Government could have found some Indian who could be induced to speak up for its plans, if it was unwilling to risk native opposition. We are brazen-faced enough to parade before the world that we do not value the opinion of the natives of India on a matter so important to them. Unfortunately, both parties in the State are guilty in this respect. It was a Liberal Cabinet that appointed the Herschell Committee and closed the mints, and it is a Conservative Cabinet that has appointed the present Commission. We may add that the late Secretary of State for India presides over this very Commission. There is no party in Parliament at present that thinks it worth while to inquire whether India is for or against a change of its currency.

Passing from the nationality of the Commission and the witnesses, we find the evidence just as to be expected. The official witnesses are, of course, in favour of the proposals of the Government of India, and those who headed the agitation in India which led up to the closing of the mints are likewise for them. Broadly speaking, those who were opposed to the closing of the mints have no belief in the possibility of a gold standard. But there are a few who, though they regret that the mints were closed, and still think that it was a mistake to shut them, now shrink from saying that so important a step should be undone. The attitude of these gentlemen would be amusing if the issue were not so grave. It illustrates the old saying, that we can be wonderfully philosophic when we are dealing with the misfortunes of our friends. They admit that they think the closing of the mints was a mistake, and they only hesitate to undo it because they fear that the remedy would be worse than the disease. One would think that if a great mistake has been made by the Government of an immense population, the sooner the mistake is remedied the better. But these gentlemen are unable to agree. It is of more importance to turn to the evidence of those who are in favour of the policy of the Indian Government, and more especially to that of Mr. Finlay, who is Secretary to the Government of India in the Finance Department, and Mr. O'Connor, who is Director General of Statistics to that Government. Both are very able men, and both have been selected because they are not only in the confidence of the Government, but are ardent supporters of its currency policy. The first reason they put forward against the reopening of the mints is that it would necessitate a great increase in the taxation. It may be sufficient to answer that the closing of the mints has already added very heavily indeed to the taxation of India. The value of the rupee fell a little after the closing of the mints to 1s. 0s. 4d., and during the present year the rupee has been fluctuating about 1s. 3s. 4d., occasionally going above 1s. 4d. It need hardly be pointed out to the reader that the taxes, though nominally paid in rupees, are really paid in either labour or produce. The people of India do not produce rupees, do not even produce silver; what they produce, and what, therefore, they give to the Government, is either their labour or the commodities they raise or manufacture. Therefore, the Government has heavily added to the taxation of the country. If the country can pay higher taxes than the Government is proceeding to extract from it, why not honestly tell the people that, in pursuance of what seems to be the wisest policy, it has become necessary to add to the taxation? It was truly said by one of the witnesses before the Commission that the mints were closed in a fright in 1893, and it may be added that they are kept closed now through a mere funk—the discreditable funk of being afraid to tell the people that more taxes are being wrung from them. But what are we to think of the Chairman of this Commission—who, it will be recollected, was himself Secretary of State for India, and therefore must be presumed to know something of the condition of that country—when we do not find any information insisted upon from the gentlemen sent over by the Government of India to tell the Commission what it ought to recommend, respecting the necessity for increased taxation and the capacity of India to pay higher taxes? The so-called depreciation of silver began about 1872—that is, almost as soon as the German Government had decided upon adopting the gold standard. Gold immediately rose in purchasing power, and the gold price of silver steadily fell from that time. From 1872 to 1893, when the mints were closed, is 21 years, and yet the ex-Secretary of State for India, and all his colleagues upon the Commission, do not think it worth their while to inquire from Mr. Finlay and Mr. O'Connor whether, as a matter of fact, India had to add enormously to its taxation because of this continued fall in the gold price of silver for a space of 21 years. And what are we to think of the Indian Government itself, which sends over to London two of its most trusted, ablest, and most highly placed officials to inform the British public, and instruct the Commission that has consented to act as the cloak for the Executive Government, what they are to think and what they are to recommend, when no

information upon this important subject is vouchsafed? As a matter of fact, is it true that the loss by exchange, as it is called, necessitated a very heavy increase of the taxation of India? Is it not notorious that nothing of the kind happened? And if nothing of the kind happened, why should it follow now that India would have to clap on enormously increased taxation? Again, how is it that neither the ex-Secretary of State for India asked, nor the two official witnesses vouchsafed, information as to the taxable capacity of India? Was India poorer in 1872 than in 1893? In what direction was the growth most manifest and most remarkable? Is it not the truth that the development of India proceeded while exchange was falling Taxable Wealth so rapidly and so satisfactorily that the comfort of the people was immensely increased? And if it be true that India is now much richer than it was a quarter of a century ago, what is the reason for the extraordinary fear of a little additional taxation? Moreover, if it be true that the fall in the rupee from about 1s. 10-12d. of our money to about 1s. 4d. of our money did not necessitate a great addition to the taxation, why should it become necessary now, if exchange were to fall from 1s. 4d. to 1s? Is not the whole thing a bugbear, got up for the special behoof of John Bull?

The really remarkable thing about the Commission is that no information pertinent to the inquiry is forthcoming, and that the British public is being bamboozled with the parade of evidence which has nothing to do with the matter in hand. What on earth interest has it for anybody what gentlemen who know nothing of India think about the policy of its Government, or the probable effect of this or that change? What we want to know is the feeling of the Indian people themselves. Mr. Ralli gave the Commission important information respecting the opinion of one eminent Indian native doing business in London. But the Government, doing, if it pleased, bring forward merchants and nobles and princes from every important city and every important district in India, and could let us all know what is the real feeling of the Indian public. We know that since the mints have been closed the Indian natives have imported immense quantities of silver, and that is a very strong item of proof in itself that they do not wish to see the metal demonetised. Further, we know that the hoards of coin and ornaments of silver held in India are enormous. Personally, I am convinced that the accumulations far exceed the 300 millions sterling at which I put them as a minimum in an article some time ago. And it is perfectly certain that the owners of all these immense hoards are strongly averse to a policy which has already depreciated the hoards in rupees by fully 33 per cent. Lastly, we know that the native princes and the great nobles are far and away the greatest hoarders. It is reported that the princes are consulting with one another as to how they can best bring their views before the Currency Commission, and it is said that they have consulted European residents in India. It is most natural information that this should be so, and it will be well for the public to remember that the native princes dispose of considerable armed forces. At all events, it is shameful that the Government has not in some way made it easy for them to bring their evidence before the Commission. One other thing we ought to know, and that is, whether silver, as a matter of fact, has depreciated in India; that is to say, whether the purchasing power of the metal has declined. It will be in the recollection of the reader that one of the reasons which weighed with the Herschell Committee when recommending the closing of the mints was the alleged fact that the currency was redundant and that the purchasing power of the rupee had declined. Most people are now convinced that the currency was not redundant and that it is now too much contracted. But the point I wish to bring before the reader is that even at present, five years after the closing of the mints, Mr. O'Connor, who is the Director General of Indian Statistics, admits that he has no means of forming an opinion as to what the currency really is. And yet it will be recollected that it was on the alleged redundancy of the currency the Herschell Committee largely relied. Once more, I would call the attention of the reader to the fact that no single piece of official evidence is given regarding prices, except by the Lieutenant-Governor of a district, who can hardly pretend to be an expert on such a matter. The representatives of the Government itself are careful not to commit themselves. In fact they have no means of forming an opinion.

T. LLOYD.

MONKEY-KILLING QUESTION IN PURI.

The following is the full report of the proceedings of the Puri Municipality on the monkey-killing question: (28-9-91) Present: Babu Nitya Nanda Das, Chairman; Babu Mohun Bose, Vice do.; Ananda Chandra Mahanty; Khetra Chand Addi; Harish Chandra Ghosh; Moonshi Makbul Ali. Para 13—Read Vice-Chairman's note, dated 20th September, 1891, stating that the monkeys of the town are doing serious mischief to the people in every way. Resolved that the Vice-Chairman be asked to adopt some means for prevention of the nuisance. (Sd.) Khetra Mohun Bose. V. C. for Chairman.

Proceedings at a meeting of the Municipal Commissioners held on the 7th day of October, 1896, the following members are present: Dr. C. Banker, Chairman; Babu Jagabandhu Patnaik Vice-Chairman; Ananda Chandra Dutt; Harihar Ghosh; Moonshi Makbul Ali; Anath Bandhu Mahanty; Panda Narayan Khuntia. Para 3—Read a report from Panda Narayan Khuntia regarding the mischief done by the monkeys together with the Chairman's note to the following effect: "No one than myself would be more pleased if the nuisance could be abated or removed in a manner not calculated to wound the religious feelings of the inhabitants of the town; and I am prepared to carry out the wishes of the petition as far as possible provided the Commissioners devise means. Mr. Maderah, is not competent to solve the question, nor am I." Resolved that as an experimental measure a few cages be prepared for catching and deporting the monkeys to a distant place in the interior. Sd. Jagabandhu Patnaik V. C. for Chairman.

Proceedings at a meeting of Municipal Commissioners held on the 14th April, 1897, the following members are present: Surgeon Captain N. P. Sinha, Chairman; Babu Jagabandhu Patnaik, Vice-Chairman; Traylaskya Nath Chakravarty.

Panda Narayan Khuntia. Harijry Nilkantha Khantia. Babu Harish Chandra Ghosh. Harihar Ghosh. Harihar Misra. Para 4.—Read a report from Babu Traylaskya Nath Chakravarty, dated 25th March last, regarding destruction of monkeys together with the Conservancy Inspector's note thereon. Resolved that the employment of two men from Cuttuck on Rs. 8 per month be sanctioned and that an expenditure of Rs. 50 for the purpose be paid from the head "other receipts." (Sd.) N. P. Sinha, Chairman.

Proceedings at a meeting of the Municipal Commissioners held on the 27th August, 1896. The following members are present: Babu Jagabandhu Patnaik, Vice-Chairman in the chair. Dr. J. C. Gillman. Babu Bida Bhushan Bannerjee. Babu Dibakar Dass. Anath Bandhu Mahanty. Panda Nilkutha Khuntia. Ram Chandra Dass. Bhaghan Senapati. Sitala Charan Ghosh. Harihar Misra. Harish Chandra Ghosh. Para 8.—Read a petition submitted by certain residents of the town protesting against the destruction of monkeys together with a counter-petition from some of the rate-payers for killing the monkeys. As the memorialists protest against the destruction of the monkeys on the ground of their being held sacred in the Hindu shastras, it is necessary to refer the matter to the Pundits for opinion. Resolved that the destruction of the monkeys in the town be suspended for the present and that the matter be referred to the Pundits of Puri for an expression of their opinion on the subject. The Commissioners may secure the opinion of other Pundits. (Sd.) JOGABANDHU PATNAIK, Vice-Chairman.

THE DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD OF THE DAMUDAR.

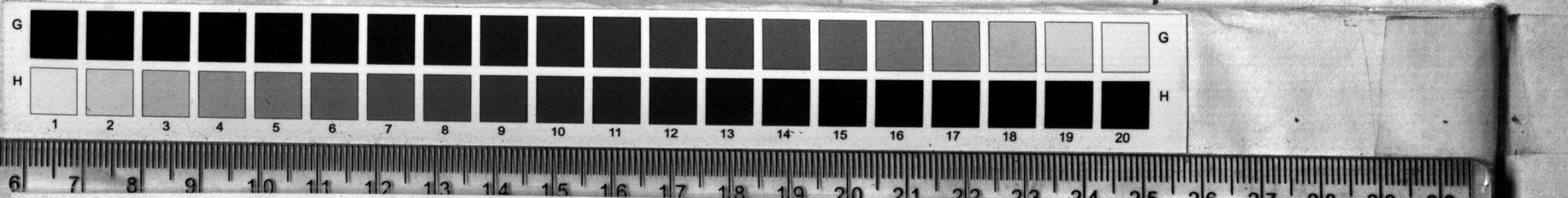
"A SUFFERER" writes from Sadipur, in district of Burdwan, under date the 27th September: The recent floods of the Damudar have done immense injury to Sadipur and the villages adjacent to it. It was on the morning of the 15th September that the river was first seen to rise. It rose and rose till about 3 in the afternoon the river reached its standing level. There was no perceptible rise for some time, and a sort of respite, as it were, was offered to the alarming villagers. It was late in the evening of the same date that nature resumed her hostilities again. Down poured the roaring water, in the plains beneath, rushing and foaming, sweeping and swallowing all that came on its way. Before midnight, the submersion of Sadipur and the villages adjacent to it was complete. The distress of the villagers can easily be imagined than described. It was all confusion, and it was all the more so, for, it was dark night then. Mothers with their babes in the breast, fathers with the little property which they could collect in their hurry, children screaming and shrieking, following their parents, were seen rushing to places of some safety. Brick-built houses there are few, and mud-built ones are not well calculated to stand the test. Most of them collapsed and not a small portion of the populace is now without shelter whatsoever. Matters did not end here, and the worse is yet to be told: their cattle swept away, their crops destroyed, their hopes now lie buried under water. No loss of life is yet recorded, but the case would have been different if the rise were not gradual. The river overflowed its banks too, the year before; but the work of devastation was not so complete as it is now. From the above it must not be inferred that inundations are not rare occurrences in tracts bordering the river and which which we are now at present concerned. Embankments or dykes run all along the river from Jamdoh to Nakhra, a distance of about 3 miles or so, which practically saved the intermediate villages, from a stress inseparable from so mighty a calamity as inundation. Permanent habitations or villages could not have sprung up if they were yearly subject to floods. But matters have changed since then. The strength of the current cut open a breach near Nakhra, south of Sadipur, some ten years ago, and the village was swept away. The case was repeated year after year till a deep channel was dug, and apprehensions were entertained that it might turn into a sister river. About this time Sir Charles Elliott came to inspect the place. After deliberations, it was thought prudent to dismantle the dykes running between Sadipur and Nakhra. It was so done only to diminish the potential force of the current and thereby lessen the damages done yearly. The course adopted was palliative and not curative. The people objected to such a proposal being carried to execution. In answer to the objections raised, the late Lieutenant-Governor said that it was merely an experiment, and if no material results came out of it, embankments will again be thrown up. The blunder of the step would have been apparent very soon if the year, in which he visited the place, had not been followed by "seven rainless years," if I be allowed to use the expression. Now that his experiment has thoroughly failed, the villagers earnestly hope that the embankments will again be set up. A representation to the effect has been made to the present Lieutenant-Governor, and they await the issue in calm confidence, for they have faith in his goodness.

THERE has been a heavy and unusually early fall of snow on the Tragball and Buzal Passes. Captain Bretherton will probably have great difficulty in getting across his large convoy of ammunition for Gilgit.

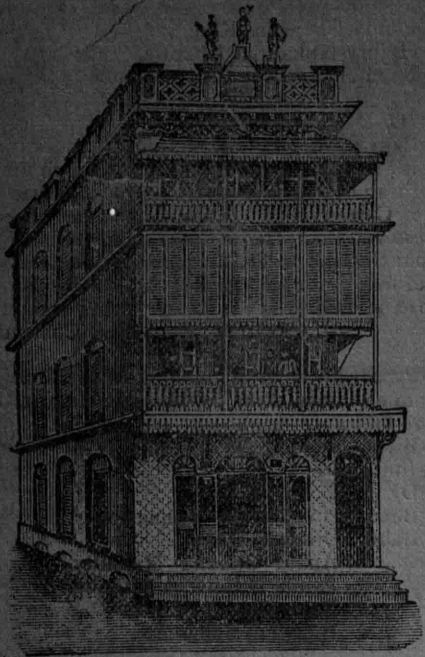
A KARACHI telegram, dated 29th ultimo, states that investigation is proceeding into the death of a Eurasian girl, named Grace Agnes Folkers. Although Miss Folkers, the daughter of a clerk, employed in the office of the Agent of the Uganda Railway at Karachi, was not 15 years old, it transpired that she had been living for some time with a man named Walsh, who is separated from his wife. The unfortunate girl died very suddenly, and though there is no evidence at present to suggest foul play, a post-mortem has been ordered as the testimony showed that Miss Folkers was

THE Governor of Bombay has written a letter to Mr. J. N. Tata approving of his scheme for higher scientific education and research, and hoping that the scheme will assume a practical shape before the period of his office expires. "MANY have said their children would have died of croup, if Chamberlain's Cough Remedy had not been given," writes Kellam & O'Brien, druggists, Seaview, Va. "People come from far and near to get it and speak of it in the highest terms." This is equally true of this remedy in every community where it is known. Buy a bottle at—drug store and test it for yourself. SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO. Chemists.

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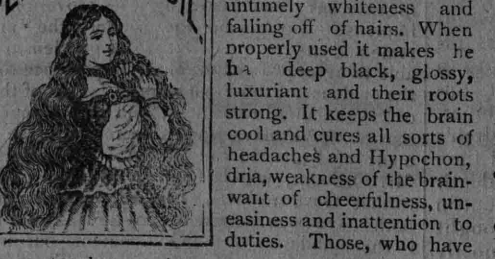
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