

# Amrita Bazar Patrika

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NO. 16.

## পদকপাতক।

দুর্গা হইয়াছে  
হুয়া আঁ চাকা।  
পরিণতি বরফা  
অমৃতবার পত্রিকা আদিক প্রাপ্ত

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মূল্য ছয় আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ এক আনা।  
অমৃত বারি পত্রিকা আদিক প্রাপ্ত

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

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I have seen the effects of H. N. Biswas's Acidity Pills and I can safely recommend it to those who are suffering from Dyspepsia and Indigestion.

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Baru Bhoob Tash Bannerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Dacca, writes under date 11th March, 1898:—"Many thanks for your Acidity Pills. I was suffering from Dyspepsia and Colic pain for the last 23 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."

From Mr. S. C. Haldar, Political Agency Gilgit.  
I am exceedingly glad to let you know that your Acidity Pills have miraculously relieved me of the colic pains and bowel-complaints from which I was very badly suffering for the last two years and more. 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 native herbs and hence is perfectly safe."

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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

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## সর্পীষাতের চিকিৎসা।

## ৩তম সংস্করণ।

মৃগা পাঁচ বালা বাত্রা: চাক্ষুঃশ্রবণঃ স্পর্শঃ আনা

এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অনুসারে চিকিৎসা

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চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের

ভাষাও এত সরল, যে ব্রীলোকেরা পর্যন্তও এই

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## BUDDHIST RELICS.

## PRESENTATION AT GORAKHPUR.

THE Buddhist relics found on the Birdore estate, in the Basti District, have now in a formal and ceremonious manner been transferred to the Royal Commissioner duty accredited for the purpose by the King of Siam. The record of an event which forms as it were a sequel to certain other events which occurred some 2,500 years ago cannot but be interesting to the general reader, but how absorbing must be the interest of the thirty-five millions of people in the disposal of the sacred relics of the founder of their religion, it would be difficult to realise.

Buddha was born at Kapilavastu, being the son of the King of the Sakya clan, who ruled an outlying Aryan settlement on the north-east border of the Middle Land, within sight of the snow-topped Himalayas. Where he died is a matter which is open to much controversy, though it has hitherto been believed that he breathed his last at Kasia, a sub-division of the Gorakhpur District. However this may be, it has always been an article of faith with the Buddhists that his remains after being cremated were divided amongst his followers in different directions, and by them venerated and preserved as sacred relics. It is to this belief the recent discoveries on the Birdore estate lend a strange confirmation. No matter where Buddha died, it is extremely probable that a portion of his cremated remains should have been sent to his birth-place and to the people to whom he belonged, and it is but natural to suppose that they should have deposited these remains somewhere and erected a memorial on the spot in the shape of a stupa. Piprahwa, where these relics have been discovered, is within a few miles of Kapilavastu, the birth-place of Buddha, so that there is an inherent probability as to the genuineness of these relics. It was not quite two years ago Mr. Peppe was struck with the idea that perhaps by excavating this stupa at Piprahwa, he might discover something which would throw some light on Buddhist history, and happily his labours were not fruitless, for after digging 20 feet he came across a more valuable find than any explorer could have anticipated. The articles he found were (1) a stone coffin, (2) crystal and stearite vases, of which one is inscribed, (3) bone and ashes relics, (4) fragments of lime plaster and of wooden vessels, (5) a large quantity of jewels and ornaments placed in the vases in honour of the relics. Mr. Peppe at once informed the Collector of Basti, Mr. Rama Shankar, of the finding of these relics, and he in his turn communicated with the Commissioner of the Gorakhpur Division, Dr. Hoey, who takes an intense interest in Buddhism, and is an ardent archaeologist. A copy of the inscription on the stearite vase having been sent to him he deciphered it and found that it afforded evidence of the fact that the relics were those of Buddha, and that they were the share which his brother Sakya obtained of his remains after cremation.

Having regard to the extreme importance of these relics, the Commissioner, whilst allowing them to remain with Mr. Peppe, communicated with the local Government for its orders, suggesting at the same time that the "temporal relics," viz., the dust and ashes, should be made over to the King of Siam, and the rest deposited by the Government in the Imperial Museum in Calcutta. Mr. Peppe being allowed to retain any duplicates that had been found. This suggestion was evidently approved of, for some of the relics under the orders of the Government of India have found a safe and appropriate home in Calcutta, where they are available for inspection by all scholars who are interested in them. The remaining relics were offered to the King of Siam, and thankfully accepted by him.

On the morning of the 14th instant, H. E. Phya Sukhum, the Royal Commissioner of His Majesty the King of Siam and his Secretary Luangbhinit, arrived at Gorakhpur, where they were received at the station by Dr. Hoey. The party at once proceeded in two saloon carriages placed at their disposal by the Agent of the B. N. W. Railway to Uska. Mr. Peppe accompanied them, and conducted them from Uska to Piprahwa, 22 miles off where these relics had been found, and showed them the stupa and the remains of a monastery recently opened. The Royal Commissioner returned the next day to Gorakhpur, where, during his stay, he was with his suite the guest of Dr. Hoey. That same evening the distinguished visitor attended the annual Fancy Dress Ball at the Club, where he had the opportunity of meeting some of the residents of the station and the district. He left a general impression of being a remarkably intelligent man, and spoke English so well that it would have been a matter of surprise were it not known that he had spent eight years in London, having been attached to the Siamese Embassy there.

On the following morning the ceremony of the presentation of the relics took place under a shamiana pitched on the spacious lawn of the Commissioner's bungalow, in the presence of a goodly number of persons, amongst whom were noticed General Jennings, Commanding the District, Mr. Roberts, Member of the Board of Revenue, Mr. Izat, C.I.E., Agent to the B. and N. W. Railway, and Messrs. Griffin, Judge, Calnan, District Magistrate, Gorakhpur, Rama Shankar, District Magistrate, Basti, Peppe, Neville, Lupton, Middleton and others. Mrs. Hoey, Mrs. and the Misses O'Donnell, Miss Ferguson, and other ladies were also present. A police guard-of-honour under the command of Mr. Innis, D.S.P., was in attendance, and presented arms on the arrival of the Siamese Royal Commissioner. The relics were placed on a table in front of the Commissioner who requested Mr. Peppe to examine the seals which had been put on the relics when they were deposited by him in the Government Treasury. These having been found intact, Dr. Hoey then addressed the Royal Commissioner in a speech which was listened to with much interest. He first warmly welcomed him on behalf of the Government of India, and expressed the pleasure which he, as a student of Buddhism, felt in being the agent of the Government in the delivery of these relics. He then referred to the friendly relations which existed between the King of Siam and the British Government, and went on to add that the ceremony in progress was a token of the good will entertained towards His Majesty. The seals were then broken and a glass jar containing charred bones and ashes with fragments of pottery, and a parcel containing some ancient plaster were then formally handed over to the Royal Commissioner who received them and deposited the bones and ashes in two handsome gold-plated pagodas, which he had brought with him for the purpose. Having venerated these relics, the Royal Commissioner made a short reply on behalf of His Majesty the King of Siam, asking the Commissioner to convey to the Government of India his sincere thanks for the valuable gifts of which he had been the recipient that day, the value of which to those who professed the Buddhist faith, the Commissioner (Dr. Hoey) as a Buddhist scholar would be able duly to appreciate.

This ended a ceremony which is unique in the annals of British Indian history. A photograph of those present was taken to be forwarded later on to the King of Siam. The same evening the Royal Commissioner left for Calcutta in a special carriage, which was placed at his disposal by the Agent of the B. and N. W. Railway.

We learn that Her Highness the Begum has been pleased to confirm Khan Bahadur Mouli Abdul Jabbar in the post of Minister of Bhopal, granting him at the same time a substantial increase of salary in recognition of the services he has already rendered to the State. Her Highness could not have come to a wiser decision, and the knowledge that the Minister has her support and appreciation in his work will be a source of general gratification to the people and of strength to the administration.

## THE STORY OF A CRIME.

It is not often in these piping times of peace that one hears of a murderous outrage or serious dacoity in these hills, so the occurrence that took place on the 22nd of last month came as rather a surprise to the authorities, and was no doubt, gladly welcomed by the active and energetic little Sub-Inspector of Civil Police ever eager to test his keen detective abilities and try conclusions with law breakers.

It appears that three Lushais, two young men and one old, from the Manipur border far to the east, with beads to sell, came into the S. W. portion of the district in the course of their wanderings, and after knocking about among the many large scattered villages, found themselves at Thing-thu-buan, one of the group of hamlets that owe allegiance to Lalbora, a chief of some influence in these hills. At this village nothing was purchased, and the three itinerant hawkers left next morning, travelling in a northerly direction. Four miles from the village they came on three men, who stated they belonged to Thing-thu-buan, and had come out early to set traps. They desired to see the beads and asked the price of a string that seemed to take their fancy. Four rupees being asked they offered two, and suddenly one of them struck the older trader twice with a dao on the side of the head. The younger men bolted leaving everything, and one of them eventually found his way to Aijal, penniless and almost naked, and reported the outrage. The Sikh Sub-Inspector of Police was on the spot as soon as circumstances would allow, viz., about ten days after the murder and found two "dead corpses" as he expressed it in an advanced stage of decomposition. The robbers had evidently overtaken the second man, and not content with looting everything these unfortunates possessed, beads and money to the value of about Rs. 600, hacked the poor fellow literally to pieces. The bodies were in accordance with police etiquette sent to Aijal for the medical officer's examination and report, and I pity the gentleman to whose lot this unsavoury experience fell.

No trace of the murderers or loot has been forthcoming, though the Inspector and his escort of Military Police quartered themselves on Thing-thu-buan village and fed their fighting cocks for days. The Gurkha is a rare glutton, and does not see the philosophy of paying for things when he can force a terrified village to shell out free, and has official authority to back him.

Lalbora has a bad name, and gave trouble in the past; but has been on his very best behaviour for some time now and is eager to give satisfaction. This terrible accusation being brought against his village has alarmed the entire community. Visions of blazing homesteads rise before their eyes, and they are willing and anxious to supply all their guests (?) require without a murmur. Goats, of almost fabulous value in these hills, fowls, yamas and sweet potatoes, in an unbroken procession, find their way into the jolook or guest-house, and the gallant warriors in khaki gorges themselves to greasy repast several times a day, no doubt washing down each dose with copious libations, for zoo is plentiful. The Havildar in charge had put away so much "Khana-pina" the other morning that he was unable to get his waist belt on when called out to accompany the Inspector on an official visit to the site of the murder; and after letting out every hole in vain, was forced to tie the red and yellow woollen scarf round his distended waist!

The party of inquirers left on the morning of the 7th instant for Aijal laden with good things and carrying with them three Lushais suspected of the crime. How any suspicion can lie when absolutely no proofs have been forthcoming is a mystery that to the uninitiated cannot be fathomed but no doubt to the sharp and keen-witted Sikh with his intimate knowledge of the people sees exactly what he is about.—Morning Post.

## BANK-NOTES OF ALL NATIONS.

THE Bank of England note is about 5in. by in dimensions, and is printed in black ink on Irish linen water-marked paper, plain white, and with ragged edges.

The notes of the Banque de France are made of white, water-marked, printed in blue and black, with numerous mythological and allegorical pictures, and run in denominations from the 20 franc note to the 1,000 franc.

South American currency is about the size and general appearance of American notes, except that cinnamon-brown and slate blue are the prevailing colours, and the Spanish and Portuguese languages engraved are on the face.

The German currency is rather artistic. The notes are printed in green and black and are about an inch wide. They run in denominations from 5 marks to 1,000 marks. Their later notes are printed on silk fibre paper.

The Chinese currency is in red, white, and yellow paper, with gilt lettering and gorgeous little hand-drawn devices. The notes to the ordinary financier, might pass for washing bills, but they are worth good money in the Flowery Land.

Italian notes are of all shapes, sizes, and colour. The smaller bills—5 and 10 lire notes—are printed on white paper in pink, blue, and carmine inks, and are ornamented with a finely engraved vignette of King Humbert.

The 100-rouble note of Russia is barred from top to bottom with all the colours of the rainbow, blended as when shown through a prism. In the centre, in bold relief, stands a large, finely executed vignette of the Empress Catherine I. This is in black. The other engraving is not at all intricate or elaborate, but is well done



THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, MARCH 2, 1899.

RESULT OF THE EXERCISE OF  
IRRESPONSIBLE POWERS.

WHEN the East India Company ruled India, many members of the Indian Civil Service did not lead a strictly moral life. They were not, however, much to blame for it. Being practically banished from home, they had to contract undesirable alliances in this country, and Government found it impossible to control them. Even Governors and Members of Council were found to behave in a manner not worthy of their high position, and the result was that official character lost its prestige in the eyes of the Indian community. The Suez Canal brought England and India closer, and a better class of men were recruited for the Civil Service with higher pay, and matters lighted themselves gradually.

The new class of officials that came to rule India were proud of their moral superiority. And though less sympathetic than their predecessors and more imperious in their attitude, they were yet too proud to commit an unworthy act or make an exhibition of themselves before the public.

The position, privileges and power they enjoyed had the tendency of corrupting them; but they were kept under control for more reasons than one. It was the fixed policy of Government to keep its officials pure as far as that was possible. The officials themselves were proud of their service and they served to keep one another in check. Government was so jealous of the character of its officials that if anything appeared against them in the most obscure of vernacular prints, the matter was noticed, and though the officials were never or very rarely punished, this vigilant supervision over their conduct kept them always under check.

The bond which kept them within proper limits has, it seems, broken again. No one deprecates this unfortunate change more than the people of this country, who directly suffer by it. The cause, which was always at work—the exercise of irresponsible power—got the upper hand during the Ilbert Bill agitation. The members of the Civil Service, under the leadership of Sir Rivers Thomson, combined and rose against Lord Ripon, and made him feel that it was they, and not the Viceroy and Governor-General, who ruled the country. The officials got a further impetus for the exercise of their irresponsible powers during the rule of Sir Charles Elliott who gave them a carte blanche to do whatever they liked; and sympathetic rulers like Sir John Woodburn have to reap the fruits of the policy sown during the time of their predecessors.

Things have at last come to such a sad pass that, when arguing the theft case brought against Maulvi Fuzal Karim, Sub-divisional Officer of Munshiganj, Mr. Woodroffe bitterly complained to the Judges of the High Court that "if you raise a finger against even a punkha coolie employed in a Government office you are sure to have all the officials combined against you." Previously, officials, checked one another; but now they are *ek dil* (of one mind) and support one another if they are found fault with.

Previously any adverse remarks upon an official, even in obscure vernacular prints, were taken notice of; but now statements made on oath or in petitions signed by hundreds of people, and even the verdicts of courts of justice are ignored to save the offending official. Sometimes, there is no desire even to keep up appearances because, perhaps, it is felt that it is not possible to do so, without exciting the ridicule of the public.

It is simply terrorism and chaos which reign in many parts of the country now-a-days. When a Magistrate is sympathetic it is all right, but if he is not so, it is hopeless misery to the people. It is upon the temper of the Magistrate that the woe or the weal of the people of the district depends. That man is doomed, even when he is a European, if he happens to incur the displeasure of the lord of the district.

We have already seen how the district of Murshidabad has been turned *topsy-turvy* by the doings of its Magistrate. A respectable and experienced medical practitioner was sent by him to three months' imprisonment and fined Rs. 500 for an act which, by the greatest stretch of imagination, could not be construed into an offence. On the other hand, the persecuted Doctor performed a most difficult operation in a most skillful manner and did a humane act by affording the patient immediate relief for which he deserved thanks. The Magistrate, however, in spite of medical testimony of an unimpeachable character, thought that Dr. Ghose had killed the man and punished him as stated above. The highest court in the land has censured the conduct of the Magistrate by quashing his proceedings and the press also has severely criticised the case. But we find that Mr. Egerton has not yet been transferred from Murshidabad, nor has he apparently lost the confidence of Government, though he has managed to make himself so unpopular in his district by a number of high-handed proceedings.

Similarly, as we noticed the other day, there is a feeling of unrest and a sense of insecurity in the district of Bogra.

In our last issue we showed that even a European, and an officer to boot, is in the same boat with the natives, when he incurs the displeasure of the District Magistrate.

Indeed, the case of Mr. Augier, late Sub-Deputy Magistrate, illustrates the contention completely that Magistrates are supreme in the Mofussil and that they can do anything they like with impunity.

THE DEMORALIZING EFFECT OF  
THE IMPERIAL INSTINCT  
IN A NATION.

IN Verestchagin, the Russian painter, Mr. Stead has found a friend in his crusade against war. This master has devoted his talents to show the horrors of war. He is said to be the most famous painter of the realities of war. Some of his pictures have been reproduced in the last number of the *Review of Reviews*. One of them is "the pyramid of skulls", by which the victory of a great supposed hero has been commemorated. The pyramid shows the prowess of the "hero" who was able to raise a pyramid with the skulls of his fellows massacred by him. Mr. Morley thus speaks about the Rashoda affair, (we are indebted to the *Indian Empire* for the extract):—

Unholy is the voice of loud thanks-giving over the slaughtered men, and I wonder whether, in exultation over the Maxim guns mowing down men like swaths of grass, and your Lyddite shells blasting with death the spaces, where they fell, and all the other pomp and circumstance of glorious war, they thought of another picture. Here is what one of the correspondents said: "The comparatively mild sufferings of our own men turned one's thoughts to the crowded heaps of wounded wretches, left behind us on the desert, to the added tortures of that thirst which invariably accompanies gun-shot wounds. How many thousands of women and children would soon be weeping with all their wild lamentations of the East over the brave men who lay in the sleep of death, far away in the plain? Sorrow is the same thing all the world over. And the terrific carnage of that day's fighting had taken away the bread-winners and protectors from thousands of poor homes in the Soudan, and doomed many a household to starvation."

Years ago, this Russian painter once had gone to England to exhibit his pictures. Mr. Stead then described these pictures of the artist in the *Pall Mall*, of which he was Editor at the time. Of the three pictures, one represented the execution of the Nihilists, who had assassinated the Czar; the other the crucifixion of Jesus Christ; and the third an Indian execution. Mr. Stead described them thus in the *Pall Mall*:

The three pictures form a wonderful trio. The gallows, the cross and the cannon, the most ignominious death conceivable, is being inflicted by the Executive Government of the day. And one of the victims was Jesus Christ. In the other two it was the Christians who were the executioners.

About the third, that is to say, the Indian execution, Mr. Stead wrote:—

The third picture is hard and mechanical compared with the others. It represents the familiar scene of the execution of the revolted Sepoys during the mutiny. There may or may not be anachronisms—a button wrong here, a victim wrongly posed there. These are details. The central fact is the loaded cannon, the writhing victim and the soldier in uniform, erect and stoic as an automaton, waiting the word of command to blow his helpless captive into a thousand fragments. The strong bright glare of the Eastern sun brings the horrid group into clear relief. Another moment and the motionless man in our uniform will pull the string—and—says Mr. Verestchagin, "Strange how many English people resent by having painted this. Some say it never happened. Others say it is far past and will never recur. False, false! You did do it, and you will do it again. It is because you do that that you are able to remain. If you will no longer do that, then you must go. How many are there of you in India? 50,000 or 60,000 English soldiers. And how many natives?—three hundred millions! How long would the three hundred millions tolerate the authority of the 60,000 but for that? You can choose. There is your last word. If you dare not speak it, then make up your mind and depart. But of course you will do it again, and do it as often as three hundred millions object to your rule. It is the condition of your power—not only to kill, but after death to follow with your punishment the soul of the rebel."

We believe the painting represents, not the execution of the revolted sepoys, but the blowing off of the Kukas by Mr. Cowan. A new religious sect sprang up in the Punjab with Ram Singh for leader, who were called Kukas. It was believed that they had a political object to serve, in the garb of religion, and forty-nine of them were blown away. The sect disappeared with the disappearance of the leader. This act was condemned by Mr. Routledge, the then editor of the *Friend of India*, and Mr. Cowan, the Deputy Commissioner, at whose instance it was perpetrated, was dismissed. But that is neither here nor there. This picture of the Indian execution has, however, a beauty of its own. There is perfect symmetry in all the guns being tied to their mouths, the whole being surrounded by grim British soldiers. The painter's idea that such drastic measures are necessary for the maintenance of British power in India, is a libel on God and Jesus Christ, and on Englishmen and Indians. If such drastic measures were thought necessary, Cowan would not have been dismissed. If there is a God, and if the teachings of Christ are good, then we must say that love and kind treatment carry with them greater power than cannon. In India, the people are exceptionally gentle and intelligent, and any appeal to the fear of such a people is a political mistake.

Happily there is peace now in India. The shedding of blood, which was deluging the country for the last 800 years, was put a stop to by the energy, power of organization, and prowess of a handful of foreigners whom God sent from one end of the world

to do this. But British rule has yet much to do. As an alien power Englishmen had to introduce a rigorous system of criminal administration in the beginning; but there is now no justification for the continuance of that system. Such scenes, as the blowing off of men, have become now impossible, but it is not rare to see a number of men condemned to death for the murder of one. The scale of punishment here is high, while the safeguards of the criminal are fewer than in England. A more humane system of criminal administration should be introduced, not only for the sake of the people but also of the rulers themselves.

When a man is sent to jail he is oftentimes ruined for ever, and his innocent family. If Judges, who send criminals to jail, place themselves in the position of the accused before awarding punishment, they will see that they themselves would have acted in the same manner which the culprits had done. When the criminal acts of the accused are placed before a Judge he is led to act from a feeling of vindictiveness. But vindictiveness is a debasing passion for every one, including the Judge. A searching of heart on the part of a Judge, who is very severe, will show him that he has deadened the fine sentiments that God gave him, by his own severity. In England now-a-days, Judges have to be very humane, or the public will not bear it.

The panic in Calcutta during the last plague scare was an incident which is never to be forgotten. It was suspected that the plague-bacilli had been found in the blood of a man who had died of a suspicious case, and it was apprehended that Government would impose strict segregation. This rumour led the citizens to leave the town almost in a body. About three-fourths of the population vacated the city which presented a deserted appearance. It was then only a rumour that led to the panic. Now it is no longer a rumour but something more real before us. Government assures us that some real cases of plague have occurred in the town, indeed quarantine has been imposed at Aden upon passengers from Calcutta. How is it, then, that there is no stir in the town? On the last occasion females with infants in their arms were seen hurrying along streets in terror as if pursued by a tiger. But now the announcement that the plague is already upon us, though in a sporadic shape, does not create any stir. This proves incontrovertibly the point that the rules, enforced to stamp out the plague, were more dreadful than the monster itself. And what is plague? It means sudden death, death from a virulent and painful disease! Thus it is proved that the people prefer death to the plague regulations. And such regulations were enforced in Poona by the authorities upon their fellow beings with a light heart. The result was the murder of British officials, the gagging of the press, and the incarceration of Tilak, etc. Lord George Hamilton would do nothing which would weaken British rule in India. But has not the operation of the plague rule considerably weakened British rule in India, that is to say, led the people to desperate acts such as the murder of British officials, a thing never heard of before in this country? The feelings of the officials towards the people, though never cordial, were much better before than they are now. If the Bombay authorities had felt some sympathy for the people in their distress, the country would not have been thrown topsy-turvy in this way two years ago. In other words, we contend that the Bombay authorities had dealt with the matter in the way the Bengal Government is doing, there would have been no murder of British officials, no arrest of the Natus, no press prosecutions and no gagging Act.

The hostile attitude of the *Madras Standard* towards Mrs. Besant is inexplicable. It will no doubt surprise those who have a good opinion of the patriotism of the *Standard* to see that paper betraying this hostile attitude towards one, who is apparently a very good and disinterested friend of India. Mrs. Besant is admittedly the most eloquent woman in the world. She is not only a great and disinterested friend of this country, but avowedly a Hindu. Such being the case, she ought to be an object of the tenderest care to a patriotic paper like the *Standard*. And thus, the apparent hostility of the *Madras Standard* towards the noble lady is a mystery. The *Standard* may not agree with all that she says. Her scheme of a college for the Hindus may not commend itself to the good sense of the *Madras Standard*. But all this does not account for the hostile tone towards a philanthropic and spiritual woman, who is travelling from one end of the world to the other, preaching the tenets which the Hindu saints had revealed to the world. The idea entertained of the Hindus in the civilized countries in the West is, that they are a bigoted and idolatrous people, who murder their widows and pay homage to hideous gods. That was the opinion entertained of the Hindus before the Theosophists came into existence. But through the good services of that body that idea has now disappeared. The idea that now prevails is that the Hindus have much to teach in spiritual matters to the rest of the world. This the Hindus owe to Theosophists like Mrs. Besant, and they therefore deserve the profound gratitude of the country and of a paper like our contemporary.

The following paragraph appears in the *Globe* newspaper:—

The young fellow who has "missed his exam." on being "ploughed" or "plucked" is common enough in this country; but he does not, as in India, aspire upon the strength of it to form a separate class specially deserving of public sympathy and Government assistance. In the East, the "failed students," as they awkwardly label themselves, regard their condition as only one degree less meritorious than that of their successful rivals; and it is no unusual thing to find "failed F.A." or "failed B.A." put forward as an applicant's chief claim for employment. But it is a new thing to find his disappointment used as a political weapon. In the leading article of a native paper, however, the woes of the failed students are laid at the door of the Government of India. A failed student, it says, is "as doomed as a life-convict, but luckily he does not live long; he dies either of consumption or indigestion." This is very sad, and the more so when the paper traces the inexorable finger of fate and of the Government of India in his evolution. To pass the examination the youth "does his best," but for reasons unexplained, "it happens that he fails on the first day of his examination." Next year, "a sudden dizziness seizes him while writing his answers." So he fails, and becomes doomed. He may, the paper hints, become a dangerous member of society; but it prefers to enlarge upon the pathetic side of the picture. The moral, of course, is that if there were no British Government in India there would be no failed candidates. And this is what passes as political argument among the advocates of Home Rule for India and the shining lights of the National Congress.

The "native paper" referred to in the above is this journal. The *Globe* tries to make fun of us. Of course, we said nothing of what the *Globe* makes us say. We have to see in course of business many English papers. A good many are very sensible—not all. There are others which are very stupid. They remind us of red and roundfaced, beef-eating and beer-drinking Englishmen—in short, of John Bull in caricature, specimens of whom are also seen in this country, though only very rarely. We believe such men are not permitted by the authorities to come here, lest they make their nation ridiculous in the eyes of the Hindus. The *Globe* is one of these. As for humane sentiments that paper does not seem to have a drop. As for intelligence that paper has not a spark. What it has, except a little assurance and assertiveness, we know not. The idea of the *Globe* is that the people of India are a race of savages who can flourish only when beaten repeatedly. Now, in the paragraph quoted above, can any one make out what the writer means? We see before us a few sentences joined together, but we defy any one to eke any meaning out of them. That is the way the *Globe* entertains its readers.

THE Duke of Bedford in moving the Address to the Crown said on the occasion of the opening of Parliament:—

As to their Eastern Empire, all praise was due to Lord Elgin for having successfully rapped with the three great evils of plague, war and famine. But these visitations had made their mark, and never was there greater need for that touch of sympathy to which the people so readily responded. The magnificent reception given to Lord Curzon was largely due to the fact that India knew that he was in sympathy with her troubles, her genius and her legitimate aspirations.

We are obliged to the Duke for the terms of his motion. We do not grudge him the kind words that he was led to use in referring to Lord Elgin. The way that he expressed himself shewed, that he knew that Lord Elgin was regarded here as an unsympathetic ruler. For he notices the magnificent reception given to Lord Curzon, and he attributes this result, mainly to the sympathetic words uttered by his Lordship. The very fact of a few sympathetic words evoking such an outburst of gratitude, is a proof positive that sympathy is what the Indians never got from his predecessor.

THAT Lord Elgin has been received coldly on his return home, is admitted even by the *Saturday Review*. That paper says:—

Lord Elgin's home-coming has been peculiarly unexciting. There has been no enthusiastic demonstration of welcome; no functions, no speeches.

The surest way for the rulers of India to secure approbation from the English people, is first to secure the approbation of the people of this country. If the rulers of this country had realized this fact, they would have paid more respect to the wishes and grievances of the Indians. Of course, the *Times* is always ready with its certificate, and the greater the failure the greater its commendation of the incompetent ruler. But this certificate does not now carry much weight, as the position of Lord Elgin will shew. The sincere wish of the British people is, that the Indians should be governed well, and persuaded to trust in the justice and generosity of British rule. The ruler who succeeds, therefore, in gaining the approbation and confidence of the Indians is sure to be gratefully received in England. What is Sir A. P. MacDonnell that he should be lionized in England? Sir Antony MacDonnell received greater attention in England, though he was there for a short trip, than did Lord Elgin, though he had "successfully grappled with famine, plague and war." The credit of the former lies in his popularity here.

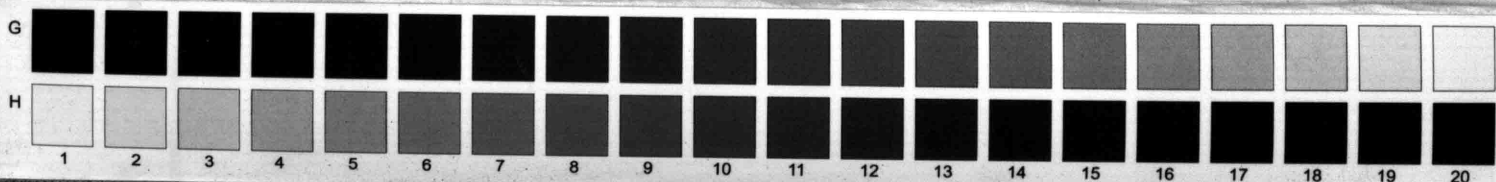
OUR London correspondent says that, "the Calcutta Municipal Bill must run counter to all Lord Curzon's views about local government." Further on he says: "There is a general impression in Indian circles

here, both official and otherwise, that Lord Curzon does not view with much favour the Calcutta Municipal Bill, and would be glad of any decent excuse, to postpone considering the Bill for twelve months pending inquiry." The same impression also prevails here, but it is not based upon any declaration of his Lordship. Yet the ground upon which the impression rests, is not altogether unsubstantial. Ever since his Lordship found himself in the position of the supreme ruler of three hundred million people, he has been telling them that he is a friend and will serve them, and shewing them by his acts, that he is such a friend and a very able man, nay, one of the ablest Englishmen that ever came to occupy the position that he occupies now. An intelligent and honorable man of large heart, his Lordship is pledged to do his duty to the people, whom God has placed in his hands. That being the case, his sense of duty, nay, his natural inclination will not permit him to support a measure like the Municipal Bill. To be able to do this, his Lordship will have to echo what the Hon'ble Mr. Risley was obliged to say, *viz.*, that "the present Bill does not destroy the elective system but confirm it." Now, every one in the world except Mr. Risley, knows that he had no right to make such an assertion, for it was opposed to fact. To support the Municipal Bill Lord Curzon will have to base his action upon some such premise as that adopted by Mr. Risley. That is to say, his Lordship will have to say that the Bill confirms the elective system and is a progressive measure. Of course, Lord Curzon may adopt the other policy and allege, that the elective system has failed and that therefore it ought to be withdrawn. But where is the proof of such an allegation? Sir A. Mackenzie, who was only for two years on the *gaddi*, may, no doubt, say it, but his five and more experienced predecessors did not say so. Besides, the elective system was an absolute gift to the people of this country. Lord Ripon said in his famous Proclamation that failures were expected, and that failures would never be a ground for withdrawing the privilege. As we said, Lord Curzon has no help in the matter; his Lordship cannot support the Bill without stultifying himself.

OUR London correspondent further says that his Lordship is only "seeking a decent excuse to postpone considering the Bill." And are the people of India reduced to this? A wrong is sought to be done to the people, and that wrong is to be forced because there is no decent excuse for backing out? What can be a more cogent reason with a ruler who is responsible for the welfare of his people than this that the measure is wrong and is not wanted? We have often heard it said that to withdraw the measure would hurt the susceptibilities of the author of the Bill! Is that a sufficient reason for doing wrong to a nation? We know the story of the spoiled child of a despotic king, who was rending the skies with his cries, because his servant had refused to accede to his wishes. The Prince only wanted that the servant would allow him to cut his (the servant's) head off, with a knife. The servant refused to be agreeable, and the princeling felt himself the aggrieved party, and collected the whole royal household round him by his cries. Strange to say, all these sided, not with the servant, but with the Prince! They abused the servant for his perversity. "Do not you see, you wretch," said the members of the household to the servant, "that the Prince is crying? He only wants to cut off your head with his knife. And you will not oblige him? How are we to stop his cries?" We think this story will be a sufficient reply to those who urge that unless the wrong is done, Sir A. Mackenzie will refuse to be consoled. "You wretches," says the upholder of the Bill, addressing the people of India (for in this measure the whole country is interested), "don't you see that Sir A. Mackenzie is concerned in the matter? How can we console him unless you agree to do what he says? He only wants you to give up, for ever, your hope of self-government. And you will not do it to console him?"

It may be remembered that, when the ministership of Bhopal was conferred on that distinguished Bengali Mussalman, Syed Abdul Jubbur, Khan Bahadur, it was for two years only. We are glad to be able, to announce that Her Highness the Begum has been pleased to confirm him in the appointment, with an increase of Rs. 500 to his pay. This proves conclusively that his services have been appreciated by Her Highness; and this augurs well of Bhopal for a more conscientious and abler officer than Mouli Abdul Jubbur is not to be found in whole India for the purpose of managing big Indian States.

THE Sherpur correspondent of the *Charu-mihir* of Maimansing is responsible for the following extraordinary story. Recently the Divisional Commissioner and the District Magistrate had been to Sherpur on inspection duty. The Municipal Commissioners and the local gentry wanted to do them honor; so in a body they awaited their arrival in the compound of the Municipal office. To the great surprise of those present, the officials seriously objected to their meeting and peremptorily ordered them away. What followed was perhaps more strange. While the Commissioner and the Magistrate were inside the Municipal office, some school-boys collected on the veranda, presumably with the view of having a look at the Burra Sahiba





The very presence of the boys was enough to offend the Magistrate. He rushed out of the room to chastise the juvenile offenders. They were, however, too smart for him. Seeing that they had fled, the Magistrate is said to have violently "pushed with his knee" one Surendra Nath Patranabish, who was standing near the place. The push was too much for the latter and he fell down. The Magistrate is said to have attempted to attack him again; but as he managed to get up quickly and run away, the Magistrate could not do him any more harm. We fear there is some exaggeration in the above account, for we can hardly persuade ourselves to believe that one in the position of a District Magistrate could have behaved in a manner the Maimansing official is alleged to have done.

BABU SASINDRA CHANDRA SINHA of Karimgunj has furnished us with the particulars of a coolie recruiting case, which, we understand, has already attracted the attention of the local authorities. On the 13th instant, a batch of 24 coolies arrived at the Karimgunj Railway Station, consigned to Dulab Cher Tea Estate; out of them four women, disconsolate and frantic as they looked, stubbornly refused to go to the garden. All persuasions failing, the rest of the company proceeded to their destination, leaving them in charge of the railway police. The next morning, I happened to be at the station and heard the tale of their woe and suffering. The women came from a village called Mowreara, within a mile or two of the Kani Railway Station in Jubbulpore district. Three of them are alleged to be wives of three brothers named Esmail, Roopnarin and Ram Soomar Tewary, by caste Bramhins, and the other, the wife of one Dabidin Likhur of the same village. All of them have left behind children 3 or 4 years old. One day, one Sooratan Ludi of their neighbourhood came and told them that there was going to be a mela in connection with the bathing festival at the Ganges; so if they wished they could accompany him. Accordingly they made up their minds and set out from home, taking train at Kani Station. At Bilashpur, quite unaware of them, Sooratan slipped away from their company and they found themselves in the hands of another man, a perfect stranger to them, who, in a conciliatory way, did his level best to prevent them from giving vent to feelings of pain and anguish, which were agitating their minds. In this way they came Gualundo after a journey of 4 days and were placed on board the steamer along with 20 other people in charge of a peon of one Kunja Behari Ghose, a recruiting agent there. In their journey thence, their movements at every step were hampered in such a manner that they had no opportunity to be able to communicate their sorrows to the people outside, till at last they landed at Karimgunj, weary and virtually starved, and were asked, to their great dismay, to go to the aforesaid garden. Now making allowance for all probable exaggerations in the above statement, there can be no doubt of it that the women were enticed away on some other pretext than that of going to tea-gardens and that also without the knowledge of their husbands. Their appearance and demeanour, at any rate, would lead any one to believe that they belong to a class of people, not fit to be coolies for gardens. I am glad that the matter has already received the attention of the local Magistrate, who has detained the women here, pending enquiry through the authorities of their district. At the same time if any of your readers in that part of the country, would interest himself in the matter and put me in possession of the actual facts by instituting enquiries into their alleged homes, I am prepared to do the needful at this end to extricate the women from their troubles as well as to see that the real miscreants are found out and brought to book.

OUR Kurigram correspondent, Babu Baroda Kant Chakrabarti sends us an account of a golden deed, recently performed by an Indian coolie, which deserves to be recorded in letters of gold. The man had a tough hand-to-hand fight with a tiger in saving the life of a European gentleman and ultimately succumbed to the injuries he received. On the 22nd instant, Mr. Hutchison, District Superintendent of Police, Rangpur, was on his way to Kurigram on an inspection tour, when information was brought to him of the depredations of a tiger which had for sometime past been doing great havoc among cattle. The brute had taken quarters in a char, and thither Mr. Hutchison repaired in a boat, armed with a gun and attended by a number of people. Arrived on the char, search was made for Master Stripes, and he was discovered quietly reposing in a tuft of Kasia grass. Mr. Hutchison raised his gun, took deliberate aim and fired. He missed apparently, for the angry brute, with a growl of rage, sprang upon him and clawed his left hand. This unexpected turn of things made Mr. Hutchison a little nervous perhaps, and no wonder. He dropped his gun and fell flat on the ground—a helpless victim for the jaws of the tiger. At this crisis, a Behari coolie, our correspondent does not unfortunately give his name, though armed with only an antiquated lathi, rushed up to the rescue, regardless of consequences and presumably with one object in view, to draw off the attack of the now infuriated animal from its prostrate victim. So earnest was his attack that the tiger left the shahab to attack the coolie. The latter did his level best to beat off the animal, but still he was badly mauled before the spectators of this strange scene could interfere in his behalf. The coolie was removed to hospital bleeding from many wounds inflicted by the teeth and claws of the tiger; and Mr. Hutchison was saved. The next day the coolie died in hospital. The District Superintendent went again after the animal which at one moment had threatened to put a period to his valuable existence, but no amount of search could bring it out. We are told that the deceased who hailed from Maricha, in District Chupra, has left old parents to mourn his loss. That something should be done for these old people requires no advocate to press to the notice of Mr. Hutchison and the Government.

A PURI telegram announces that stringent plague regulations have been enforced at Khordia where Puri pilgrims and through passengers are being examined and detained in case of suspicion.

DR. DUNCAN, Director of Public Instruction, Madras, has appointed Mr. C. A. Wilkins, to the vacant place in the Kumbakonam

College on a salary of Rs. 150, superseding the claims of a host of better qualified men, already serving in the Education Department. What makes the action of the Director more extraordinary is the fact that it violates a rule of his own making, that teachers employed in Aided Colleges should invariably be L.T.s. We learn from the *Hindu* that Mr. Wilkins is at present in the Secretariat on a salary of Rs. 100. It passes ordinary comprehension how his service in the Secretariat made Mr. Wilkins more fitted to hold the professorship of a College than those who have passed the best portion of their lives in the Education Department.

The reader is aware of the finding of the Coroner's jury in the case in which a European soldier at Fort William gave a push to a *maler*, the man dying in consequence of the fall. They disposed of the matter by returning a verdict of death "due to inflammation of the leg resulting from an accidental fall." The Coroner in summing up said: "It was not a case of murder or culpable homicide not amounting to murder or even of causing death by doing a rash and negligent act. The Lance Corporal was perfectly justified under the circumstances in giving a slight push. Suppose the positions of the deceased and the European soldier were reversed, that is to say, suppose a native had given a push to a European—a very gentle one, resulting in his death, would the jury have come to this finding? Just see. A European at Balladun in Sylhet was murdered by some budmashes and half-a-dozen innocent men were sentenced to be hanged, who owed their lives to the intervention of the High Court. The whole of India was convulsed last year because two European officials at Poona were shot dead by two insane Gundas. We need not multiply instances. The Indian is as much a subject of the Queen as a European, and Her Majesty, who is goodness personified, promised that she would govern both her white and sable subjects in the same impartial manner. Those of her servants who do it not, only put Her Majesty in a false position. Mark the heartlessness of the finding in the case under notice. They did not express a word of regret for the mishap, nay they went to the length of justifying the conduct of the aggressor, by saying that he did nothing wrong in the giving the deceased a 'slight push.' But surely the man would not have fallen, if he had not been pushed, slightly or violently, and he would not have died of inflammation of the leg if he were not thrown down. It was to prevent the recurrence of these 'gentle pushes' and their disastrous results that Lord Lytton recorded his Fuller Minute; but, its provisions have long been forgotten, and it behoves Lord Curzon to signalise his administration either by reviving that document or writing out a fresh one."

## INDIA AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, FEB 13

### THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

PARLIAMENT met on Tuesday with the usual opening ceremonies. The Commons, having been summoned to the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor read the message from the Queen in which she informed "My Lords and Gentlemen" that her relations with other Powers continued to be friendly; that in conjunction with the Khedive of Egypt the territories of the Khalfia in the Soudan had been conquered; that peace and order reigned in Crete; that she had "gladly" signified her assent to the Peace Conference of the Czar; that she was sorry at the death of the Empress of Austria; and that some changes in the law relating to the reception of anarchists in this country would be proposed to them during the session; that she sympathised with the West Indians in their hurricane troubles; and praised the Cape of Good Hope for its contribution to Naval Expenditure; and congratulated India on a fat harvest and an overflowing exchequer.

Her Majesty then set forth her legislative programme. She proposes to cut London up into 30 Municipalities; to deal with secondary and technical education; to facilitate private legislation for Scotland; to enable workmen to purchase their own dwellings; and a number of small departmental measures. Altogether a meagre and disappointing programme, leaving untouched the great demand of the working classes for an old-age pension scheme, and the differences within the Church of England which threaten disestablishment and disendowment as the only method by which the laity can be delivered from priestly arrogance and domination.

The reference to India is as follows:—"In parts of my Indian Empire, I grieve to say, the plague still continues; and though it has diminished in some districts previously affected it has spread to fresh places in Southern and Northern India. Unremitting efforts continue to be made to relieve sufferers from the disease, to check its spread in India, and to prevent its transmission to other lands. I am glad to be able to inform you that the harvests of the past year have been abundant, and that the trade and revenue of the country have recovered with a rapidity and completeness that has surpassed all expectation."

The Duke of Bedford, in moving the Address to the Crown referred briefly to India in these words:—"As to their Eastern Empire, all praise was due to Lord Elgin for having successfully grappled with the three great evils of plague, war, and famine. But these visitations had made their mark, and never was there greater need for that touch of sympathy to which the people so readily responded. The magnificent reception given to Lord Curzon was largely due to the fact that India knew that he was in sympathy with her troubles, her genius and her legitimate aspirations."

Lord Kimberley in his criticism of the speech made only a scanty reference to India, chiefly complimentary to Lord Elgin who was present, and an optimistic view of Indian finance. He said authoritatively that India will have a "large and substantial surplus," and that "recent changes in Indian currency have been justified, saving India from a serious financial crisis. He also spoke hopefully of the report

of the Indian Currency Commission.

Lord Salisbury made a long speech on Foreign politics but said nothing about India. The mover of the Address in the House of Commons, whose speech is always submitted to the Prime Minister, stated that India would show a "surplus of something like two and three-quarters millions," so that figure may be accepted as authoritative and accurate.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman made his first speech as Opposition Leader, immediately the seconder of the Address had resumed his seat and a rattling good speech it was. The House was packed with members on both sides and was evidently deeply interested in his performance. His attack on the Government over the Fashoda episode was one of the most skilful and damaging ever delivered in Parliament and the Liberals yelled their approval of his exposure and denunciation of the weak, vacillating, Swash-buckler policy that brought us to the very verge of war with France—a position from which Lord Salisbury was plucked by Lord Rosebery. He was equally effective in his searching criticism of the domestic policy of the Government, and sat down after an hour's speech that put great heart into his party, and drew from them a great demonstration of approval and applause. Mr. Balfour at once rose to reply, and it was evident all through his speech that he realized the difference between a leader who unites his party and one who has a divided and in subordinate following. The usual general debate ensued, in which Sir William Wedderburn took part.

An incident which gave rise to much discussion in the lobby on Tuesday afternoon was the resignation of the leadership of the Irish Nationalist party by Mr. John Dillon who has taken this step in view of negotiations which are going forward between the two sections of Irish Nationalist members to secure a union of their forces and get rid of the disastrous enmity which has existed ever since Parnell's death. It seems probable that Sir Thomas Esmond is likely to be the leader upon whom the two sections will unite.

Sir William Wedderburn complained that the reference in the Queen's Speech to affairs in India was a meagre one considering the terrible crisis through which India had passed during the last two years. The causes of the plague should be inquired into. He believed the chief cause was the extreme poverty and ill-nourished condition of the people. He hoped more money would be spent on sanitation that the homes of the people might be made more healthy and comfortable. The speech also contained no reference to the famine which had recently been experienced in India. It was to be hoped that the improvement in the revenue of India would be accompanied by the remission of taxation, like the salt tax, bearing most heavily on the masses of the people; and that the large balances which had been withdrawn from the Provincial Governments would be returned. The speeches of the new Viceroy before he left England were very encouraging, as expressing sympathy with the people of India and a desire to know their real condition. In dealing with the famine and plague the great fault had been that the people were not taken into confidence and that their assistance was not engaged. Last year a number of retrograde measures had been taken which must tend to alienate the people. The administration of the sedition law, the exclusion of natives from some of the highest educational posts, and the proposed virtual extinction of representative municipal government in Calcutta were all retrograde measures in that they represented the withdrawal of privileges long enjoyed.

All Wednesday afternoon was taken up by a debate raised by an amendment moved by Sir E. Ashmead Bartlett urging the Government to take early and effective measures to help the Chinese Government to maintain the territorial independence of the Chinese Empire. The amendment was withdrawn in consequence of assurances given by the Government. This was the first of a long series of amendments on an infinite variety of subjects which have been put down by members on the order book. There are twenty-four already on the paper, and these will be added to daily until an exhausted House closes all that remain. Those that excite the most interest are those bearing on the abandonment of a scheme of old-age pensions for the poor, the promise of which did much to secure the Government their majority at the last election. Mr. Samuel Smith's amendment on the condition of lawlessness now prevailing in the Church of England which is being debated as I write; Mr. Labouchere's amendment limiting the powers of the House of Lords; Mr. Redmond's demand for legislative independence for Ireland; and Mr. Herbert Roberts' amendment on the Calcutta Municipal Bill. These are about all the subjects on which any real interest will be awakened among members, and it is probable that the Government will give Mr. Redmond a special day later on in the session.

Mr. Herbert Roberts has modified the draft of his resolution which I quoted in my last letter, and it appears on the order book as follows:—

"We humbly assure your Majesty that we regard with grave concern the introduction of the Calcutta Municipal Bill, now under consideration by the Bengal Legislative Council which if enacted will practically destroy the representative character of the Calcutta Municipality, and will constitute a retrograde step in the system of Local Government in India, and pray that your Majesty will graciously direct that the further consideration of the Bill be postponed until a duly constituted commission has taken evidence and has reported upon the objections urged against the Bill by the rate-payers of Calcutta."

There is a general impression in Indian circles here, both official and otherwise, that Lord Curzon does not view with much favour the extreme proposals of the Calcutta Municipal Bill, and would be glad if any decent excuse to postpone consideration of the Bill for 12 months pending enquiry. It is probable that the debate on Mr. Roberts' motion may furnish that excuse, especially if, as appears very likely to-day, Sir Henry Fowler gives it his cordial support. Sir Henry is giving serious study to the Bill, and to all that has been said and urged against it. I think your readers may take it as pretty certain that he will not oppose Mr. Roberts' motion in any case, even if he does not see his way to support it. It is, however, a sad comment on Sir Henry Fowler's attitude towards the party of progress in India, that his best friends and warmest

admirers should find room for doubt with regard to his attitude towards such a piece of downright and barefaced reaction as this wicked Bill. I have some hope that Lord Curzon will himself postpone its consideration for 12 months; it must run counter to all his views about local government.

### ELECTION OF THE LIBERAL LEADER.

At last after nearly four years of divided leadership, the great historic Liberal party appears to have pulled itself together once more, and presents a united front to the enemy. Sir William Harcourt, a born parliamentary leader, and the best fighting debater the House possesses, has never had a fair chance in his leadership owing to private and totally irreconcilable differences with Lord Rosebery, the true origin and nature of which we shall never know fully until the history of this unhappy period of Liberal politics comes to be written. Finding leadership practically impossible with a small but powerful faction dissatisfied and rebellious, Sir William Harcourt has resigned it. Mr. Morley retires with him, and the Liberal Members of Parliament have had to choose a fresh leader. They met for the purpose on Monday afternoon at the Reform Club, and unanimously selected Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman as Sir William Harcourt's successor, as I predicted they would in my last letter. The meeting was singularly successful. Sir Wilfrid Lawson, as the oldest independent Member of Parliament present, was called to the chair, and he presided over a gathering of no less than 150 of his fellow Liberal members.

Mr. John E. Ellis, one of the best friends of India in Parliament and at one time a member of the British Congress Committee, moved this warmly worded resolution of thanks to Sir William Harcourt:—

"That this meeting desires to record its warm recognition of the eminent services rendered by Sir William Harcourt in the country and in Parliament during a public career of more than thirty years; deeply regrets his decision to retire from the position of Leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons, which he has filled with such dignity, devotion, and conspicuous ability; but rejoices to know that the work of the Liberal party will continue to receive his hearty and invaluable co-operation."

It was seconded by Mr. James Stuart. The meeting cheered vigorously every sentiment of gratitude and loyalty to Sir William Harcourt and it was manifest that every one present was eager to show that they at any rate had always given full support to his leadership. Then Mr. Atherley Jones, somewhat of a busy-body, moved a very unnecessary amendment inserting the words "expresses its continued confidence in him," a sentiment that might well have been taken for granted without formal expression. Mr. Jones justified his amendment by declaring that Liberal Members cannot shut their eyes to the fact that Sir William Harcourt retired from the leadership of the Liberal party in obedience to pressure from some quarter, a statement which was received with a vigorous protest from all present. It was seconded by Mr. C. P. Scott, the well-known editor of the *Manchester Guardian*, and the meeting adopted it by acclamation, incorporating it in the resolution. Having thus done full justice to the retiring leader it became necessary to elect his successor.

This congenial task was entrusted to genial Sir Joseph Pease, who proposed Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, in a vigorous speech in which he insisted on the importance of a fixed policy on domestic affairs and appealed for more vigorous leadership in the House. Mr. Channing seconded and Dr. Farquharson, the oldest Scotch member, supported it and then Mr. Labouchere rose to speak. Everyone expected that at last a note of discord was to be struck as Mr. Labouchere had been the consistent friend of Sir William Harcourt and the persistent enemy of Lord Rosebery all through the troublous times of the former's leadership. However, to the surprise and delight of the meeting, he gave his hearty support to Sir Henry in a few characteristic and witty sentences.

Then Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman rose to acknowledge the cordial and unanimous vote of confidence which had been passed on his leadership and the whole meeting rose to its feet to give him an enthusiastic assurance that their confidence was real and genuine. He made an admirable, eloquent and singularly tactful speech. He declared his intention of vindicating the importance of the House of Commons as the real governing body of the Empire. The Tories had been complaining that there was no opposition—well, that should be cured. His opposition would not be vindictive, but certainly watchful, steady, active and alert. He declared there were no chasms in the Liberal party, and they would present a united front in future. The meeting has disappointed only those who welcome dissension in the Liberal Ranks and has been hailed with deep gladness and relief by the rank and file of the Liberal party throughout the country which, sound and united as ever on foundation principle of progressive Liberalism, have got very weary of the secret and personal squabbles which had reduced Parliamentary leadership to a farce that could no longer be tolerated. The meeting has, once for all, reunited the parliamentary as well as the popular elements of the party and it will be their own fault if the next general election fails to clear out the present ministry. The new leader is accepted without a dissentient voice by both the party in Parliament and the party in the country. I believe their confidence will be fully justified.

Sir William Harcourt with wise and kindly tact took himself off for a little holiday on the shores of the Mediterranean, leaving the new leader a clear and unembarrassed field. Mr. John Morley has taken his seat on the Front Bench not behind it as was expected and feared and there can be little doubt that neither of the retired leaders are at all likely to embarrass the choice of the whole party. For the first time in this Parliament there will be a united Opposition, led by a man who combines the support of every member of it. It is needless for me to dilate on the great importance of this new condition of things, to this country and the Empire at large, for no one knows and realizes it better than the educated politicians of India whose grievances before Parliament have never received adequate consideration and discussion in Parliament, owing to the slackness which has inevitably

permeated the Front Opposition Bench and which has left Indian questions to one of their number whose official past gave him the title to dictate Front Opposition Bench policy, which was rendered worthless by his complaisant acceptance of most of the policy of the Government Bench a policy which in the main, was one long continuous outrage of sound Liberal convictions. The absolutely silent indifference with which Sir Henry Fowler's rare qualifications for leadership have been passed over on the discussion which have led to the choice of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, ought to preach a sermon which the late Secretary of State for India will do well to take seriously to heart. Sir Henry Fowler may, when the next Liberal Government is formed, choose his own Secretaryship of State with the one exception of that for India. If he were to resume his old place at the India Office it would produce such a revolt among the Liberal members of the House as would make his position absolutely unendurable, all of which I greatly regret, but frankly admit.

### LAW MEMBER OF THE VICEROY'S COUNCIL.

I HEAR that more than one distinguished lawyer was approached by the Government with regard to the vacancy of the Legal Membership of the Viceroy's Council before Mr. Raleigh was finally accepted, and there appears to be a good deal of reluctance on the part of lawyers in good practice in this country to accept the appointments open to them in the Indian High Courts and the Viceroy's Council. The pecuniary sacrifice is too great. Although Mr. Raleigh is a man of some note in his profession, his appointment is a deep decline from such men as Sir Henry Maine and Sir J. Fitzjames Stephen. I cannot for the life of me see that such men as Mr. Raleigh are more fitted for such posts than such men as W. C. Bonnerjee, Budruidh Tyabjee, Pherozeshah Mehta, or even Mr. Ramesh Dutt, C. I. S., who is an English Barrister. These natives of India, trained lawyers, would be far more valuable counsellors to the Viceroy than such strangers to Indian law as Mr. Raleigh.

### INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

When the House met on Thursday Sir William Wedderburn asked the Secretary of State for India whether he is aware that public attention in India has lately been directed to various suggestions for a forward movement in the direction of liberty.

And, whether he will undertake that, in the event of such a movement being made beyond the Indian frontiers, no expense in connection with it shall be imposed upon the tax-payers of India.

Lord George Hamilton replied:—"I understand some suggestions of the kind indicated have been made by irresponsible persons, but as nothing of the kind has come under my consideration I am unable to say anything further on the subject."

Sir William Wedderburn asked the Secretary of State for India, whether a Return can be presented at an early date of Indian Government troops employed outside of India, in Africa and beyond the North-West Frontier of Her Majesty's Indian possessions, together with copies of correspondence that has passed on this subject between the Indian Government and the India Office.

Lord George Hamilton replied:—"On August last in reply to a question from the member for West Denbigh (Mr. Herbert Roberts) I stated that the only Indian forces now employed in Africa or elsewhere beyond seas, was as follows: In Africa, the 27th Bombay Infantry, in Mauritius the 1st Bengal Infantry. As regards the troops, the only charge that has taken place since then is that the wing of the 4th Bombay Infantry has returned to India. I also stated in detail as to the strength of the forces employed on the N. W. Frontier of India, nor do I now think it expedient to do so, or to publish the correspondence which has passed on these subjects."

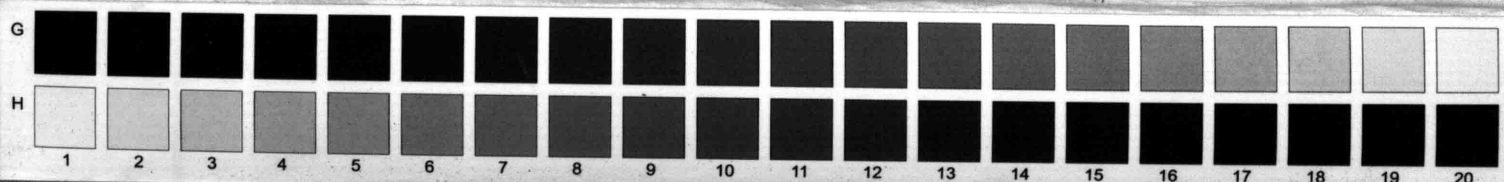
Sir William Wedderburn begged to point out that he did not refer to troops employed on the frontier, but to troops beyond the frontier. To which Lord George flippantly replied that the Hon. Baronet was merely playing with words, because the India Office denied that there are any troops beyond the frontier.

It was abundantly clear from the manner of the Secretary of State for India in replying to the first questions of the session, that he intends to maintain the hostile attitude towards the Congress party in Parliament indicated in his recent speech at Chiswick, on which I commented in a recent letter. If such a wish were not a paradox, I would say it is a pity Sir William Wedderburn is so courteous a gentleman, Lord George sadly needs the rough dressing down that Sir William is quite unable to give him. He will get it some day, and it will be very wholesome for him.

### THE CHURCH CONTROVERSY.

Both in the House of Lords and in the Commons all Thursday's sitting was occupied by discussions on the crisis which has arisen in the established Church of England through the spread of Ritualistic practices by the High Church clergy, which the Low Church or Evangelical party consider a flagrant breach of the thirty-nine articles, and the orders of the Common Prayer Book as settled after the great Protestant Reformation. Your readers are not likely to take much interest in the details of such a controversy, but it will be no surprise to an intensely religious people like the Indian that a controversy over ritual and doctrine may easily reach vast national proportions, and decide the fate of great national political parties; the more so when that controversy rages within a church established by law and endowed by the State, with all other religious communities desiring its disestablishment and disendowment.

Some added interest will perhaps be taken in this fierce agitation from the fact that an old and tried friend of India, Mr. Samuel Smith, is leading this attack on the Church of England, impelled to it by a deep sense of religious responsibility. All the best and wisest churchmen, on both sides of the controversy, can see no daylight within the Church itself, and are slowly and reluctantly becoming convinced that there is no way out but disestablishment and disendowment. As it is





also the foundation principle of all the free non-conformist churches that religion ought not to be transmitted by State patronage, endowments and consequent control. The disestablishment movement is progressing by leaps and bounds in the popular mind and if, as seems only too likely, the timid and hesitating bench of Bishops can find no way of dealing with the trouble within their Church, it will be settled for them from outside.

It is not a very bold prophecy to predict that disestablishment will probably be not only a burning question at the next General Election, but that in all probability the Liberal party will be returned to power by an enormous majority to bring it into immediate effect.

#### NEW POONA TRAGEDIES.

As I close my letter the serious news arrives that the two principal witnesses leading to the conviction of Damodar Chapekar have been murdered in the public streets of Poona, no doubt with the object of preventing the conviction of Balkrishna Chapekar. This new tragedy points to the existence of a conspiracy in Poona to defeat the ends of justice by removing witnesses by violence, and incidentally intimidating other witnesses. I am afraid there will be a renewal of panic among the authorities who do not yet seem to realize that *lettres de cachet* press prosecutions, punitive police forces and such like penal methods, have always, all the world over, led to the deplorable conclusion of things which appears to prevail in Poona. If whole populations are pushed for the offences of a few individual members, if an entire city like Poona is treated as a den of criminals, it is little wonder that the more turbulent elements which exist in every city in the world, take the authorities at their word. The folly of an administration does not release good citizens from responsibilities, and leaders of Poona society will act wisely if, in face of the serious condition of things undoubtedly present in their midst, they co-operate loyally with the authorities in getting to the bottom of this conspiracy, and crushing it out of existence. This league of assassination is probably confined to a very small number of desperate men. If the Government will avoid scare and panic, and the terrible mistakes of the past; if they will abstain from omitting innocent communities in vengeance of undetected crime lurking behind those innocent communities; if they will frankly trust social and political leaders of influence who are anxious to co-operate with them in the detection of crime, this nest of vipers will soon be destroyed, and Poona cleansed of its reproach. The punitive treatment of Poona has been the one inalienable blot on Lord Elgin's reign. To treat a great and proud city like Poona, as an Asiatia of thieves and assassins, to clasp a costly punitive police force on its back when it was desolated by plague; to deport its leading citizens under *lettres de cachet*; to crush the life out of its press by savage sentences of penal servitude; to insult and irritate its leading citizens by all sorts of petty and inquisitorial tyranny—is not the way to destroy, but is just the one certain way to create, the state of things which appears to exist, and which breaks out in secret murder and outrage. Anyhow the errors of the Government do not release citizens from their public duty; let leading citizens of Poona do everything in their power to help the Government in the difficulties they have brought upon themselves, and let the Government realize and act upon the conviction that there are scores of leading men in Poona as anxious as themselves to clear the city of the reproach that hangs over it like a black cloud.

#### THE FAMINE COMMISSION.

I understand some action will be taken a Parliament to call attention to the report of the Indian Famine Commission. An impression prevails here in political circles that the terms of reference were altogether too restricted and that the Commission has failed adequately to investigate measures like y to prevent the recurrence of famine, or to remove the suspicion that there has been concealment of the number of deaths caused by the recent famine. I express no opinion myself on this point, but only indicate a prevailing impression, which it will be wise to meet openly in the House of Commons.

VETERINARY COLONEL H. THOMSON, Principal Veterinary Officer in India proceeds home shortly on eight months' leave.

THE Bezwada-Madras Railway was opened throughout for passenger traffic on the 23rd of February, one through train running from Madras to Ennur and one from Madras to Waltair each way daily.

MR. F. H. SKRINE, late of the Indian Civil Service, who recently visited the Russian possessions in Central Asia, is writing, in collaboration with Professor Denison Ross, a record of his impressions and observations. The volume will be entitled "The Heart of Asia," and will contain a sketch of Central Asian history from the earliest times.

A STATEMENT of accounts affecting the external land trade of British India with foreign countries, for the eight months ended November 1898, has just been issued by the Statistical Bureau of the Government of India. We gather that the imports amounted in value to over three and-a-quarter crores of rupees, and the exports to nearly three and-a-quarter crores. The aggregate value of merchandise and treasure imported into Bengal during the same period was little over eighty-seven and a half lakhs, or about seven lakhs less than it was in 1896, and nine lakhs more than it was in 1897. As regards the exports from Bengal, there was a distinct falling off. In 1896, their aggregate value for the eight months mentioned above was nearly eighty-one lakhs. In 1897, they rose to ninety-nine lakhs and fell again to seventy-five lakhs last year.

A TELEGRAM from Lashio gives a few details of a tragedy there. It appears that a Sikh military policeman who was out escorting an Assistant Surveyor named Peychers murdered the latter by shooting him in the back while he was engaged on some survey operations. The murderer also shot dead another sepooy who attempted to disarm him, and also attempted to shoot his haviard, but fortunately failed. He was then disarmed, and is now in custody. It is said that the Assistant Surveyor abused the man, who, it is supposed, went away and took *ganja* and then shot Mr. Peychers. It is interesting to note that this is the first case in Burma in which a military policeman on escort duty has been guilty of such a serious offence.

#### Calcutta and Mofussil.

### Now Ready.

#### PHOTO REPRESENTATION OF Lord Gauranga and His Bhaktas

Three centuries ago, Sri Sreenivasa Acharya, one of the greatest devotees of Lord Gauranga, had a portrait prepared of the Lord and his Bhaktas, which descended to his pious family as perhaps the most precious heirloom. Sri Sreenivasa's great-grandson was Radha Mohan Thakur, the guru or spiritual preceptor of Maharaja Nanda Kumar. The Maharaja, himself a pious Baishnava, was so captivated with the portrait that he interceded with his guru and obtained it from him. The painting was removed to the Maharaja's palace, and it may still be seen at the Kunja Ghata Rajbati.

The Gauranga Samaj has had a photograph of this ancient painting, taken by a celebrated artist of the town; and copies may be had at the under-mentioned rates.

Cabinet Size—Rs. 1-8 per copy.  
Boudoir Size—Rs. 2-8  
Packing and postage annas 4 and 8 respectively.

DR. RASIK MOHAN CHAKRAVARTI,  
Secy. Gauranga Samaj, 29, Sovabazar St., Calcutta.

SIMLA EXODUS.—The first batch of Assistants of the Finance Department will leave Calcutta on the 13th March.

WANTED A NIMROD.—We have been reporting for some time the depredations of several elephants in the District of Bankura. It is a pity that the animals are still unaccounted for; but, we hope, now that the District Magistrate has offered a reward of Rs. 100 to anyone who kills the largest of them, some real attempts will be made to rid Bankura of the pest.

THE BANKURA OUTRAGE CASE.—The local paper states that the police having declined to send up the men who are accused of having committed outrage on the girl Baroda in broad day light and under extraordinary circumstances, the latter petitioned the District Magistrate who has in consequence deputed Babu Juanendra Nath Chowdhury, Deputy Magistrate, to hold an enquiry in the matter.

PLAGUE AND GOVERNMENT PAPER.—The fall in Government paper which took place on Friday is probably due to the official proclamation of the existence of plague in Calcutta, which was made on Thursday. So far, however, there is no cause whatever why the native community should be scared. The terms of the Venice Convention compelled the official notification, but only twelve cases in all have apparently been reported since the middle of the month.

INVENTIONS AND DESIGNS.—Applications in the respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed: Rookes Evelyn Bell Crompton, electrical engineer, of Mansion House Buildings, London, B.C., improvements in electrical metres, Horimusi Merwanji Jaorwalla, general merchant, Jora, Central India, a quickly convertible axle to suit different railway gauges; and James Henry Ajohn, civil engineer, of Calcutta, improvements in apparatus for bulking, blending or mixing, and re-distributing for packing tea or the like.

DISPUTE ABOUT A THEATRE.—At the Calcutta Police Court on Saturday Mr. Dada-bhai Ratonjee, Proprietor of the Parssee Theatre in Dhurrumtollah Street, charged Menguddin Ahmed with being a member of an unlawful assembly, criminal trespass, assault and mischief. It was stated that the former proprietor of the premises having sold off his rights to the accused, there was a dispute about a fresh lease. At 5 A.M. of the 25th December, after the performance of the night previous, the accused accompanied by 40 or 50 men took forcible possession of the Theatre premises. The case is proceeding.

SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—At next Friday's meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council the Arbitration Bill and the Carriers Bill will probably be passed. The Law Member will move for a practically fresh Select Committee on the Bankruptcy Bill. As regards the other business before the Legislative Council the Cantonments House Accommodation Bill may possibly have to be left over; but the following Bills will be passed: the Currency Notes Forgery, Court Fees, and Glanders and Farcy Bills. If the principle of consolidation is adhered to a Bill for consolidating and amending the law relating to prisoners may also be introduced and passed. The Religious Endowments Bill in its present form is scarcely likely to be proceeded with. Eight Acts have been passed so far during the current session, and three or four more may be counted upon as maturing for final disposal.

THE RICE CROP OF 1898-99.—The second General Memorandum, issued on the 20th December 1898, is supplemented by this summary, which deals with the final estimates for Bengal, Madras (excluding the zamindari area), and Lower Burma. The total area estimated to have been sown with rice amounts to 52½ million acres, which is slightly in excess of last year's area and nearly 6 per cent. larger than the average. The yield is estimated to exceed 26 million tons, being 5½ per cent more than in 1897-98, and 26 per cent. above the average. The latest reports from Burma show that the area sown is slightly less than that estimated in December. The crop is also threshing out lighter than was anticipated, and it is now estimated that there will be available for export 1,476,000 tons of cargo rice, equivalent to 25,017,000 cwt. of cleaned rice. In Bengal, the conditions of the season were, in the main, favourable. The area placed under rice, both autumn and winter, is slightly larger than last year's area and the average, the increase being due to seasonable weather and the substitution of paddy for jute. The damage done by the floods of September in North Bihar was confined to comparatively small areas, and the heavy rain benefited the crop outside the submerged tracts and on high lands. The yield of autumn rice is less than for last year, but of winter rice it is the largest on record since 1891. In Madras, the area sown with rice exceeds the average and is slightly in excess of the extensive area planted last year, and the yield is estimated at 97 per cent of a normal crop.

#### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

Mr. F. G. E. Piffard, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Pakaur, is appointed to have charge of the Deoghur subdivision.

Mr. Alan McGavin, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Rajmahal, is appointed to have charge of the Pakaur subdivision.

Mr. R. B. Bainbridge, Off Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Rajmahal, is appointed to have charge of that subdivision.

Mr. R. T. Greer, Magte and Collr, is appointed to act as Insp-Genl of Police, Bengal, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. E. R. Henry, C.S.I., or until further orders.

Babu Nityananda Bhar, Dy Magte and Dy Collr Vishnupur, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the district of Rangpur.

Mr. A. C. Mackintosh, Dy Magte and Dy Collr Midnapore, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the district of Murshidabad.

Babu Charidi Charan Chatterjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr of Murshidabad, is appointed to have charge of the Vishnupur subdivision.

Babu Okhoy Coomoor Bose, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the district of Midnapore.

Babu Ram Niranjan Prasad, Off Dy Magte and Dy Collr on leave, is posted to the Rajmahal subdivision.

Babu Bangshi Dhar Banerjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Champaran, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Bhabataran Chatterjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Palisore, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the district of Mymensingh.

Babu Nobin Chandra Kar, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to the Diamond Harbour subdivision.

Babu Girish Chandra Nag, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Jessore, is allowed leave for two and half months.

Babu Satis Chandra Bose, Dy Magte and Dy Collr Darjeeling, is transferred to Jessore.

Babu Radhakant Banerjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Midnapore, is transferred to Darjeeling.

Babu Hari Bhushan De, Off Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to Noakhali.

Babu Akshoy Kumar Chaudhuri, Off Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Darbhanga, is allowed leave for one month.

Mr. A. H. Warde-Jones, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Hazaribagh, is allowed leave for three months.

The following officers are appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magtes and Collrs:—Mrs. C. Fisher, Off Magte and Collr, Burdwan, vice Mr. C. G. H. Allen, on deputation; Mr. C. A. Radice, Off Magte and Collr, Pabna, vice Mr. J. L. Herald, on furlough.

Mr. H. P. Duval, Off Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Jalpaiguri, is appointed to act, temporarily as Dy Comr of that district. Mr. Duval is also appointed to act temporarily in the third grade of Magtes and Collrs.

Mr. T. G. Charles, Dist Supt of Police, Darbhanga, is allowed furlough.

Mr. G. B. Havelock, Dist Supt of Police, Howrah, is transferred to Manbhum.

Mr. J. Samuels, Asst Supt of Police Howrah, is appointed, until further orders, to have charge of the district police of that dist.

Mr. J. B. Birch, Dist Supt of Police, Rangpur, is transferred to Ranchi, vice, Mr. G. R. K. Mears, about to retire.

Mr. R. H. Sneyd Hutchinson, Asst Supt of Police, Rangpur, on leave, is appointed, until further orders, to have charge of the Rangpur dist police.

Mr. J. Cowie, Dist Supt of Police, Jessore, is transferred to Darbhanga.

Naib-i-Amnat Hosain Khan, Asst Supt of Police, of Darbhanga, is appointed, until further orders, to take charge of the Malda dist police, vice Raja Jadab Chandra Deb Bhadrar, about to retire.

Mr. St. Quintin Byrne, Dist Supt of Police, Faridpur, is transferred to Hooghly.

Mr. A. B. C. Comber, Off Dy Supt of Police, Hooghly, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Dist Supt of Police, Burdwan.

Mr. P. A. Sandilands, Dist Supt of Police, Khulna, is appointed to be Dist Supt of Police, Midnapore.

Babu Charu Chunder Mitter, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Comilla, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Jogendra Nath Ghosh, or until further orders.

Babu Kailash Chunder Biswas, Off Munsif of Lohardaga, is vested temporarily with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Babu Durga Das Bose, Munsif of Lohardaga, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Uma Charan Kar Munsif of Barabazar, now stationed at Purulia, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Pulin Behary Bose, Munsif of Bangaon, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Benode Behari Mitter, Munsif of Comilla, is allowed leave for twenty-two days.

Mr. J. S. Lane Long, Ex. Engr, Cossye Divn, is granted furlough for 18 months.

Mr. C. A. White, Ex. Engr, is transferred to the Cossye Divn.

Mr. G. C. Macdonchy, Ex Engr, is transferred to the Balasore Divn.

Mr. C. W. Sibold, Asst Engr, is appointed to hold charge of the Buxar Divn.

Mr. W. B. Bucknill, Asst Engr attached to the office of the Supt Engr, Northern Circle, is transferred to the Balasore Divn.

Mr. H. H. Stevens, Asst Engr, is transferred to the Eastern Sone Divn.

Mr. G. L. Seagriff Ex Engr, Eastern Sone Divn, is granted furlough for 8 months.

Mr. W. S. Brenner, Asst Engr, Brahmini-Byturni Divn, is appointed to hold charge of the Eastern Sone Divn.

Mr. J. Zorab, Asst Engr, Eastern Sone Divn, is granted privilege leave for one month and 14 days.

Mr. W. B. Gwyther, Ex Engr, is, on return from furlough, appointed to be Ex. Engr of the 1st Calcutta Divn.

MONDAY'S plague returns for Bombay show 126 cases and 122 deaths, the total mortality being 313. Last year there were 139 cases and 130 deaths, with a total mortality of 301. Many dead bodies continue to be picked up in the streets.

MONDAY'S Karachi returns give 8 cases and 5 deaths; the total cases are 3,340 and deaths 2,604.

The Lahore police are investigating serious case of robbery at the canal bungalow between Lahore and Mian Mir. The office and residence of the Executive Engineer, Mr. Sangster, was broken into, and two men, a chowkidar and a munshi living there, were very roughly handled. The culprits are said to be thons.

THE directors of the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway Company issued in July, 1897, debentures on behalf of the Hyderabad-Godavary Valley Railway to the nominal value of £1,000,000 out of a total authorized capital of £2,500,000 bearing interest at three and a-half per cent., the issue price being fixed at £94. It is now found necessary to raise a further capital to a nominal amount of £8,000,000, on account of the railway on similar terms. The Hyderabad-Godavary Railway is progressing favourably, and material trains are already run over short distances on the Aurangabad and Secunderabad sections; but Mury and adequate labour are still needed to reduce the completion of the work from years to months.

## THE SECRET OF PERSONAL FORCE.

### An Important Suggestion by the Bishop of London.

One of the most remarkable of recent contributions to knowledge is the address delivered by the Bishop of London at the Athenaeum, centenary celebration in Liverpool. He made, on that occasion, the statement that "The only education that any body really obtains is that which he gives himself."

This striking arraignment of our modern methods of training ourselves for the struggle of life carries tremendous weight, coming, as it does, from the lips of a dignitary high in the councils of the English Church—the most scholarly of ecclesiastical bodies—from the lips of a man who was himself for many years engaged in teaching at Oxford, a profound student of English history and the English national character.

"We talk now-a-days a great deal about education," said Dr. Creighton, "but we talk about it very little. We are bringing up a new generation in the supposition that all the child has to do is to sit still, like a pitcher under a pump, while an external hand pours in the proper amount of material for it to hold. The idea prevailing at the beginning of the century was that men should read a good book, master its contents, and pursue for themselves the lines of thought it suggested and talk, it over and make its ideas the subjects of discussion among themselves. No system could, surely, be better, yet the process I fear is declining. We may give better technical education and develop people more thoroughly in special lines, but I always wonder whether we keep our eyes sufficiently fixed upon the desirability of creating a robust temper of mind and a genuine desire of knowledge."

This "robust temper of mind" is the very marrow of British strength; it is the secret of national as well as personal force. In the Romanes lecture for 1896, the Bishop gave vigorous expression to the principle which underlies our progress as a people, and it is of interest to recall his words in connection with this late utterance at Liverpool. The subject of the lecture was "The English National Character."

"The great product of England," he said, "is not so much its institutions, its empire, its commerce, or its literature, as it is the individual Englishman, who is moulded by all these influences, and is the ultimate test of their value. He exists as a recognizable type of character, with special aptitudes and capacities."

These aptitudes and capacities, as Dr. Creighton points out, became crystallized in the sixteenth century, when English independence was threatened. It was then that—

"The modern Englishman came into definite existence. Forced into conflict with the Power which claimed to possess the New World, he found himself, to his own surprise, superior in all the qualities which betokened lasting success. With this discovery, came an exalting sense of national destiny, a for-most place in the world's affairs, which has remained with England ever since."

This national character, this "robust temper" which we inherited, is plainly enough the one treasure which we must guard most jealously. When the *Powerful* and the *Terrible* shall have become mere terms in a historian's catalogue, like the "shippes royal" commanded by Howard and Drake and Hawkins and Frobenius, when our hundred thousand men-of-war are gathered into the shades of the eighteen thousand who fought the "Flicissima Armada," the race type must survive. "The Oxford man who looks as if the world belongs to him, the Cambridge man who looks as if he did not care to whom the world belongs," must be beuddy.

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[73 FB2.] (Beyond Calcutta, carriage will be at purchaser's cost.)

FREE BY POST.—For the convenience of those who desire fuller information in regard to the "Encyclopaedia Britannica," a pamphlet has been prepared, containing specimen pages, and a brief extract from the work. This pamphlet will be sent, post free upon application to the

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## Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

**ULUBERIAH, FEB. 27.**  
 This morning His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and party visited Uluberiah. His Honour was received by the local officials, headed by the Sub-divisional Officer, Babu Mahim Chandra Ghosh, and the Munsiff, Babu Debendra Bijoy Bose, and by the local public. The town was tastefully decorated with flowers and foliage. Sir John inspected the Civil and Criminal Courts, the Jail, the Hospital, the Registration Office, the Thana and the School. His Honour gave Rupees 20 to the School Committee for prizes to the boys. He evinced great sympathy for the people and seemed well pleased with the reception given him. The people were satisfied with His Honour's kindness and condescension, while the boys sang songs. All wished His Honour long life, and gave lusty cheers.

(FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.)

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 The French Deputy Millevoje, who was arrested in connection with the disturbance at the office of the *Libre parole*, has been released.

The Chamber of Deputies has authorised the imprisonment and prosecution of Deputy Deroude and Habert for inciting the troops to mutiny. Both the accused avow that their object was to overthrow the Parliamentary Republic.

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 Since Tuesday last, constant fighting has taken place between the Filipinos and the Americans on the outskirts of Manila. A body of rebels, numbering a thousand, who were entrenched within the American lines, were routed on Thursday with a loss of five hundred killed and wounded. Two hundred were taken prisoners. The American losses were five officers and forty-three men killed and wounded.

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 In the Committee of the House of Commons on the Supplementary Army Estimates, Mr. John Morley moved the reduction of the vote as a protest against the Sudan policy. Mr. Brodick in defending the Estimates said that the permanent control of the Nile Valley was essential to the prosperity of Egypt, and it was inevitable that England should become the controlling power. The Sudan expedition had been the cheapest development of an imperialist century.

The motion was rejected by 167 to 58 votes.

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 Reuter, telegraphing from Peking says that the Dowager Empress is much incensed over the killing of Chinese by the Russians at Taitienwan, and has instructed the Tsung-li Yamen to make a strong protest.

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 Mr. Holland, the liberal candidate, has been elected member for Rotherham by a majority of 1,957 votes over Mr. Wragge, the unionist and replaces Mr. Dyke Acland, liberal, who was returned unopposed at the last elections. The voting was as follows: Holland, 6,671; Wragge, 4,714.

**LONDON, FEB. 25.**  
 Admiral Dewey has cabled to Washington asking for the immediate despatch of the battleship *Oregon* to Manila, alleging political reasons for his request.

It is supposed at Washington that Admiral Dewey apprehends foreign intervention in the Philippines.

**LONDON, FEB. 25.**  
 By the latest reports, Ruyard Kipling's condition is worse. The patient is weaker and inflammation of the lungs is spreading.

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 The missing Hamburg liner *Bulgaria* has arrived at the Azores.

**LONDON, FEB. 24.**  
 The Calcutta mails of the 9th instant arrived at Brindisi yesterday.

Two Englishmen, who were watching the fires in Manila from a window of their house on Wednesday last, were shot by Americans who were firing promiscuously. One was killed.

The German cruiser Kaiserin Augusta has arrived at Manila.

**LONDON, FEB. 25.**  
 Baron Reuter died at Nice to-day.

**LONDON, FEB. 25.**  
 The Boer policeman named Jones, who was charged with shooting a European at Johannesburg in December, has been acquitted.

The prosecution has been authorised by the Chambers of Deputies to enable the French Government to keep Deputy Deroude in confinement, but the accused is regarded rather of a noisy agitator than a serious conspirator.

**LONDON, FEB. 25.**  
 The plague has broken out at Jeddah.

**LONDON, FEB. 25.**  
 The Rugby match North vs. South has resulted in a victory for the South by eleven points to nil.

**LONDON, FEB. 26.**  
 Acting under instructions of the Premier M. Dupuy, the Paris police have raided the residences of a number of prominent Royalist, and seized voluminous correspondence. Letters from the Duc D'Orleans to his supporters were seized at the residence of his secretary.

**LONDON, FEB. 26.**  
 A United States gunboat has hoisted the American flag and occupied the island of Cebu, in the Philippines, the insurgents withdrawing to the hills with their guns.

**LONDON, FEB. 26.**  
 Despatches from the Sudan report that the Derivishes recently fired upon a gunboat which was going to Fashoda. The Khalifa is believed to be within 190 miles of Omdurman.

## How to Save Doctor Bills.

We have saved many doctor bills since we began using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in our home. We keep a bottle open all the time and when ever any of my family or myself begin to catch cold we begin to use the Cough Remedy, and as a result we never have to send away for a doctor and incur a large doctor bill, for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy never fails to cure. It is certainly a medicine of great merit and worth.—D. S. MEAKLE, General Merchant and Farmer, Mattie, Bedford county, Pa. For sale by

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## MUNICIPAL BILL PROTEST MEETING AT THE CLASSIC.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

**BARU MOTI LAL GHOSE**, in taking the chair, said that he was not a so-called political agitator and had never taken a prominent part in any public meeting, partly because his business was with the pen, and not with the tongue, and partly because he had no need. He had been asked on several occasions to preside over meetings but had escaped by securing competent men. A Chairman was as essential in a public meeting as a bridegroom in a marriage ceremony. But the recruiting field for Chairmen was very much narrowed for two reasons: first, there had already been some two dozen public meetings to protest against the Municipal Bill, each meeting having had its new Chairman; and secondly, a number of leading Indian gentlemen had kept themselves aloof because of the allegation of some mischievous persons to the effect that the movement was their work and that it was to serve their private and personal interests that they had set on foot this agitation. When the Chairman difficulty arose on the present occasion, he could not escape; and unworried as he was he had no desire to shirk his duty.

The speaker said he would touch three points; (1) sanitation; (2) a particular provision of the Bill; and (3) how the present elective system came to be introduced in Calcutta. He would take up the last question at the special request of his valued and esteemed friend, Raja Benoy Krishna Bahadur, of whom they were all so proud and to whom they were indebted so much. In the Raja's opinion, the speaker should relate this part of the municipal history of Calcutta, first, because, he could furnish correct information on the subject, not generally known, from his personal experience, and secondly, because, it had been omitted by Mr. N. N. Ghose in his admirable pamphlet, *SANITATION*.

With regard to sanitation the speaker said, this cry of sanitation was at the root of all the mischief. It was raised in 1884 by some Europeans and the result was a Commission of Enquiry. The constitution of the Corporation was, however, then left untouched by the majority of the members of this Commission, hostile though they were; and this was a conclusive proof of the fact that the present constitution was sound. The same cry was raised again by the same Europeans, official and non-official, two years ago, and the result was the present Bill which threatened the demolition of the present constitution. The science of sanitation was, however, yet in its infancy, and no violent change should be sought to be effected in its name. Then it was impossible to carry out many sanitary reforms in large and old towns. It was a question of funds. Calcutta could be converted into a heaven, but where was the money to come from? In order to make Calcutta an ideal city, as contemplated by the Bill, Mofussil towns and villages should be rendered healthy. It was cholera and malaria which drove residents from the Mofussil to come to Calcutta. Let the state of affairs in the Mofussil be improved, and over-crowding and other insanitary conditions would disappear from the city in no time.

A PARTICULAR PROVISION.

The speaker then referred to a particular provision of the Bill, "because," said he, "the genius of the whole measure was to be found in it." This provision related to the payment of fees to the members of the proposed General Committee. The Europeans, said the speaker, would not work in the Municipality; hence, to tempt them, the authors of the Bill had to hold a bait in the shape of a fee of Rs. 32 per sitting. The object of this provision was plain—it was to transfer power from the hands of willing guardians to those of unwilling aliens and thus to Europeanize the Corporation. The arrangement was unnatural, and whatever was unnatural was bound to fail. If a child were taken from its mother and placed under the care of a paid nurse, it was bound to suffer. The European Chamber of Commerce in their memorial, however, complained that the condition attached to the provision was rather harsh, namely, that in order to earn the fee of Rs. 32 a member should have to attend the meeting from beginning to end. Here was then an interesting fight over the only substantial thing in the whole Bill! Government was anxious to exact some work from the Europeans, but the Chamber would not agree to this. The position of the Chamber was something like this. Addressing the Government it said in effect: "You know and we know that our only interest in the Municipality would lie in the prospect of securing two gold mohurs per sitting. Why then would you cruelly impose conditions which would do you no good but would do us immense harm? You insist that we should attend from beginning to end. Suppose we do it, but spend the time in enjoying an afternoon nap or writing mail letters. You will have yet to give us our fee, even if we do no work. Why, then, this absurd condition? Good brethren as you are, you have generously opened a new source of income to the Europeans. Why do you then ungenerously impose conditions? Please, therefore, remove them so that we may attend meetings, remain there as long we like, and return home with 32 Rupees in our pocket." (Laughter.)

One could now understand why were Europeans in a hurry to have the Bill passed. No sooner would the Bill be passed than they would begin to earn their fees! (Laughter.) But if the Europeans were anxious to have the Bill passed as soon as possible, the Indians were equally anxious to get it shelved. For, if the Bill were passed, it would mean a terrible disaster not only to the citizens of Calcutta but to the people of whole India. Indeed, the measure was a very important move. It meant everlasting woe to the Indians. "Have the good rulers," said the speaker, "taken note of this aspect of the measure? The Mackenzie Bill suggests that the aspiration of self-government in India is a delusion and a mockery, and that Indians must give it up. If passed into law, it would mean everlasting disability! Need our European brethren now be told why the whole country has been convulsed over this retrograde and reactionary measure?"

The present system of Municipality was specially dear to them as it was the outcome of an agitation, set on foot some 22 or 23 years ago, like of which had never been witnessed in this city in which both the Indians and

the Europeans took an ardent interest. It was specially dear to the speaker and those who loved him because, it was a work in which his revered brother, his guru and his all—Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose, (cheers) had to take the chief part. Well, said he, the system which Sir A. Mackenzie wanted to introduce by his Bill, practically obtained in this city, though in another form, when Sir Richard Temple ruled this Province, that was to say, the executive had entire control over the Municipal affairs of the town. In the Municipality, the Indians were then represented by such distinguished men as Maharaja Jotindra Mohun, Maharaja Narendra Krishna, Raja Digumbar, Dr. Rajendra Lala, Babu Kristo Dass, and the Anglo-Indian community was represented by Messrs. Roberts, Wilson and others. Though the number of Anglo-Indian Commissioners was then very large, yet they could never be induced to pay attention to Municipal affairs; but, if they did not attend, they and their constituents never ceased to grumble. The *Indian Daily News* of the period opened its columns to virulent attacks of the then autocrat Chairman and his doings, which eventually led Sir Stuart Hogg to bring a case of libel against the editor, Mr. James Wilson. But Mr. Wilson was acquitted, to the great disgust of Sir Stuart and the Government itself. For, every item of municipal oppression was, in those days, very naturally fastened upon the Government. Those authorities, said the speaker, who were in favour of the Mackenzie Bill, should take warning if it were passed and the ancient order of things re-introduced, the citizens would not curse the elected Commissioners, as they did now, for the shortcomings of the Corporation, but the Government itself! The high-handed manner, continued the speaker, in which Sir Stuart Hogg carried on the affairs of the Municipality, led many European Commissioners to resign; and, taking advantage of their resignation, they denounced the farce of municipal government that prevailed at the time. The *Indian Daily News*, the then organ of the liberal-minded non-official Europeans, advocated the claims of election in its columns, and at last, its editor, Mr. Wilson, ended by writing a pamphlet showing that the only remedy for the state of affairs was the adoption of a system of election as it prevailed in English towns. The then official organ, the *Englishman*, likewise supported the claim put forward by Mr. James Wilson. Thus, Government was obliged to grant the representative system, by election, in order to extricate itself from a most awkward position into which it was led, by investing the executive with supreme powers over the Municipality of Calcutta and to which it was again now drifting. Thus, if the elective system was conferred upon Calcutta, it was because Indians and Europeans combined and demanded it, and, also, because a Municipality under official control had failed and brought upon the Government the execrations of the rate-payers.

The speaker next related the part which the Indians had taken in this affair. After having organised that powerful political body, the Indian League, which unfortunately did not exist long, Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose suggested that the citizens of Calcutta should pray for an elective franchise. The boldness of the suggestion took away the breath of his colleagues, who apprehended ridicule and disaster. For they declared in one voice that Government would never part with power and make over the Municipality to the people. They, however, ultimately yielded; and the result was a public meeting of the rate-payers, held under the auspices of the League, in the very same hall where they had now assembled, at which Mr. James Wilson presided, and Babu Kali Charan Bannerjee, Amarendra Nath Chatterjee and others spoke.

Sir Richard Temple came to know that it was all the work of Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose and his party. But as was usual with him, Babu Shishir Kumar never mixed with the officials and was thus not personally known to Sir Richard Temple. His Honour, however, invited him to a steamer party for the purpose of a personal conference. When the guests had assembled on board the *Rhodes*, Babu Narendra Nath Sen and Bhairab Chander Bannerjee were asked by His Honour to introduce the speaker's brother to him. Sir Richard then suggested to Babu Shishir Kumar that he should pay him a private visit at Belvedere. There they met and a prolonged and earnest conference was held. The result was that Sir Richard Temple agreed to introduce the system of election into Calcutta if backed by public voice, and Babu Shishir Kumar promised to secure that support. Sir Richard, however, said that he could not make over the entire control of the Municipality to the citizens, and if he did so, he would not be supported by the Supreme Government. He was, however, prepared to allow them to elect two-thirds of the Commissioners and invest these representatives with ample powers. Babu Shishir Kumar accepted the proposal with gratitude, on the principle that a certain ten-anna was better than uncertain sixteen annas.

Thus assured, Sir Richard Temple promised to introduce the principle of election into the Calcutta Municipal Bill which was then pending in his Council.

The measure, however, provoked opposition, both from the British Indian Association and the European community, not because it was based upon the elective principle, for he said to their credit that they supported the principle of election with all their might, but because they thought that only a semblance—a shadow—of self-government was promised by the measure. In short, they wanted elective system in its entirety, and no half-measure.

Sir Richard now found himself in a dilemma. Opposed by the two most influential parties in Calcutta—the British Indian Association and the Anglo-Indians—he had to rely upon the assurances of Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose who was then comparatively a stranger in Calcutta. His Honour sent for him and explained to him the situation in these words: "I cannot go," said he mournfully, "against these influential men of Calcutta, unless I am adequately supported by the majority of the rate-payers." Babu Shishir Kumar, however, again boldly promised him that support.

Within a few days after this conversation, the whole of Calcutta was in a ferment. The city presented a strange spectacle on Saturday, the 12th of February 1876. There were two public meetings held on that day at the same hour, one of the British Indian Association and the other convened by the Indian League, with the same object in view. The one was held at the British Indian Association and

the other at the Town Hall. In one were present many Europeans and Indians belonging to the richer classes, in the other were present rate-payers recruited mainly from the middle classes. One was presided over by Raja Rama Nath Tagore and the other by the Rev. Dr. K. M. Bannerjee. The object of the one was to pray for the elective system in its entirety; the object of the other was to thank Government for the boon offered. Thus did they help each other to secure the reform. Indeed, it is doubtful if Government would have granted the elective system in the shape it did, if the B. I. Association and the European community had not so strenuously asked for it. Thus be it remembered, if the elective system was granted, it was granted, at the urgent demand of every ratepayer of Calcutta, Indian and European, wealthy and poor.

Sir Richard Temple came personally to have a look at these two meetings and having been satisfied that the vast majority assembled at the Town Hall were for the Government scheme, openly declared his intention to introduce the reform into Calcutta.

The British Indian Association and the Europeans, however, were not satisfied. The former waited in deputation upon Sir Richard Temple and secured one important concession, namely, the permission to represent their case more fully before the Legislature through their counsel. Here was a most valuable privilege granted to the people never enjoyed by them before, but it was withdrawn by the successor of Sir Richard Temple. On the 4th of March 1876, Counsel representing the British Indian Association, the Trades Association and the Justices of the Peace on the one hand, and the Indian League on the other, appeared before the Legislative Council to criticise the Calcutta Municipal Bill. The first three bodies were represented by Messrs. Ingram Jennings and Branson, and the League by Babu Kali Mohun Dass, Rash Behari Ghose and Shishir Kumar Ghose. The first three boldly demanded the entire control of the Municipality while the League's representatives prayed that the rate-payers might be permitted to elect at least three-fourths of the Commissioners of the Municipality. Sir Richard Temple, however, took the middle course and conceded two-thirds, and then passed the Bill.

Babu Kristo Das Pal, who was then in the local Legislative Council, and had the confidence of the Europeans in the matter, however, opposed the passing of the Bill on the ground that while it professed to concede self-government to the people of Calcutta, it practically did nothing of the kind. Thus, the Europeans who opposed the reform of Sir Richard Temple, did it, not because the elective franchise was conferred upon the people, but because the right conceded was not based on a broader and more liberal principle. This was what Babu Kristo Dass, who represented both the Europeans and the members of the B. I. Association, declared in the Council: "If it was thought advisable to give the citizens of Calcutta the right of self-government, they ought to have it fully and unreservedly. But then the question would arise—suppose the elective system is conceded, should the Chairman be elected by the representatives of the town or should his appointment rest with the Government? Now, there could be no thorough elective system unless the Chairman's appointment were also made elective."

"Contrast the attitude of the Europeans—official and non-official of 1876, with that of the Europeans of the present day," said the speaker. "The former regretted that only a semblance of elective system was conceded while their successors regret that they have anything of self-government; and we are tempted to declare with the poet,

If thou beest he,  
 Oh, how fallen I

The Europeans of that period were not satisfied unless the appointment of the Chairman was made elective, but the Europeans of the present day, through their representative in the Council, are supporting a measure which makes the Chairman, who is a Government nominee, practically the sole arbiter of the destinies of the Corporation!"

In short, said the speaker, the Mackenzie Bill was going to re-introduce the official system, in a more aggravated form, which prevailed before 1876, and was universally condemned, and which failed so miserably as to lead Indians and Europeans to combine and demand its demolition and pray for the introduction of the elective principle. Was this not ridiculous?

The speaker concluded with these words:—"Now a few words to our good Lieutenant-Governor. From the foregoing remarks His Honour will see that the present constitution of the Corporation was the result of the mature deliberations of some of the highest English statesmen of the period. It had the support of all the Lieutenant-Governors from Sir Richard Temple down to Sir Charles Elliott. Surely they were fully the peers of Sir Alexander Mackenzie. Many of them had greater experience of Calcutta than Sir Alexander had, but none of them ever attacked the existing constitution. Is it meet that the opinion of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who never concealed his prejudice against the Municipality of Calcutta, should be preferred to that of his distinguished predecessors who were unbiassed and more experienced? It is said that Sir John Woodburn feels delicacy to meddle with the measure of his predecessors. But would not the passing of the Bill mean an insult to the intelligence and good sense of the illustrious galaxy of Lieutenant-Governors who had supported the present constitution? His Honour should also remember that there is another important factor in this dispute—the Indians. Surely the Indians have their rights. How will His Honour convince the intelligent Indians that he will not inflict a gross wrong upon them if he allows the Bill to be passed? We can, however, give this fair warning to His Honour, and this we do from the purest of motives that, good, honest and conscientious as he is, his weakness will for ever be a source of unhappiness to him if he permits his name to be associated with the present measure. His Honour should also kindly remember—what sorrow and disappointment it would be to those who have ever proclaimed him to be a liberal-minded ruler if they now see him connected with a measure which half of his countrymen, representing the Liberals, have voted as a deep wrong."

"In those old days," continued the speaker, "the rulers consulted leading Indians when introducing any new measure. My brother, as

I said, was sought out, and consulted by Sir Richard Temple. He was also consulted by Lord Ripon and Sir Rivers Thompson, when the local self-government measure was introduced, and they were much influenced by what they heard from him. Why has the Government given up this wholesome practice of conferring in private with Indian gentlemen? Why does not Sir John Woodburn and Lord Curzon (cheers) send for one or two of the leaders of the present agitation, as, for instance, Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, who, by his position, education and sobriety of judgment, deserves every confidence of Government, and learn from him the real situation in a private conference? Before I sit down, I beg to appeal, with all the earnestness I can command, that the impending danger contemplated by the Calcutta Municipal Bill, be averted, and the Indians permitted to enjoy a boon peacefully which has been in their possession during the last quarter of a century (loud and prolonged cheers.)

## A TRULY COLOSSAL ANIMAL.

The largest creature that has ever been known to walk the earth has been discovered in Wyoming, U. S. A. It is a *Brontosaurus*, a reptile belonging to the extinct order of *Dinosauria*, which occupied the earth ages before man appeared. This *Brontosaurus* was 130 ft. in length and weighed probably 120,000 lbs. Its discovery was made by Professor W. H. Reeder, of the Wyoming State University. When the *Brontosaurus* walked the earth trembled. One man cannot lift its smallest bone. Its petrified skeleton weighs 40,000 lbs. Forty persons could be seated with comfort within its ribs. Standing on its hind legs it would have measured a hundred feet in length, and could have looked into the case of the Duke of York's column, in London. Once this earth was peopled almost exclusively by reptiles. Some of them were so gigantic that their size would make a modern elephant look like a mouse. The most gigantic of all these gigantic creatures is this one. Wyoming has long been known as the greatest burial ground of extinct monsters in the world. Their remains, so that ages before man appeared on earth North America must have enjoyed a reputation for things like that, which it possesses now. The word *Dinosaur* is derived from the Greek *deinos*—terrible—and *sauros*—a lizard. The *Brontosaurus* was a species of *Dinosaur*, and its name is compounded of the words *bronte*—thunder—and *sauros*—a lizard. This means probably that the *Brontosaurus* produced thunder when it walked. Its voice could be heard ten miles away. The record-breaking *Brontosaurus* was found by Professor Reeder eighty miles north-west of *Darmie*. He is engaged in putting the bones together, so that we shall be able to look at *Brontosaurus*, the greatest animal that ever lived. *Brontosaurus* was 30 ft. in height at the hips and 25 ft. at the shoulders. Professor Reeder calculates that in life it weighed about 120,000 lbs. Its fossil remains weigh more than 40,000 lbs. Its thigh bone is 5 ft. in length. Its ribs are each 9 ft. in length, and the space within them is 3 ft. in length, 16 ft. in width, and 13 ft. in height. The joints of its backbone are 16 in. across the centre.

The largest fossil remains hitherto known to exist were those of the *Brontosaurus* restored by Professor Marsh and now in Yale University. It was also found in Wyoming, and created a great sensation in its day. It measures only 70 ft., or little more than half the *Brontosaurus* we, and in life must have weighed 40,000 lbs. less than that animal. *Brontosaurus* lived in the *Mosozoic* period, when reptiles almost monopolised the earth. They were the people, so to speak. That was millions of years before man appeared on the earth. The *Mosozoic* is the second of the great geological periods, starting from the creation of the earth. Before the reptiles appeared only invertebrate animals and fishes occupied the earth.

These reptiles were in shape fantastic beyond the wildest conception of the imagination. They were usually quite different from an existing reptiles. Some looked like hideous caricatures of the mammals of the present day. Many of them were armoured with enormous horny plates and great spines along the back and around the head. Such creatures could not have been demolished by anything less than heavy artillery. They had jaws in which they could have crushed an elephant as easily as a cat crushes a mouse. Many were carnivorous. Among these monsters *Brontosaurus*, though the largest, was far from being the most formidable. Probably its carcass furnished food to its ferocious and carnivorous neighbours. It had neither armour, spikes, nor great jaws. The remarkably small head is indeed one of the most striking features of *Brontosaurus*, and presents a curious contrast to the large and formidable skulls possessed by some other forms. But it is clear that no animal was such a long necked creature could have borne the weight of a heavy skull. Short, thick necks and heavy skulls always go together. The body of *Brontosaurus* was comparatively short, with a fairly large paunch. The legs and feet were strong and massive, and the limb-bone solid. As if partly to balance the neck, we find a long and powerful tail in which the vertebrae are nearly all solid.

In most *Dinosauria* the fore limbs are small compared to the hind limbs. It is hardly possible that *Brontosaurus* walked on its hind legs, as many of the *Dinosauria* did. But, at the same time, we may occasionally assume a more erect position; and believe that the light hollowed structure of the vertebrae in the fore part of the body may have imparted such lightness as made it possible for the creature to assume such attitude. There can be little doubt that many other fierce and formidable *Dinosauria* were living at the same time and in the same region with *Brontosaurus*. How this apparently helpless and awkward animal escaped in the struggle for existence it is not easy to conjecture; but at home in the water, and could use its powerful tail in swimming, we may perhaps find a way out of the difficulty by supposing that, when alarmed by dangerous flesh-eating foes, it took to water and found discretion to be the better part of valour.

The greatest student of *Dinosauria* is Professor Marsh, of Yale. From 1877 until 1888 he had field parties continually at work in Wyoming. During the greater part of the period this work was in charge of Professor Reeder, who is the discoverer of all the largest *Dinosauria* known. In the summer of 1894 the University of Wyoming began work in the field to secure a complete collection of fossil remains of these great animals. During the past three years Professor Reeder has spent his entire summers in his work of collection, with the result that has brought to the western university more than fifty tons of the bones of these huge reptiles. His recent great discovery is believed to make the university collection of reptilian fossils the greatest in the world.

## An Editor Finds a Sure Cure for Rheumatism.

A. R. De Fluente, editor of the *Journal*, Doylstown, Ohio, suffered for a number of years from rheumatism in his right shoulder and side. He says, "My right arm at times was entirely useless. I tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and was surprised to receive relief almost immediately. The Pain Balm has been a constant companion of mine ever since and it never fails." For sale by

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



## PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

## OFFICIAL DECLARATION.

A Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary, issued on the 25th February contains the following Resolution:

By a Notification No. 6026 issued by the Municipal (Medical) Department of this Government on the 10th October 1898, it was announced that Calcutta was free from plague, no fresh case of, or death from, the disease having occurred since the 28th September. In a Resolution published on the same date the Lieutenant-Governor drew attention to the danger of a possible re-appearance of plague, and expressed his desire that the ward, family and caste hospitals, which had been opened under private management, should be maintained in working order and that the precaution which had been taken to stave off an outbreak and to deal with it if it should arise, should not be relaxed.

2. Since these announcements were made dropping cases of a suspicious character have been reported from time to time, some of which were of such a character as to leave little room for doubt as to their having been genuine plague. Until recently these have been so few in number, so isolated and for the most part so far open to doubt that it has not been found necessary to re-impose the restrictions which were withdrawn in October; and the Lieutenant-Governor, while fully cognisant of their significance, has thought it sufficient to report their occurrence from time to time to the Government of India, and to the various Foreign Governments as required by the terms of the Venice Convention, still entertaining the hope that with the passing of the cold season they would disappear.

3. This hope has unhappily not been realised. During January 15 cases with 13 deaths were reported. During the present month up to the 23rd instant there have been 27 cases with 24 deaths, and the numbers reported during the latter part of the month are greater than in the beginning. In some wards of the town also, and notably in Ward No. V., the total registered mortality from all causes has lately risen in a marked manner above the normal rate, and though there is no direct evidence that this is due to plague, the absence of any other known cause is at least a ground for suspicion. Reports have also reached Government which point to the possibility that attempts may be made to conceal the occurrence of cases, the sufferers being turned out of their houses by the landlords or the other inmates, through fear of infection or for other reasons, and forced to seek shelter elsewhere. Intimation has been received that the authorities in Egypt have decided to apply the plague rules against arrivals from Calcutta; and orders have been issued by the Government of India that the regulations of the Venice Convention shall be enforced against Calcutta at the ports of Aden, Madras, and Rangoon.

4. In these circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor is compelled, with much regret, to re-impose the restrictions which were withdrawn in October 1898. A Resolution is under issue prescribing that the inspection of the passengers and crews of vessels leaving Calcutta for ports out of India shall again be conducted by day on shore at the time of embarkation, and the fact that this has been done will be endorsed on the bill of health to be granted before any such vessel leaves the port. Correspondence has recently passed regarding a proposal that the clothing of the crews and deck passengers of vessels proceeding on long voyages shall be disinfected before departure. The Lieutenant-Governor was at first in hopes that this measure might not be necessary, but in view of the altered condition of things this is no longer possible. In communication with the Liners' Conference and the President of the Chamber of Commerce he has drawn up a scheme to give effect to the proposal, and arrangements will be made to bring it into force as soon as the apparatus can be procured. Orders are also under issue to provide for the inspection of passengers by train in the same manner as was done prior to October 1898.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor has also had under consideration the question of revising the regulations for dealing with plague in Calcutta itself. Those now in force are contained in Plague Regulation No. 9, dated 10th November, 1897, and were drawn up with reference to the experience which had been gained in Bombay and elsewhere, before any case of plague had occurred in Calcutta. In substance, the Lieutenant-Governor sees no reason to doubt their propriety and efficacy. In some points of detail, however, later experience has suggested improvements. In order that effective measures may be taken to prevent the spread of infection, it is of the first importance that every case which occurs shall be promptly brought to the notice of the authorities. Foreign Governments would have just cause for complaint if the measures adopted locally were such as to lead to the concealment of cases; nor can the local Government hope to cope successfully with an outbreak if the regulations in force are so repugnant to the sense of the people affected as to drive them to withhold information and hide away their sick instead of bringing them forward for treatment. Experience has shown that success has attended the system prescribed in Rule 46 of Plague Regulation No. 9, by which persons found to be suffering from plague are, at their discretion, permitted to resort to ward, caste, or family hospitals maintained by private contribution, instead of being removed for segregation to the special plague hospitals at Maniktila, Marcus Square, and the Budge-Budge Road. Still more satisfactory has been the arrangement frequently resorted to by which persons are permitted to set apart portions of their dwelling or garden houses, under due restrictions, for use as private hospitals for themselves and their families. In the case of the poorer classes, however, the arrangements have not worked so well. It is among the poor that the majority of the patients has usually been found; and any system is defective which leads these ignorant and superstitious people to resort to any shift rather than expose themselves to the chances of compulsory removal to a plague hospital or segregation camp.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor is therefore of opinion that measures must be taken to apply in the case of the poorer classes also the system which has so far worked well in respect of classes higher in the social scale. In future no person shall be removed to a public hospital under Rule 46 of Plague Regulation No. 9, without his consent, provided that suitable arrangements are made for the treatment of the case at home. If there is any ward, caste, or family hospital for admission to which he

is eligible, and to which he is willing to go, he may be moved thither. If there is no such hospital available, an endeavour should be made to explain to the patient or his friends the advantages which he would obtain in a public hospital in respect of treatment, attendance, and surroundings. But if, notwithstanding this, he still prefers to be treated at his own home, arrangements shall be made to adapt the latter for the purposes of a private isolation hospital. The other inmates, except such as are in attendance on the patient, should be induced to remove elsewhere. Medicines and medical attendance should be provided free of cost, and on the recovery of the patient (or after his death, if the case should terminate fatally) the premises should be either thoroughly disinfected, or, if necessary, demolished, compensation being paid to the owner. All clothing or bedding which is likely to have become contaminated should also be at once disinfected in the Equifex disinfecter or destroyed on payment of compensation. If any structural or internal alterations in the house or hut appear necessary in order to render it suitable for its purpose, these shall be carried out by the Chairman and the Health Officer at the public expense.

7. By these measures, the Lieutenant-Governor hopes to secure the active co-operation of the public in the reporting of cases promptly as they occur. There is at present no serious ground for alarm. Such cases as have occurred are undoubtedly sporadic. The season of greatest danger is nearly passed. Much has been done during the past two years to improve the conservancy of the town, and to introduce a higher standard of cleanliness. The municipal establishments have been strengthened, and a strong staff of competent medical and sanitary officers is at hand. The course which the disease has so far taken in Calcutta is such as to warrant the hope that the town may yet escape a serious outbreak. And the Lieutenant-Governor is confident that all classes of the community will unite with the authorities in their efforts to ward it off.

## THE GAURANGA SAMAJ.

## A LEARNED ADDRESS.

As announced before, Bhaktinobode, Babu Kedar Nath Dutt, retired Deputy Magistrate, delivered an address on Saturday evening, at the Oriental Seminary, on the "Life and Teachings of Sree Gauranga." The meeting was held under the auspices of the Gauranga Samaj, and was presided over by Raja Benoy Krishna. The spacious quadrangle, where the meeting was held, was packed to suffocation, over two thousand persons being present, among whom were some of the best and highest men of our society. Amongst those present were such distinguished and learned men as Justice Gur Dutt Banerjee, Raja Benoy Krishna Bahadur, Babu Nanda Krishna Bose, C. S., Babu Hirendra Nath Dutt, Babu Mati Lal Ghosh, Amrita Krishna Mullick, Editor, *Indian Empire*, Panchowrie Banerjee, Editor, *Basumati*, Gopal Lal Mitra, Gyan Ch. Chowdhury and Hem Chandra Sen, M. D., Lecturer, Campbell Medical School. The address had a thrilling effect upon the audience. People sat about a couple of hours spell-bound, as it were, to listen to one of the best and most soul-stirring speeches that have been delivered in Bengali in recent years.

The Chairman opened the proceedings with a nice speech, remarking that he did not consider himself fit to preside over a meeting where so many wise and devout men of the Hindu society were present. He felt great diffidence in agreeing to accept the task, but as he thought he would purify himself by coming in contact with so many pure and devout Vaishnavas, who, he knew, would be present at the meeting, he gladly accepted the proposal. He was not wrong in his anticipation and he was highly gratified to see that so many devout Vaishnavas were present at the meeting. He would, therefore, without taking up any more of their time, call upon the Bhaktinobode to deliver his promised address.

The address, as we have said before, lasted for over two hours and was listened to with rapt attention. As it was in Bengali it was impossible to take down all that the speaker said, and so we are compelled to publish a very brief resume which gives only a scanty idea of what the speaker said.

The speaker commenced with a description of the great Samaj held at Benares four hundred and thirteen years ago, then a greater city than now, a city of the greatest *savants* of the day—to meet Lord Gauranga. These *savants*, most of them being Pandits, were opposed to the teachings of the Lord, who preached Love and Bhakti (reverence) to God. At that meeting the Sannyasee *savants* surrendered themselves unconditionally at the feet of the Lord. The speaker went on to show that the Gauranga Samaj, where he was speaking, was nothing but a revival of the great Samaj which was established by the Lord himself four hundred years before. The speaker then referred to the subject of the meeting, namely, the Love of God as taught by Lord Gauranga. He first explained the essence of the principle of Prem (Love), showing the difference between what is based upon egotistic self-interest and what is based upon unalloyed altruism. He contended that Prem, which had its origin in selfishness, was no Prem at all, but only Kama, that is to say, self-gratification. Prem he described as the great principle of attraction between soul and soul, and between all souls and God Krishna. By referring to a text of the Bhagavat he pointed out that the object of spiritual love was not the attainment of the Impersonal God, but the Personal God as manifested in Krishna. By Impersonal God or Brahma, he meant the highest phase of God-head as conceived from a point of rationalism. The worship of Brahma was nothing but a simple attempt to approach Him and created only a feeling of awe and reverence in the mind and nothing more. This sort of salvation was nothing more than something like self-annihilation, that is, merging one's self in the great ocean of God. Prem, therefore, had no place in this sort of worship—the worship of God by *gyan* or knowledge or rationalism. This was called in the Hindu *Shastras* salvation by the cultivation of wisdom or intellect. The other method of worship was by *yog*. The supreme object of the worship of the *yogis* was Param-atma or the Universal Soul. *Yog* had eight divisions, namely, *Yama*, *Niyama*, *Asana*, etc. In this phase of worship, ritualism is prescribed in the first two processes, namely, *Yama* and *Niyama*. Here was then an artificial way of attaining Param-atma, in which Love of

God had no place. The highest object of worship of those, who took to Love and Bhakti to attain to Him, was Bhagawan or Sri Krishna or the Love of God. The God of the *Gyanees*, that is to say, who sought salvation by wisdom, had no attributes, so had not the Param-atma of the *Yogis*. But the God of Love, that is to say Krishna, had six attributes, viz., (1) supreme majesty, (2) omnipotence, (3) supreme glory, (4) infinite beauty, (5) infinite wisdom, and (6) eternal distinction from every other object. The speaker showed that the phase of Krishna was eternal and spiritual as man's Prem for Him was spiritual and eternal. The feeling of Love of God was implanted in the mind of every man, but by his material life and keeping himself engrossed without materialism he kept this love inoperative and in a dormant state. In Vaishnavism, Prem was the essence of all worship. Love of material objects and love of Krishna were in appearance somewhat similar. But they were in fact as different as poles asunder. The lecturer quoted a beautiful Sloka from the Vishnu Purana, showing the difference between Prem and Kama, that is to say, between disinterested and interested love. Lord Gauranga preached to the world that Prem was the ultimate object of worship, and Love of God was the highest acquirement of man. The speaker then explained how to attain this Prem. Lord Gauranga instructed mankind how they could cultivate the spiritual nature of man. The first stage was *sraddha*, (faith), then came *ruchi*, &c., &c. The speaker described all the stages, the goal being the attainment of Prem. He described that the end of all religious faiths in the world was the beginning of Vaishnavism, that is to say, the end of every religion was the beginning of that taught by Lord Gauranga, and that the all-absorbing principle or Prem was the seat of ecstasy. The speaker next explained the symptoms that followed the attainment of Prem. There was true Prem and fictitious Prem. In genuine Prem, the development was slow and its appearance fickle. But fictitious Prem, cultivated by those who are moved by love at approbation, could be easily distinguished from the genuine article. This artificial Prem was the worst enemy of the progress of man towards God. The speaker then exhorted all his hearers to follow the teachings of Lord Gauranga, the highest development of all religions that had ever been revealed to mankind. There were many religions, which preached Prem and Bhakti. But what other religious faiths preached was not Prem properly so-called but Kama, that is to say, interested love and not pure love for God. Lord Gauranga appeared on this earth to distribute this pure Prem—this most valued of all blessings—to all, high and low, without any distinction of creed and colour. The speaker asked his hearers to go from country to country but nowhere would they find that pure and spiritual Prem which the great Avatar of Nadia taught by precept and example, for He not only preached but He himself showed by practice what pure Prem was. The speaker proceeded to show that Lord Gauranga was the greatest of Avatars, the highest of Personalities and the best of teachers. He showed that His advent had been foretold in the Vedas and other *Shastras* which were held in universal esteem. Lord Gauranga was accepted as Sri Krishna Himself by the highest men of the time, the most intellectual, the most powerful and the most celebrated saints. The religion preached by the great Lord Gauranga was the only absolute in the world and it was destined in time to be the only church in the world. The great Lord Gauranga was not only the highest phase of Deity, appearing to man, in the exercise of his unlimited grace, but as the greatest teacher of the religion of genuine Prem, which was the ultimate object of our human worship. All should, therefore, signalize His advent by an anniversary!

He then concluded his speech by saying that the religion of Gauranga should go to spiritualize the people of the West and that great thing had already been earnestly commenced by his old and esteemed friend, Babu Shishir Kumar Ghosh, whose two volumes on Lord Gauranga had already been issued.

The meeting dispersed after some sweet *sankirtan*.

**SURGEON-GENERAL HARVEY**, Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, will make a tour next month to Nagpur and Bombay in connection with the operations for the suppression of the plague.

**MR. W. F. NORRIS**, late puisne Judge, Calcutta High Court, desires to stand as the Liberal candidate for East Bristol. The present member, Sir William Wills, will not seek re-election. Mr. Norris has issued an address to the electors, reciting his political creed.

It is stated that as a result of the friendly correspondence that has been passing between the Viceroy and the Amir, Mr. Frank Martin is to occupy the post at Kabul hitherto held by Sir Salter Pyne. Letters, dated the 16th instant, have reached Calcutta from Kabul, and on that date the Amir was in perfect health, so that the fresh rumours abroad last week regarding Abdur Rahman's health are probably without foundation.

**GUARD WHITE**, of the North-Western Railway, who was arrested at Bangalore charged with having stolen a despatch box containing currency notes and other valuable papers belonging to a passenger travelling between Amritsar and Dhariwar in September last, has been brought before the Deputy Commissioner of Gurdaspur. The notes were recovered at Tinnevely and other places on the Malabar coast. The prisoner admitted notes having sent them to his mother at Trevandrum. The Magistrate committed him to the Sessions.

On Saturday the District Superintendent of Police, Rangoon, searched one of the thanas in the town and found in the boxes of eight police men a miscellaneous quantity of goods stolen from Messrs. Cowie during or after the recent fire. Besides these articles one man had in a box nine notes for Rs. 100 and small notes for Rs. 100. The men will all be sent up for trial.

**CAPTAIN A. K. ARMSTRONG**, of the 3rd Madras Lancers, against whom, it will be remembered, certain charges made a few months back, alleging frauds at the Garrison Class Examination, will be tried at Madras by a General Court-martial, of which Colonel Ramsay, of the 4th Hussars, is appointed President. Major R. Omslow, of the Indian Staff Corps, is appointed Judge Advocate, and Major the Hon. F. Eveleigh de Moleyns, of the 4th Hussars, Prosecutor. The proceedings are to be forwarded to the Judge Advocate-General of India, at Army Head Quarters, Simla.

## INDIA GAZETTE.

**LALA PIYARI LAL**, Head Munshi and Translator of the Vernacular Office of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, is appointed to officiate as Native Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

**MAJOR H. A. DEANE**, C. S. I., Indian Staff Corps, an Additional Resident of the 2nd class and Political Agent for Dir, Swat, Chitral, is granted furlough for one year and eight months.

**CAPTAIN A. H. McMAHON**, C. S. I., C. I. E., Indian Staff Corps, a Political Agent of the 2nd (officiating 1st) class, is posted as Political Agent for Dir, Swat and Chitral, with effect from the date of assuming charge.

**MR. R. DOUGLASS**, Examiner of Accounts, attached to the Office of the Examiner of Accounts, N. W. Railway, is granted furlough for seven months and nine days.

**LIEUTENANT G. LUBBOCK**, R.E., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, is granted special leave for six weeks.

**CAPTAIN S. L. CRASTER**, R.E., Ex-Engr. 2nd grade State Rys. and Offg Dy. Consgr Engr. to the Govt. of India for Rys., Lucknow, is posted temporarily to the Establishment under the Director of Ry. Constn. for employment on the N.W. Ry.

**MR. S. FINNEY**, Manager, E. B. S. Ry. in class 1 grade 1 of the Sup. Rev. Estab. of State Rys. is appointed to officiate as Manager of the N.W. Ry. during the absence of Colonel M. C. Brackenbury, C.S.I. R. E. on furlough or until further order.

**MAJOR W. V. CONSTABLE**, R.E., Manager, E. C. Ry. officiating in class 1 grade 1 of the Sup. Rev. Estab. of State Rys. is appointed to officiate as Manager of the E. B. S. Ry. in his present grade until further orders.

**MR. J. LIGHTFOOT**, Ex. of Accts, N.W. Ry. is transferred temporarily to the Sup. Rev. Estab. of State Rys. in class 1 grade 1 of that Establishment and is appointed to officiate as Manager of the E. B. Ry. until further orders.

**MR. H. R. WALTON**, Ex-Engr. 3rd grade, temporary rank, State Rys. is appointed to officiate as Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India in the P. W. Dept. *vice* Lieutenant G. Lubbock, R.E., on special leave.

**RAI PUNDIT PREM NATH BAHADUR**, Exr. P. W. Accts, Punjab, is appointed Exr. of Accts, N.W. Ry.

**MR. F. T. HUTCHINSON**, Exr. of Accts, is, on return from furlough, appointed Examiner of Accounts, N. W. Ry. is appointed Govt. Exr. of Accts, Assam Bengal Railway.

**PUNDIT HURPRASAD DAR**, Dy. Exr. of Accts, is transferred from the Office of the Exr. of Accts, O. and R. Ry. to that of the Examiner of Accts, N.W. Ry.

**2ND LIEUT. HERBERT DE LISIE POLLARD-LOWSEY**, R.E., is appointed to the P. W. D. as an Asst. Engr. 3rd grade, and posted to the Central Provinces.

**MR. W. H. NIGHTINGALE**, Chief Engr. 3rd class, temporary rank, Assam, is permanently promoted to that class with effect from the 21st January 1899.

**MAJOR GEORGE KENNETH SCOTT-MONCRIEFF**, R.E., is appointed to the P. W. Dept. as an Ex. Engr. 1st grade, and posted to the Punjab, Irrigation Branch.

**MR. A. L. WEBB**, Ex Engr. 2nd grade, N. W. P. and Oudh, is permitted to resign his appointment in the P. W. Dept., with effect from the forenoon of the 22nd January, 1899.

**MR. J. P. GRICE**, Postmaster, Peshawar, is granted privilege leave for two months and eleven days. Mr. N. M. Cama acting for him.

The following acting appointments are made, with effect from the 12th December, 1898, during the absence on privilege leave of Mr. J. C. Morgan, Supdt. of Post Offices, 2nd grade, or until further orders:—

**MR. H. C. ROUSSAC**, Supdt. of P. Os, 3rd grade, to act in the 2nd grade, from the 12th to the 19th December, 1898.

**MR. V. KINAKASABHAI PILLAI**, Supdt. of P. Os, 3rd grade, now on privilege leave, to act in the 2nd grade, from the 20th December 1898.

**MR. G. R. PETER**, Supdt. of P. Os, 3rd grade, to act in the 2nd grade, during the absence on privilege leave of Mr. V. Kanakasabha Pillai.

**MR. H. R. HEBBERD**, Supdt. of P. Os, 4th grade, to act in the 3rd grade.

**MR. K. VYTHIALINGUM PILLAI** to act as Supdt. of P. Os, 4th grade, from the 12th to the 31st December 1898.

The following promotions and appointment are made with effect from the 1st January, 1899, the date on which Mr. J. Bower, Superintendent of Post Offices, 1st grade, retired from Government service:—

**KHAN GHULAM RAZA BAHADUR**, Supdt. of P. Os, 2nd grade, is promoted to the 1st grade.

**MR. A. WILSON**, Supdt. of P. Os, 3rd grade, is promoted to the 2nd grade.

**MR. M. R. MUTHUSWAMY NAIDU**, Supdt. of P. Os, 4th grade, is promoted to the 3rd grade.

**MR. K. VYTHIALINGUM PILLAI** is appointed as a Supdt. of P. Os, 4th grade.

**MR. S. J. LALKAKA**, Supdt. of P. Os, officiating in the 2nd grade, is granted privilege leave for one month and fifteen days.

The following officiating appointments are made during his absence on privilege leave, or until further orders:—

**MR. GANESH NARSHIV JOSHI**, Supdt. of P. Os, 3rd grade, to officiate in the 2nd grade.

**MR. S. DADABHAI SURI**, Supdt. of P. Os, 4th grade, to officiate in the 3rd grade.

**MR. L. B. PARAKH** to officiate as Supdt. of P. Os, 4th grade.

THE trade regulations made between

England and China in 1894 under the Sikkim Convention will expire this year as they were only for five years. On their expiry the prohibition against the import of Indian tea into Tibet will cease to have force. Some fresh arrangements will presumably be made to facilitate the trade between India and Tibet.

THE Secretary of State has given his sanction to the Bill for the entailment or rather the settlement of estates of Talukdars in Oudh, which has been submitted to him by the Government of the N.W. Provinces. The new project is a complement of the legislation already before the Council in the form of the Court of Wards Bill. The settlement which it provides for will only be admitted in the case of estates that are clear of debt, if it indebted by arrangement with the creditors; while the Court of Wards Bill is designed to improve the machinery for freeing estates of their encumbrances.

It is reported that the Peace Conference will be held in Holland.

ACCORDING to Vienna reports, the agitation, under the cry of emancipation from Rome, promises soon to become as prominent a feature of public controversy in Austria as the anti Ritualistic movement in England.

IN a discussion in the Chamber on the Paris Exhibition, M. de Lombré said everything would be ready by the date fixed in 1900. It was voted that one half of the Judges to award prizes should be elected by the exhibitors themselves. The British Commission on the Paris Exhibition finds their position much improved by the increase of treasury grant from £75,000 to £130,000, but the work proceeds but slowly owing to the dilatory action of the French authorities.

BEFORE the Lord Chief Justice on Tuesday Mr. Astor sued the proprietors of the *Daily Mail* for alleged libel by the publication of accounts of a dinner stated to have been given at Clefden under the head of "A millionaire's wager: Mr. Astor's strange dinner party." No such dinner had taken place. The arguments turned chiefly upon whether an apology should be given without admitting that the story was a libel, and in the end this course was followed. Lord Russell made some remarks on the growth of personal paragraphs in the English journals, of which he had recently himself been a victim.

SIR HENRY CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN's election as Leader was moved by Sir Joseph Pease, and seconded by Mr. Channing, and was supported by Doctor Farquharson as a Scot-man, Mr. Alfred Thomas, as a Welshman, and Mr. Labouchere as a Briton (to use his own facetious description). Sir Campbell-Bannerman, who was present throughout the proceedings, in returning thanks for his election, said he believed there were no differences at this moment in the Liberal Party greater than those natural and wholesome differences which always must exist in a body of men habituated to think and act for themselves, instead of thinking and acting to order.

A TELEGRAM from Manila states that the 51st Iowa Volunteers have been brought back from Iloilo to Cavite. The Filipino committee at Hongkong state that simultaneously with the proclamation of the Filipino Republic, Aguinaldo released the Spanish prisoners of war. Full accounts of the fighting at Manila show that the Americans lost more men than was at first reported. The number of dead is now given as forty. The Filipino losses are estimated at 4,000. The Americans engaged numbered 13,000, the Filipinos 20,000. There was some firing on Monday to the north of Manila, but the general engagement practically ended on Sunday, the 14th. The regular infantry suffered most fatalities. A hundred insurgents concealed in a church fired on ambulances which were carrying the American wounded to the rear. The slaughter of the insurgents to the north of the city by the guns of the Callao, Concord, and Charleston was practically heavy.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

It is stated that an Austrian chemist, the greatest European expert on high explosives, has produced a smokeless powder which is as trustworthy and as safe as common gunpowder. It is free from nitroglycerine, and overheating affects it very little. It is also cheaper than ordinary smokeless powder. The discovery has caused a sensation in continental military circles.

MR. LOW's account of his exploration of Labrador is printed in the Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Canada. Between Richmond Gulf and Ungava Bay he crossed a ridge of Cambrian rocks, capped with trap, and rising into cliffs of 1,200 feet above the water. Seal Lake, which is near Clearwater Lake, and about 100 miles from salt water, is tenanted by flourishing seals, which he thinks must have arrived there during a subsidence of the Glacial Period. Fort Chimo, the most northerly port of the Hudson Bay Company in Labrador, was the limit of his journey. The rocks found were Laurentian and Cambrian.

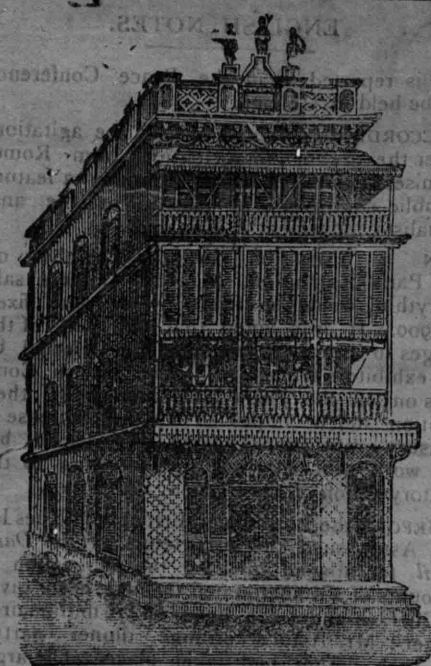
IN paper read before the Society of Arts the other night Mr. James Swinburne, the eminent chemist, described a new electric lamp which he declared to be the greatest invention in electric lighting that we have seen for many years. Professor Ayrton, who joined in the discussion, described it as an entirely new departure in electric lighting. The new lamp is the invention of a young German professor, Walther Nernst, of the University of Göttingen. The lamp does not require to be enclosed "in vacuo" as does the carbon filament of the present glow-lamp, but in the Nernst lamp the light is emitted by a rod composed of rare earths similar to those used in the manufacture of the Welsbach mantle. These rods do not conduct electricity when cold, but when heated they do, giving out a mild yellowish light. Mr. Swinburne explained that the lamp will work equally well at any pressure. Thus high pressures may be used with much smaller mains, and a consequent economy in copper. The lamp gives one candle light for one and a-half Watts of current, as against one candle for a consumption to four Watts by the present glow-lamp.

THE Government of India have exempted from import duty machinery employed for the distillation of spirits.

THE Colombo branch of the Bank of Madras has been mulcted of four lakhs of rupees by Ranalingam, the Sheriff, who is in the custody of the police. He was produced before the Magistrate on the morning of Sunday and remanded till to day.

THE following *communiqué* has been handed to the *Englishman* by Government:—Information by telegram has been received by the Government of India from the Engineer-in-Chief, Uganda Railway, refuting the statements made in a recent article in *Truth* as to the terrible mortality among the Indian coolies employed in the construction of the Uganda Railway. *Truth* states that 8,000 to 10,000 coolies have been imported from India for work on the Uganda Railway; that none of these coolies have returned to India; that the coolies now employed on the line are probably about 2,000; and the suggestion is that the balance (about 5,000 to 7,000) have disappeared. The facts as reported by the Engineer-in-Chief are that: the number of indentured coolies imported from India during the three years ending December 1898 was 15,385; the number of deaths was 480, and the number invalided 1,015. Eight hundred and one coolies completed their contract and 229 were dismissed or resigned. The number remaining on the work was 12,860. It may be mentioned as the coolies were engaged for a term of three years and emigration commenced in 1896, few have yet come back to India of their own accord.





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