

Anrita Bazar Patrika

BI-WEEKLY EDITION---PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. XXXI.

CALCUTTA, SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1899.

NO. 21.

পদকপাতক।
 'সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে
 মূল্য ৩০ টাকা।
 পরিশিষ্ট বহুত্ব।
 সমুদায়ের পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

অনুরাগবলী।
 শ্রীমদেহর দাস প্রণীত।
 এই খানি উপায়ের বৈকল্য গ্রহ হইতে
 বৎসর পূর্বে লিখিত।
 মূল্য ছয় আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ বর্ধ আনা।
 সমুদায়ের পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

শ্রীঅমৃত প্রকাশ।
 শ্রীঅমৃত প্রকাশ প্রথম প্রকাশ ও শিবা
 শ্রীশিবা নাগর রুত।
 শ্রীশিবা প্রকাশের লীলা সখ্যে অনেক
 নূতন কথা আছে এবং শ্রীমদেহর প্রকাশ
 লীলা বিশদরূপে বর্ণিত হইয়াছে।
 মূল্য বার আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ এক আনা
 পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

শ্রীবিষ্ণুপ্রিয়া-পত্রিকা।
 বৈষ্ণবধর্ম সনাক্ত প্রথম প্রকাশ এবং
 মাসিক পত্রিকা। বার্ষিক মূল্য ২০ ডাঃ মাঃ ১০
 অনেক প্রথম হইতে শ্রীবিষ্ণুপ্রিয়া পত্রিকা
 চাহে পাতন; কিন্তু কোন কোন সংখ্যা
 একেবারে নিশ্চেষ্ট হওয়ায়, আমরা তাঁহাদের
 প্রতিশ্রুতি পূর্ণ করিতে পারি না। সেই জন্য
 আমরা উক্ত নিশ্চেষ্ট সংখ্যাগুলি পুনঃ মুদ্রিত
 করিতে মনঃ করিয়াছি। বাঁহারা উক্ত ছয়
 বর্ষের সমস্ত পত্রিকা, কিম্বা উহার কোন বর্ষের
 পত্রিকা চাহেন, তাঁহারা কৃপা করিয়া অবিলম্বে
 আমাদিগকে জানাইবেন। বাঁহারা পূর্বে গ্রাহক
 হইবেন তাঁহারা প্রতি বর্ষের পত্রিকা দেড়
 টাকায় পাইবেন। গ্রাহকস্বত্বের রায়, গ্রাহক
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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, MARCH 19, 1899.

VICEROYS, PAST AND PRESENT.

DECIDEDLY the most industrious of all rulers in India was Sir Richard Temple. He questioned every one he came across like a learner, and would never allow a visitor to escape until he had been pumped dry. Lord Dufferin resembled him very much, inasmuch as he was a good talker. But while Sir Richard was always serious and talked nothing but business, Lord Dufferin would be in a light mood now and then, and leave some of his important works to be done by his subordinates. The Indians had the freest access to his Lordship, nay, whenever he felt dull he would send for those who could talk well. The Indians could have got much from Lord Dufferin if they had known how to utilize his good nature. He was left to be surrounded by good talkers, most of whom were sycophants, who had no objection to serve themselves in visiting the Viceroy. The one great qualification of Lord Dufferin which rendered him popular, was that he respected Indian public opinion, read Indian newspapers with avidity, and was very much influenced by what they said.

Lords Lansdowne and Elgin gave up all touch with the external world. They kept themselves surrounded by officials, or rather the officials surrounded them and gave them very little opportunities of coming across the public. Hence it is that they are considered failures, even by Anglo-Indians. As for Anglo-Indians, though blinded by interests, they do yet respect a really able and sympathetic ruler. Of course, they sacrificed Lord Ripon. But many Englishmen, like other human beings, when under the influence of passion and prejudice, are apt to forget themselves. The way Lord Ripon was humiliated raised them, at the cost of the Empire. In the interests of the Empire itself, Viceroys ought not to be humiliated by the Anglo-Indians, who mainly enjoy all the benefits from its possession. Ever since the humiliation of Lord Ripon, the Anglo-Indians have become stronger than the Viceroy.

Yes, the Anglo-Indian community is now stronger than the Viceroy; for, Lords Lansdowne and Elgin did nothing to regain the position which the supreme ruler in India had lost by the humiliation of Lord Ripon. Lord Curzon will have to face the problem. The problem is this: Viceroys of India now cannot venture to introduce a measure which they know is likely to be opposed by the Anglo-Indian community. In other words, the practical masters of the country, just now, are not the responsible rulers of the land, but the Anglo-Indian community, not the non-officials alone, but the officials and non-officials combined. Before the time of Lord Ripon the non-officials leaned rather towards the Indians than towards the officials, and so there was a balance of power. But the officials and non-officials have now combined, and a ruler cannot venture to go against their wishes, as they are now supreme.

Lord Curzon has been able to make himself popular with the Anglo-Indian community. His Excellency is accessible to all Europeans; he has an open table for them. Nay, he does more; he issues frequent invitations and comes in contact with the Europeans as a rule, thrice in the week. By this means Lord Curzon has been able, not only to gain a vast mass of information in regard to the country, but to endear himself to them. Of course, we dread to think that some of his guests would try to influence His Excellency with bad advice. We hope, however, that instead of being influenced by such advice, His Excellency will be able to reform those men by sound counsels. Lord Curzon keeps himself surrounded by members of the Anglo-Indian community, official and non-official. Let His Excellency utilize his opportunities, by healing the ever-widening breach that separates the two races in India. Let him preach to them the necessity of good-will to their fellow-subjects in India.

From the interviews granted to Indians, it would appear that His Excellency has up to this time come across only a few of them. Even high Indian officials such as Judges of the High Court remain as yet unhonored by an interview. His Excellency should seek their company and should write to them to come as Lords Dufferin and Ripon used to do. Lords Ripon and Dufferin invited the Indian Judges of the High Court at least once in the week and took their advice in many important matters of State. The Indians, especially those who are officials, will not intrude upon His Excellency or their own motion. If Lord Curzon keeps himself surrounded by members of his own race, His Excellency should in the same manner invite Indians to go to him. The supreme ruler has the privilege of summoning any one to him. We fear, Lord Curzon has not as yet come across more than half-a-dozen Congress leaders.

GOOD OUT OF EVIL.

MR. STEEVENS' letter in the Daily Mail has done this service, that it has already created an interesting literature, and established the fact that race-prejudice exists in this country, for which, however, the Indians are not responsible. It has also established the

fact that there are many Englishmen who do not approve of the conduct of those of their countrymen who, forgetful of their own position, heap abuse upon nations dependent upon them. Mr. Steevens has unconsciously done another service; he has made it clear that abuses are not tolerated by respectable men. The abuse of the Bengalees originated with Lord Macaulay, and we must, therefore, begin with him.

Macaulay's writings are likely to endure as long as the English language exists, which means that his libel on the Bengalees is also to live for ever. There is, however, no serious harm in that: only such writings corrupt the morals of Englishmen, whose inferior propensities have not been brought under proper control. In this country we are accustomed to see these periodical outbursts against the Indians, especially the Bengalees, like the one that disfigures the columns of the Daily Mail. Now, all these, as we said before, owe their origin partly to that notorious paragraph of Macaulay. That paragraph, written in such beautiful and metaphorical language, tempted many writers to imitate him. They fancied that Macaulay owed his success to the invectives hurled against the Bengalees and not to his genius, and so they wanted to produce racy writing by basing the same upon the abuse of the same devoted nation. Thus were the myriads of Bengalee-phobists, created and corrupted by the fine writing of Macaulay.

Macaulay was, however, like a beautiful and loose maiden, who charms people with her beauty and not virtues. As a writer of accuracy he has no reputation; he is, indeed, known to be a very unreliable guide. Thus criticising Lord Macaulay's paper on Dr. Johnson, Mr. Hayward severely notices the want of accuracy in the historian:

"Action, action, action" says the orator. "Effect, effect, effect" says the historian. Give Archimedes a place to stand on, and he would move the world. Give Talleyrand a line of a man's handwriting and he would engage to ruin him. Give Lord Macaulay a hint, a fancy, an insulated fact or phrase, a scrap of a journal or the tag end of a song, and on it, by the abused prerogative of genius, he would construct a theory of national or personal character, which should confer undying glory or inflict indelible disgrace.

"What is horn to a buffalo, etc." is too beautiful a metaphor to be sacrificed only for the sake of accuracy. And thus Macaulay is the guru of all the calumniators of the Bengalees that followed him.

The Englishman, which first reproduced the article of Mr. Steevens, condemned it, for which our thanks are due to our contemporary. It is no small advantage that the leading Anglo-Indian paper in Bengal does not approve of such writings. This is what the Pioneer's Calcutta correspondent says:—

Mr. Steevens' letters on India, published in the Daily Mail are attracting some attention, and his scathing remarks on the Bengali race are likely to give material for some fine writing in the native newspapers. He will, however, be disappointed in his expectations, as to any "fine writing in the native newspapers." The remarks of Mr. Steevens may be only "scathing" and nothing more, but the Bengalees are too conscious of their own innocence to resort to abuse. Mr. Pugh, while condemning Mr. Steevens, has also to find fault with a Bengalee newspaper. As President of the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association he said:

This was not an Association for the purpose of raising up antagonism between classes and races in this country. When at Allahabad he was sorry to read in a Bengalee paper a virulent attack upon this community, and during the last few days they had read a virulent attack upon the Bengalees. That was certainly to be deprecated. A man who went about to work up race-hatred and class-hatred was not a friend of the country, and was doing harm to the country. They could secure their own rights without falling foul of other classes and other races in the country.

The sentiments are all right, and they suit very well a good man and a friend of the Empire and the country like Mr. Pugh. But which is the Bengalee paper, alluded to by him, and what did it say? Mr. Pugh ought to have quoted that paper to prove that its attack of a community was as virulent as that of Mr. Steevens. On our part, we think it is impossible for the lowest of vernacular papers to write of a community in the way Mr. Steevens has been led to do in respect of the Bengalees. And we must stick to that opinion till we see the writing in the Bengalee paper noticed by Mr. Pugh. When Mr. Pugh was going to Allahabad to preside over the deliberations of his Society in December last, we wrote thus:—

It is lucky that Mr. L. P. Pugh, the distinguished barrister, has been chosen the leader and he has accepted the leadership of the Imperial Anglo-Indian Association, and he is going shortly to attend a Conference of that body at Allahabad. In short, here we have a "National Congress" of the domiciled Anglo-Indians and Eurasians under the charge of a European, universally respected and with what is called high "pro-native" tendencies. Any Association, under such leadership, is bound to succeed; but then it has other advantages which are denied to the one belonging to the Indians. Mr. Knox, a Civilian and a Judge of the Allahabad High Court, has identified himself with the movement. The Englishman says that it wishes well of the movement. And all these show that, it has the sanction and support of the Government itself. Would the Government permit any of its servants to have anything to do with the Congress? It has been authoritatively declared that unless an official has resigned for good, he will not be permitted to show any active sympathy for the national movement. Will the Englishman ever speak a kind word on behalf of the National Congress? Perhaps

not. All these show, that if the Government has particular objections to the Indians holding Congress, it has none to allow Eurasians and domiciled Anglo-Indians doing the same work. In short, the view of the Government apparently is that, to quote Mr. Kipling, 'the East must remain East and West, West.' We have not the slightest objection to this favour shown to the latter Association. Indeed, if the latter Association flourished, it would be in its power and interest to do most of the work,—perhaps all—undertaken by the National Congress. Of course, it would also be in its power to do much injury to the country and the cause of progress by adopting an unnatural course, accentuating race differences and preaching the gospel of division between the nigger. But if it would be in the power of the Association to do much mischief, we doubt very much whether such a course would any way serve the interests of its members. However when Mr. Pugh is at the head of this organization we have no fear that it would ever undertake, while under his leadership, any suicidal and unpatriotic work. If Mr. Pugh will kindly read the Resolutions adopted by the Congress to his constituents at the Conference, the members of that body will at once see that what the Indian movement means is good to all, and not to any particular class. Thus, for instance, the question of Simultaneous Examinations. Are not the Anglo-Indians and Eurasians as much interested in it as the Hindus and Mussalmans? Take another Resolution, the one relating to the separation of Judicial and Executive functions. There are many Anglo-Indians, both official and non-official, who are just now for peace and amity. Some of our readers in other parts of India may be surprised to hear that Sir J. Woodburn is one of them. The Home Secretary, Mr. Fraser, is another. One of the most ardent amongst them is perhaps Mr. Pugh. Here he has found an opportunity of bringing these two sections of the subjects of Her Majesty in India together in bonds of sympathy and union; and we hope, he will utilize the occasion to its most.

We have in this connection to take note of the two letters that appeared in the Englishman supporting Mr. Steevens and abusing Mr. Oldham for defending the Bengalees against his attacks. Do the writers of these belong to the Anglo-Indian Defence Association? Presumably they do, for they announce themselves as Anglo-Indians. And how stupid these two correspondents are! Mr. Oldham is a high official and may in time be the Governor of a Province. And these two men combat his facts while standing behind a screen! As they do not venture to give their names we must take it for granted that they have not a very exalted position in society.

It may be contended that we have done too much honor to Mr. Steevens and that we have secured for him notoriety for which he was hankering, by taking such serious notice of his effusions. We shall explain the situation. It is the easiest thing here to get up a "white mutiny." If an Englishman's letter, abusing the Bengalees, appears in the columns of an Anglo-Indian newspaper, it leads others to follow in his wake. If the editor unthinkingly opens his columns to such writings, the gates of pandemonium are thrown open and numberless scribblers come out of their hiding places to continue the abuse, under different and various nom-de-plumes. If the Indian newspapers resent such conduct these scribblers only come in greater force and with greater vehemence than before. When Mr. Steevens' letter appeared we apprehended something like a second Ilbert Bill warfare. Luckily the editor of the Englishman is a journalist who realizes his responsible position; and luckily, we have an official here like Mr. Oldham. Mr. Oldham's defence of the Bengalees can be regarded as a Governmental defence. Mr. Steevens has gained nothing by his abuse. On the other hand, his unmanly efforts have done the country this service that the pastime of abusing the Bengalees has, we believe, been for ever discredited. We believe that for many years to come any attempt in this direction will not be made.

BRYAN ON THE ACQUISITION OF EMPIRES.

ELSEWHERE is reproduced a very good article on Rudyard Kipling from the Englishman. Kipling is an Englishman, a hero, and it requires a good deal of moral courage for a countryman of his to say that his appeal to the Americans is not "based on any Christian ground." The Pioneer's article on the same subject is very clever, but it forgets to take note of the fact that Mr. Kipling's advice to the Americans does not tally with that offered to mankind by Jesus Christ.

The Americans were not yet agreed as to what they should do with the Philippines. Here was an Empire presented to them by Providence and a good many did not like to accept the gift,—a gift to secure which sometimes millions of lives would be sacrificed by other nations. This is a spectacle which should surprise the civilized nations of the West. For none amongst them would have shewn any hesitation in this matter, on the other hand, every nation in the West would have considered the acquisition of an Empire as the highest blessing of God.

The attitude of the Americans should surprise the people of the West, as the attitude of a certain Eastern potentate surprised his courtiers. This Prince, when raised to the throne, was yet a young man. Of course, he was surrounded by self-seeking scoundrels, and they offered him beautiful women for his harem. To their disgust, however, he refused to have anything to do with such gifts; he said he was satisfied with his wife, and did not like to take the responsibility of marrying other women. Of course the attitude of the King surprised his

courtiers, because they had never seen such perversity in any king before. They could not realize his motives, and their opinion of the good sense of the King was not heightened by his unusual conduct.

The King, however, explained to them his motive. He had seen how his predecessor had never let slip an opportunity of securing a beauty, whenever he could get hold of one. "But, this did not do my predecessor," continued the King, "any good. The more he increased the number of his wives, the more he bankered after fresh ones, and at last ceased to feel any tender feeling for any. He debased himself rapidly, so that at last he converted himself into a mere brute. But that was not his only punishment. His ceaseless care to see that his wives did not go astray, led him to live a life of wretchedness. He was consumed to ashes by the passion of jealousy. He murdered his wives and others, maddened by that feeling, and he had no rest day and night. He appointed guards to watch his women, and not trusting the guards, he appointed guards to watch the guards, and it was thus he spent his unhappy life." The new King concluded that he was happier and better off, with his one wife, than his predecessor was with his hundreds.

The reader will now get some idea why the Americans, as a nation, are not rejoicing over the prospects of ruling over an Empire. Of course the spectacle was never seen of a nation declining to accept an Empire; neither was the spectacle ever seen of a king declining a beautiful woman. But that is not the only wonder in this attitude of the Americans. There is something peculiarly inexplicable in the conduct betrayed by the Americans. There are men who will not accept Empires, even when offered, because they are holy. These holy men have realized that the kingdom of this earth was a delusion, would not agree even to be the Czar of all the Russias if the position were offered them. But it is not religious frenzy that leads the Americans to hesitate to accept the offer of an Empire. It is not the teachings of Jesus Christ that have created a disgust in their minds against worldly goods. But the Americans refuse the offer of an Empire on purely material grounds. In short, they say that an Empire will ruin them materially, so they will not have anything to do with it!

If, however, the possession of Empire ruins nations, why they undergo so much sacrifice to acquire them? We remember the statement made in a Bombay paper, many years ago, probably by Mr. Maclean, that "our forefathers, in their arrangement with the natives of India, always succeeded in securing the best thing for themselves." Of course every Englishman believes that he is better off than a native of India, but is it so?

To make the thing short, there is scarcely an Englishman in existence who does not think the possession of Empires as a great blessing, and for which there is nothing which he and his country should not stake. Because there was somebody who was supposed to have used the expression "perish India," his name is held up to execration. The Empire of India is considered by Englishmen as a precious gift. When the unprofitable Island of Cyprus was added to the Empire, there was rejoicing. There is now rejoicing in England because a new Empire in Africa has been conquered for the country.

Here then we see opinions differ, differ as poles asunder. Englishmen value Empires, Americans do not. Englishmen value Empires because they are profitable, but Americans consider Empires as ruinous!

William J. Bryan has written a remarkable article which appeared in the New York Journal and which has been sent to us. The article is headed "England's Policy is our warning". In that article it is shown what harm imperial instincts have done to England and he advises his country never to nourish these instincts.

It is believed that the possession of Empires gives a nation more power, more wealth and all that; and, therefore, every nation, which has power, risk much and undergo sacrifice to secure them. The "Little Englanders" among the Americans say that Empires are not blessings but curses. And why? Take the case of the sober King referred to above. Was he happier with one wife, or his predecessor with his hundreds? Power and wealth, it is believed, like a beautiful wife, contributes to the happiness of men. Let us assume this proposition to be correct. But too much of power and wealth, like too many wives, must be a curse. A man with too much power is an unhappy being here, and risks being unhappy hereafter. A man with too much power, that is to say, irresponsible power, is soon debased. The "Little Americans" declare that they are now a simple, industrious and honest race, but if they are obliged to lord it over their fellows, they will soon become as debased as the Carolina planter of by-gone days.

Of course there is a terrible indictment of British rule in India in Mr. Bryan's article, but his motives are not malicious. He has no mind to attack British rule, his object is to show that the acquisition of Empires does not benefit the ruling country. In the end of his article we find this paragraph:—

English rule in India is not bad because it is English, but because no race has yet appeared sufficiently strong in character to resist the temptations which come with irresponsible power.

The object of the article is to show that England has not benefited by the acquisition of Empires! It takes one's breath away

to hear the doctrine preached that England has hitherto only pursued a wild goose chase in hunting after Empires, and has not only derived no benefit but only injured herself!

For ourselves we have ever held the opinion that the opinion of Mr. Maclean, quoted above, is wrong, namely, that in the arrangement, which the rulers of this country have made with the people, it is the former who have gained in every way.

India the Congress organ, represents India in England. Its chief function is to submit, with its own comments, a weekly history of India, as told by the Indians through their newspapers, for the information of Englishmen at home. By this means it is sought to keep India in touch with the people of England, who are the real masters of India. But India is proving useful in other ways also. Indian administrators may not care what the Indians may say, but every one of them is anxious to earn the good opinion of his countrymen at home. A paragraph, therefore, in an Indian newspaper, criticizing the act of an official may not produce any effect upon the administrator, but may become very effective when it is transferred into the columns of a newspaper like India published in England. Let, therefore, India take notice of every grievance that appears in Indian newspapers, which seems to it to be well-founded, and it will be able to do an immense amount of good. An article from India in reference to the Bombay press committees will be found elsewhere.

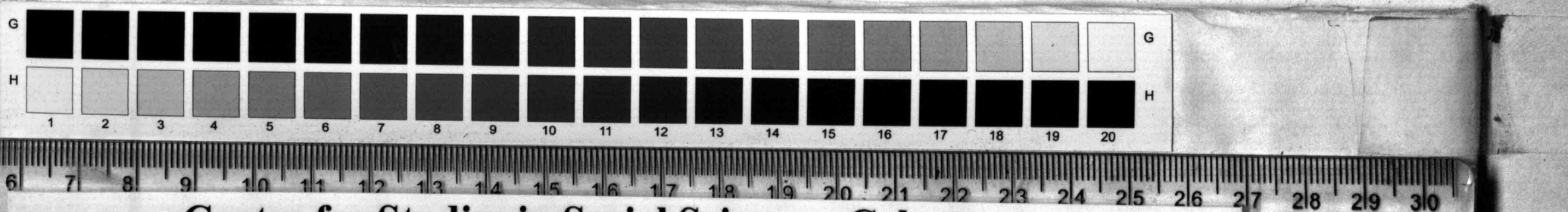
FROM a recent issue of the Calcutta Gazette, the Indian Empire understands, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has declared the conduct of the inhabitants of the villages of Kanabari, Bāgoota, and Nandanpore, in the district of Mymensing, to have rendered it expedient for the Government to increase the number of the police force, by quartering an additional force at the cost of the inhabitants". Now, we have never been able to understand the ethics of the policy which leads Government to punish whole villages in this light-hearted manner by imposing punitive police upon them. The method is so unjust that we wonder how any Government, especially an enlightened Government like ours, can be induced to adopt it. We shall show by citing the facts of a typical case in Barisal how the villagers, as a rule, bring such wholesale punishment upon themselves.

A AND B of a certain village, (we write from memory and hence suppress the names,) laid claims to a certain plot of land. They resorted to a Civil Court for the establishment of their respective rights. Then commenced a feud between these two co-villagers. Both the combatants found followers to continue the fray. The Civil Court could not put a stop to the feud and they ultimately resorted to blows. Thus A and B of a certain village, fought a pitched battle, each party trying to carry away the paddy from the disputed field which both parties claimed to have sown.

The police came and hauled up one party. The Magistrate convicted them, for he thought that the best thing he could do under the circumstances would be to send the accused to jail. The evidence was weak, but did not a great Anglo-Indian authority lay down that it would be wrong to expect conclusive evidence in criminal cases, and that it would be wrong to acquit people because the evidence against the accused was weak? Well, though the wrong party was hauled up, yet the Magistrate was somehow on other induced to convict them, of course, from the best of motives.

The result was, the victorious party was encouraged to make another effort to grow paddy in another plot of land belonging to his opponent. Here another affray occurred and the police again entered the scene. The Magistrate was very angry; he found that his authority had been defied and he reported to Government that A and B were both scoundrels; so were their followers; and so were all people residing in that part of the district. They were all a lot of badmashes; crimes were on the increase amongst them; and some effective measures had to be adopted to teach them a lesson. And, therefore, he requested that a punitive police force should be quartered not only in the village of A and B, but in all the neighbouring villages.

A HAD fifty, while B also had fifty, followers and friends; but the half-a-dozen villages which were kept besieged by a police force and made to pay for its maintenance contained a population of five thousand men who were punished for the alleged crimes of one hundred! Now, this can never be justice! How would the people of Calcutta take it, if, for the rascally acts of a few badmashes in Burra Bazar, the whole town was made to maintain an additional police force? Or how would the Europeans like it, if, for the rascally acts of a few natives, they were made to bear the burden of a punitive police force, simply because their Indian neighbours were quarrelsome?



We cannot conceive how District Magistrates can commend the above method of awarding wholesale punishment for the offence of a few, and how Government can entertain such a proposal. We have a Legislature which is at the absolute control of the Executive. We have highly-paid officials to take charge of districts. We have, if we take into account the Chowkidars who have been incorporated with the regular police force, the largest police in the world. We have, besides, a disarmed people. And, if after this, we have recourse to wholesale punishments, we only prove that the entire system, under which the country is governed is a delusion.

THE questions and answers that were asked in the last meeting of the Madras Council are an interesting study. The non-official members asked so many as 45 main questions with their side issues and they were all answered by the official members—in the usual way. When the privilege of interpellation was conferred by the India Councils Act, there was consternation in the ranks of the officials. It was feared that Government would not only be inundated with interpellations but that the Secretaries would find it very difficult to answer many of them. A way has, however, been discovered at last to confound these disagreeable interpellators. Indeed, the art of answering questions has been carried to perfection in India, and in due course, like several other reforms, it will no doubt be adopted in the British Parliament. Brevity is the soul of wit, and one will find this vividly illustrated in most of the answers given by the official members. "Yes" or "no"—is the usual reply; and with this engine in hand, even the dullest official member can defy the most intelligent non-official "honorable." By the way, why are they all—official and non-official members,—called "honorable"? Are they not already honorable by virtue of their education, culture and position? Fancy the ridiculousness of the position! Mr. Ridley was an "honorable" so long as he was in the Legislative Council of Bengal, as Municipal Secretary, but he is no longer an "honorable" though he holds a higher appointment and is certainly as honorable now as he was before! The non-official members of the Madras Council deserve well of the country for the pains they took in asking questions, though they met with only scant justice at the hands of the Government when they were answered.

SOME of these questions reveal a queer state of things. For instance, we learn, that in Tanjore 37 plots of land assessed at Rs. 296, were sold for arrears of Government revenue and purchased by Government itself at one anna per plot, that is to say, these 37 plots were purchased for 37 annas. Similarly, 28 and 57 plots of land assessed at Rs. 59 and Rs. 203 respectively, were sold for arrears of Government revenue and purchased by Government itself at one anna per plot, no one having offered to bid. Does not the above show that land has been rendered so utterly valueless in Madras by high assessment that people do not think it worth their while to purchase them? And yet India is pre-eminently an agricultural country, and the people have to rely upon the produce of their fields for their own maintenance and the maintenance of the costly rule imposed upon them by England. Another question discloses a still more startling state of affairs. Certain rules have been promulgated by the Madras Revenue Board for calculating the capitalized value of all permanent periodical payments to or by Government. On this point an honorable member asked whether it were true that under these rules when such dues were payable to Government, the capitalized value should not be less than thirty times the annuity, but when such dues were payable by Government, it should not be more than twenty times the annuity. The reply to this question was short and sweet. The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes said: "The rules in question were promulgated by the Government of India, and the Governor in Council does not consider that it is necessary to move that Government in the matter." That is to say, Government will take 30 but give 20! That is the way they mean to manage things now-a-days. In the Calcutta Municipal Bill, it is provided, that out of the 12 members in the General Committee, 8 shall belong to the Government and only 4 to the people!

THE following question was asked in the House of Commons regarding the health of British troops in India:—
Major Rasch asked the Secretary of State for India, whether he was aware that, out of an actual strength of 16,600 British troops proceeding on service in the recent campaign on the North-West frontier 1500 or nearly 10 per cent, were incapacitated for service in the field by venereal disease?

And, whether the Government of India proposed to take any further steps to remedy this condition of affair?
To the above the following answer was given:—
Lord G. Hamilton: The force, from which the 16,600 British troops were drawn for service in the recent campaign consisted of 21,439 men. Of these 989 were rejected as unfit for service on account of venereal disease; while a further number of 492 were incapacitated during the campaign for the same reason. The total number of men known to have been thus disqualified for active service is, therefore,

1,481, or nearly 7 per cent on a total strength of 21,439.

The Government of India are fully aware of the importance of the matter, and have taken and are taking steps with the object of diminishing the prevalence of venereal disease among the British troops in that country.

We think a Commission of Enquiry ought to be appointed to enquire into the condition of these poor creatures, the European troops stationed in India. Most of them are necessarily bachelors, and this is the principal reason why so many of them contract loathsome diseases. All of them are aliens in the country. Neither can they understand or speak Indian languages nor are they permitted to associate with the people of this country. They are kept imprisoned, as it were, in barracks, and removed from place to place as so many dumb creatures. What is known about them is this. The climate does not suit them, for many die annually of sun-stroke. A good many are incapacitated, as Lord George Hamilton admits, by foul diseases. Not an inconsiderable number of them, again, are annually sent home as afflicted with insanity. It is also known that they now and then murder and grievously wound not only the natives of the soil but also their own comrades and superiors, and are punished with cruel severity for the latter class of offences. It is further known that they are allowed to indulge in too much drink, which leads them to commit dreadful acts. British troops in India, are, generally speaking, fair specimens of humanity. They are kind in feeling, simple and gay and are liked by the people, when in a peaceful mood. That they could be happier in their own country than they are here, goes without saying. There is no manner of doubt that they owe their present deplorable condition to the indiscriminate manner in which they are sent out to this country and the way in which their animal propensities are nourished in order to keep them content with their hard lot. Will Englishmen take the trouble to enquire into the precise condition in which they are permitted to live in India? We fear that, everything relating to their true condition is not known, and that many things are not allowed to see the light of day. And will Englishmen also enquire whether so many able-bodied Englishmen are actually necessary for the defence of India? If not, their presence in this country is a wrong to the Indians, to the poor soldiers themselves, and to humanity.

MR. HUGHES, the present Engineer of the Calcutta Corporation, is not personally known to us. But we have heard him spoken of highly by some of our leading men. Indeed, we are assured that he is a sympathetic friend of the people and that he has opposed the present Municipal Bill with heart and soul. It therefore gives us much pain to give publicity to the following communication which we do on public grounds,—a communication, which has been sent to us by an esteemed friend, who, we believe, is incapable of misrepresenting facts or nourishing any personal feeling against the subject of his attack:—

For some time past it was the practice in the Corporation of Calcutta for officers in the employ of that Institution to do private work outside the Corporation. The evil assumed such gigantic proportions that the Commissioners passed a rule prohibiting every officer to do any work outside the Corporation. In spite of that resolution the tendency of certain executive officers have always been to transgress the rule. The subordinate officers, who are always afraid of losing their bread, have now ceased the practice; but the higher officers yet seem to be indifferent to the rules of the Corporation. Only three years ago Mr. Kimber, the then Engineer of the Corporation, was censured by the Commissioners for doing private works in open defiance of the rule alluded to above. We regret, the same practice has been followed by his successor. Mr. Hughes, the present Engineer, it appears, accepted certain work from the Howrah Municipality relating to the drainage of that town. Terms were agreed upon between him and the Howrah Municipality and he received his fees, viz. Rs. 2,000. All this was done without the sanction and knowledge of the Commissioners. It seems also that some of his subordinates in the staff of the Engineering Department of the Corporation, such as Mr. Mandy, the Assistant Engineer, Drainage, were also employed by him in this outside work. This is all the more to be deplored as the undivided attention of Mr. Hughes and his subordinates should be entirely directed to the Suburban Drainage scheme of Calcutta which is in such an unsatisfactory state. This matter would have perhaps never been brought to light but for the accidental discovery of the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham. He was, we believe, the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division and the Howrah Municipality had to be inspected by him. It was thus that he came to discover the connection of Mr. Hughes with that Municipality. As a Municipal Commissioner of this city Mr. Oldham brought the matter to the notice of his colleagues in the General Committee, but, for weeks together the Chairman took no action, Mr. Apar, that sturdy champion of the rate-payers, then gave a formal notice of motion, and the result was that the Chairman brought the matter before the Commissioners with the explanation of Mr. Hughes. The burden of Mr. Hughes' explanation was that he was unaware of the existence of the rule. Of course, when he says so we are bound to accept his statement, but then he should have explained how was it that he did not read the rules of the Corporation for the guidance of the officers, which are printed in a book form and placed in the office of every officer of the Corporation, and which were circulated to all officers and available even to the outside public? The matter, we understand, has been referred to Government for opinion. The Government, we are told, on the authority of the Hon'ble Mr.

Oldham, mark such conduct with disapprobation. A District Engineer, said Mr. Oldham, was asked by the Government to deposit the fees he had received from a private party to the public Treasury.

In this connection the Government cannot overlook the conduct of the Chairman, Mr. Bright, who tried to ignore the whole matter, even when his attention was drawn to it by Mr. Oldham. It is only Mr. Apar's motion that left him no option but to bring up the matter, and even then his attitude was what it ought not to have been. If the Chairman of the Corporation does not insist upon the due observance of the rules, but, on the contrary, overlooks, with full knowledge of the fact, the positive disregard of such rules, how can the administration of the Corporation be then carried on? We want a strong and not a weak Chairman. It is owing to the weakness of the Chairman that there is a tendency in the Corporation to hush up many scandals. We hope the Government will take due notice of the conduct of the Chairman in this connection.

The above needs no comments. It will be seen that the executive of the Corporation are already too strong for the Commissioners. Indeed, the Chairman and other high officers may do anything they like with impunity. There is, however, yet some check under the present law. But the Municipal Bill, if passed, would make the executive supreme, and enable them to play ducks and drakes with the money of the rate-payers, without being held responsible to any body.

DR. HURRO NATH ROY, in his letter, published yesterday in our columns, says that the disease which is carrying off many people within the short space of 48 or 72 hours in some filthy and over-crowded localities of Calcutta resembles the fever which almost depopulated Ula, Halishahar and many other towns of Bengal. That is the opinion of many other eminent medical men of the town whom we have consulted on the subject. The principal symptoms are high temperature and failure of the heart. These two symptoms were also prominent in the disease, generally known as epidemic fever, which committed such a dreadful havoc in Bengal three decades ago and which led the Government to appoint a Commission of Enquiry to trace its causes. Half a century ago this disease was unknown in Bengal. With the increasing poverty of the people, however, they lost their vitality and thus fell easy victims to attacks of common fever, which gradually assumed a malarial type and decimated village after village. Indeed, another name of the Bengal epidemic or malarial fever is "the hunger pest" of Germany, which results from the starvation of the population. The defective drainage, caused by railways and bunds, was the secondary cause of this scourge of Bengal, the primary cause being, as we said above, the increasing poverty, especially, of the middle classes, three-fourths of whom have been already swept off by the fell disease. It is quite possible, however, in towns like Ula, Halishahar, etc., the system of drainage was as much responsible for the outbreak as the poverty of the people.

CALCUTTA, somehow or other, managed so long to keep itself free from the grip of the monster. When, however, the present system of covered drainage was introduced here, Dr. Mout, Dr. Payne and other eminent medical men prophesied that in due course this so-called sanitary reform would bring about a deadly type of fever in the town. As a matter of fact there was a marked change in the characteristics of the fever after the introduction of the under-ground drainage. In the days of the open drainage, the fever was, as a rule, intermittent in character and left the patient after eight days. But, since the new system of drainage has been introduced, remittent fever is the order of the day, which generally takes a typhoid character and keeps the patient bed-ridden for 21, 40 and sometimes full 60 days, and often ends fatally. This fact is patent alike to the medical and the lay man. But yet the town hitherto escaped from what is known as the malarial fever, which depopulated Gour, the English settlement of Cossimbazir, the Dutch settlement of Kalikapore and the French settlement of Farashdanga, and which caused hundreds of thousands of families to perish in the mufussil of Bengal during the last three or four decades, and which is even now killing lakhs annually in the various districts of this Province. It seems, however, that the town has at last been threatened with the terrible malady which has proved so disastrous to the mufussil people.

It is quite possible that defective drainage has much to do with the outbreak of this deadly fever in a compact and over-crowded town like Calcutta. But, we think, there is another potent cause at work. The outbreak, we believe, is a dire protest against the cruel and heartless manner in which the people in the interior have been treated with regard to their medical and sanitary needs. In the mufussil, as we pointed out the other day, the well-to-do and the poor alike go without medical treatment. The poor, again, go without two meals for more than three months in the year. There is scarcely a medical man to be found within twenty or thirty miles of a village. This is the normal state of affairs. When they are therefore overtaken by the malarial fever, either they die quietly, or those, who can afford, come to Calcutta for medical treatment. In this way, the capital city of the Empire has become the health-resort of the mufussil people, thousands of whom, stricken

down by malaria, run here to save their lives and communicate the poison they carry with them to others. The inevitable result has at last followed. Like the villages of Bengal many parts of Calcutta have been converted into abodes of malarial fever. If Gour could be swept off the face of the earth, who knows that the same fate may not overtake our town, unless prompt and vigorous steps are taken to nip the evil in the bud? If the bubonic plague had visited Calcutta, many people here might have saved themselves by flying into the mufussil. But where are they to go, if the same disease or something like it which is decimating the interior of the country, breaks out in the town? The Government should not only look after the health of Calcutta but that of the mufussil also. By neglecting the sanitary condition of the latter, they have brought this disaster in Calcutta. The health of the one cannot be improved without taking care of the health of the other. The entire proceeds of the Lady Dufferin Fund may be spent for affording medical aid to people in the mufussil. Besides, steps should be taken to remove the increasing poverty of the middle or *bhadraloke* classes. What they need is sufficiency of food, wholesome drinking water and some medical help. Unless the demon of malarial fever is driven from the mufussil, Calcutta can never escape from its deadly ravages.

WE are glad to learn that Mr. A. M. Bose has decided to stand as a candidate for election to the Local Legislative Council from the Dacca Division. It may be remembered, that on the last occasion, the Dacca seat was contested by Babu Guru Prosad Sen and Maharajah (then Rajah), Sootjikanta Acharjee Bahadour. The Rajah at the last moment generously retired, and Babu Guru Prosad was elected. It was, however, understood that on the next occasion the Maharajah would try to secure the place, and that Babu Guru Prosad would not oppose him. The Maharajah was thus contemplating to announce himself as a candidate, when he heard from a mutual friend of himself and Babu Ananda Mohan Bose that the latter had pledged his word to several constituencies in Dacca to represent them in the Council. The Maharajah at once gave up his intention of thwarting Mr. Bose. This proves the innate magnanimity and patriotism of the Maharajah. Indeed Mr. Bose would have found a formidable competitor in his way if the Maharajah had not so generously retired in his favour. We doubt not, Babu Ananda Mohan will now be elected unopposed by all the Municipalities of the Dacca Division.

THE Town Hall meeting, which will be held on Tuesday next, to protest against the Municipal Bill, is expected to be a grand affair. The present arrangement is that Sir Maharaja Norendro Krishna Bahadour will preside, and Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore Bahadour will vote him to the chair. The first resolution will be moved by Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee Bahadour. Some of the biggest rate-payers will take part either as movers, seconds or supporters of resolutions. The meeting will be addressed by such distinguished speakers as Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Mr. Lal Mohan Ghose, Mr. A. M. Bose, the Hon'ble Mr. P. M. Mehta, the Hon'ble Mr. Ananda Charlu, Mr. R. Mitra, Mr. N. N. Ghose, Babu Nalin Behari Sarkar and others. No one has studied the Municipal Bill more thoroughly than the last two gentlemen, and it goes without saying that they will expose some of its ugly features in vivid colours. Mr. R. Mitra is an effective speaker and is thoroughly conversant with the Municipal law of Calcutta. The speeches of Mr. Mehta and Mr. Ananda Charlu will have their special value, coming as they will from parties who are not directly interested in the matter. As the leader of the educated Indians, the speech of Mr. Bonnerjee will be listened to with especial interest. As for Mr. A. M. Bose, if health permits him, he, as well as the other orator Mr. L. Ghose, will no doubt carry the whole audience with them by their fervid eloquence and thoughtful sentiments. We hope, the whole of Calcutta will be present at the Town Hall to show their sympathy with the object of the meeting. The importance of the occasion cannot be over-estimated, and each rate-payer should deem it his sacred duty to attend.

THE proposal of our correspondent, K. Chackravarti, of doing something substantial for Mr. Oldham, has been approved by some other correspondents, who have come forward with offers of subscription. But we object to any such movement, for Mr. Oldham will not like it. Those who want to thank Mr. Oldham can do it directly; but let him not be embarrassed by a demonstration. In Bengal, whether it be Mr. Bolton of Mr. Baker, we have now high officials, who are all sympathetic. We are sure Mr. Oldham has their sympathy in the letter written by him.

THE distinguished antiquarian, Babu Nagendra Nath Bose, will deliver a discourse on the history and development of Nyaya philosophy in Nadia at the 'Parishad' on Sunday (to-morrow). The discourse is likely to prove very interesting.

Calcutta and Mofussil.
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ARRIVAL.—Sir Trevor John Chichels-Plowden, K. C. S. I., Resident of Hyderabad, has arrived in Calcutta, and is staying at Belvedere.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—A correspondent writes from Khatna:—"The other day a fire broke out in Khatna and nearly 40 to 50 houses were reduced to ashes."

ALIPORE DISTRICT JUDGESHIP.—On Friday Mr. Prati, the District and Sessions Judge of Alipore, made over charge to Mr. Handley, the Additional District and Sessions Judge, and the latter to Mr. Pergiter.

AN ACCIDENT.—On Thursday, while two coolies were working on board the steamer *Barrister*, some bags of linseed fell on them. They sustained injury and were removed to the Mayo Hospital for treatment.

MORTUARY RETURNS.—240 births and 339 deaths were recorded in Howrah in the month of February 1899. The birth rate was 247 per 1,000 per annum, and the death rate 349. There were 22 deaths from cholera and 3 from small-pox.

A LEOPARD KILLED.—A leopard that was for some time past making havoc of cattle in the neighbourhood of Naihath, has at last been killed by a party of shikaris at Garh, near Shammuggur, on Wednesday last. The encounter was a hard one, and resulted in two of the shikaris getting badly mauled.

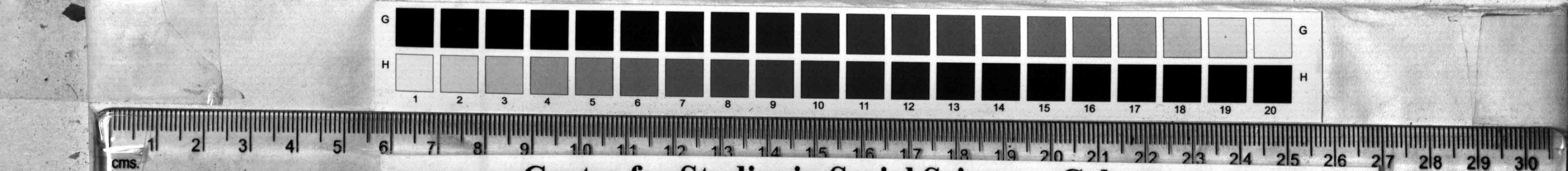
COUNTERFEITING QUEEN'S COIN.—On Friday before Babu P. C. Chatterjee Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, one Kalachand Paik of Barupur was charged with having counterfeited Queen's coin. The accused used either a half pice silvered with mercury as a four-anna bit and gave it to a local shop-keeper. He was caught red-handed and was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

CRIMINAL BREACH OF TRUST.—Yesterday before Moulvi Serajul Hug, Police Magistrate of Alipore, one Atahar Rohoman, a young respectable Mahomedan, was charged with criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 1,850 belonging to a Commissariat contractor. It was stated that the accused, who was a Sarkar of the complainant, had collected the amount from the customers of his masters and without rendering him any account absconded with the amount realized. The trial is proceeding.

FIRE AT GOABAGAN.—A very destructive fire broke out at about 3 P.M. on Friday at an oil factory belonging to Babu Kritibas Sadhukhan. As the atmosphere was dry and winds were blowing from all directions, the fire spread with alarming rapidity; and but for the Fire-Brigade of Lalbazar, which repaired to the spot just after the occurrence, the whole locality would have burnt down to ashes. Even one was not sufficient, and after an hour the Fire-Brigade of Cossipore came and jointly tried to quench the spreading fire. The origin of the fire is believed to be not known.

A "HARD TO KILL MAN-EATER."—A Bhandara correspondent writes:—"The man eating tiger of Gummurra, a tahsil in the Bhandara district, has begun its work of slaughter once again, the last victim being killed on the 9th of this month. I have before alluded to the depredations which this brute is causing, this being about the thirteenth victim. Mr. H. E. Coles, the District Superintendent of Police, is urging the Government to offer a good reward for its destruction, and he hopes this will have the effect of getting some of the local shikaris to take the matter up."

THE PAIKPARA RAJ PARTITION SUIT.—Yesterday the 2nd Sub-Judge of Alipore delivered judgment in the partition suit brought by the plaintiff Kumar Satish Chunder Singh against Kumar Sarat Chunder Singh and Kumar Shrish Chunder Singh of the Paikpara Raj family for partition of the properties which were obtained by Rani Pudma Mukhi in her share on partition amongst her sons and grandsons. Rani Pudma Mukhi died on the 17th September 1897. The plaintiff made no claim in the partition of the Zemiadri known as Dhanbaria, but it is urged in the answer of the defendant No. 2, Kumar Shrish Chunder Singh, that this property should be included amongst the properties to be partitioned in this case. It was contended on the part of the defendant No. 2 that since this property had been obtained as gift by Rani Pudma Mukhi from her husband during his lifetime, the gift was not of an absolute character, but was limited to her life, and that as such on the death of her life, and his heirs are entitled to participate in this property. It was contended on behalf of Kumar Sarat Chander that the estate Dhanbaria was a gift by Raja Protap Chander to his wife Rani Pudma Mukhi and such a gift, known by the name of Saudayika Stridhan which is a gift from affectionate kindred, and although such a gift may not be alienable by her till after her death, it would go to her heirs and not to the reversionary heirs of her husband. The husband's donation is her Stridhan, though her ownership over it is of a qualified nature. It passes to her heirs and not to his heirs. The court found that as Rani Pudma Mukhi died leaving as heir the defendant No. 1 as surviving son and two widowed daughters. The defendant No. 1 Sarat Chander Singh is alone entitled to succeed to the Zemiadri Dhanbaria as her heir-at-law irrespective of the fact that it has been devised by her by will to the defendant No. 1; consequently this property cannot be made the subject of the partition in this case. The objection of the defendant No. 2 was accordingly overruled.



A DINNER PARTY.—His Excellency the Viceroy gave a dinner party at Government House on Thursday night, at which between fifty and fifty-five persons were present.

SURGEON TO THE VICEROY.—Colonel E. H. Fenn, Surgeon to the Viceroy, has returned to Calcutta, having left Lady Curzon at Simla, where he had to stay, in excellent health.

MR. GAYER.—Mr. A. H. Gayer, Private Secretary to his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, will, on relinquishing his staff appointment, still retain the Secretaryship of the Bengal branch of the Duffin Fund.

MEDICAL COLLEGE.—Major F. J. Drury, M. B., L. M. S., Civil Surgeon of Chittagong, will, in all probability, be selected to succeed the late Major Evans as Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology at the Medical College.

BENGAL COUNCIL.—Mr. D. F. Mackenzie of Messrs. Mackosill and Co., and Vice-President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, has been elected as the nominee of the Chamber for the vacant seat on the Council of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, vice the Hon. Mr. M. C. Turner, resigned.

BACKERGUNJ HITAISHINI SABHA.—The Annual meeting of the Backergunj Hitaishini Sabha takes place to-day at 5 P.M. at the premises of the Ripon College. Mr. P. L. Roy, president of the Sabha, will take the chair. Members are requested to attend.

THE DEEPEST DEEP.—The record deep-sea soundings have been found by H. M. S. Penguin, between Auckland and the Tongan Archipelago. The depth is 4,762 fathoms or about 5 1/2 miles. Previously to this an ocean abyss of over five miles deep off the coast of Porto Rico was the furthest known limit of the "deep profound."

A. B. RAILWAY.—The Silchar branch line of the above railway was inspected by the Agent and the Chief Engineer to the Company, with the Government Consulting Engineer on Tuesday last, and passed, which will be opened to passenger traffic immediately. That exact date, though not known, cannot, it is understood, be later than the 20th instant.

MISCHIEF BY A ROGUE ELEPHANT.—We have received the following news from Cooch Behar.—They have had stirring times in the Maharaja's Shooting Camp. A rogue elephant came in one night and attacked the elephant of the Maharaja generally, and knocked out an eye and wounded him badly. Next night he came back and wounded another tusker. They fired at him this time and drove him off, but he has placed 2 fine elephants hors de combat.

DACOITY.—A dacoity was committed on the night of Tuesday the 7th March last, at about 11 P. M., at the house of Babu Sarada Prasad Ganguli of Garalgacha, Seranpur. The dacoits, who are said to be up-country men, numbered about 25, and were armed with lathies and hatchets. They succeeded in breaking open the door of almost every room and carried away a good deal of property. Some members of the house and the chowkidar on duty were maltreated.

A CENTRAL STATION FOR CALCUTTA.—It is now settled, with the approval of the Government, that a committee shall be formed and sit to consider the important question of a central station for Calcutta. All the great railway systems concerned will, of course, be represented, as well as the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association and kindred important societies; and it is hoped that ere long some definite and final conclusions may be arrived at on the subject.

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.—Rain fell during the week ending 13th instant in the east and north of the Province. The rabi crops are being gathered, and the outturn is good. The collection of opium continues, and a fair yield is expected everywhere except in Darbhanga, where it is reported to be meagre. Transplantation of spring rice is almost over. Ploughing for autumn rice and jute is in progress, and sowing has begun in parts of North Bengal. Sugar cane is still being pressed, and in some districts the planting of new sugar cane has begun. Fodder-supply is sufficient except in parts of Midnapore. Cattle-disease continues in some districts. The price of common rice continues practically stationary.

MAULED BY TIGER.—A correspondent came late last night to report that two Bengali gentlemen were severely mauled by a tiger at Shamnagar on the E. B. S. Ry., and that they were brought down last evening to Calcutta for admission to the Campbell Hospital. It would appear that they had wounded Strips which took refuge in a thicket. Believing that they had done for him, the two shikaris (they are brothers) forced their way into the jungle when the wounded animal sprang upon and mauled one of them. The other tried to render help and was pounced upon in his turn. He, however, managed to club the tiger to death with his gun before he himself fell down.

His Honor Sir Antony MacDonnell, G.C.S.I., leaves Lucknow for Naini Tal on the 7th April.

A SENSATIONAL attempt by Mrs. Ede, to poison her husband, who is Band-Master of the Bangalore Volunteers, occurred on Tuesday last. It appears that Ede had taken to drink lately, and to worrying his wife. She, evidently to frighten him, or keep him quiet, administered arsenic. When she found him bad, she reported the matter to the Magistrate, who immediately removed Ede to hospital, where he was recovered, but the unfortunate woman has been taken into police custody, pending an enquiry into the affair. Further details in connection with the Ede poisoning affair are that Mrs. Ede actually administered oxalic acid to her husband in coffee to cause nausea. She has made a confession to the Magistrate, who, finding no evidence to show that she contemplated an offence under section 328, L. P. Code, has released her, but has ordered her to be kept under surveillance, pending Mr. Ede's recovery or otherwise. Mr. Ede is progressing favourably in hospital.

Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT: CRIMINAL BENCH

(Before Justices Prinsep and Stanley.)

(MARCH 15.)

A FARIDPUR KIDNAPPING CASE.

ASSESSORS' OPINION UPHELD.

THIS was an appeal by T. C. Biswas, a Zemindar in the District of Faridpur and three of his peons, from the decision of Mr. W. H. Lee, Sessions Judge of Pubna, convicting all of them of kidnaping two Mahomedans, father and son, and sentencing them to five years' rigorous imprisonment each. The case for the prosecution was that the accused T. C. Biswas being somehow or other annoyed with Kitabdi, the son, sent three of his peons to bring him to his house; that Felu, the father, accompanied the party, that since their departure from home they had not been seen afterwards; that the wife of Felu after anxiously waiting for two days for the return of her husband and son, sent her second son to T. C. Biswas's house for an enquiry; that the second son came away without being able to find out the whereabouts of his father and brother; and that the woman then lodged an information with the police. Inquiries were then instituted with the result that the accused, though discharged by one of the Deputy Magistrates, were subsequently committed for trial, and the case was afterwards transferred to Pubna at the instance of the Sessions Judge of Faridpur because the latter had an occasion at an initial stage to consider an opinion on the facts of the case.

Their Lordships after hearing Mr. Jackson, with him Babu Dasarathi Sanyal, for the appellants, and Mr. Leith for the Crown delivered the following judgment:

The appellants have been convicted of kidnaping under Section 365 I. P. C. by the Sessions Judge contrary to the opinion expressed by the assessors. It appears that there was shortly before the occurrence which forms the subject of the charge a case of wounding in this village in which one of the peons said to have been kidnaped, was a witness and this case was no doubt either an outcome of that feeling in the village or, if such a bad feeling really existed, it tended to increase it. However that may be, it does not appear from any evidence upon which reliance can be safely placed that the appellants were in any way unfavourably disposed towards Felu and his son Kitabdi who are said to have been kidnaped. The evidence in this respect is very conflicting. Some witnesses say that these persons had been warned; others say that they were not only warned but enjoined on more than one occasion not to go to the house of the accused. In this respect we find ourselves unable to attach any importance to the evidence. The evidence is to the effect that the appellants came one day to Felu and his son Kitabdi and induced them to go away for the purpose of getting some money. It does not appear that any force was employed, for there was much difficulty in getting these men to accompany the appellants. They went on a hired boat and it would seem this boat has not been seen again. This is the entire evidence in regard to the charge of kidnaping but the gravity of the offence was increased by the fact that after these men had left in the company of the appellants, they had not been seen again. Now, there is the evidence of two persons who said that they saw Felu and Kitabdi in a boat along with the appellants and so far from there being any coercion or restraint, it would seem that one of these two men was assisting in propelling the boat. We may observe that this evidence has not been altogether believed by the Sessions Judge who seems to have rejected the evidence of one of these two men. But inasmuch as Felu and Kitabdi had not been seen again, there was a hue and cry raised all over the District and the offence has been magnified into one of murder. Now, with the exception of the two men who say that some ten days after the disappearance they saw the body of Kitabdi floating in a Khal, there is absolutely no evidence to show that they are not alive and the evidence of these two men has been very properly rejected by the Sessions Judge as well as by the assessors, for there is no doubt that it is no evidence. There is, therefore, absolutely no evidence which, in our opinion, would justify the Sessions Judge in putting the accused upon their defence and asking a jury, if the trial were held by a jury, to consider it with a view of coming to a verdict. We, therefore, have no hesitation in concurring with the assessors and directing that the appellants should be acquitted and released.

In conclusion, we feel bound to express our great regret that in a matter in which there is really no evidence, so much of valuable time should have been taken up in the Sessions Court in recording statements on matters altogether irrelevant and which could be of no value whatever and not only has the time of the Sessions Court been thus wasted but a good deal of our time has been unfortunately spent in the hearing of this appeal.

A POINT OF LAW.

IN the matter of the petition of Nasaruddi and another for the revision of an order passed by the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Patakhali, in the district of Backergunge, their Lordships, after hearing Mr. P. L. Roy for the petitioner and Mr. Jackson for the opposite party, delivered the following judgment dealing with the points raised in the case: This is a matter dealt with under Chapter X of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The contention raised was that the alleged obstruction was not a way which is as may be lawfully used by the public within the terms of Section 133. The Magistrate without dealing with this objection referred it to a jury, who returned that the Magistrate's order was a reasonable and proper order, and the Magistrate has accordingly directed the removal of the obstruction. The Magistrate should have found whether the objection taken was a bona fide objection, and if he found this, he should have abstained from further action until the public right of way had been determined by a competent court. That has been held in Luki Narain Banerjee vs. Ram Kumar Mookerjee (L. R. 15 Cal 564) and in other cases of more recent date. No doubt the report of the jury is that the way obstructed is used by the public, but they were not competent to do so, for the decision of the matter affected the right of the Magistrate to interfere under Section 133

and it is only when the Magistrate is competent to pass an order under Section 133 that a jury can be appointed to consider whether it is a reasonable and proper order. The Magistrate has no doubt found that the objection was made bona fide, but we think that it is unnecessary that we should require this to be expressly found. The Police report made by his orders shows ample reason for finding that in favour of the petitioners. He must, therefore, direct that the order of the Magistrate under Section 139 must be set aside as ultra vires. The parties must be left to have it determined by competent court that the way in question is a public way before the Magistrate can proceed under Chapter X.

(MARCH 16.)

A CASE OF SWINDLING.

A DARING case of swindling came up before their Lordships this morning on appeal from a decision of Mr. Pearson, Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta. Hajee Abdul Ismail, nephew of Abdul Rahaman, a hide merchant carrying on business at Ram Mohan Shaw's Lane, one day came to the Currency Office with four notes of Rs. 1,000 each entrusted by his uncle for the purpose of cashing them. He met there the second accused Mohesh Chandra Chackerbarti whom he had seen before at his uncle's. Mohesh asked Ismail for the reason of his coming to the Currency Office, and on being informed that he had four thousand rupees with him induced him to go to a place at Gooltoli near Dhurumtollah Street for making some good bargains of jewellery. Ismail at first hesitated, but the glib-tongued Mohesh overcame his hesitation of investing his uncle's money for some other purpose than they were intended. He had assurances of good investment, and consequently he followed Mohesh to the place where he said jewellery would be shown to him. There he met some other people who asked him how much money he had. Ismail having told them what he had in his possession, they asked him to show the money, and they on their part promised to produce the jewellery at once. A tin box alleged to contain the jewellery was produced and Ismail brought out from his pocket the four notes he had with him. Just at that time two strangers rushed into the room hurriedly announcing that the police were coming and a sham policeman actually appeared on the scene. A confusion then followed as every one pretended to escape first. The complainant still then had the notes in his hand and the first accused snatching them away ran out of the room and was soon out of sight. Immediately afterwards the sham policeman disappeared, and the complainant then coming to realise the situation gave a chase to the men, but he could not reach them. The police were informed a day after and the first accused was arrested on suspicion by a constable. The second man was subsequently arrested and they were placed on their trial with the result that they were convicted and sentenced to eight months' rigorous imprisonment each.

Mr. M. Hossain appeared for the appellants and Mr. Knight for the Crown.

Their Lordships after hearing both sides at considerable length dismissed the appeal and confirmed the conviction and sentence.

(MARCH 17.)

THE AMBLER CASE.

RETRIAL ORDERED.

THE rule issued on the application of the Government of Bengal on Harry Ambler to show cause why the case, in which he was charged with causing the death of a peon Juggo Tewari, at Kumerkela, in the district of Singbhum, and which resulted in his conviction by the Judicial Commissioner of simple assault and sentenced to a day's imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 10, should not be retried, came on for hearing to-day.

Mr. Hill said, whether it was a regular charge or not, it mattered very little so long there was no failure of justice. There Lordships would have to see from the evidence whether there was a failure of justice or not.

Mr. Hill contended that as regards the death of the accused their Lordships would only see whether the death was actually caused by the accused who gave two slaps only. The accused admitted that he had given the two slaps, and that the deceased fell down and that he, the accused, went away.

Stanley, J.: And he allowed the poor man to die.

Mr. Hill: But, my Lord, he got up. Your Lordship will not prejudice anything in this case.

Stanley, J.: I have not prejudged anything. We are prepared to hear you.

Prinsep, J., observed that he did not know what the jury would have done if they had their own way.

Mr. Hill continuing observed that in England in a case like this accused would have been similarly punished, and he did not know why punishments were so atrociously severe. But it seemed to him (counsel) that he should not take any more time of their Lordships after that expression of opinion.

Stanley, J. said that he had clearly told the learned counsel that he was perfectly prepared to hear him.

Mr. Hill: I admit, my Lord, that there was not a proper charge. So I do not wish to take any more time.

Their Lordships delivered the following judgment:

In this case in a trial held by a jury before the Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpur, one H. Ambler has been tried on charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and of grievous hurt by blows inflicted on a native employe in the course of which he caused his death. The Judicial Commissioner in the course of the proceedings altered the charge to one of simple assault, and the jury having convicted him simply of that assault Ambler has been sentenced to a nominal punishment of imprisonment for one day and of a fine of Rs. 10. Now we desire, in dealing with this case on the application of the Government for a retrial, to avoid anything which may be re-

garded as an expression of any opinion regarding the crime of the accused, or the degree of offence which the evidence may possibly indicate that he has committed. But the conclusion that we arrive at is irresistible that there has been no proper trial held. The officer presiding at a jury trial is required by law to record the heads of the charge to the jury, and the Judicial Commissioner was therefore bound to conform to this practice. The object of this is clear. It is to satisfy those before whom the case may come either on appeal or revision that the trial has been properly and fairly held. In this case the heads of the charge amount to nothing of that description. There are certain propositions expressing the opinion of the Judicial Commissioner, and after the expression of this opinion on various important parts of the case, the Judicial Commissioner adds, "evidence analysed and law explained." Now it is quite clear that after the expression of opinion by the officer presiding in a court on certain points in the evidence, for instance, that the evidence of kicking is "utterly untrustworthy and in fact perjured," it would be manifestly useless to analyse the evidence or explain the law in the case to the jury. Before however directing a retrial, we have had read to us and have considered some portions of the evidence, more particularly the confession said to have been made by the accused, and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, we think it right to say that in the result if the accused is found guilty, we do not consider that a proper punishment has been inflicted. However, inasmuch as there had been no proper trial, we think that the proceedings should not now terminate, but that justice requires that a proper trial should be held.

POLICE COURT.—MARCH 17.

(Before Nawab Bahadur Syed Ameer Hossain, C. I. E., Northern Division Magistrate.)

Dr. Hossack, on being examined, said:—I went to No. 24 Baranasi Ghose's Street. I went there as there were three cases of plague. Accused and others were concealing these cases. I saw defendant there. I said I must inspect the rooms. When I came to defendant's room he said it was his cooking room. I saw no cooked food in that room. There were only some beddings. Accused seized me roughly by the arms, shouted at me and pushed me back. He repeated it three times. I then went to the Thana and then the police come.

Cross-examined:—I did complain against the accused, but I did not lay any formal charge against him. I was insolently told by the accused to take off my shoes before entering the room. There were females in the house, but they were not zenanas. Accused did not say that there were zenanas and they should be first removed.

Dr. Prabhas Nath Pal on being examined said:—Dr. Hossack and I went to inspect a house where plague cases occurred. We inspected all the rooms. When the 3rd room was being inspected the accused came and objected and would not allow us to enter. He caught hold of Dr. Hossack's hand and pushed. He then went to thana and brought the police.

Pleader:—Is it not a fact that there was no death in that house for the last 25 days?

Witness:—I can't say.

Witness continued, there were some cooked food in the third room.

After the examination of those two witnesses, one witness for the defence was examined, Babu Tarak Nath Sadhu then said that he would apply on behalf of his client for summons against Dr. Hossack for trespass and mischief, as there was no plague case. He also submitted that these poor people were more afraid of these plague officers than the plague itself.

At this stage, Inspector Bejoyendra Nath Mitter informed the Court that the Commissioner of Police desired for an exemplary punishment in these cases. His Worship, on the evidence before him, sentenced accused to pay a fine of Rs. 50, in default to undergo two months' imprisonment.

NEWS comes from Dera Ismail Khan of a disturbance at a wrestling match there on Sunday last between the people and some sepoys of the Sikh Regiment. A number of soldiers were more or less seriously injured, and the Police Thana-dar was roughly handled and several assaiz arrested.

FROM the 1st of April there will be a large reduction in goods traffic rates on the Madras Railway, as the result of the war of rates with the Southern Mahratta Railway. It is considered in some quarters that there will be a large expansion of traffic form Bombay with the Madras Presidency, to a great extent at the expense of the import trade of Madras. It also seems probable that the reduction of rates will enable very large rail borne imports of Bombay salt to be made at the expense of Madras salt.

A SEPOY of the 4th Bengal Infantry is to be tried before the Sessions Judge of Etawah on Wednesday next on a charge of attempting, while on recruiting duty, the rescue of ex-constable Sukhari, who was captured by the police on January 18th last after being in hiding for several years. Six years ago Sukhari shot a fellow constable, and made off with two rifles and a quantity of ammunition. The Government have retained a Lucknow barrister to defend the sepoy, and some interesting evidence regarding police methods is expected.

A CEYLON correspondent writes to a local paper:—Four prisoners awaiting trial before the Supreme Court at Colombo and one remanded prisoner made their escape from Matara Jail recently between the hours of 12 and 1. The prisoners seem to have climbed the wall of the ward where they were locked up, and got down to the adjoining wards, where the condemned cells are being built. This ward was unlocked, and the men, after having removed the bricks on the top of the wall toward the river side, descended with the aid of blankets. The Jailor was working in the Jail till 11.30. At 1.30 A.M. the guard on duty informed him of the prisoners' escape. The matter was at once reported to Mr. Short, who visited the Jail and took steps for their re-arrest. The prisoners have not been arrested so far, and their whereabouts are not known.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

RAWALPINDI, MARCH 16. In the Punjab Times defamation case, the Deputy Commissioner is reported to have applied to the Chief Court of Lahore for the transfer of the case to the file of Mr. Magistrate Waiter. The Rev. Mr. Anderson admitted the Times to be an enemy to Christianity. The Times wants 47 days adjournment or trial by an Indian Magistrate.

RAWALPINDI, MARCH 17. Charge of expulsion from the Singh Sabha for countenancing Christianity has been withdrawn in the Rawalpindi Times case. Three counts now remain of which two are not mentioned in the plaint charge framed to-day. Files forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner. No date fixed.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, MARCH 15. Mr. Cecil Rhodes has succeeded in his negotiations with the German authorities to construct the Cape to Cairo telegraph through German territory instead of via the Congo. A similar arrangement for the railways is almost complete.

LONDON, MARCH 15. The American troops at Manila have driven the insurgent Filipinos further back beyond the river Pasig.

LONDON, MARCH 16. In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Balfour said he was unable to promise a day to discuss the Indian Countervailing Sugar Duties Bill, before the Royal assent was given to the Bill.

LONDON, MARCH 16. Mr. Cecil Rhodes having completed his mission in Berlin has gone to the Hague; the Kaiser has presented his photograph to Mr. Rhodes.

LONDON, MARCH 16. The Pope's condition is again weaker, and the Doctors are in close attendance upon His Holiness.

LONDON, MARCH 16. Quarantine has been abolished by Egypt upon arrivals from Mauritius.

LONDON, MARCH 16. A Ceylon deputation concerning the gauge of railways interviewed Mr. Chamberlain to-day, but the result of the interview is kept secret at the request of the deputation.

LONDON, MARCH 17. Lord Russell of Kilowen, the Lord Chief Justice of England, replaces the late Lord Herschell as President of the Venezuela Arbitration Tribunal.

LONDON, MARCH 17. The German Reichstag has passed the Army Bill as amended.

LONDON, MARCH 17. Advice from the Philippines state that the Americans yesterday advanced five miles beyond Pasig and after severe fighting captured the village of Cainta. The Filipinos lost heavily, while the American loss is only seventeen men.

LONDON, MARCH 17. The Times correspondent at Peking telegraphs that Count Martino leaves capital immediately.

LONDON, MARCH 17. A telegram published by the Times from Shanghai states that Japan has requested from the Chinese Government the appointment of a Japanese Commissioner of Customs at Fuchau.

THE Simla Municipality will present an address of welcome to Lord Curzon when he arrives in Simla.

A DARING dacoity by an armed party of about 20 men, mounted on camels, occurred at the village of Kalian, in the Ferozepore district, on the 5th. The Police pursued and have since captured the two leaders of the band at Ludhiana.

THE Commander-in-Chief left Rawalpindi on the night of the 13th instant for Khewra Salt Mines, whence His Excellency visits the Patiala State.

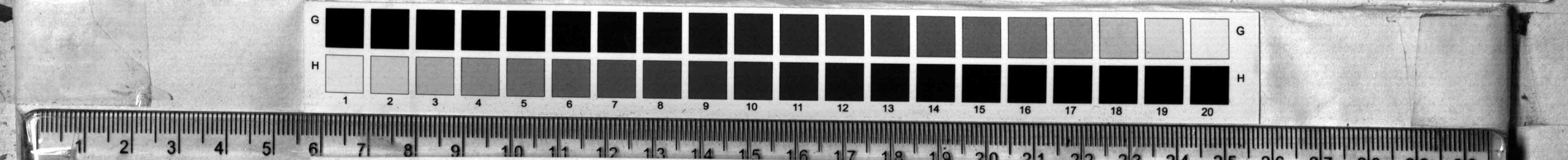
A LEE-METFORD rifle was stolen from a private of the 2nd Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment, on the 9th instant at Nowshera. A police carbine was stolen in Kohat on the 5th instant from a constable going on escort duty with prisoners.

MAJOR THORNHILL, Cantonment Magistrate Bareilly, has proceeded home on leave for seven months, and has been succeeded by Major Kreyer from Nosirabad.

THE report of the Simla Transport Committee is still under consideration of the Government of India, the question of permanent expenditure being one which will take some time to settle.

An extraordinary rifle accident occurred in the Bangalore city station quarters on the 13th instant which resulted in the death of Driver Mulleneux, Southern Mahratta Railway, aged 29. He was shooting crows in his compound with an old Martin, the cartridges were loaded with shot; one of them exploded accidentally while he was closing the breech and the contents lodged in his stomach. He was removed to hospital, where he died 24 hours after.

The young seven-year-old Raja of Paroua a small but independent State in Central India was officially placed on his throne on Thursday last, the 9th instant, by Colonel Newell, Resident at Gwalior, assisted by Messrs Taylor and Judd, Engineers-in-Chief of the Gooona-Bara Railway. The father of the present Raja died suddenly in January, the result of injuries received in a fall from his horse. The ceremony of installation was gorgeous and impressive and not likely to be soon forgotten by the witnesses of the spectacle. This small State, now almost forgotten by the world at large, played an important role in Mutiny days. The grand-father of the present Raja joined the rebels against us, but when the Mutiny was drawing to a close he made his peace with Government, and was instrumental in the capture of Tantia Topi. For this service Government granted him a perpetual pension of Rs. 1,000 a year, which has descended from father to son to this day. During the minority of the present chief the State will be managed by a selected Kandhar, under the control of the Resident at Gwalior.



Plague News.

QUARANTINE. The regulations for quarantine against plague, under the Venice Sanitary Convention, will be imposed at the ports of Madras against all arrivals from Jeddah.

WEEKLY RETURNS FOR INDIA. The following is a short summary of plague in India for the week ending the 11th of March 1899.—There was a continued increase of plague in Bombay City, the rise in reported plague deaths being from 978 to 1,109, and in the total mortality from 2,309 to 2,444. There was a rise in the number of cases in Thanna District, but no other important change occurred in the Bombay Presidency. Fifty-eight plague deaths are reported from Karachi. There was a slight general improvement in the Madras Presidency. In Calcutta there were 78 reported plague seizures with 66 deaths. Some isolated cases have been reported from Howrah and one from Serampur. Slight outbreaks have been reported from one village in each of the Dacca and Faridpur Districts. A considerable improvement has taken place in Mysore State, except that the number of seizures in Kolar gold-fields rose from 32 to 65. The figures show a great improvement in the Ling-sugur District of the Hyderabad State. Plague has gained ground somewhat in the Jullundur District in the Punjab, there being 21 seizures during the week.

CALCUTTA RETURNS. On Thursday last there were 16 seizures and 16 deaths: 1 attack and 2 deaths in Ward No. 1; 1 attack in Ward No. 2; 7 and 7 in No. 5; 5 and 4 in No. 6; 1 death in No. 8; 1 in No. 16; one attack in No. 25; address uncertain; 1 attack and 1 death. The total number of cases from 14th April 1898 was 460 with 388 deaths.

BOMBAY FIGURES. Plague attacks on Thursday were 178, and plague deaths 145, the total mortality being 320. Last year the mortality was 358, and in 1897, 168.

KARACHI RETURNS. Thursday's plague returns show 22 cases and 18 deaths, the total mortality being 38.

PUNJAB RETURNS. Five new cases are reported on Thursday in the Jullundur District and three deaths.

MYSCORE WEEKLY STATISTICS.

The Plague Commissioner of Mysore in a report for the week ending the 10th remarks: Only one case in Bangalore City, as in each of the three previous weeks; 1,805 new arrivals in city against 1,651 in the previous week. The population now is about 55,132 against 80,285 before the outbreak. There was an increase in the Kolar district during the week and a decrease in other districts of the province. In the gold fields there have been a number of indigenous cases, and infected villages increased from 33 and 15 to 49 and 17, respectively. Plague continues to decrease steadily in Mysore City, the total mortality having dropped from 233 to 160, and the plague cases from 194 to 140.—The official plague returns for Mysore Province for the week ending the 10th of March show 366 cases and 240 deaths against 52. In Mysore City there were 140 fresh cases and 121 deaths, against 282 cases and 252 deaths. Total for the province from the outbreak of the epidemic 16,711 cases and 13,956 deaths.

INCREASING AT POONA. The plague is steadily increasing at Poona, in consequence of which the city has been placed out of bounds for the troops in garrison. The returns for the last 48 hours of Thursday show 32 cases and 22 deaths in the city, where the total mortality was 47; and 3 cases and one death in the districts. The Cantonment and Suburban limits are still free. Ten patients were admitted during the same period into the general plague hospital, and 5 died and 3 were discharged; 43 remain under treatment. Patients are under treatment at the Gujarati plague hospital.

MR. MACARTNEY, British Agent in Chinese Turkestan, is now at Kashgar, having returned from leave some time ago.

As a result of the recent visit to Darjiling of Tibetan officials it is likely that a small readjustment of the Sikkim frontier will be made.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL the Hon. De Moleyns, Major Hoare, Captain Ler, 4th Hussars, and Major Pearson left on Friday night for a shikar expedition through the Nizam's territory.

A TELEGRAM from Patiala states that in the recent cricket match between Patiala and Mr. Bosworth Smith's team which lasted for three days, Patiala won by nine wickets and five runs.

ON Wednesday, 8th instant, the local inspector of police got information that a leopard had come to Balarampuram, Travancore, and was lying in a tree adjacent to the Mahomedan burial-ground, having committed a good deal of mischief. The Inspector reported the fact at once to Mr. Eappen, overseer of buildings, and a party set out in jukas, accompanied by the Inspector and some constables. Mr. Eappen, finding that shouting failed to cause the animal to leave cover, fired once or twice, when the beast left its hiding-place and furiously attacked one of the men who were clearing the forest. The poor fellow would have been mauld to death had not Mr. Eappen sent a two-ounce ball crashing into the animal's shoulder. The carcass was taken to Neryattin-hara the same evening, and people flocked there to look at it. Two men, dangerously hurt, are under treatment in the hospital.

What to Do Until the Doctor Arrives.

It is very hard to stand idly by and see our dear ones suffer while awaiting the arrival of the doctor. An Albany (N. Y.) druggist called at a drug store there for a doctor to come and see his child, then very sick with croup. Not finding the doctor in his left word for him to come at once on his return. He also bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which he hoped would give some relief until the doctor should arrive. In a few hours he returned, saying the doctor need not come, as the child was much better. The druggist, Mr. O. Scholz, says the family has since recommended Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to their neighbours and friends until he has a constant demand for it from that part of the country. For sale by...

SMITH STANSTREET & CO. B. K. PAUL & CO.

Correspondence.

MR. OLDHAM'S LETTER.

TO THE EDITOR. Sir,—Your leader of to-day's date will no doubt be read with great satisfaction and gratitude by all our countrymen. You say therein you might have thanked the Hon. Mr. W. B. Oldham more publicly in a meeting assembled, if occasion required, for his generous letter; but you say such a proceeding would be doing "too much honour" to Mr. Stevens. You may be right in your supposition, but you should know we can hardly do a letter of so great a value—an instance of such large-heartedness—to gradually fall into oblivion without a grateful recognition from us. We don't very much like to ever get such a noble letter from a person of so high a position in the course of the next ten years. Considering how much we are misjudged and deliberately abused by the Christian missionaries and others every now and then, I would advise you to open your columns for recovering donations for engraving the letters in a brass plate or on a marble slab and put it up in some of our public places, the Albert Hall, for instance. If you do, please put my name down for Rs. 10. You may also count on my hearty co-operation. I think the entire cost will not exceed Rs. 500, a sum which through your genial influence will soon be raised.

K. CHAKRAVARTI. March, 15.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

TO THE EDITOR. Sir,—If your correspondent, Mr. S. D. Mookherjee, would call at 26 Harrison Road on any Sunday, he will have all his queries about the study for the Bar satisfactorily answered.

KHIROD C. ROY.

THE STUDY FOR THE BAR.

TO THE EDITOR. Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. S. D. Mookherjee, desires information as to the necessary qualifications, expenses, and period of stay in England for one who is going there shortly to qualify himself for the Bar. In the following lines I give him all the information that he requires for his friend, and I trust it will be enough for his purpose:—

Before one is admitted into any of the Inns or Temples in England, he will have to produce letters of introduction from two Barristers of at least five years' standing, which will merely testify to the fact that the candidate comes of a good family and deserves admission. If the candidate has passed the Entrance Examination of any University in the British Kingdom he will be admitted at once, but if he has failed in his Matriculation, he will have to pass a Preliminary Examination in English, Latin and English History. As to the expenses the student incurs before he gets his admission, I give below the details:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Cost. Items include Admission, Admission Fee, Stamps and Lecture Fee, and Deposit (without interest).

The period of stay in England will be for three years. The candidate will eat his dinner for a certain number of days in his Inn during each of the four Terms every year. The Hilary Term, extends from the middle of January to the middle of February. The Michaelmas Term, from November to December. The Easter Term comes off either in April or May, and the Trinity Term in May or June. At the end of every Term, an examination is held of the candidates and the student who passes in a certain subject is not required to pass any more examination on that subject in the next Term. But if he is "ploughed" in any, he will have to present himself for a further examination on that subject in the next Term, in addition of course, to other subjects. In every Term the "dues" of the student aggregate to 5 shillings and the expenses of his dinner to a guinea. Thus in three years he will have to pay to his Inn:—

Table with 2 columns: Item, Cost. Items include Dues for 12 Terms and Dinner expenses for 12 Terms.

This amount should be paid at the end of every Term or the end of every year or before being called to the Bar. At the time of being called, the new Barrister has to pay £94.

These expenses, by no means small, have reference only to those incurred at the Inn or Temple, but the cost of living must further be reckoned with. In England, it will be absurd to limit the sundry monthly expenses for living and comfort below £10 at the least.

The courses of study for an embryo Barrister relate to the following subjects:—

- 1. Roman Law, International Law and Jurisprudence. 2. Constitutional Law and Legal History. 3. English Law and Equity. 4. Law of Real and Personal Property. 5. Law of obligation (i) Contract (ii) Tort (iii) Commercial Law. 6. Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes.

I am afraid, Sir, I have abused your indulgence by taking up so much of your valuable space. But while wishing God-speed and all success to Mr. Mookherjee's friend in his career in England, I will ask him to write at once to the Secretary of the London Indian Society, who on receipt of 5 Anna Stamps will give all information regarding the course of study and the cost of living in England. Gentlemen will meet him at London, Edinburgh, Oxford or Cambridge stations on living fortnight's notice. Let him apply to Dr. Sarat Mullik, M.B., C.M., 35, Soho Square, National Hospital, London, W.

SACHINDRA NATH MUKERJEE. Presidency College.

Mufussil News.

JAMSERPUR (NADIA), MARCH 13.

THE hot-season has set in in right earnest although the mornings are still delightfully cool. A strong irregular wind has been blowing for some days past.—Yesterday at about 5 P.M. a fire broke out in the Kyatba quarter of this village and lasted for nearly an hour. A good many big and nicely got up thatched houses were completely destroyed. The villagers, headed by the local zemindars, rendered valuable assistance in stopping the progress of the conflagration. A few families have been rendered houseless.—The damage estimated is over a thousand.—The Bhairamara-Tarangunia road, which was constructed year before last as a famine work, is quite useless. It has so many holes and gaps in it throughout that it is rather, become greatly inconvenient for passengers and carts to proceed along it.—The want of good drinking water is being felt in some parts here. If the rains hold off a little longer the sanitary condition might turn bad. The general health at present is satisfactory. Prices of food-grains are very cheap.

BUNDI, MARCH 9.

It is with intense pain and extreme sorrow that I have to announce the death of the Maharaja Kumar Sri Raghavendra Singh, the only beloved son of H. H. Maharaja Raja Sri Raghuraj Singh Bahadur, K. C. S. J., K. C. I. E., of Bundi, on Sunday the 5th March, at 6.30 P.M., at the age of 9 years and 3 months. The Maharaja Kumar recently went on a hunting excursion with the Darbar, where he had a very slight attack of fever, which developed into typhus and carried him. The loss that has befallen the royal household, is simply irreparable; the more so because there is no other issue to the chief. The late lamented Maharaj Kumar, whose demise the whole state so deeply deplores and shall continue to deplore for many years to come, was the only son of H. H. the Maharaj, sister of H.H. the late Maharaja Jaswant Singh of Jodhpur. The Political Agent, Capt. F. E. Young, husband, paid a condolence visit to the palace yesterday at 5.30 P.M. Condolatory telegrams and letters are pouring in.

GHORAMARA, MARCH 15.

MAHARAJA MANINDRA CHANDRA NANDY Bahadur, of Kashmir Bazar, came here on the 12th and left for Kamargaon yesterday morning. Kamargaon is a village about 20 miles from this place where the Maharaja has a big zemindari. The object of his visit there, as he himself is said to have announced, is to alleviate the miseries of his people by removing their wants. His Highness has signified his intention of revisiting his place on his return from Kamargaon.—The Rajshahi Bholanath Academy has been affiliated to the Calcutta University to the Entrance standard. Babu Jhantinath Khan, the well-known zemindar of Khajura, has granted a princely donation to the Academy fund. In recognition of this benevolent act, the Academy authorities have called the Academy after the name of his father, the late Babu Bholanath Khan. "The Rajshahi Bholanath Academy.—Yesterday a high wind blew from about 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. There was, indeed, a cloud of dust which obstructed the rays of the sun in to to. The roads are not watered at all by the Municipality this year, as they used to be done before. The water of the damus has become impure. There are found in it small insects and other noxious things. The Commissioners will do well to construct now a bridge over the aamus so that water may be drawn from the outer Padma.—Summer has set in, and the days are very hot.

DACCA, MARCH 14.

As you must have already noticed, there were certain suspected cases of plague at two villages called Paina and Khigao, within police station Sreenagar in Vikrampur. It is said that a man of Paina came back home from Calcutta and died the next day, and the outbreak began with the attack of those who attended him. About 37 or 38 deaths altogether have been reported up to this time. Mr. Rankin, our Magistrate is trying his best to check its spread by all precautionary measures, and is away at Munshiganj in camp a few miles from the infected spot. It is difficult to obtain any authentic information, as the authorities are reticent and do not like to create any alarm by the publication of formal reports. I hear, however, that since the last 3 days no new cases have occurred. It would be fortunate, indeed, if the monster can be crushed at its birth.—A case of cold-blooded murder has lately been decided in the Sessions Court here. One Chaitan Karu, a Constable at Manikganj, came to Dacca, and overstayd his leave for 2 days. On his return, the Head Constable Lachman Singh reported the absence. The Constable desired the Head Constable not to do so but without success. The report was written out by one Harshnath, another Constable, under the orders of Lachman Singh. All these took place on the 6th December noon. On the next day, at about 3 A.M., while Harshnath and Lachman Singh were asleep, the murderer Chaitan Karu was on sentry guard at the Treasury. At that dark hour of the waning night, he accused shot Harshnath dead and also wounded Lachman Singh very seriously by another shot. An alarm was raised on which Chaitan fled. He was subsequently arrested at Keraniganj and put on his trial. The Jury unanimously found him guilty of deliberate murder, and he has been sentenced to death.—Mr. Clayton, the Joint-Magistrate at Narainganj, has been transferred to Hazaribagh; Mr. Howard of Dacca has been put in his place. Unlike the Civilians of the day Mr. Clayton was very sympathetic towards the people. He has a very good temper, and by his courtesy and conscientious discharge of duty he succeeded in winning public esteem. Many a time our Judge Mr. Douglas found fault with him for the leniency of the sentences passed by him. Narainganj loses an officer the like of whom it cannot expect in the near future.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

NOTHING could have declared better the commanding, the supreme position which Rudyard Kipling holds in the world of literature to-day than the general anxiety which was displayed regarding the outcome of his recent illness. No dying Emperor, watched by weeping Queens, could have attracted greater attention than this solitary literary man lying on a bed of sickness in a hotel in New York. Kipling has created for himself a special and solitary position. He towers above his contemporaries. There is nobody to step into his place. At the present moment it is hard to estimate exactly what share he has taken in awakening the Anglo-Saxon race this new Imperial idea which bids fair to change the destinies of the world, but that he had a share, and a very large share, there cannot be the least doubt. Large masses of men, nations, whatever may be said of individuals, are governed rather by sentiment and passion than by appeals to their reason. Witness this new poem, "The White Man's Burden." It is regarded in America as a "powerful" argument in favour of the annexation of the Philippines, and they say, that had it not appeared at the psychological moment the United States Senate would not have ratified the peace treaty with Spain. Yet there is no argument in the poem. It is an impassioned appeal to America to send forth the best of her sons to take up the thankless task of subduing and civilising the "new caught, sullen peoples" which the late war has placed under the flag of the States. Why? Because there now offers an opportunity of displaying those qualities of courage, resource, and unflinching patience, which the Anglo-Saxons have always prided themselves on possessing. From a material and commonsense point of view that is not enough reason for embarking on a policy of strange and wild adventure which will place the States in rivalry with the great European powers, and put an end for ever to the hope that America, standing aloof from the national jealousies that have transformed the world into a vast armed camp, will steadily increase in prosperity by the acts of peace alone. Kipling does not base his appeal on any Christian ground, that it is the duty of white men to make themselves the servants of other races. Service is enjoined only because it carries with it the gifts of duty, order, discipline, self-restraint.

And this brings us to a consideration of the strange form of morality taught in Kipling's writings. For the ordinary conventions of civilization he has no respect. Indeed, through his stories and poems may be noticed a vein of undisguised contempt for much that Anglo-Saxons have hitherto held in honour and respect. It is for this reason that some years ago in certain middle-class and "respectable" circles Kipling was stigmatised as lawless and immoral. To a certain extent he is lawless and immoral, but these words are only relative.

"The wildest dreams of Kew are the facts of Khamanauti, And the crimes of Capham chaste in Martaban." Those "Plain Tales from the Hills," "Soldiers Three," "Wee Willie Winkie," in fact the whole series of stories having an Indian setting show at the first reading that Englishmen removed from home influences and placed amid new and strange surroundings among an alien people with whom they have nothing in common, are inclined to break away from many of the restraints that he closed them about in their home life and create for themselves a new world in which they live on their own terms, of the rules and philosophies of their youth, but the stories also tell of unselfish devotion, of unswerving loyalty, of steadfast adherence to duty, of that pride of race and single-hearted courage which makes men remember mist dangers on the frontier, in the jungle, in the choicest camp, that they are Englishmen, and that come what may their country and their people must never be shamed through them. It is of manliness, as defined by himself, that Kipling is ever speaking. His manliness is not quite of the old Spartan type. It consists of taking every advantage of the gifts that the gods might send, but if they send evils instead, when the evils must be accepted with bowed head and unflinching eyes. At the same time his highest ideal must be devoted to duty. "Only the few are born, and only the few are free," cries Dick Heald, and in that paradox is to be found the key to "The Light that Failed"—Kipling's most ambitious literary effort. He means that happy is he who has his duty clearly cut before him from day to day. Others must strive and strive to find out in what course their duty lies and the harder the task is the more steadfastly they must pursue it. As for the rest of one's dealings with the world, why, do what seems good in your own eyes, for what do the whistlings and wonderment of other people matter? Kipling's earlier stories and songs all convey the same lesson—a daring novel lesson, which might not be thought the writer any fame, had he not possessed the priceless gift of being able to express himself in nervous, vigorous, English.

But within the last few years Kipling having by public acclamation been accepted to the post of "singer to his clan," has been steadily working at the task of awaking the Anglo-Saxon race to a sense of its position and responsibilities in the world. He has turned from the education of the individual to the education of the mass. The nation at large must be shown that if solitary units have a personal duty, so has a whole people. Individuals can by the fullest exercise of their faculties largely increase the measure of their manhood. The same principle must hold good with the mass. That is why England must be encouraged by stirring allusions to her glorious past, by graphic pictures of her present day dominions over seas, to continue in her career of civilising conquest, so that persons may be

trained by peril, and privation, and the fight with difficulties and dangers to the knowledge that of all the crimes the crime of sloth is the worst, for it saps one by one all the faculties. That this teaching is welcome and understood may be gathered from the immense popularity that his poems have attained. "The Recessional," published just after the Jubilee festivities created a sensation the like of which probably no single poem yet given to the world has caused. Thrown into faultless form, it expressed the idea that moral-physical strength such as was displayed at the naval review is no avail unless the heart of the nation that possesses it is moved by the right emotions and feelings. England must not forget her past traditions, must not burst into loud vain-glorious boasting, the mark of a lower type. At the same time we have and must hold dominion. Kipling's thoughts in these directions, of course, are not entirely novel, but as already indicated he has a power of expression given to few. Language is to him an instrument on which he plays with perfect and graceful freedom. Most of us are dumb; we speak imperfectly. The great thought that rushes into the brain and flushes the cheek cannot find articulate expression. We speak, and lo! it was something else we wanted to say. But in Kipling's writings everywhere is to be found a facile simplicity impossible to most authors. His books tell what so many of us have in vain been striving and striving for years to express; those emotions and desires, which Anglo-Saxon heritage has brought into our blood, are given active life and form when Kipling speaks.—Englishman March 17.

THE Madras Municipal Loan for Rs. 25,000 which was recently advertised to be raised for plague and water-supply charges has been allotted, Rs. 978 being the lowest allotment. The chief tenderers are Messrs. Murray and Co., the Madras Railway Provident Fund, and the Trustees of Pachayappa's Charities.

THE Health Department of Bombay have acting under orders of the Municipal Commissioner had a number of mills under observation with a view to estimate nuisances from smoke and prosecute when a serious nuisance was observed. The result of these observations is that on Saturday the Divisional Health Officer for No. 2 Division applied for summons against Sunderdas Mill charging the Company with not taking sufficient measures or not exercising proper care to consume the smoke from the chimney. Saturday next is fixed as the day for hearing the summons. Warning was given some time ago to all the mills that unless precautions were taken to lessen the nuisance from smoke proceedings would be taken against them.

THE Recorder of Rangoon has just decided a case in which Ko Law Mee and another sued the Burma Railway Co. for Rs. 29,268-0-0 damage done to a consignment of India rubber during course of transit on the defendant company's railway. If appeared that the carriage containing the rubber caught fire, and one hundred bags were destroyed and eleven were damaged before the fire was extinguished. The goods were consigned to owner's risk, but it was contended for the plaintiffs that the damage was due to negligence or failure to exercise proper care, skill and diligence, and a point was made of the fact that wood fuel was used in the engines instead of coal.

The Recorder, while accepting the conclusion that wood fuel was more dangerous than coal, held that it would be unreasonable to charge the defendant Company with negligence on that account, as it would largely extend the liability imposed on the company by law. He therefore dismissed the suit. The plaintiffs intend to appeal to the Privy Council.

FURTHER evidence was taken in Municipal Commissioner Shuk Abul Kasim case at Agra. Municipal Peshkar M.R.za Khan deposed that when Kalab Hossain, his junior clerk, reported to him that the accused was making alterations in the papers, witness went up to the accused and questioned him. Aboullia denied the accusation, but when Kalad Hossain pointed out that the papers were hidden under a cushion, he said "It is my fault" and looked very confused. Witness told him it was a very wrong thing for a man in his position to do, and reported the matter to the Secretary. Cross-examined by Mr. Bail witness said that the accused was an invalid on the day of his occurrence, 12th December last. He looked very ill on that day. The file of papers in question was summoned by the Civil Court. The summons arrived at about 4.15 P. M. Riazudoun, Municipal Darogah, Ganga Pershad, Ram Pershad and Kalab Hossain gave corroborative evidence. The Court was crowded with spectators. The case was adjourned.

In view of the recent outrages which have been committed on ladies travelling alone in railway carriages, it is gratifying to learn that the Oudh and Rohilkund line have decided to introduce on their system means of communication between passengers and guards, similar to those used in England, and that an order for supply has been sent home. This is a very desirable move, and will be welcomed as a relief by all classes of the travelling public, especially if it be understood that the improvement is to be introduced at once, as it should on every line throughout India and Burma. To those acquainted with the left-handed style in which things ingeneral are managed out here, it is not hard to understand why more than one practical illustration of the danger was needed to induce the authorities concerned to bestir themselves in to taking suitable steps to protect the public from it in future.

Now Ready.

PHOTO REPRESENTATION OF Lord Gauranga and His Bhaktas

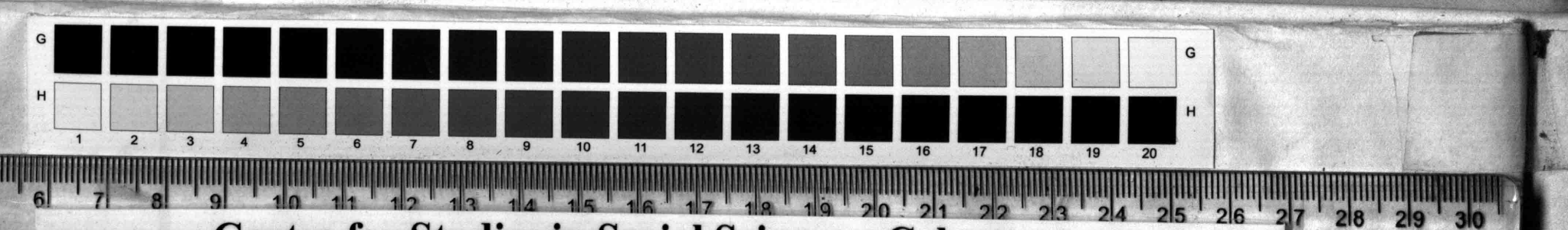
Three centuries ago, Sri Sreenivasa Acharya, one of the greatest devotees of Lord Gauranga, had a portrait prepared of the Lord and his Bhaktas, which descended to his pious family as perhaps the most precious heirloom. Sri Sreenivasa's great-grandson was Radha Mohun Thakur, the guru or spiritual preceptor of Maharaja Nanda Kumar. The Maharaja, him self a pious Basishnavu, 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. Taking and postage annas 4 and 8 respectively. DR. RASIK MOHAN CHAKRAVARTI, Secy, Gauranga Samaj, 2, Ananda Chatterjee's Street, Calcutta.

Tow 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. MEARKLE, General Merchant and Farmer, Mattie, Bedford county Pa. For sale by SMITH STANSTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL CO.,



THE DARK DOCTOR.

THE congregation was coming out of the parish church of Grampton. The organist was having a regular "field day" with all the stops, and showing off to the departing crowd with, to the unmusical, appeared to be a series of earthquakes, hurricanes, and other phenomena. It seemed to stir the people up after the long, dull sermon, and to send a glow of reaction through them, that found expression on their faces as they passed through the great door, and lingered for a moment on the stone steps outside.

The crowd of men and women scattered in all directions as they left the building. Across the road people were moving singly or in parties. Some were even lingering in the roadway talking in little groups to their friends.

Suddenly a great clatter of wheels was heard up the street. The people in the roadway had only just time to spring aside, in answer to the timely shout of the groom who was driving the high wheeled gig, which passed rapidly along and soon disappeared round a turn in the road further on.

"Who's that tearing in such a wild fashion, and endangering the lives of respectable folk coming out of church?" said a surely old gentleman to a companion when he had recovered his breath.

"Oh, that's the new doctor, 'S'pose he's off to an urgent case by the way he drives."

"Oh," grunted the other. "What's his name?" "Gallipot," was the answer. "Doctor Gallipot."

An old lady behind them bent forward her head a moment, and said: "Gallipot, did you say?" "Yes, madam," answered the gentleman addressed, raising his hat, "Doctor Gallipot."

A younger lady with her repeated the name aloud, "Doctor Gallipot," and turned a pair of big blue eyes in the direction of the gig. Behind, another lady arranging her shawl overheard the name, and repeated it in turn.

"What did you say?" said a middle-aged spinster with her. "I said, 'Gallipot.'" "Why Gallipot?" asked the other; and while her friend was explaining, a school-boy next them, overhearing, shouted "Gallipot!" and burst out laughing.

This immediately attracted the attention of half a dozen people at least, and as they walked homeward their several ways the name of "Gallipot" rang in their ears.

When the Doctor had gone, Tim went into the consulting room and cleared up the litter of papers on the floor. As he did so he rattled away in characteristic style.

"Indade, an' the young master's in luck! Bill, is it, from that rascal, Gadby, the tailor?" "Well, don't I know who Mrs. D'Estere is! Faith, she's the most charmin' young widow I ivor set ois on! Rich, too! Ooh, if she'd only fancy the Doctor his fortin's made. An' a mighty fine pair they'd be! God bless her blue ois, an' may the powers direct them to look wid love and things on the young master!"

When Gladys D'Estere walked home from church something seemed to have suddenly troubled her, for she hardly spoke to old Mrs. Moffit, her companion, on the way. It was a strange feeling that had taken possession of her. It was new to her. In all the twenty odd years of her life she could remember no similar emotion. The late lamented Mr. D'Estere had certainly inspired no such feeling. Their union had been a prosaic one, of the nature of a transaction in the City. Wealth and ugliness had been exchanged for beauty and poverty. A penniless orphan had shielded herself from the "Sturm and Drang" of life in the shelter of a wealthy marriage. She had accepted the position calmly, and done her duty as a wife for two years, when an apoplectic stroke took her husband from the world, and left her a wealthy young widow of five-and-twenty. Six months ago she had taken the Hall of Grampton, and installed herself there with her lady companion, a duenna of suitable age and respectable connections.

At luncheon Gladys D'Estere hardly spoke, and barely touched the dishes. "What has happened? What has happened, today?" she was thinking. "Aren't you well, dear Mrs. D'Estere?" asked Mrs. Moffit, looking up from her plate. "I've got a headache. The church was too hot, I suppose. I'll go and rest in my room."

She got up as she spoke, and left the dining room. Suddenly there was a noise of someone falling, and a little cry. Mrs. Moffit turned pale, and ran into the hall. Gladys was picking herself up after slipping down half-a-dozen stairs. "Dear me, have you hurt yourself?" asked the companion, running to her assistance. "Nothing much; but my ankle pains a little when I stand on it. I think I have sprained it."

With the good Moffit's help Mrs. D'Estere walked to a divan in the drawing room. The footman by Mrs. Moffit's direction, ran for a doctor. The companion proceeded to arrange the great downy pillows that lay on the couch. "There now, wait patiently till the doctor comes," she said soothingly.

"The doctor? What doctor?" said Mrs. D'Estere suddenly. And the red colour mounted to her face as she spoke. "I don't know," answered Mrs. Moffit. "There are several in Grampton. John bring the nearest, I hope."

Mrs. D'Estere shut her eyes and lay back on the pillows. She tried not to think; but she did think, and the thought was: Will he come? Twenty minutes passed, Gladys lay quite without speaking. She had become rather pale again, and her golden curls were strewn in luxuriant disorder over the red cushion. Suddenly a bell rang. A beat faster. The door opened, and the footman's nasal voice announced "Doctor Gallipot."

The next moment two embarrassed people were bowing to one another. "I hope it is nothing serious?" began the doctor in a softly-modulated voice. Mrs. Moffit took upon herself to explain where the injury was, and the doctor examined the injured ankle. "A slight sprain," said Dr. Gallipot at length; and then, after a moment's pause, he asked: "Do you know what message is, Mrs. D'Estere?" "Yes; but you won't do it in this case? Won't it hurt?"

"I think not," he said, with a smile. "I am one of the new school. I try to cure quickly, and without giving pain." Gladys D'Estere shut her eyes. Doctor Gallipot opened the bag he had brought with him; he took out a little tortoiseshell box, and put it on the ground near the head of the sofa, and immediately an air by Donizetti was softly played.

HOW LOUIS XIV. GOT A WIFE.

THREE full-page reproductions of paintings by Velasquez illustrate an interesting article on "Three Little Spanish Princesses" of long ago, by Isabel M'Dougall, in the January St. Nicholas. How one of them came to marry the great French King, Louis XIV. is thus related:

When Infanta Maria Theresa was ten they began talking about a husband for her. But here, unexpectedly, the little girl showed a will of her own. She said she wanted to marry her cousin, the young King of France. She had never seen him, except in a picture, but she had heard a great deal of him. Spain, which had been the most powerful of nations, was beginning to go downhill, and France was coming up. It was the most refined, the most splendid, and the wealthiest of nations. Its young King, Louis XIV., was said to be a perfect fairy prince. No one else was so handsome; no one else had so bold a spirit, or such gracious manners, or wore such magnificent cloths, with so grand an air. Maria Theresa thought he would just suit her.

And then, quite suddenly, the Infanta Don Balthazar died, and Maria Theresa became the heiress-presumptive of the Spanish throne. Then there was no more talk of her marriage to the King of France; if she was to be the Queen of Spain she would have to stay at home. Then there came another sudden change. The King, her father, decided to marry again, and whom should he take for a second wife but that very Mariana of Austria, who had been intended for his son's bride.

Afterwards, Queen Mariana had two little sons. The Infanta Maria Theresa was no longer heiress to the throne, and there was no reason why she should not leave her country. De Gramont, the French Ambassador, came seeking a wife for his young master, and Maria Theresa's childish wish came true. She was greatly pleased. She used to run away from her ladies-in-waiting to the room where hung the portrait of the handsome French King, and curtsy to it, saying with a laugh, "That's for my bridegroom!"

The bride's dresses filled twelve large trunks, covered with crimson velvet, and mounted with silver; twenty morocco trunks contained her linen; fifty mules were laden with her toilet plate and her perfumes.

It was discovered that the water in the pit was salt, and of the same level as the tide; and a long and diligent search disclosed a drain connecting the shaft with the sea. Efforts were made to stop this drain, and thus to block the influx of water, but all to no purpose; and for the third time the attempt to regain the buried gold was abandoned in despair. In 1861 a joint stock company was started with sufficient capital; but again the water difficulty proved fatal to its enterprise.

A little more than a year ago the most determined and scientific effort of all was made. "The Oak Island Treasure Company" was floated, with a capital of £12,000, and an expedition started to Oak Island equipped with the newest machinery, steam pumps, hoisting engines, dynamite—everything, in fact, that science and ingenuity could suggest.

So far the hidden gold has not been reached, although further proofs of its existence have been obtained. The latest evidence consists of a tiny piece of parchment drawn from a depth of 156ft. On the parchment were two letters, "V.V." which only serve to add one more to the many mysterious clues which have baffled hundreds.

That some treasure lies at the bottom of this inaccessible shaft seems beyond question; and there is little doubt, that in time it will be reached and rescued. So far £20,000 have been spent in efforts to recover it; generations have lived and died dreaming of it, and struggling for it; and if the piratical captain had wished for revenge on his fellow-man he could not have designed any form more subtle and aggravating than that of putting his treasures in the earth's keeping.

Government has ordered the establishment of a Press Committee for Poona. All Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular papers published there are asked to send copies to the Committee appointed to scrutinise the utterances of Native journalists. Mr. Carvalho, city magistrate, is president. The members are Mamladar Ransing, City Police Inspector Moore, and non-officials Rao Bahadurs Vishnu M. Bhide and Ganesh Gokhale.

"The thing," we said then, "seems incredible." But it was quite true. The comment of the Anglo-Indian Times of India was ominous:— The Bombay Government has not apparently completed its tale of blunders. The latest is the appointment, telegraphed by our correspondent, of a Press Committee, consisting of officials and non-officials, to scrutinise the Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular Press of Poona. We do not know how far this appointment is legal. It is opposed to the declaration of the Viceroy that the Government of India was opposed to class measures.

The presence of the city magistrate and the police inspector on the committee is impolitic and may lead to complications in future. Such comment from a strong supporter of the Government and of things English was decidedly significant. On June 21, in answer to Mr. Herbert Lewis, Lord George Hamilton said:— Under the existing law of India no Committee which may have been appointed in Poona or elsewhere could have any power of censorship over the Press. Its functions would necessarily be limited to keeping the responsible officials informed as to the character of the matter published in the newspapers.

Well, we shall see about that presently. We note in passing that Mr. Lewis asked three questions and Lord George answered one; and as to the one answer, it seems very odd that the officials should need a committee to do for them what everybody else does for himself, either personally or by his secretary or assistant.

On July 8 we were in a position to set before our readers the grounds, motives, constitution and duties of the Poona Committee, in very words of Mr. Lamb, the district magistrate, which we now recall:— Government considered that the weekly abstract compiled by the reporter on the Native Press was lacking both in the rapidity and the closeness of scrutiny which it deemed desirable. It therefore instructed district magistrates to themselves arrange for the careful observation of the newspapers published in their districts. The district magistrate, not being able to undertake this duty personally, was empowered to form at headquarters a committee subject to his immediate control, consisting of three or five members of whom the majority should be official, and the president should be the junior deputy collector or city magistrate.

At Poona the late acting collector, Mr. Bonus, accordingly constituted a committee of five, comprising the city magistrate as president, the city mamladar, the city police inspector, and two non-official gentlemen who, in reply to his enquiries, expressed their willingness to serve on the committee. The duty of the committee is to bring to the notice of the district magistrate anything appearing in any newspaper published in the district which in the opinion of the committee is deserving of the attention of the district magistrate. The committee is available for use, if the district magistrate thinks fit, as an intermediary between himself and the Press of his district.

From this it appears explicitly that the origin of these committees is due to Government, which admittedly "instructed" and "empowered" the district magistrates. The grounds alleged are frivolous to the point of silliness. The constitution is official, and even menacing; the non-official members do not count, except that to the eyes of ignorant and condescending persons they give an impartial and representative air to a packed body. The duties as explained by Mr. Lamb are, it will be seen, much wider than as explained by the Secretary of State yesterday.

In the same issue (July 8), and in the same column, we exhibited by an actual example the victim's side of the business. Mr. Kelker, the editor of the Mahatma, had been summoned before Mr. Lamb, and had sustained cross-examination "for nearly an hour." "Mr. Lamb's way of addressing us during the interview," wrote Mr. K. Ikar, "led us to believe, rightly or wrongly, that we were then standing in the dock, and that we had committed some very big crime." Matters would thus appear to have reached in practice a point considerably beyond Lord George Hamilton's idea of their "necessary limits" a week or two after they had actually happened. On August 5 we recorded another illustrative case. The editor of the Kala was required to express regret for remarking in his paper that "it was bad that the Natives should not possess strength or endurance enough to bear a few strokes or kicks given by Europeans."

Why on earth should he express regret for such a remark? In view of the fact, before his mind and open to common knowledge, the remark is mild as milk. We venture to say there are no words in the vocabulary too strong for legitimate application to the abominable incidents in question. It is not the editor that comments on such facts, but the blackguards that perpetrate them to the shame of the English name, who ought to be taken in hand by the magistrate. But the editor of the Kala was obliged to humble himself, apparently to avoid the uncomfortable alternative of a criminal prosecution. Let us reproduce one more case which was laid before the Westminster Town Hall meeting on October 26 last by Mr. W. A. Chambers. The editor of the Jagadadarsa of Ahmadnagar on July 10, 1898, commented as follows on the imprisonment of a European soldier for robbing a Roman Catholic church:— One soldier sentenced, the Goddess of Justice being in favour of the whites, they (the thoughtful Europeans) do not fear at all to behave unguardedly. Moreover, the soldiers being quite ignorant have not the least cause to fear. Justice being so, the soldiers have hitherto committed serious offences and escaped from them (the consequences).

The idea that the punishment to Mr. Richardson will have a deterrent effect on the whites is a mistaken one. The complainant in the present case being a European priest the Goddess of Justice was sitting with eyes open. If he had been a Native she would have fast shut up her eyes. There is no fear of partiality when the colour of the skin of the two parties is the same. No wonder that the result of the present case is such. How would other white people be frightened by this?

On July 18 the District Magistrate—chairman of "one of these wretched Press Committees," as Mr. Chambers called them—wrote:— No. 7929, Nagar, July 18, 1898. The editor of the Jagadadarsa is warned that his article of July 10, 1898, on the conviction of a soldier and the partiality of the Bombay High Court where Europeans are concerned, was conceived in bad taste, and that its tone is objectionable. (Signed) C. HUDSON, District Magistrate, Ahmadnagar.

So far we have been able to let some light in upon "these wretched Press Committees." The cases are all in the Bombay Presidency—indeed, at Poona and Ahmadnagar only. But we want to know whether Committees are in operation in any other places, and if so, what places; and we want to know further the character of their positive operations. Their negative effect is sufficiently obvious. It is repressive and wholly bad. Lord William Beninck, in a much more disturbed condition of the country, acknowledged that amidst all the hard criticism that was showered upon him he found more useful information in the Native newspapers than anywhere else. We are getting thinner-skinned— with only too good reason, it is to be feared. Even the Indi Spectator plucks up courage to tell the Government that this system is properly described as a "policy of perpetual espionage, of constant intermeddling and fussy attempts to shape in a particular direction the lines on which journals shall be conducted."

"It seems to me," said Mr. Chambers at the Westminster meeting, "utterly un-English—(cheers)—utterly un-British—(cheers)—that there should be a censorship of this description. I want, if possible, to arouse your hatred, and your dislike, of a committee which is used in this fashion." Lord George Hamilton may play with words and complacently tell the House that a Press censorship in India is illegal. But plain men will find not a little difficulty in distinguishing "these wretched Press Committees" from a formal and illegal censorship.

THEN IT WENT ON ALL RIGHT. The writer of the letter which I am going to copy for you in a moment has a complaint to make. Rather, perhaps, a complaint to place on record, as the reason for it is passed away for the present and she hopes—and we hope with her—that it may not return. The complaint does not refer to any relative, friend, or foe, but to her own heart. It did not work well. It was weak, and for a long time she was unable to find means to make it do better. Which was a serious matter, inasmuch as the vigor of the circulation of the blood always depends upon the force wherewith the heart drives it.

Still, it seems to me we ought to be a bit indulgent towards the heart in view of the labour it has to perform. Remember that it never takes a full minute's rest at one time, night or day, from the instant it begins at your birth until, like a muffled drum, it stops for good and all—the funeral march to the grave being over. During all this while, ten years or a hundred, the heart has got to keep on pumping blood through your body at the rate of from 130 strokes a minute in childhood to 50 or 60 in old age. If you happen to have a mechanical turn of mind its may interest you to figure out how much this stand.

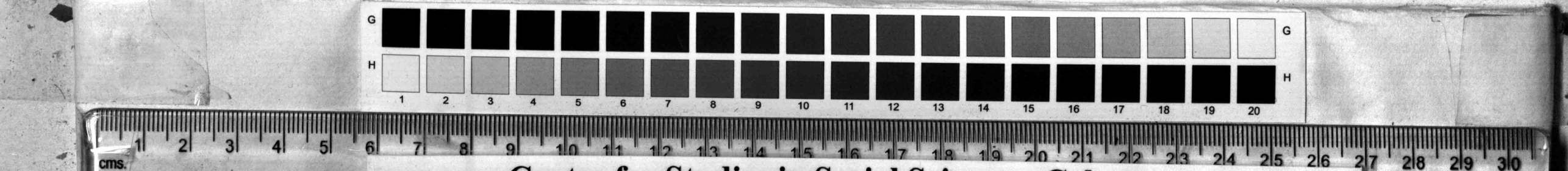
For in units of horse-power for a given case and time. If not, you can take my word for it that, merely as a machine, the heart deserves your respect. So long as it goes ahead steadily, up hill and down dale, hammering away softly but strongly, you haven't a word to say for or against it; but when it begins to get weak, or for skipping a stitch now and then you call in the doctor, who puts the tip of his finger just below the base of your left thumb, looks wise and solemn (as befits the occasion), and says, "Ah, yes, yes; I see, I see." But what does he see? He doesn't tell you that; he leaves medicine, and mentions when he will look in again.

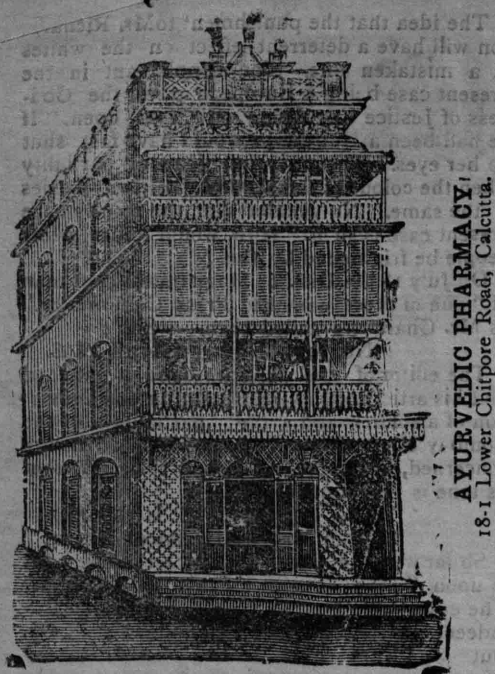
But as to the letter I spoke of. "For many years," the lady says, "I suffered from indigestion and weak heart. Very little exertion made me feel weary and tired. Cold, clammy sweats broke over me. I had a poor appetite, and after meals an aching pain at the chest and a miserable sinking feeling at the stomach. I had also much pain at the left side, and my heart would flutter so as to frighten me. At length I became so weak I was barely able to get about, being no longer able to do my housework."

"Owing to the trouble at my heart I obtained no proper rest at night, and often walked about my bedroom at night. Many times these attacks were so bad I thought I was dying. During the day a sense of suffocation sometimes came upon me and I was obliged to go to the door for fresh air."

"Year after year I suffered like this; now a little better, now as bad as I could be. In November, 1887, while on a visit to Crocydon, my son-in-law persuaded me to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. He got me a bottle, and after taking it I experienced great relief. The pain at my heart was easier, and I felt better as a whole. I could eat well and the food agreed with me."

"I now feel encouraged to continue using this remedy. Soon I was in better health than for years, the heart trouble having disappeared altogether. Since that time when I feel anything ailing me a few doses of Mother Seigel's Syrup never fail to give the desired relief. I have told many persons of the benefit I have derived from it, and I her by consent to your publishing this statement should you wish to do so." (Signed) (Mrs.) William Harrington, near Wickford Hill, Clare, Suffolk, November 12th, 1897.





Novelty in Ayurvedic Medicine. KAVIRAJ, NOGENDRA NATH SEN'S Ayurvedic Pharmacy, 18-1, Lower Chitpore Road, Tariti Bazar CALCUTTA.

KAVIRAJ, NOGENDRA NATH SEN, practises the Ayurvedic System of Medicine after having learnt the principles of Western Medical Science, and obtained a Diploma from one of the Government Medical Institutions to the country.

KARNA-ROGANTAKA TAILA, OR EAR DROPS. It cures otorrhoea, otitis, tympanitis, inflammation and all other diseases of the ear. Deafness, if not of long standing, is sure to be cured by its use.

OHYAVANA-PRASA, OR Our Own Health-Restorer. This medicine not only allays all local irritation but improves the digestion and strengthens the constitution.

It diminishes the secretion of mucus in the bronchial tubes and lessens the irritation of the respiratory centre. It increases longevity and renders the organs strong. It sharpens the memory and intelligence and gives vitality to the old and debilitated tissues.

Specific for Diabetis.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Diabetis. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Acididity. A most valuable Tonic and Digestive. It is a wonderful remedy against gastralgia with indigestion, costiveness, diarrhoea, high coloured urine, occasional Diarrhoea, a dirty-coated tongue, Vomiting of green matter, a nasty taste in the mouth, dreadful dreams and sleeplessness, heavy drowsy feeling after eating, alternate constipation and relaxation of bowels, nervousness and extreme sensitiveness of the right side of the abdomen, sour taste in the mouth with eructations of wind from the stomach, a constipated condition with clay-coloured stools and difficult defecation, headache accompanied with obstinate constipation or diarrhoea, &c. &c. It would be as efficacious in Acute as in Chronic cases.

Specific for Rheumatism.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Rheumatism. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Dropsy.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Dropsy. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Paralysis.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Paralysis. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Epilepsy.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Epilepsy. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Convulsions.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Convulsions. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Tetanus.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Tetanus. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Strabismus.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Strabismus. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Amblyopia.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Amblyopia. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Myopia.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Myopia. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Hypermetropia.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Hypermetropia. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Presbyopia.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Presbyopia. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Astigmatism.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Astigmatism. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Strabismus.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Strabismus. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

Specific for Amblyopia.—The regular use of the above medicine is sure to cure Amblyopia. It entirely removes general debility, burning of the palms and soles, weakness of the brain, excessive thirst, general debility resulting from excessive urination or discharge of saccharine matter with the urine, and acid eructations, aching pains in the limbs, slight oedema of the legs, drowsiness, lowness of spirit, etc.

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Printed and published by Hari Mohan Biswas at the PATRIKA PRESS, 2, Ananda Chatterjee's Lane, and issued by the PATRIKA POST OFFICE.

