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পদকল্পতরু।
সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে
মূল্য ৩।০ টাকা।
পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্রস্থ।
অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

অনুরাগবল্লী।
শ্রীমনোহর দাস প্রণীত।
এই খানি উপাদেয় বৈষ্ণব গ্রন্থ দুই শত বৎসর পূর্ব্বে লিখিত।
মূল্য ছয় আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ অর্দ্ধ আনা।
অমৃত বাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

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এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অনুসারে চিকিৎসা করিলে সর্পদষ্ট ব্যক্তি কখনই মরিবে না। ইহার চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের ভাষাও এত সরল, যে স্ত্রীলোকেরা পর্য্যন্তও এই পুস্তক পাঠ করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে পারে। গ্রন্থকার ত্রিশ বৎসর যাবত এই প্রণালী অনুসারে অনেক সর্পদষ্ট ব্যক্তিকে নিজহস্তে চিকিৎসা করিয়া আরাম করিয়াছেন এবং অপরকেও আরাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।

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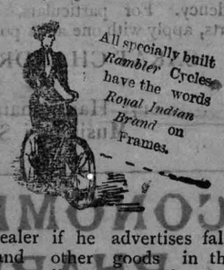

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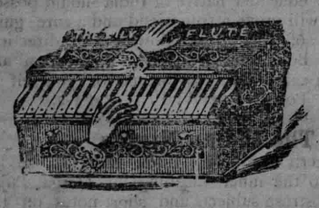

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"Here have we been two years married, and not a single unhappy day. Oh, I do bless God for all this happiness which He has given me! It is so great that I almost tremble for the future, except that I humbly hope--for what man is certain about his own weakness and wickedness?—our love is strong enough to withstand any pressure from without; and, as it is a gift greater than any fortune, is likewise one superior to poverty, or sickness, or any other wordly evil with which Providence may visit us. Let us prey, as I trust there is no harm, that none of these may come upon us, as the best and wisest in the world prayed that He might not be led into temptation.

"I think happiness is as good as prayers, and I feel in my heart a kind of overflowing thanksgiving, which is quite too great to describe in writing. This kind of happiness is like a fine picture: you only see a little but of it when you are near the canvas. Go a little distance and then you see how beautiful it is.

"I don't know that I shall have done much by coming away except by being so awfully glad to get back."

THE Punjab University at the suggestion of the Director of Public Instruction, is considering the question of the adoption of a system of thumb impressions for the identification of candidates for University examinations. The Rev. H. C. Velte, the Hon. Madan Gopal, Khan Bahadur Nanak Bakhsh and Mr Shah Din have been appointed to make proposals if the scheme is found to be practicable.

COLONEL GREY, President of the Simla Municipality, has definitely sent in his resignation of that appointment, and will forthwith enter on that of Superintendent of the Bahawalpur State. This post, which is under the orders of the Punjab Government, carries a salary of a Rs. 3,000 a month, being the same as was granted to Colonal Ward when Minister of Bhopal. The young Nawab of Bahawalpur is about fifteen years of age, so the minority may be expected to last three years at least.

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To be had at the *Patrika*

Rare Books For Sale.

THE following books (and many others) are to be had of BABU RASIK LAL GHOSH, at No. 3, BAGBAZAR STREET, CALCUTTA, up to the 30th April:—

1. Parker's Transactions in the East Indies, from 1763. (Lond. 1782).—*Very rare.* Rs 25 0 0
2. Seir-el-Mutaqharin in English. (Cal. 1789).Vols. I and III.—*Very rare.* ... ... Rs. 35 0 0
3. Qanoon-e-Islam. (Lond. 1832). Rs. 8 0 0
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N. B.—Communications will be answered.

THE PALLAVARAM SHOOTING CASE.

THE further hearing of the case in which Gunner .h. Love of the 83rd Field Battery, stationed at Thomas' Mount, was charged with causing teS death of a native named Sadayan, by shooting hm dead with a gun, in a jungle near Pallavaram on the second instant, was resumed this day. Prosecuting Inspector Canniah Naidu of the Chingleput District, conducted the prosecution, while the prisoner was undefended.

The following prisoner's statement, made to his Commanding Officer, Lieut. Marsden R. A, was filed on record:—

"On the second of this month, I was at Wandalore shooting. At about 12 noon, I went to a toddy shop and had three annas worth of toddy. I went at 1 o'clock in the bush. I could not see anything there, so I went to some more bushes. When I got there, there was a native, and he started to beat the bush, without my permission. I let him go on with it and he beckoned for me to incline to the left. I did so. The bushes were much larger and then there were about 20 nativs, who sprang upon me. One fellow seizing my gun tried to take it from me. Then he called to the other natives and they lifted their sticks and choppers up and came in striking distance. One fellow hit me on the *topee* and broke the top in and at that instant the gun went off, and the man that had hold of it fell back, when the other men ran away a little distance. I then came away, and when I got to Pallavarem, I met the constable, gave him my gun and went with him to the Police Station."

The Magistrate announced on Saturday last that he would take up the case at 12 noon to-day, and proceed to examine the witnesess for the defence. However to-day the Magistrate did not take his seat on the Bench till 2 P.M., when without examining any of the defence witnesses who were present in Court and even without recording the evidence of Lt. Col. Damla who examined the girl Gangama, who is alleged to have been outraged by the prisoner, proceeded with the case and put the following questions to the prisoner.

Q.—Who is the person, you alluded to in your statement, who started to beat the bush, without your permission?.

A.—The fourth witness for the prosecution.

Q.—Who was the person who seized the gun?

A.—The deceased, Sadayan.

Q.—Did you identify among the witnesses for the prosecution any of the 12 natives that sprang upon you?

A.—No, I could not indentify any of them.

Q.—Was the fourth witness one of those who sprang upon you?

A.—He was at a distance, and not one of those who sprang upon me that day.

Q.—Who was the person that hit you on the *topee*?

A.—I could not say. He is not one of the witnesses for the prosecution.

Q.—Do you know who he was?

A.—No, I do not know.

At this stage the Magistrate said that the case the Police brought against the prisoner was one of culpable homicide not amounting o murder, and as the *prima facie* case was made out against him he was now charged under the second clause to section 304 I.P.C. with causing the death of a villager named Sadayan by doing a rash and negligent act which he prisoner knew was likely to cause the death and also voluntarily causing grievous hurt to the deceased by means of an instrument of shooting. The prisoner was then committed to take his trial at the Hi h Court Sessions.

The following witnesses were cited for the defence before the High Court by the prisoner:—Gunner Shatfelt, Driver Whitlock, Lt. Col. Damla I. M. S., Major Maidment I. M. S., and B. Ashton.

The prisoner was then removed from the dock and remanded to the jail pending his trial.

MR. H. R. C. DOBBS, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor of the N.-W. P. and Oudh, who is leaving that appointment to join the Political Department, will be posted as first Assistant to the Resident at Mysore *vice* Captain Erskine, who goes home on twelve months' furlough next month.

OUR readers might remember that Miss Cornelia Sorabiji applied to the Bombay High Court to be allowed to practise as a vakil and was refused. Then she came to try her luck in the Allahabad High Court. But here too she has been refused: so says the *Pioneer*. Our contemporary thinks that "until the Inns of Court at home sanction the admission of lady barristers, it would seem odd that any Indian Court, presided over by an English barrister, should lead the way."

THE Gorakhpur correspondent of the *Advocate* writes:—The other day we were favored by some distinguished Mahomedan visitors in the persons of Nawab Mohsinulmoolk and other members of the Aligarh deputation who took away the good round sum of Rs. 12,000 from Gorakhpur, a much large contribution than they have received from any other city. They were besides very hospitably treated by the Mahomedans here; a semi-public dinner was given to them by a Hindu, Mr. Mohan Singh, the Secretary of the Municipality, and finally on the day of their departure garden party was given by Mr. Nandy (an old friend of the Nawab, when they were both in Hyderabad) and two Mahomedan pleaders at which the chief Hindu and Mahomedan residents of Gorakhpur were present. But the chief interest with reference to the visit of the Aligarh deputation was centred in the speech of the Commissioner, Dr. Henry, who presided at the public meeting, and gave utterance to some very unpleasant home truths. He deplored the fact that whereas at its inception the Aligarh College was intended both for Hindus as well as Mahomedans, for reasons into which he did not care to enter, the former were now practically excluded from it, deprecated the frittering away of the resources of the College, the visionary attempt of raising it to the status of a University, and finally warned those responsible for the management of the College that unless they stopped wrangling amongst themselves, the College would ultimately suffer, or at least the usefulness would be considerably circumscribed. Curiously enough, Nawab Mohsinulmoolk ventured to give a reply to only one of the three points raised by Dr. Hoey, *viz* that relating to the exclusion of the Hindus from the Aligarh College, and this he was good enough to put down as one of the direct results of the National Congress, which had alienated the Hindus from the Mahomedans, because the latter had refused to take part in that political organisation. The Nawab must surely have been laughing on his sleeves when he said this, for I suppose, no one knows better than he does that the real cause of the alienation of the Hindus from the Aligrah College is the fact that those responsible for the management of that institution, headed by Mr. Beck, did all they could to offend the susceptibilities f Hindus.

VARIETIES.

ADDITION TO THE ZOO.

A CLOUDED leopard has just been acquired by the Zoological Society. It is a creature of which only two or three examples have ever been exhibited in the Gardens, and those some years since. It is at present placed in the small mammals house, where the sight of various edible mammalia must be rather tantalising.

ELEPHANTS RAID A CAMP.

A GENTLEMAN, who has been out for the past three weeks shooting in the Pegu Yomas, in Burma, had a curious experience one night when he left his camp in charge of four men, to sit up and watch for a tiger. On his return he found the camp deserted, his iron cot thrown down, and his cooking utensils and provisions upset. The men, who had taken refuge in trees when they came down said a herd of wild elephants had passed through the camp, although large fires had been kept up, and they thought it safer to take refuge in the adjoining trees.

RARA AVIS.

A HAMPSTEAD correspondent writes:—"A strange bird which I have recognised as a cockatoo, is causing quite a sensation in this neighbourhood. Most of its time it spends among the rooks in their colony at Golder's-hill, to which birds it appears to have formed an attachment, the latter not even resenting the intrusion of the new-comer. I imagine it is an escaped bird, probably from the 'Zoo,' as it is often seen flying at a good speed over the Health in the direction of Regent's-park. Probably its chief attraction at Golder's-hill is to feed upon the fallen acorns and beechmast, which in some places there still cover the ground from last autumn fall."

PIGEON-POST IN EAST AFRICA.

AN interesting trial with carrier pigeons will be made by the German authorities in their EastAfricanProtectorate. As roads are bad, and postal communication very imperfectly developed, it has been decided to use pigeons to carry certain kinds of Government messages. Several crates full of pigeons have already been shipped to German East Africa. In the Congo State the employment of carrier pigeons has been a great success. A pigeon in twenty-four hours can cover a distance, for which the ordinary negro runner requires from three to four weeks.

HUMAN LIFE STILL RE REDUCED BY FIVE YEARS.

ACCORDING to the latest researches of one of the great authorities on the subject, Dr. Ainslie Hollis, the age to which man can expect to live under normal conditions must be reduced from the eighty years, which have been regarded until recently as scientifically probable, to seventy-five.

One of the interesting things about this figure is that it conforms to a mathematical rule, which connects the period in which many of the mammals arrive at maturity with that which they live. The elephant, the English hunter, the Arab horse, the domestic cat, and even the dormouse comply (among several others) with this rule; and, consequently, the scientific investigators are now drawing up "curves of life" which show accurately how long one ought to survive.

Roughly speaking, the period of living works out to four times that of the period of maturing.

MR. BROUGH'S BLOODHOUNDS WIN THE STAKE.

THE tracking-by-bloodhounds match, which had been anticipated with much interest by the sporting community, duly came off in Buckinghamshire with fairly satisfactory results, although the scent was very bad throughout the day.

The match was between a brace of hounds, Helga and Hubert II., nominated by Colonel Joynson, of Tachbrook, Mallory, Leamington, and the pair, Clytho and Kikshaw, nominated by Mr. E. Brough, Searborough.

Mr. Harding Cox, the judge, and Mr. Edgar Farman, who, with Mr. Fitt of Buckingham, had made all the arrangements, started early, there being a ride of nearly five miles to Blacklands, Hoggeston, where on a farm tenanted by Mr. W. G. Amos, it had been arranged for the runner to be started at nine o'clock. A local farmer, Mr. Bayliss, was sent out as a quarry, the course being grassland on the estates of Lord Cottesloe, Earl Rosebery, and Lord Carrington, being as perfect a line as could be found in the South Midlands.

At 11-15 A.M. Helga and Hubert II. were placed on the line. It was soon apparent that the scent was very sparse, though it seemed to be rather better on Swanbourne-common. On coming across a lot of young cattle, however, the hounds were again put off the line, and after they had reached the Globelands to the left of Hoggeston Colonel Joynson reluctantly had to withdraw his hounds when about a mile of the country had still to be covered, time getting short and trial having still to be made with Mr. Brough's hounds.

After luncheon a trial was run over a somewhat similar course at Maynes Hill, the start and finish being on the Hurdles Grove Farm. At three o'clock the Yorkshire brace of hounds were put on the track and the scent was apparently very good. Crossing into an open meadow a good view was obtained of their working, and it was a pretty sight to see them in full cry across the open country. On going over the crest of the hill they were out of sight for a considerable time, but on their coming into view again they were seen to be hunting finely. A second time they were lost to view, and as they were absent for an hour it was feared there was to be a repetition of the morning's performance. They were, however, kept to their task, and on reappearing seemed to be very keen on the scent Kikhsaw especially showing fine form. Towards the end the pace was much better.

They were absent an hour and-a-half, and were of course awarded the stake.

Owing to an unfortunate error as to the train service made by those who issued the invitations, a large number of visitors from London were not in time to witness the test in the morning, at which only a few persons were present.

SOME important corrections and additionr have been made with regard to the rules fos press correspondents accompanying an Indian army, in the field. Sir George White was averse to any but military correspondents, and only in special instances were Indian newspapers allowed to nominate civilian representatives. Sir William Lockhart is apperently of the very opposite opinion following in this respect in the footsteps of the Sirdar. It has now been ruled that no officer belonging to the army in the field will on any account be permitted to act as a newspaper corresponden', nor shall a correspondent be employed in any military capacity with the force. In special cases officers not belonging to the field army may be nominated, but as a general rule only civilians will be appointed. Special rules have also been framed with regard to the censorship of press messages which may be either altered or detained if it is thought necessary. Further: "The General Commanding-in-Chief in the field has power to revoke, at any time, any license granted under the authority of the Commander-in-Chief, should he consider it advisable in the interests of the Army to do so. Correspondents are to be warned that any messages despatched, either from the field telegraph office, or elsewhere, without the countersignature of the Staff officer, will involve immediate withdrawal of their license."

HOW HE TRAINED RATS, MICE, AND FLIES.

NEWS had reached London of the death of George Bidwell, the elder brother of Austin Bidwell, who died a few weeks ago. George was the brains of this famous band of criminals, who so nearly succeeded in robbing the Bank of England of a round million. Day after day, says George, long, dreary sleepless nights dragged along monotonously, and slowly into weeks, months, and years, with little to occupy the mind, save to stare at the blank, cold walls, and let the thoughts wander aimlessly, or surge tumultuously, as some picture of the happy past flashed across the mental vision and plunged the writhing soal into an agony of remorse. Books were served out but once a week and most of these were of an indifferent character, or unsuited to my taste. One of my few pleasures was derived from those prisoners' friends, the rats and mice. I have no doubt but that for what is left of my mind I am indebted to those animals, which I easily tamed, and taught to be my companions. Not long after my arrival al Dartmoor a prisoner gave me a young rat, which became the solace of an otherwise miserable existence. Nothing could be cleaner in its habits, or more affectionate in disposition. It passed all its leisure time in preening its fur and after eating always most scrupulously cleaned its hands and face. It was easily taught, and in course of time it could perform many surprising feats I made a small trapeze, the bar being a slatepencil about four inches long, which was wound with yarn, and hung from strings of the same; and on this the rat would perform like an acrobat, appearing to enjoy the exercise as much as the performance always delighted me. A rat's natural position when eating a piece of bread is to sit on its haunches, but I had trained this rat to stand upright on his feet, with his head up like a soldier. Placing him in front of me on the bed, I would hand him a piece of bread, which he would hold up to his mouth with his hands while standing erect. Keeping one sharp eye on me and the other on his food, the moment he noticed that I was not looking at him he would gradually settle down upon his haunches. When my eyes turned on him he would instantly straighten himself up like a schoolboy caught in some mischief. He always showed great jealousy of my tame mice, and I had to be very careful not to let him get a chance to go for one. On one occasion I was training one of my mice and did not notice that the rat was near. Suddenly like a flash, he leaped nearly two feet, seizing the mouse by the neck, precisely as a tiger does its prey. Although I instantly snatched him away, it was too late, the one fierce bite having severed the jugular. I also made a good many experiments to test my rat's reasoning powers. I put up a small frame consisting of two uprights, across which I stretched three bits of string, slanting from the top of the left upright towards the bottom of the right one. Placing the rat on the highest string, he went like a sailor to the point of the left upright, duly turned and descended the second string and stopped, as he found that it did not touch the ground. After thinking for a minute he returned to the top of the upright again, thought again, and then took the third string, which descended to terra firma. Mice were most interesting pets easily trained, and as scrupulously clean and neat as any creature of a higher race could be. I at times had half a dozen of them, which I had caught in the following simple way. I first stuck a small piece of bread on the inside of my pint in cup, about half-way down; then, turning it bottom up to the floor, I raised one edge just high enough so that a mouse could enter, and let the edge of the cup rest on a splinter. It would not be very long before one would enter, and, as it could not reach the bread otherwise, it stood up, putting its hands against the sides of the cup, thus overbalancing it, causing the cup to drop, and the simple mousic would fined itself a prisoner. I had one mouse which to his other accomplishments added the following: He would lie in the palm of my open hand, with his four legs up in the air pretending to be dead, only the little creature kept his bright eyes wide open fixed on my face. As soon as I said, "Come to life!" he would spring up, rush along my arm, and disappear into my bosom like a flash. Some years later at Woking prison, I had a mouse trained in the same way and was in dread lest the warder should see and destroy it. Therefore, in hope of getting a guarantee for its safety, one day when the medical officer came into my cell with his retinue, I put my mouse through the "dead dog" performance.

The little fellow lay exposed in my hand with one of his twinkling eyes fixed on me and the other on these strangers. Such was his confidence in me that he went through the performance perfectly, and when I gave the signal in an instant he was in my protecting bosom. The doctors laughed, so I felt certain that they would order the warder to let me keep my harmless pet, the sole companion of my solitude and misery, unmolested. They went outside the cell and lingered; on a moment the warder came in, and, after a struggle, got the mouse out of my bosom, and put his heel upon it. I am not ashamed to confess that I cried over the loss of this poor little victim of over-confidence in human beings. At the same prison I once procured a beetle with red stripes across his wing sheaths, and trained him to show some degree of intelligence. This was for months the sole companion of my solitude, but it was at last discovered in my possession, and taken away. At another time Bidwell made friends with the flies, and found that they displayed no small degree of intelligence. He soon had a dozen tamed, and in the course of long observation discovered that the males were very tyrannical over the females, and tried to prevent them getting any food. In the summer mornings, at daylight, he says, they would gather on the wall next my bed, and wait patiently till I washed, and finished breakfast. Then I placed a little chewed bread on the back of my hand, when instantly there was a rush, and the first one who got possession, if a male, tried to prevent the rest from alighting, and would dart at the nearest chasting it in-zig-zags far away. There seems to be a preponderating opinion, says George, that the lives of prisoners must be made as wretched as possible while in prison. From the first hour that any man spends in prison, to the last, if he is subjected to degradating punishments, he becomes more obdurate and further removed from the possibility of reformation. What the prisoners feels is his loss of liberty. When once the ponderous gates close behind him and he feels himself cut off from participation in all that is going on in the world, the iron enters hil soul, and rusts its way deeper and deeper. Nows if this man is to be acted on for good, it must be by doing him good. Give him every privilege that is consistent with his safe keeping, and take them away temporarily if he need be punished. When educated men of a high moral standard are appointed as warders, such deprivations will be found amply sufficient to keep up discipline. Among those privileges small animals should be allowed the prisoners, to be kept in cages while the men are absent from their cells, at work or otherwise. At the expiration of the prisoner's term of servitude he should be permitted to take his cage of pets with him, to keep as a reminder that the wages of wrong doing is suffering in some form. The domestic influence of such pets would be likely to prove a restraint, and do much to prevent their owner's relapse into crime.

THE South Behar Railway which will communicate with all the loop trains, we hear, will be opened from the 1st of May. The Chief Engineer will most probably make his last inspection of the line in this month.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, APRIL 27, 1899.

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

MR. KIPLING'S poem, "White Man's Burden," has given rise to a mass of criticism on it. Thinking that we Indians are interested in the question, many of these criticisms have been sent to us from America. We are however interested in this matter indirectly, not directly as the Phillipos are. For the White man, taking the burden of the coloured races, was already an acomplished fact in India, when Mr. Kipling wrote his poem. The Phillipos, who are aspiring after a national rule, may have cause of resentment against Mr. Kipling. The Indians, on the other hand, have nothing to complain against Mr. Kipling's counsels given to White men. But we think that, as they point out to the masters of India their duty towards the dependent peoples of this country, these counsels may be of some use.

In short what Mr. Kipling says is that the White man is stronger and is bound to carry the burdens of his weaker brethren, from pure feelings of brotherhood. Lord Curzon, who is an admirer of Mr. Kipling, will, we hope, bear this advice of the poet in mind and act up according to it, as far as that is possible, and fulfil our fondest hopes.

Taking Mr. Kipling's poem for a text, Mr. Alfred Webb writes to the *Evening Post* to shew, by referring to the condition of India, how far it is true that the White man is only the burden-bearer of his weaker brethren:—

> Taking India as a test, no one moves a foot in her government that is not well paid and pensioned at her cost. No appointments are more eagerly contended for than those in the Indian service. A young man is made for life when he secures one. The tone of that service is by no means one "bound to exile," "to serve . . . captives' need," "to wait in heavy harness," or in any degree as expressed in Mr. Kipling's highfalutin lines.

Of course, the White man may say here that a labourer is worthy of his hire, and that, unless paid well no White man will agree to come out to this country. This is quite true; but Mr. Kipling makes no mention of pay; on the other hand, he insists that the White man is bound to carry the burden free, and to serve gratuitously.

In India, however, the natives of the soil have been practically ostracized, not only from the higher services, but from most of the subordinate services, not only in British India but also in many Native States and Zemindaries. Though the telling of the truth may not be agreeable to the rulers of India, but the fact is that, as regards appointment, the White man has proved rather a very selfish lot. Mr. Webb lays much stress upon this point and says:—

> So anxious are we, where good pay is concerned to save Indians the heavy burden of enjoying them that, while our sons can study and pass at home for Indian appointments, her sons must study and pass in England; and even in India itself whites are afforded chances closed to natives.

Mr. Webb then refers to another matter:

> Much of England's wealth is derived from the connection with India. She is one of the richest countries in the world (average income, £40 per head); India, one of the poorest (average income, thirty shillings). If there were any reality in a united, equally considered empire and of the white man bearing burdens, it would be shown in relation to her. But no—India is made to pay to the last farthing in all questions of common account. She was made to pay for the erection of that palatial India Office in Whitehall; she has had to pay for a State Ball given to the Sultan of Turkey in London; she is made to pay even for the training in England of British troops sent out to govern her—of course for their transit, maintenance and pay in India.

In the above, if the statements have been correctly made, it is proved that instead of the White man bearing the burden of the coloured people, it is the latter which have been forced to bear the burden of the former. Such an arrangement is obnoxious to the principles preached by Mr. Kipling. Mr. Webb continues:—

> It is impossible to gauge the eventual inevitably impoverishing effect upon India of the millions of pounds annually drawn upon her and, under the heads of salaries, pensions, home charges, and army and navy construction, spent in Great Britain.

It was to this that Mr. Dadabhai referred with emphasis. Can a nation, which has to pay annually some twenty millions to another nation, without receiving any return, grow?

INTERPELLATION IN COUNCILS.

THE meetings of the local Councils are getting less and beautifully less year after year. The only way, however, in which the representative members can make themselves useful, is by asking questions relating to important grievances of the country whenever there is a meeting of the Council. By adopting this course Madras members are doing some service to their Presidency. The other day we noticed that about fifty questions were put at a single meeting of the Council of Madras by the representative members, and some of the glaring plague-spots in the administration of the country were brought to light. In Bengal the Hon'ble Surendranath Banerjea previously never lost an opportunity of bringing the vagaries of the officials to the notice of the Government; but, though, in many districts, the local authorities have been behaving, under the present regime, in a manner which they had never ventured doing before, yet he or any other member has not thought fit to interpellate the Government about any of the dozens of reported cases of official oppression, *jubburdustism*, and high-handedness.

The representative members, then again, must learn how to prepare questions. They now devote their entire energies to the consideration of the measures before them. We do not deprecate their services in this respect; but, as laws are manufactured in England to be adopted by a mandate-obeying Council here, they can do very little good by their disinterested services in this direction. They can, however, do some immediate good by drawing attention of Government to scandals relating to men and measures. When a scandal has been thus exposed, it is bound to die, though not always by a single effort. But the way to bring the Government to a point, lies in the art of preparing questions. When a question has been asked, the Government usually follows the following policy in giving a reply: It first seeks to find whether it is possible to turn the table upon the questioner. If there is no such chance, it tries to find a loophole for escape. Let it be borne in mind that the Government takes a good deal of trouble in framing its answers. We cannot say as much of most of the questions put by the Indian representatives. It is because they have not yet taken the trouble to learn the art, which they can only do by studying the questions put in Parliament.

If the Government takes a good deal of trouble in giving its replies, the members should devote a yet greater amount of care to the framing of questions. A simple-minded and good-natured member may ask the question,—whether it is a fact that a Mussalman in Barisal, who had a gun in his possession but no ammunition, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. His object evidently is to bring to the notice of the Government that the Arms Act is sometimes administered with very great cruelty; or that the Magistrate, who inflicted such a heavy punishment for such a trivial offence, is not quite fit to administer criminal justice. But the Government may ignore all these aspects of the question and stop the member by a simple "Yes." We have seen a question like the following asked very often, namely, "Will the Government enquire whether etc. etc." When such a question is asked, Government disposes of it either by replying that the Government has no such intention, or that there is no need of further enquiry, as the Government is already aware of the circumstance. Here was a question put at the last meeting of the Local Council by the Hon'ble Norendra Nath Sen on drinking water in the Moffasil:—

> The Hon'ble Norendro Nath Sen asked:—Having regard to the fact that the supply of drinking water in the towns and villages of the Mofussil being both inadequate and impure, specially in the hot season, has been the cause of a cronic state of ill-health, and of periodical outbreaks of cholera, will the Government be pleased to state what step it has taken or contemplates taking to improve this water-supply?

First, the question does not give an idea of the actual state of affairs, for the supply of drinking water in the Moffasil is not mere "inadequate and impure", but, the real truth is that the inhabitants of thousands of villages have to fetch water for drinking purposes from a distance of several miles, and what they bring, generally speaking, is very foul and dirty, nay, almost poison. Secondly the public are not at all anxious to know what steps the Government have taken in this direction, for that is already known, but they are anxious to impress upon the Government that the steps taken are totally insufficient, and that unless the Government spend more money, and that immediately, millions of people in the Moffasil will suffer terribly from something like a water famine. The Government had thus a very easy task of disposing of the question of the Hon'ble Member. Indeed, it waxed eloquent over the measures it has taken, with which everyone in the Moffasil is however familiar; but it did not feel bound to say a word about which the people are so eager to learn, namely, what the authorities are going to do in order to supply them with wholesome drinking water.

The Hon'ble Raja Bahadoor of Nashipore had also a question on the same subject, which was however more cleverly framed; for, it referred to an article of a certain newspaper, which not only described the real situation in all its horrors, but showed the way how the great water difficulty could be removed. The Goverement found it inconvenient to reply to his question, and thus apparently ignoring him, answered the Hon'ble Norendra Nath Sen. Whenever a question is asked, the Government almost always is sure to score a point. Sometimes again, the members are made to look exceedingly foolish. It is quite true that, in the majority of cases, Government wins, because of its *jubburdastism*; but there is no doubt also that, in many cases, the questions are asked or framed carelessly.

IF masses have their grievances, the higher classes have theirs too. The latter are infinite times worse off than the former. Indeed, the higher classes are actually disappearing. We wish they had disappeared long ago and saved us the trouble of pondering over their wretched condition. Let us examine what we see in regard to them.

The higher classes have gone down one inch in stature: they are now of stunted growth, the feeblest folks in the world. But forty years ago their condition was far different.

We see in Bengal young lads and children with liver and spleen; young men with consumption and shortness of sight, elderly men with diabetes; and everyone,—man and woman, old and young,—suffering from dyspepsia. Forty years ago malarial fever and complaints about bad liver were unknown. Forty years ago a good feast was courted, now it is avoided. The system of University examination has been made more difficult, more uncertain, more exacting, and more purposeless than before. A young student now-a-days has to kill himself to secure a pass, while his success does not benefit him much. The result is the prevalence of consumption, dyspepsia and diabetes; and the spectacle of hungry plucked candidates prowling in the country in packs and shoals. These plucked candidates owe their ill-success not so much to their own remissness as to the pernicious system of education.

We see castes disappearing from social disabilities. The Brahmins have suffered the most in this respect. We have seen, in our younger days, large number of Brahmins remaining unmarried for certain social restrictions which caused the dearth of girls. Where are they now? They are all gone, leaving uninhabited and empty homesteads!

The lower classes have their serious grievances too. As a matter of fact, the Hindus are decaying and the Mussalmans flourishing at the cost of the former. The causes for this state of affairs are not difficult to find; but we shall confine ourselves to one. The Mussalmans of Bengal took to agriculture and the Hindus mostly to trade etc. The Hindus are weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters, and petty shop-keepers, while the Mussalmans are agriculturalists. The importation of foreign articles ruined the Hindus, but increased demand for agricultural products, and thus bettered the condition of the Mussalmans.

WE reproduced in our last issue an excellent article over the signature of "Ich Dien" from *Capital* on the Permanent Settlement. According to the writer, the Bengal Zemindars of the present day are faring far worse than they did under the most exacting of Mussalman kings. The highest assessment of land ever made, we are told, was by Cossim Ali, which came up to over two crores. But at the time of realization it dwindled into something like one crore and eighty lakhs. According to Sir John Shore, Cossim Ali's assessment, that is, two crores, was "mere pillage and rack-rent." In 1765 the Company assessed the revenue at Rs. 1,60,29,011, of which Rs. 1,47,04,875, or 13 lakhs less, were actually collected. In the year 1793 Lord Cornwallis, in proclaiming the rates of land revenue to be fixed for ever, increased it to Rs. 2,85,87 722, that is to say, when Lord Cornwallis permanently settled the lands with the Zemindars, he assessed them at an amount which, or rather less than which, was "mere pillage and rack-rent." The disadvantages were thus wholly with the Zemindars and many ancient houses disappeared because they failed to meet the exhorbitant demands of the Cornwallis settlement. Their Zemindaries were sold and others purchased them from Government at a higher rate. And in the Jubilee year of the Queen-Empress, the revenue permanently fixed by Lord Cornwallis was raised to *nearly four crores of rupees*! If two crores were "mere pillage and rack-rent," according to Sir John Shore, we do not know how he would have characterised this increase to the double of that amount. But "Ich Dien" has not told all. In violation of the terms of the Permanent Settlement, the Zemindars have now to pay two cesses on land—the Road Cess and the Public Works Cess—which amount to over a crore. So, when the Zemindars were made to pay two crores by Cossim Ali, the assessment was considered "pillage and rack-rent." They, however, now pay over five crores, but there are people who think that they are so lightly taxed!

WE are exceedingly obliged to the *Times* for the noble sentiments in the following Reuter's message:—

> A special article in to-day's *Times*, referring to the impending debate in the House of Commons on the sugar duty question, says that Lord Curzon, by taking up the quest on, fulfils the highest functions of a Viceroy in interpreting to the Home Government the wishes of Indians.

Yes, that is the highest function of the Indian Viceroy. Of course an Indian Viceroy cannot, of his own accord, do us any good, and we do not expect that of him. But he can honestly and faithfully represent the wishes of the people in his charge. We hope Lord Curzon will not forget this "highest function," pointed out to him by the *Times*. We were very much disgusted to see the vulgar manner in which Lord Curzon was attacked by Mr. Maclean. Because Lord Curzon treated the Indians with some very able and sympathetic speeches, Mr. Maclean would make it that His Excellency is a mere talker! But his subordinates know, that if he knows how to make a beautiful speech, he also knows how to work. Though Viceroys keep themselves hidden from the public gaze, the worth of everyone of them is not kept a sealed book to the public. There is no doubt of it that Lord Curzon is a hard-working man and more. He will go into details, nay, to the very bottom of a question, arrange his facts and draw conclusions from them. Anyone can understand what that means. We dare say, in his researches, His Excellency will find many absurdities and wrongs which have been allowed to remain because there was none to discover them.

IF Kipling wrote his "White Man's Burden," Mackay wrote his "Good time coming". He prophesises in this fashion: "Boys! a good time is coming, wait a little longer." But let us quote:—

> There's a good time coming, boys,
> A good time coming:
> The pen shall supersede the sword,
> And Right, not Might, shall be the lord
> In the good time coming.
> Worth, not Birth, shall rule mankind,
> And be acknowledged stronger;
> The proper impulse has been given;—
> Wait a little longer.

In short what Mackay says is this: "Boys, only wait a little longer. A good time is coming, when right, and not might, shall rule mankind, and when men shall be judged by their worth and not by their birth. In short, when men shall be guided by reason, and not by passion." But when is the good time coming? When will that "good time" come with the cry of—"I come, I come, ye have called me long?"

Be it remembered that the salvation of this vast Indian race,—and no doubt a deserving race—very much depends upon the arrival of that "good time," prophesied by Mackay. Yes, vast myriads of men are calling, from a long time, for this good time to come. Mackay in his next stanza says:—

> War in all men's eyes shall be
> A monster of iniquity
> In the good time coming;
> Nations shall not quarrel then,
> To prove which is the stronger,
> Nor slaughter men for glory's sake;—
> Wait a little longer.

Yes, "war" has been found out, even by its most ardent devotee, the Czar of Russia. And what is war? Swift described it in a paragraph in his "Travels." When a man kills another he is caught and killed for the offence. But war means the massacre of thousands. It means the destruction of women, children and the sick. It means the death of innocent men and patriots fighting for their hearth and home. It means the agonies of thousands of wounded persons, suffering what miseries Heaven knows, in the field of battle. It means also this: Let us describe an evil day occurrence. A Lieutenant, just married, leaves home, wife and a child, to fight in Africa. There he performs prodigies of valour which thrill the world, and dies at his post of honour. He is carried with military honour to the burial ground and the world praises him in the newspapers.

But the Lieutenant has to pay penalties also. He has to account to his Maker for having shed the blood of his brethren. His excuse that he fought for the glory of his country would be scarcely accepted in Heaven. Military glory and similar other considerations are, we fear, not considered worth much in the other world.

Before God he has to account for his deeds. In this world he leaves a widow and an orphan, unfortunate beings, without a protector.

But here is the last stanza:—

> There's a good time coming, boys,
> A good time coming:
> Let us aid it all we can,
> Every woman, every man,
> The good time coming.
> Smallest helps, if rightly given,
> Make the impulse stronger;
> 'Twill be strong enough one day;—
> Wait a little longer.

Knowing full well that there is a God and all men are His children whom He loves very well and with an equal eye, we have not the least doubt that Mackay's prophesy shall be fulfilled in good time. And the first intimation of it is to be found in the state of mind of the greatest sinner in this respect on this earth, *viz.*, the Czar of all the Russias. Well, the good time is sure to come, and when it comes, then shall the conquerors and builders of empires find that it was but a delusion that had led them to their so-called deed of heroism. In this world of God we can full well understand the motives of the man who, being strong, help the weak; who being in health, tends the sick; and who, being in power, defends right against wrong. But we can never understand those who, like dogs, worry their weaker brethren, simply because they can safely do it. Yes, the good time is coming, and let us all offer our aid and hasten its arrival. Let religious men preach and pray; let orators and newspapers exhort and appeal; and let men in power act and work. And when the good time comes, it is then that man shall be entitled to call himself the child of God.

THE *Englishman* says that there is no foundation whatever for the rumoured appointment of Mr. Bourdillon as Manager of the Durbhanga Raj, and that the Maharajah himself intends to direct the supervission of his estate. Our contemporary further states that a recent order of the Government of India precludes Government officials from accepting appointments in British India, under zemindars or other private persons, and that the nomination of Mr. A. M. Markham to the Managership of the Hutwa Raj was made just before the order in question came into operation, and it is the last of its kind. To do justice to the correspondent, upon whose authority we published the information, we must quote his exact words on the subject:—

> The new Maharajah, it is said, has now thought it fit to take a European (retired Civilian) as Manager to help him in the management of the Raj, and that His Highness' choice, it is rumoured, will fall on a big Civilian of Behar. In short, we are told, that Mr. J. A. Bourdillon, C. S. I., Commissioner of the Patna Division, intends shortly to retire on pension from the Government service, and then take up the management of the Durbhanga Raj on a high salary and allowance.

We think, the order, referred to by our contemporary, does not prevent a retired Civilian from serving under a zemindar.

MR. MACLEAN'S vehement opposition to the Sugar Bill is unaccountable. We learn that he forsook his party and sat amongst the Radicals! As regards this sugar measure, elsewhere will be found an extract from the *New York Herald*, which shews what a wrong are these bounties doing to the sugar producing countries under Great Britain. Well, that extract shows that the inhabitants of St. Christopher-Nevis has applied to the British Government to transfer the colony to America. And why? It was because, England, they say, was not giving due protection to the inhabitants who are sugar producers from the encroachment of bounty-fed sugar.

REGARDING social reform the Lucknow *Advocate* says:—

> But the great cry is that of inter-marriages among sub-sections of the same caste. Such inter-marriages are few and far between, but the fact that they are not openly opposed and that the community does not look with a feeling of distrust on the wedding of different sub-sections, are hopeful signs.

Yes, that is the starting point. Go on hammering, the matter is getting day by day more serious.

IN the course of his budget speech the Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee drew the attention of Government to one of our articles on the Road and Public Works Cesses and wanted to know whether it was really true that, Government having promised to pay one-third of the joint collection charges, did not act up to its own arrangement. The Hon'ble Mr. Baker attempted to give a reply, which only showed that the position we had taken was unassailable. The case stands thus. In his reply to the question of Mr. A. M. Bose, a few years ago Mr. Risley quoted a letter of the Board of Revenue which laid down the principle that, "the joint establishment for collecting purposes should be borne two-thirds by the Road Cess Committee and one-third by Provincial Revenues: this arrangement to take effect from the beginning of the Road Cess year, 1878-7."

The plain meaning of the above is that Government, which is the custodian of the Public Works Cess, arranged in 1878-79 that it would bear one-third, and the Road Cess Committee or the District Board, which holds in trust the money of the Road Cess-payers, two-thirds of the joint collection charges.

Mr. Risley next said that "the charges for collecting the two cesses were in 1879-80 Rs. 1,61,941 and are now (that is, in 1894-95) Rs. 2,87,186."

Now, one-third of Rs. 1,61,941 is Rs. 53,680 and one-third of Rs. 2,87,186 is Rs. 95,729. So, according to the principle laid down in the Board's letter, Government should have paid Rs. 53,680 in 1879-80 and Rs. 95,729 in 1894-95. Did the Government act up to the above arrangement, that is to say, did it pay Rs. 53,680 in 1879-80, and Rs. 95,729 in 1894-95?

We said that Government did not, and the Hon'ble Surendra Nath enquired whether this was true or not.

In reply the Hon'ble Mr. Baker said that though Government accepted the principle that one-third of the total cost of the joint establishments should be borne by the Provincial Revenues, yet, it laid down another principle, namely "instead of dividing the cost of the establishment every year and paying a certain proportion to the Road Cess Funds, the Lieutenant-Governor would prefer to allot a fixed sum yearly from Provincial Revenues for each district and thus obviate the necessity for calculating afresh every year the amount payable by Government." The fixed sum allotted by Government in January 1879 was one-third of Rs. 1,40,534, which was the total direct cost of collection in 1877-78, the latest year for which figures were available, and this one-third of Rs. 1,40,534, that is to say, Rs. 46,800, Government have been paying ever since.

The above then is the position of the Government. But, has the reader any idea of the beautiful character of the arrangement? First, the amount of the two cesses collected annually being the same, Government and the District Boards should have shared the collection charges half and half. But, being the supreme master of the situation, Government agreed to pay only one-third, and fastened two-thirds upon the people. Having performed this generous feat, it next expressly decided not to divide the actual charges every year, but to fix the allotment once for all! But why did it decide not to divide the charges every year? Of course, division is the most difficult base upon which the science of mathematics is founded, specially when it is to be made by that terrible number, three! But need the reader be told why "the necessity for calculating afresh every year the amount payable by Government" was obviated "and a fixed sum allotted?" Well, it was to secure every year to the tune of something like half a lakh of Rupees at the cost of the poor Road Cess-payers!

In short, Government laid down two contradictory principles in the same circular. The first principle was that one-third of the collection charges should be borne by the Provincial Revenues. The second principle was that the actual charges must not be divided every year, but should be *permanently* fixed, knowing full well that

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the collection charges would go on growing year after year and increase the burden of the District Boards!

Thus the joint collection charges amounted to Rs. 1,40,534 in 1877-78 and one-third of the amount, Rs. 46,800, was paid by Government as its share in that year. This was all right. But the charges rose to Rs. 2,87,180 in 1894-95, one-third of which is Rs. 95,729. But Government paid the same sum of Rs. 46,800 which it had paid sixteen years before when the collection charges were only Rs. 1,40,534 and not Rs. 95,729. That is to say, by fixing the allotments once for all, Government pocketted Rs. 50,000 at the cost of the Road Cess-payers in a single year. The reader will now understand why the Government of Sir Ashley Eden, which laid down the above principles, was overtaken by a fit of tertian ague at the idea of dividing the charges every year.

As regards the fairness of the arrangement of throwing two-thirds of the collection charges, instead of half, upon the District Boards, we shall take up the subject in a future issue.

IF Emilio Aguinaldo, the leader of the Philipine patriots, is "half child and half devil," he is also half European and half Malay. That the Filipinos will benefit more by the rule of America than that of Aguinaldo there is no question, for it is almost sure that they will enjoy that amount of political freedom under the free States of America, which is necessary for the development of a country like theirs. It is not likely that America will reduce those islands to the condition of a "property." There are many good reasons against that supposition, and one of them is that the Americans are too many, and the Philippines, if reduced to the condition of property, would be too worthless to be of any use to such great numbers. The one great objection to alien rule is that it generally emasculates the people. But Ireland has not been emasculated under British rule; and some of the greatest Generals of England have come from that subject country. In India, the measure of disarmament has fearfully told upon the martial spirit of the people. Scott in his Tales of a Grandfather says:—

After the departure of the Romans the Britons were quite unable to protect the wall against the barbarians, for since their conquest by the Romans they had become a weak and a cowardly people.

So, you see, even the people of England were at one time reduced to such a condition that they felt quite unable to defend themselves against the attacks of small parties of barbarians. It is, therefore, not generous to twit the Indians with cowardice. The measure of disarmament has the effect of emasculating a people, and it is to this aspect of the measure that we take exception. What we contend is that, the people of India should not only be able to retain their natural manliness under British rule, but be encouraged to do so. It is the duty of of the British people to make the Indians as manly as they themselves are. The time is, however, sure to come when the English people will be able to realize the cruel wrong that has been done to the people of this country by this wholesale disarmament.

THE American General has already issued a proclamation to the effect that the Filipinos would be allowed almost a full measure of self-government. We are sure that this promise will be kept when the war is over; and there is little doubt of it that it will be over soon. When the Americans have given a constitution to the Filipinos, it will be time for the British Government to see whether the one that they have given to the Indians, is less or more generous than, or equally generous with, the one presented by the Americans to the Filipinos. If the Americans give the Filipinos a better constitution than that which obtains here, the British Government will have to shew the same favour at least to the people of this country. We think, however, that the Indians are more deserving of political privilege than are the Filipinos; for he latter are half children and half-devils and almost in a state of barbarism. Besides, India is already two hundred years under British rule. Of course, the tendency of many of the measures here is towards more and more repression; but the conscience of England will not permit this state of affairs to coninue for ever.

THE stern attitude of the Government, atterly assumed, that is to say, assumed in the days of Lords Lansdowne and Elgin or ther of Sir Henry Fowler and Lord amilton, led not only to the enactment of e press laws, but eventually to the virtual xtinction of all political agitation. It paralyzed those people of our country, who, in days gone by, used to take interest in the public affairs of the country. It has now come to be felt that those, who take part in public affairs, are not thanked by Government for their services as used to be done before. But only two decades ago, Government used to show great desire to elicit public opinion, and nourish those who took part in public movements. Maharajas Jotindra Mohan and Narendra Krishna were honoured because they, in those days, boldly criticised public men and measures. In these days, however, those who follow in their wake are called "political agitators." But now, if you ask a man of leading position to join in a protest against an obnoxious measure of Government, it is likely that he will decline to do so, He will not, of course, confess that he is afraid of going against Government, but he will bring forward many pleas, all absurd ones, to excuse himself. Such a man will tell you that political agitation is a mistake. and the best thing for the people of India to do is to keep quiet. But, as a matter of fact, they are afraid; they believe if they oppose Government measures they will offend the authorities. When the Congress was organized every one joined it, high and low. But the influential members were somehow or other led to withdraw their connection from the body. Politica agitation, therefore, now stands in a deplorable condition. Men of position, wealth and property will not now join any public movement. The Indian officials, Hindus and Mussalmans, will not certainly come forward to help; and, therefore, political agitation has almost been killed for want of support.

The Indian officials and the nobility, if they cannot join political movements, can yet utilize their energies and resources for other reforms to which Government has no objection and of which the country is sadly in need. The fact is, India is dead; it has no longer any patriotism if it ever had any.

But why has India no patriotism? How can an Indian see the wretched state of his country and remain quiet? If men of property and Indian officials cannot join in political movements, they can be of service to their country in many other ways. We appeal to them to do their duty to their fallen country. Social reforms must go hand in hand with political reforms say they, and if a Raja Bahadur cannot pay for the Congress, he ought to pay, say, for social reforms. There is plenty of work which an Indian can yet do without offending the authorities, and of good work too.

MR. JUSTICE SUBRAMANIA IYER, who is presiding at the Madras Sessions for the firs time since his elevation to the Bench, does not err on the side of lenlency in deal ng with old offenders, having sentenced a man who has been convicted of theft in a building of some clothes and an umbreila, to transportation for life. The prisoner had for a previous conviction been sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment. This is characterised by the *Morning Post* as a "monstrous sentence."

THIS is what our Benares correspondent writes under date, April 22nd:—The Baqr-Id day at Benares passed without any disturbance. It was, however, not so for want of the elements of disturbance, but to the tolerant spirit of the parties. The authorities have sanctioned slaughter in a village called Bajardiha against the order of Mr. La Touche (quoted by you the other day) and it is now an old story. Bu this year, another body of men, the Mussalmans of Sudder Bazar in the Cantonment, wanted to acquire this privilege. The Hindus, when they got scent of the matter, objected, pointing out, that no sacrifice was possible in the Bazar without violating the Cantonment regulations. The Mussalmans, however, took no heed, and the Hindus in despair approached the Cantonment Magistrate, Lieut. Col. Hewett. The gallant officer instead of showing any sympathy with them, is said to have remarked that he could not interfere in a matter of "*Din*." The Hindus realfsing their position, made up their mind and prepared themselves for the worst. At prayer time the Mussalmans broached the subject, and the Hindus showed resistance. Then somehow some of the Mahomedans said that they would give up their idea, if the Hindus would consent to remove certain images of Mahedev from under a tree in that quarter. The demand was, of course, preposterous; but a cunning Hindu, who apparently wanted to gain time, came forward and promised to get this done. This was done before the Cantonment Magistrate to whom both the parties had eventually gone for redress. The crowd dispersed, and the time for sacrifice was over. The Mahomedans said their prayers and went home. By evening, the Mussalmans again showed temper and wanted the instant removal of the images. But the Hindus said they were welcome to remove them if they could; they themselves could not do such a thing for the owners were against the proposal! The Mussalmans, thus discomfitted, naturally felt sulky. The images remain where they were. The police patrolled the streets. After I had written the above, I hear that the facts are not as stated already. *Qurbani* was actual y performed by the Mussalmans, with the assistance of some policemen, although not even a goat can be killed within the Cantonments according to orders. A Raja, some years ago, was fined for offering a goat to Chandika Devi. A declaration was obtained from the Hindus that they had no objection to the *Qurbani*, and a Hindu who showed some orjection, was fined eight annas by the Cantonment Magistrate.

BABU UPENDRA CHANDRA MULLICK, Subordinate Judge of Patna, is about to retire from service afterhaving faithfully served the Government for about 32 years. He began service as officiating Munsiff with full pay of a second grade Munsiff in July 1866. While yet a Munsiff of the second grade he was appointed to officiate as Sub-Judge of Hooghly in 1875. In 1877 he was appointed Small Cause Court Judge of Jessore. He was promoted to a Subordinate Judge of first grade in 1895. While the Serampore Munsiff Court fell into a state of confusion and disorder owing to the misconduct of some local pleaders and Muktears, the High Court of Calcutta recommended the Government to depute hm to restore order and peace. Again when Chauki Bichenpur fell into a similar state of confusion, the High Court specially deputed him there. When the Government of Bengal was contemplating to establish an independent Sub-Judge at Monghyr with a view to make it a second class district, the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir Rivers Thomson, by a special resolution, selected him as a fit and capable officer to try the experiment, which proved successful. Babu Upendra Chandra has indeed got a very good record, and his services might be considered brilliant. He got three consecutive extensions of service and is retiring on full pension after having served the Government loyally and faithfully for so many years. We hope the Government will recognise his services by conferring on him a suitable title of honour. Babu Upendra Chandra is now 58 years of age. We sincerely wish him yet many more years of life, health and happiness.

IT is well-known that a newspaper can be prosecuted for defamation at any place where publication is proved in British India. But whether a newspaper published in British India can be proceeded against in a Native State, is a question on which no authoritative ruling, as far as we are aware, exists. Such a case has cropped up at Quillon, in Travancore, where a clerk employed in the District Magistrate's Court has sued the *Malayali*, published in Malayalm in British territory, for defamation. It would be interesting to know how the Magistrate proceeds with the case.

WE learn it on the authority of the *Madras Standard* that in committing Gunner Love to the High Court Sessions, the Cantonment Magistrate did not record the evidence of the witnesses present in Court. Says our Contemporary:—"What is known as the Pallavaram shooting case, took a somewhat sudden turn yesterday. After a long private consultation, lasting a couple of hours, with some of the Military Officers in Court and Dr. Damla, the medical witness for the defence, the Cantonment Magistrate took his seat on the Bench at 2 P.M., and forthwith proceeded to put a few questions to the accused and committed him to take his trial at the High Court Sessions For reasons which are not apparent the evidence of the witnesses present in Court was not recorded."

WHEN Sir Antony MacDonnell visited Cawnpur in January last, Pandit Sidh Gopal, the then Vice-Chairman of the Cawnpur Municipal Board, had the boldness to complain to His Honour of the way in which Municipal Funds were wasted. Pandit Sidh Gopal's statement was then recorded and an enquiry ordered. And what was the result of the Pandit's gratuitous services to public cause? Well, he only brought troubles upon himself. The District Magistrate, after making some investigation, one day required the presence of the Pandit at Court. He was suffering from heart disease at the time, and had to submit a medical certificate upon which only he was excused, as if he was on trial. The Magistrate sent in his report in due time characterising the charges brought forward by Pandit Sidh Gopal as groundless. But the Divisional Commissioner and the local Government took another view of the question and ordered the appointment of a competent Committee of Enquiry to investigate the matter. The members on the Committee were nominated by the Magistrate, and Pandit Madan Gopal took objection to two of the members so appointed on the ground that one of them was the Government Treasurer and the other was implicated in the "muddle". But his objections were overruled. At first the Pandit was allowed legal help, but, after a certain stage, that was denied to him. The enquiry went on; in the meantime the Pandit's term of office in the Municipality expired, and, in a fresh election though returned as a Commissioner, he has been ousted from the Vice-Chairmanship. Here stands the case at present and we await with interest further developments.

REUTER had telegraphed a meagre account of the extraordinary scene that was enacted In the House of Commons on the 20th instant in the course of the debate on sugar duties. Here are more detailed particulars wired by the London correspondent of the *Pioneer*:—

"A theatrical incident in the Commons on Thursday night, when Mr. J. M. Maclean, after being ruled out of order by the Speaker, took his seat on the Radical benches, has excited the House unusually, and the pres comments on the subject are bitter and satirical. It was a conflict between the statistics of the Custom House and the Board of Trade concerning the Anglo-Indian sugar trade which betrayed the member for Cardiff into losing his temper, and his acerbity was further increased by Lord George Hamilton's ridicule and the Speaker's firmness. It has been fully ruled that arguing is inadmissible during questions; but Mr. Maclean protested. The Speaker, however, remained immoveable, and Mr. Maclean, now thoroughly roused, threatened extremes. The Ministerial back benches cheered ironically, and Mr. Maclean, furiously angry, crossed over below the gangway, the Opposition cheering frantically. From this position he made fresh attempts, but finding the Speaker obdurate, stamped out of the House threatening to move an adjournment, and never returned. In an inspired paragraph dealing with the incident, the *Daily Telegraph* disclaims on Mr. Maclean's part any intention of desertion, representing him merely as an assertor of the right of the private members to question their party leaders. The actual effect of the affair, however, has been to strengthen the advocates of countervailing duties, and to discredit their opponents."

A GHOST STORY.

THE following report is culled from the *Pallibasi* of Burdwan:—

In a two-storied house at Cutwa some students messed together. One evening, when there was only one of the boarders present—the other having gone out—all the doors and windows of the house were simultaniously opened and then closed. This process of opening and closing the doors and windows went on till the return of the other boarders. Then it stopped. At night when the students had retired to rest, they were roused by the noise of some one drawing water from the well in the courtyard of the house. They came out, but could see no one. Then they saw a transcendentally beautiful lady walking the courtyard. By this time they had become so much frightened that they cried out. Upon this some of the neighbours came and saw the lady. After a while, the apparition vanished, and from the kitchen room came the sound of some one eating. When examined none was to be found there. Of course, the students were obliged to leave the house. The *Pallibasi* vouches for the accuracy of the above, and asks any sceptic to proceed and investigate the matter for himself.

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THE Lt.-GOVERNOR'S DEPARTURE.—His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will leave for Darjeeiing on the 1st of May.

A TIGER CLUBBED TO DEATH.—At Mahabaeshwar, a tigar, driven by the stress of weather, took refuge in a *gowala's* shed, and was clubbed to death by the plucky milkman.

WHEAT TRAFFIC.—The wheat traffic into Calcutta during January and February last reached the enormous quantity of 89,240 cwt. For the same period of 1898 it was only 9,014 cwt.

SANKIRTAN AT BARABAZAR.—We have great pleasure to report that on Sunday last, Babu Doli Chand, the well-known Jute baler of Barabazar, supplied refreshments to all the Sankirtan parties assembled at Barabazar on that day, at great cost. He personally supervised the function and was courteous to all.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—Indian inventors will be glad to know that Exhibitors of the Paris Exhibition of 1900 need have no fear as to the copyright of the objects or goods which they propose sending. Special temporary laws, insuring the protection of industrial property were passed for each universal exhibition, but France has gone further. By a law of 1868, which is still in operation, it has been enacted that a certificate delivered by the administrative authorities of the place where a public and officially recognised exhibition is to take place, shall have during that exhibition and for three months after the same effect as a regular patent or registration of design. Moreover, in adhering to Article 11 of the Convention of March 3, 1883, for the international protection of industrial property, France undertook to insure exhibitors at her international showes against all risks. In view of the coming Exhibition of 1900, the French Parliament will soon be called upon to discuss a Government Bill giving exhibitors all guarantees and facilities, such as a temporary withdrawal of the law concerning the necessary "exploitation" of patents.

A SENSATIONAL CASE AT AGRA.—A sensational case is being heard by Mr. Tytler, Joint Magistrate. Lieutenant Jewett, 2nd Queen's Own, R. B. L. I, has instituted proceedings against Nawab Nizam-ud-din for assault and criminal intimidation. It is alleged by the prosecution that two pariah dogs constantly entered Lieutenant Jewett's house, and were a source of great annoyance. Lieutenant Jewett, not knowing to whom they belonged, shot and wounded one. The same evening he was informed by his Commandant, Colonel Harris, that a complaint had been made to the General by the defendant that Lieutenant Jewett had shot his dog. The following morning Lieutenant Jewett called on the defendant to express regret for what had occurred The defendant, who did not know Lieutenant Jewett, received him courteously, but on hearing what had brought him, and possibly thinking Lieutenant Jewett had been ordered by the General to apologise, the defendant became most abusive and insulting, and said to Lieutenant Jewett, "You shot the dog because you thought it belonged to a native, but I shall soon show you I am not an ordinary native. I have bofore this killed and buried an Englishman and will do the same to you." Lieutenant Jewett had come to express regret for shooting the dog which he did not know belonged to him, and not to be insulted. On this defendant ordered two servants to snatch away a cane which Lieutenant Jewett had in his hand! They tried to take it away, and during the scuffle the defendant went away and brought a mace and threatened to strike Lientenant Jewett with it. Lientenant Jewett then beckoned his servants, who were standing in his compound adjoining the defendant's house. Lieuteaant Jewett's orderly took away the cane from the defendant's men and Lieutenant Jewett and his servants withdrew. Nawab Nizam-ud-din filed a counter-complaint against Lieutenant Jewett for trespass and mischief. Mr. Percy Ball, Advocate, High Court, appears for Lieutenant Jewett. The case is proceeding.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.—Up to date only three cases have been committed for trial before the High Court Sessions which commences on 1st May next.

THE KHORDAH BURIAL GROUND.—Mr. F. F. Handley, the District Judge of Alipore, delivered judgment in a land acquisition casein which about two bighas of land were acquired by the South Barrackpore Municipality for the Mahomedan burial ground. The Land Acquisition Collector awarded Rs. 80 per bigha. The Judge raised the value to Rs. 120 per bigha and also awarded Rs. 500 as damages.

HIGH COURT.—There will be a slight alteration in the constitution of some of the Benches when the Criminal Sessions commences on the 1st May next. It has been settled that Mr. Justice Prinsep will preside over the Sessions, but it has not yet been settled who will sit with Mr. Justice Wilkins on the Criminal Appellate side. It is very likely that Mr. Justice Ghose will be selected for that business, as on the return of the Chief-Justice he will have no colleague, under the present arrangement, to form a seperate Bench.

A NEW DUTY.—A correspondent writes from Sharutiya in Jessore:—A very large and considerable gathering takes place on every Tuesday and Saturday on the occasion of the worship of a diety Raj-Rajeswar, who is said to have taken his seat on a large banian tree here. The tree stands on the banks of he river Gorai. The worship is performed with great eclat and with the highest uproar of Kirtan. No less than 3,000 people congregated on the last occasion. Incurable and most complicated cases of colic pain, asthma, hysteria, leprosy, acidity and other diseases have been seen to be cured miraculously within a week or fortnight. Nothing but unshaken faith is the only way to recovery. People from different quarters have been crowding day by day. The place is situated on the right bank of the river Gorai and is a few miles off the Kumarkhali Railway station (E. B. S. Ry).

THE NEXT MADRAS PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.—The following are the subjects which will come up for discussion at the next Madras Conference:—(1) The sympathetic utterances of His Excellency Lord Curzon; (2) Periodical Revision of settlements; (3) Demands of the Government of India upon Provincial Revenues; (4) Grievances of Merchants n transporting goods; (5) Irrigational Projects; (6) Industrial Education; (7) More funds for Education; (8) Minor Irrigation works; (9) A native member for the Board of Revenue; (10) Separation of Executive and Judicial Functions; (11) Constitution of the District and Taluk Boards; (12) Religious Endowments; (13) Police Administration; (14) Grievances of Railway Travellers; (15) Abkari Laws; (16) Rules for election to the Legislative Council; (17) Employment of Indians in the higher ranks of the Postal service; and (18) Cancellation of Revenue sales.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—A note drawn up under the auspcies of the Agricultural Department explains the state and scope of the Government of India's designs in reference to the representation of the country at the Paris Exhibition. The Government of India has found itself allotted, jointly with Ceylon, "an ornamental double-storied building" with a total space of 20,000 square feet. Besides the Imperial Court, where the exhibits of the Government and the Native States will be on view, there is to be a court for private exhibitor and a third for commercial samples. In addition to all this the Government seems half disposed to launch out into a tea shop. Its efforts, however, will be mainly bent on the preparation of the grand trophy of ornamental wood-work, which is to be the central feature of the Indian display. The preparation of this work of art is the special concern of the Forest Department and designs have been drawn under the direct superintendence of its Chief, Mr. Ribbentrop. Its faces and panels will contain samples of all the different styles of art-carving in India, combined in an impressive and harmonious whole.

BUDMASHES IN GARDEN-REACH.—We beg to draw the attention of the authorities to the following communication addressed to us by Babu S.C. Biswas, of 165 Paharpore Road, Garden-Reach. Yesterday at about 5 30 P.M., when I was passing by the Paharpore Road near the Garden-Reach, I was all on a sudden attacked by four *budmashes*. Some of them hanged me down by the neck when the others pushed me severely, snatched away some articles from my person and tore off my hat. I called out the constables for help, but couldn't find any one. This sort of things frequently take place here which is the midst of the busti. A toddy shop is located by this road. The Goondas drink on the side of the shop, *i. e*, on the road and from time to time they in this way insult the passers-by; but no constables can be seen on their rounds in this vicinity. The devotees of the Mosque, situated a little far off, also informed me at that time that they are always bothered by these *budmashes* at the time of their prayer. I pray, therefore, the authority will take such steps as to remedy the evil and issue necessary orders to remove this toddy shop from the midst of this locality, and for which not only myself but all the residents will be ever grateful.

A HILL SCHOOL SCANDAL.—An incident has recently occurred at a big school in a hill station, which has given rise to a good deal of indignation amongst the parents of the boys attending the school, and has been the subject of a reference in appeal to His Lordship the Metropolitan in India. The facts of the case are very simple. A certain boy failed to go up on the day upon which the term commenced: there were good reasons of a family nature why the boy should have been kept at home, and these reasons were communicated to the headmaster of the school in question by the boy's parents. The headmaster, however, did not choose to consider these reasons, and wrote back to the parents stating that their son must come up on the day on which the term commenced or stay away altogether. The boy, it must be stated, bore an excellent character, was high up in the school, a prominent representative in the school cricket and football teams and enjoy-

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ed the esteem and respect of his masters and school fellows. The reasons for which the boy's parents were desirous of keeping him down were of sufficient gravity in that they involved the choice of a future career for their son. Now, doubtless, the headmaster of this school was well within his strict rights; but, we think, that, considering all the circumstances and also bearing in mind the grave stigma of expulsion from a school which the headmaster's action practically amounted to, casts upon a boy in after life, the master should have seen fit to act with greater leniency and greater tact in dealing with the incident. We do not believe that had a similar case occurred at any of the English public schools, a similarly harsh course would have been adopted, and we, therefore, are of opinion that the headmaster in question has laid himself open to criticism in that he acted hastily and without having sufficiently considered all the circumstances of this particular case. The school in question was St. Paul's School, Darjeeling: the headmaster, Mr. Newton, who has recently succeeded Mr. Carter.—*I.D. News.*

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

BABU JOTINDRA CHANDRA SEN, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Midnapore, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Sukumar Bhattacharji, or until further orders.

Babu Bihari Lal Chatterjee, Munsif of Midnapore, is appointed to be a Munsif of Jalpaiguri.

Babu Sukumar Bhattacharji, Munsif of Contai, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif of Midnapur.

Babu Sarat Chandra Ghose, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in Bagerhat, during the absence, on furlough, of Babu Har Kumar Roy, or until further orders.

Babu Annanda Charan Sen, Munsif of Bagerhat is appointed to be a Munsif of Munshiganj.

Babu Har Kumar Roy, Mnnsif of Munshiganj, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bagerhat.

Babu Upeudra Nath Datta, Munsif of Sandip, on leave, is appointed to be an Addl Munsif of Dacca and Manikganj, but to be on deputation at the former station.

Babu Nobin Chunder Nag, Addl Munsif of Dacca and Manikganj, on deputation to the former station, is appointed to be a Muasif of Sandip.

Babu Sasi Bhusan Banerji, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Bangaon, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Pulin Bihari Basu, or until further orders.

Babu Gopi Nath Mattay, Sub-Judge of Tirhut, is appointed to be Sub-Judge of Patna, vice Babu Upendra Chandra Mallik, called upon to retire.

Babu Bipin Behari Mukerji, sub pro tem Addl SubtJudge of Sylhet, but appointed to act as Sub-Judge of Dacca, who is now on privilege leave, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Sub Judge of Tirhut.

Babu Bimala Charan Majumdar, Munsif of Muzaffarpur, is appointed to act as Sub-Judge of Trihut.

Babu Jadu Nandan Pershad, B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Muzaffarpur.

Babu Jogendro Chunder Maulik, Munsif of Jhenida, is appointed to be a Munsif of Jessore, but is appointed to act as Sub Judge of Dacca.

Babu Chandra Nath Ghosh, Munsif of Jessore, is appointed to be a Munsif of Jhenida.

Babu Kunja Behary Biswas, M. A., B. L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Jessore.

Babu Kali Kumar Bose, Sub-Judge of Dacca, on deputation as Sub-Judge of Birbhum, is appointed to be Sub-Judge of Bhagalpur vice Babu Nuffer Chandra Bhatta, called upon to retire.

Babu Syam Chand Ray, Sub-Judge of Jessore, is appointed to be Sub-Judge of Dacca, but to be on deputation as Sub-Judge of Birbhum.

Babu Jabu Nath Ghosh, Munsif of Alipore, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bhanga but is appointed to act, until further orders, as Sub-Judge of Jessore

Babu Kali Pada Mukerji, Munsif of Ghatal, is appointed to be a Munsif of Alipur.

Babu Ashutosh Ghose, Munsif of Bhanga, is appointed to be a Munsif of Ghatal.

Babu Mohini Mohon Ghose, B. L. is appointed to act a Munsif of Bhanga.

Babu Binod Behari Mitter (No. I), Munsif of Bolpur, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Sub Judge of Midnapore, vice Babu Durga Charn Ghosh, called upon to tetire.

Babu Bepin Behari De, Addl Munsif of Bolpur and Rampur Hat, on deputation to the latter station, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bolpur.

Babu Tara Prasanna Acharya Dy Magte and Dy Coll, on leave, is appointed to Dacca.

Babu Srinath Gupta, Dy Magte and Dy Coll, Khulna, is allowed leave for two months and twenty-one days.

Babu Bhobotosh Banerjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to Jessore.

Babu Probhat Nath Roy, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Jessore, is transferred to Khulna.

The services of the Hon'ble Mr. M. Finucane, C. S. I., Secy to the Govt of Bengal in the Genl, Rev and Statistical Depts, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of India in the Home Dept.

Babu Debi Prosad, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is allowed leave for six months.

Mr. E. W. Collin, Magte and Collr, 24-Parganas, is appointed to act as Secy to the Govt of Bengal in the Fincl and Muncl Depts, during the absence, on leave, of the Hon'ble Mr. E. N Baker, or until further orders.

Babu Prasanna Kumar Karfarma, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Bagerhat, is transferred to Manbhum.

Babu Rajmohun Chuckerbutty, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to the Bagerhat sub-divn.

Mr. F. A. Slack, Secy, Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, is appointed to act as Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Genl R and Statistical Depts. Mr. R. W. Carlyle, C. I. E., Magte and Collr, Darbhanga, acting for him.

Mr. H. Wheeler, Under Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Genl Rev and Statistical Depts, on leave, is appointed to act as Magte and Collr of Darbhanga.

The following officers are appointed to act until further orders in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors: Mr F C French Mr C E A W Oldham, Mr W Egerton illimore and R Roe

IT is rumoured that Mr. R. Sheepshanks, I. C. S., Sub-Divisional Officer, Bettia, goes to the Bengal Secretariat soon and Mr. S. R. Hignall, District Magistrate, Champarun, takes his place.

ON the eve of the 21st, some raiders from Istya in Afghan limits crossed into upper Kurram, and carried off the cattle of the village of Burki near the frontier. The villagers pursued, and the raiders fired on them wounding one man.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Lawrence Jenkins made the declaration to-day before the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade, and assumed the office of Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay. Punctually at 11 A. M. his lordship arrived in the court and, with Mr. R. D. Setna, Registrar on the Appellate Side of the High Court, took a turn round all the Courts. Coming to the Court of the Hon. Mr. Justice B. Tyebji, the Chief Justice entered the Court and after shaking hands with his lordship sat with him for about an hour on the Bench and listened to the arguments advanced by Mr. Scott and Mr. Rivett-Carnac in the matter of the lunacy of a Mahomedan gentleman.

Telegrams.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

APPOINTMENT.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

SIMLA, APRIL 23.

It seems quite probable that Mr. Risley, who shortly proceeds home on leave, will, on return, be appointed Census Commissioner for India which takes place next year.

Babu Srish Chandra Mitra, M.A., of the Comptroller-General's Office, goes to Simla as a first class Assistant in the Finance Department *vice* Babu Nitya Gopal Basu.

PLAGUE IN INDIA.

SIMLA, APRIL 25.

The official statement of plague for the week ending 23rd instant shews 1,526 cases in the Bombay Presidency and Sindh; 18 in Madras; 46 in Mysore; 10 in Hyderabad; 41 in the Punjab; and 174 in the Bengal Presidency Calcutta alone shewing 150, of which 68 are suspected cases, Howrah 10, Hooghly 1, 24 Perganas 3, Durbhanga 1, Saran 5, Balasore 4, three of which are imported.

EXPECTED DEPARTURE.

SIMLA, APRIL 25.

Mr. R. N. Ray, Deputy Auditor-General, who is now here on inspection duty, goes down to Calcutta on the 1st May next.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

SIMLA, APRIL 25.

The Queen's Birthday will be observed in London only on Saturday, the 3rd June next. In all other places in the British Empire, including India, it will be observed on the 24th May.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, APRIL 21.

It is notified in to-day's *Gazette* that Corporal Smith, of the Buff's, has been awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry in the fighting at the village of Bilo. Privates Lever, Melthrope, Poile, and Finn, of the same regiment, receive medals for distinguished conduct.

LONDON, APRIL 21.

In the House of Commons this evening, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, replying to Sir Henry Fowler, said that savings banks funds were only investible in Parliamentary securities and not in India Guaranteed Stock.

LONDON, APRIL 22.

In the debate on the Army Estimates in the House of Commons, last evening, on a vote for barracks in South Africa, Mr. Balfour ridiculed the idea that the garrisons had been increased for the purpose of coercing our fellow-subjects at the Cape. The increase of troops, he declared, was in no wise provocative, but was partly due to the increase of coaling stations, and partly to possibilities which might arise in that region.

LONDON, APRIL 22.

The *Figaro* states that an agreement has been effected between the King of Siam and M. Doumer, Governor of Indo-China, whereby the French staff will be employed in carrying out public works in Siam, and the French language will be taught in the schools. The question of Luang Prabang has been satisfactorily settled.

The Chinese gold loan of 112,500,000 francs for the Pekin-Hankow Railway has been nearly twice covered in France and Belgium.

Sir Robert Warburton, of Khyber fame, died to-day from influenza.

King Humbert to-day reviewed the British Channel Squadron off the coast of Sardinia, the fleet making the ceremony the occasion for an imposing spectacle. Their Majesties the King and Queen of Italy lunched on board the British flagship Majestic, when most cordial toasts were exchanged. King Humbert entertained Admiral Rawson to dinner in the evening on the Italian Royal yacht.

The Americans are forming a flying squadron for the beginning of a new campaign in the Philippines with the object of clearing the Philipinos from the jungle north of Manila.

LONDON, APRIL 22.

The Right Hon. Sir John Robert Mowbray, member for Oxford University, father of the House of Commons, is dead.

LONDON, APRIL 23.

Advices from Manila report a severe engagement between the Americans and the Filipinos at Giningua, with disastrous results to the American arms. A colonel, a lieutenant and several privates were killed and upwards of fifty wounded.

The annual Mecca pilgrimage has ended. Jeddah is reported to be perfectly healthy.

Reuter, telegraphing fron Pekin, says the Chinese Government is daily becoming more reactionary. The Tsung-li-Yamen is not authorised to give assurances, and this will probably lead to a serious diplomatic romonstrance being made direct to the Dowager Empress.

LONDON, APRIL 24.

The German Ambassador to the United States has strongly protested to the Washington Government with reference to the speech made by Captain Coghlan. The Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State, has expressed disapproval of Captain Coghlan's condnct, and has intimated that the Admiralty will take action in the matter. The German Press adopt a moderate tone in commenting on the incident treating the speech as a post prandial oration. Captain Coghlan at the same banquet in New York recited a ballad about the Kaiser which the German Ambassador disdains to notice.

In the Italian Senate, Admiral Canevaro, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on being questioned regarding the effects of the Anglo-French Nile Convention upon Tirpoli and the Hinterland, said that both Great Britain and France had given ample assurances that there were no designs, either present or future, on Tirpoli, and that the commercial routes between Tripoli and the Hinterland would be kept open.

A Negro, who was accused of the murder of a farmer and of outraging the latter's wife, has been burned at the stake in Georgia by the mob.

The Duke and Dutchess of York have returned to England after a successful tour in Ireland where they were accorded a most loyal reception.

BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

A meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council was held yesterday at the Council Chamber, Writers' Buildings. There were present:—President.—The Hon'ble Sir John Woodburn, K. C.S.I., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Official members:—The Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur Syud Ameer Hossein, C.I.E.; the Hon'ble Mr. W. B. Oldham, C.I.E.; the Hon'ble Mr. R. B. Buckley; the Hon'ble Mr. C. W. Bolton, C.S.I.; the Hon'ble Mr. E.N. Baker; the Hon'ble Mr. M. Finucane; the Hon'ble Rai Durga Gati Banerjee, Bahadur, C.I.E.; the Hon'ble Mr. J. Pratt. Non-official members:—The Hon'ble Babu Narendra Nath Sen; the Hon'ble Babu Saligram Singh; the Hon'ble Babu Kali Charan Banerjee; the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee; the Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen; the Hon'ble Mr. T. W. Spink; the Hon'ble Raja Shashi Shakhareswar Roy Bahadur, of Tahirpur; the Hon'ble Raja Ranajit Sinha Bahadur, of Nashipur; The Hon'ble Sahibzada Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah, C.I.E.; the Hon'ble Mr. D. F. Mackenzie.

INTERPELLATIONS.

PLAGUE AND MALARIA.

The Hon'ble Babu Norendranath Sen.

Has the attention of Government been drawn to the recent expert opinion of Mr. Baldwin Latham, who is said to have been engaged for some time past in enquiring into the causes of the plague in Bombay, attributing the disease to the malarious influences arising from the polluted and water-logged condition of the soil of the city, due to its sewers, in view of which the Bombay Municipal Corporation have already engaged the services of Mr. A. J. Hughes, the retiring Engineer to the Calcutta Municipal Corporation, to consult him as to the drainage of the sub-soil of Bombay? If so, does not the Government think that diseases of a febrile character having been steadily on the increase in Calcutta, as would appear from its health returns since 1888, when the drainage works were completed and culminating in the outbreak of the present plague speedy measures should not be taken to ascertain whether all this may not have arisen from a polluted and water-logged condition of its soil, due to its faulty and defective drainage? As the question of the drainage of Calcutta, affecting its sanitary condition, is of far greater importance than any other question regarding the health of the city, and as Dr. W. J. Simpson, the late Health Officer of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation, was strongly of opinion that the soil of Calcutta was so greatly polluted as to be comparable to a vast trenching ground, does not the Government think it necessary to take competent expert opinion without delay, having in view the present plague, as to the measures which ought to be adopted for the through drainage of the surface and sub-soil of Calcutta?

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker said in reply:—The Government of Bengal is not aware that Mr. Baldwin Latham has been engaged in enquiring into the causes of plague in Bombay. The circumstances, and the nature of the soil, in Calcutta are very different from those in Bombay. In Calcutta the sub-soil is mostly alluvial deposit of great depth and of an impervious nature, with occasional sandy portions. In Bombay it is believed that the sub-soil is, generally, of a much more pervious nature, of comparatively shallow depth overlying rock.

"The Sanitary Commissioner does not share the opinion attributed to Dr. W. J. Simpson, that the soil of Calcutta is 'so greatly polluted as to be comparable to a vast trenching-ground'; but if that opinion were correct, the evil is one which cannot be removed by sub-soil drainage.

"The Corporation of Calcutta has a project in progress, estimated to cost some 78 lakhs of rupees, for improving the sewerage and drainage of the town and suburbs, and it is the duty of that body to see that the existing sewers are watertight, so that leakage from them cannot pollute the soil. This scheme will, it is hoped, have a distinct effect in lowering, the sub-soil water. This has been the case in many towns in England, with markedly beneficial effects on the public health.

MALARIA IN THE MOFUSSIL.

The Hon'ble Babu N. N. Sen.

The Government is aware that malarious fever, in an almost epidemic form, has been afflicting Lower Bengal for the last thirty-eight years or so, and that its ravages have been rapidly on the increase. To quote the last Administration Report of Bengal for 1897-98, "taking one year with another, about three-fourths of the whole number of deaths from all causes are ascribed to fevers." This malarious fever is generally believed to be due to the water-logged condition of the soil, caused by obstructions to the natural drainage channels from high roads and railway embankments; and as the population of various parts of Lower Bengal is being decimated by it, will the Government be pleased to state what steps it means to take to relieve the water-logged soil, and to mitigate the ravages of the disease?

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker said:—The statistics of the last five years lend no colour to the idea that the mortality from fever is increasing in Bengla. The figures are as follows:—

In 1894	1,799,833, or	25·32	per 1,000 of popln.
,, 1895	1,634,254, ,,	22·99	,, ,, ,,
,, 1896	1,760,225, ,,	24·76	,, ,, ,,
,, 1897	1,679,132, ,,	23·62	,, ,, ,,
,, 1898	1,419,483, ,,	19·97	,, ,, ,,

"According to the mortality returns, it is true that about three-fourths of the whole number of deaths from all causes are ascribed to fevers. But it must be borne in mind that in most cases the causes of death depends ultimately on the diagnosis of the village chaukidar, which manifestly cannot be relied on; and it is believed that many deaths really due to pneumonia, phthisis and other causes are shown as due to fever. It may, however, be admitted that the majority of the cases of fever shown in the mortality returns are really ascribable to malaria. This arises in large measure to inefficient surface drainage which produces in some instances water-logging of the soil. Raised roads, cannals, embankments, and railways may, in particular localities, and in respect of limited areas, cause some obstruction to local drainage; but it is beleived that this effect is comparatively insignificant and purely local. such works are provided with ample waterway in the case of all marked drainage channels, and it is indeed necessary for the safety of the works themselves that this should be so. It is unquestionable that the health of some districts might be improved by a well designed system of drainage channels; but the expense of such works would be great and the benefit would be local; and it would not be right to throw the cost of them on to the general tax-payer. The Bengal Sanitary Drainage Act of 1895 provides a machinery by which any District Board may carry out drainage works for the improvement of the public health of any area withjuris its indiction, and may recover the cost by a rate mposed on the locality benefited. It is for the local authorities to take action under these provisions of the law, instead of demanding to have everything done for them at the expense of Government."

SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

The Hon'ble N. N. Sen.

I have the honour to invite the attention of Government to the cases of a few officers of the old Subordinate Educational Service, mentioned in paragraph 4 of the Director of Public Instruction's letter No. 1414 T., dated the 28th June, 1895, and also to an extract from the Government of Bengal's letter No. 2832, dated the 14th August, 1895, to ask (a) whether any steps have yet been taken to include these officers in the way originally contemplated in the Government of Bengal's letter; (b) how many of them have already been taken into that service since 1st August, 1896; (c) whether the post in the Provincial Service that has lately fallen vacant by the death of Pundit Sukhbasi Tewari, of the Patna College, should not justly be filled in by any one of these officers, and the new incumbent be placed in the Subordinate Service, as was done in the case of Pundit Pramathanath Tarkabhushan, of the Sanskrit College; (d) whether one or two posts now vacant in the Provincial Service may not conviniently be given away to some of these officers instead of appointing men from outside.

The Hon'ble Mr. Finucane:—'Of the 16 officers mentioned in paragraph 4 of the Director of Public Instruction's letter No. 1414 T., dated the 28th June, 1895, 3 were admitted into the Provincial Service before the 1st August, 1896; 4 have been admitted since that date; 1 is dead, and 1 has resigned the Service. The strength of the Provincial Service was originally fixed at 104 officers, 100 of whom were to hold specified appointments: and 4 were supernumerary officers of general qualifications who were intended to fill vacancies arising from officers going on leave, or being incapacitated through illness to carry on their duties. Nine extra officers whose places were not to be filled up on retirement were also admitted on personal grounds, but 8 of these appointments have since been absorbed. The total number of Oriental Professorships included in the 100 specified appointments was only 6; and 6 Orientalists were duly appointed to fill these Professorships. The remaining 94 specified appointments were also duly filled up by appointing suitable incumbents, and it was only after all these 100 appointments had been made that the question of filling up the 4 supernumerary appointments was taken into consideration. As stated above, these 4 posts are intended for officers of general qualifications; but in consideration of the hardship of the cases of the officers alluded to in paragraph 4 of the Director of Public Instruction's letter under reference, 3 of these supernumerary appointments were, as a special case, given to 3 of the officers in question whose qualifications were solely those of Orientalists. The greatest difficulty has consequently been experienced in carrying on the work of officers of general qualifications who go on leave, and this difficulty can only be overcome by securing that the 4 supernumerary appointments shall be held by officers of general qualifications. It follows, therefore, that the Service can only be brought into its normal condition by appointing men of general qualifications to vacancies occurring in the ranks of the Professors of Oriental Languages until the number of such Professors is reduced to 6. This has already been done in one case, and it is impossible to appoint one of the officers referred to by the Hon'ble Member to succed Pandit Sukhbasi Tewari. for to do so would be to still keep the number of officers of general qualifications 2 below the specified strength. There are no posts now vacant in the Provincial Service; in fact, the Service is still one in excess of its sanctioned strength."

THE CASE OF DR. KHUDIRAM GHOSE.

THE next question on the Notice paper referred to the case of Dr. Khudiram Ghose, M.B., practising at Baluchar near Murshidabad, who had lately been prosecuted at the instance of Dr. MacDonald, Civil Surgeon of Murshidabad, on the allegation at performing a dangerous operation. It may be remembered that the conviction and fine in the case were set aside by the High Court. The question concluded as follows;—"Having regard to the fact that the prosecution of Dr. Ghose was instituted at the instance of Dr. MacDonald and to the part played by him in that unfortunate case and to the anxiety and mental trouble, pecuniary loss and hardship caused to Dr. Ghose in consequence of the prosecution, will the Goverument be pleased to take some notice of the conduct of such officer?"

The question stood in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Norendro Nath Sen, but he passed over it and did not ask it. On enquiry it was ascertained that at the request of the Hon'ble Mr. Bolton the question was not asked as he promised to supply the Hon'ble member with all information on the subject. The Government is understood to have sent for a report on the matter from the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, but this report has not yet been received by Government

WATER SCARCITY AND CHOLERA AND MALARIAL FEVER.

The Hon'ble N. N. Sen:—

Is the Government aware that water-famine prevails to a most alarming extent every year during the hot season in the large tract of marshy land lying in the southern part of the district of Faridpur, and that the little water that is sometimes available in the summer months consists cheifly of decomposed vegetable and organic matter, and that in consequence of the people of this tract of land being compelled to use this water for drinking purposes, a very large number of them are annually carried off by cholera? What measures does the Government propose to take to arrest the ravages of cholera and its annual visitations in this lowland tract and to supply drinking water to the people inhabiting this part of the district? Is it a fact that malarial fever is decimating a large portion of the rural population of the district of Faridpur, and is it also a fact that the mortality from fever alone has risen from sixteen thousand and odd in 1887 to forty-eight thousand and odd in 1896 in this district? Has the Government ascertained the cause of this frightful spread of fever, and have any measures been taken to remove them?

THE HON'BLE MR. BAKER:—"Government has no special information regarding the particular tract of land referred to in the south of the district: but taking the district as a whole, it appears that the total average mortality from all causes during the five years, 1892 to 1896, was 32·17 per 1,000 of the population. This is almost exactly the general average of the whole province, which was 32·11 per 1,000. On the other hand, it is true that the mortality from cholera and fever is exceptionally high. During the ten years, from 1887 to 1896, the cholera death-rate in Faridpur was 4·03 per 1,000, against a provincial average of 2·62. On the other hand, the district was comparatively free from cholera in 1898, the death rate being only 1·96 per 1,000. As regards fever, the decennial average mortality of the district was 18 per 1,000 which is below the provincial average of 18·81. During 1896 and 1897, however, the mortality was high, being 26·61 and 29, respectively, and it is true as suggested in the question that there has been a large and steady rise since 1887. This was brought to the notice of Government by the Sanitary Commissioner in his annual report for 1897, in which he quoted the following passage from the report of the Civil Surgeon:—

'During the year under report 52,895 people fell victims to it alone. .....

'It is not confined to any particular locality, but visits almost every homestead in the district, which abounds in numberless bhills and swamps. All the conditions necessary for the production of malaria are to be found here in abundance, and to these may be added another factor which is every year gaining ground,—I mean the steeping of jute in every available pool or stagnant water. There is hardly a village—hardly a house—which does not go in for this trade, and the result is that not a village is to be found which is not surrounded by stagnant water of a very objectionable smell, thickened and turned black by repeated steepings of jute.

'On comparing the statistics of the last ten years, it will be observed that mortality from fever has been steadily on the increase. Thus 1887 we had only 16,024 deaths from it, 20,026 deaths in 1888, 22,287 deaths in 1889, 25,220 deaths in 1890, 31,368 deaths in 1891, 41,790 deaths in 1892, 40,558 deaths in 1893, 37,638 deaths in 1894, 43,144 deaths in 1895, and 48,056 in 1896. I have no doubt that the imperfect system of recording vital occurences in former years will go some way to explain this vast difference; but when the mortality from fever in 1897 exceeds that of 1887 by three times its number, I think it is impossible to disguise the fact that the health of the district has been steadily deteriorating.'

"In reviewing the Sanitary Commissioner's report, Government observed that the insanitary practice referred to was not peculiar to Faridpur, and directed the Sanitary Commmissioner to ascertain the views of the Civil Surgeons of all jute-producing districts as to the effect of it on the health of their districts. No special report has yet been received on the subject, but the attention of the Sanitary Commissioner will again be called to the matter."

ABSENCE OF ROADS IN FARIDPORE.

The Hon'ble N. N. Sen asked:—

Is the Government also aware that owing to the complete absence of any permanent roads or canals in this tract of land, the people there, for a considerable part of the year, are greatly handicapped and inconvenienced in their commercial, trade, and other business relations? Will the Government be pleased to state what measures it has taken or proposes to take, to confer upon this isolated area the blessings of communication with the outer world, and also what action it intends to take upon the representation of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to open a canal through this *bil* or marshy tract?

In reply the Hon'ble Mr. Buckley said:—

"The question has been under the consideration of Govenment, but the final reply to the representations made by the Chamber of Commerce has to be postponed until after the next rainy season, when the Officers of the Public Works Department will be in a better position to advise as to the best measures to be adopted, under the circumstances, to improve the present channel."

RANK VEGETATION ON THE BANKS OF THE KUMAR.

The following question was asked by the Hon'ble N. N. Sen:—

Is the Government also aware that thick jungles and rank vegetation are spreading to a large extent and encroaching upon inhabited villages on the banks of the river Kumar, in the district of Faridpur, to the great detriment of the health of the people of the locality, and if so, what steps has the Government taken to get them cleared and prevent their growth and spread?

To which the Hon'ble Mr. Baker made the following reply:—"The matter referred to in the question is one for the local authorities to deal with. Government has no special information on the subject."

ROAD AND P. W. CESSES.

The Hon'ble Raja Bahadur of Nashipur:—

Having regard to the fact that the system of paying Government revenue, Road and Public Works Cesses and Dak Cess by one and the same chalan, has worked well in the districts of Burdwan and Rajshahi Divisions, will the Government be pleased to extend this system to the remaining districts in Bengal?

The Hon'ble Mr. Finucane said:—"The system in question has already been adopted in 22 out of the 43 districts to which it could be applied. Its further extension will be considered."

THE MUNICIPAL BILL.

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Municipal Bill, 1898.

The Report is signed by all the members including Babus Norendra Nath Sen and Surendra Nath Banerjee subject to a joint note of descent. The note of descent is given below.

His Honor the President on behalf of himself and the Counsil offered to the members of the Select Committee his thanks for the extreme care and labour with which they had discharged their duties.

The Council was adjourned *sine die.*

Plague News.

DECREASING IN CALCUTTA—20 ATTACKS AND 14 DEATHS.

ON Tuesday last there were 20 attacks and 14 deaths distributed as follows over the different wards;—1 death in No. 3; 1 and 1 in No 5; 1 and 1 in No. 6; 3 and 1 in No 7; 2 and 2 in No. 8; 1 and 1 in No. 9; 2 and 1 in No. 14; 4 and 2 in No. 15; 2 and 2 in No. 17; 3 and 2 in No. 22; 1 attack address unknown. No suspected cases were shewn. The total mortality from all causes amounted to 76 as against 75, the average of the last five years.

PRIVATE BURNS, of the Inniskillings, committed suicide at Murree on the 22nd instant.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

INDIA AND ENGLAND.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, APRIL 7.

THE WOES OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.

FATE seems to dog the steps of the Liberal party. Since the General Election of 1885 its history has been one long record of misfortune. The conversion of Mr. Gladstone to Home Rule for Ireland led to the disastrous defeat of 1886 and the sterile years of Tory Government which followed. The decision of the electorate in that memorable year was not altogether reversed at the election of 1892 when Mr. Gladstone returned to power with a small and ineffective majority. Then followed three years of struggle with the reactionary House of Lords and an unscrupulous opposition, in the midst of which the great champion of Liberalism, Mr. Gladstone, felt compelled to lay down the weapons of his warfare, and hand on the standard of progress and reform to another. That other was Lord Rosebery, who soon found himself hardly able to cope with the dissensions within the party and the fierce trials without. The General Election of 1895 resulted in a complete rout of the Liberal forces—a rout from which they have never fully recovered, thanks mainly to half-hearted leadership and divided counsels. Then came the death of Mr. Gladstone, who, as long as he lived, was a force to be reckoned with and whose name was always an inspiration to those who had followed him through victory and defeat. When the "Grand Old man" died, the last link with the past seemed to be napped; Lord Rosebery and Sir William Harcourt fell foul of each other, and the Liberal party, disorganized and demoralized, was groping about in the dark for a policy and a leader. The capture of Khartoum and the dispute about Fashoda inflamed the old Jingo spirit among large sections of the community, and a policy of "expansion" and Imperialism became the order of the day. Even the old party of "Peace, Retrenchment and Reform," became to some extent infected with the fever of militarism; Lord Rosebery outdid Lord Salisbury in his anti-French pronouncements Mr. Chamberlain assumed the role of Bismarck; and the whole country seemed to be athirst for military glory. Domestic questions and political reforms were almost given the go-by. The principles of Liberalism seemed to have become dormant, and hardly a voice was raised against triumphant jingoism. It may be well that nations should go through these experiences sometimes, and perhaps it is necessary that the British lion should grind his teeth occasionally; but however much the "prestige of the Empire"—that phrase so dear to the Jingo mind—may have gained by the events of last autumn, there can be no doubt that the fortunes of the Liberal party ran down to their lowest ebb, and when the resignation of Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Morley from the leading counsels of the party was announced it seemed as if the cause of Liberalism was utterly and irretrievably lost. People looked round in vain for the veterans of the 1880 ministry—the colleagues of Gladstone. Some had joined the great majority others had gone over to the enemy, many had fallen in the strife, and more were sulking in their tents. The flag of Liberalism was indeed drooping low, and there appeared to be none to take it up again. With the opening of the present session however there came something of a revival. It was true that there only remained on the Front Oppsition Bench two or three men who were in the front rank of politics, but it began to be recognised that even the resignation of Sir William Harcourt might be a blessing in disguise, as it removed one of the chief obstacles to reunion and enabled the party to make a fresh start. And so the Liberal members of Parliament met in counsel, accepted the situation, as indeed they could do no other, and elected Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman as their leader in the House of Commons. So far the new leader has been a distinct success. He has faced the "strongest Government of modern times" —as the Tories love to call it—with indomitable pluck despite his own attenuated ranks, and has led the Liberal party with unfailing geniality and unvarying good tact. In fact he has won the encomiums of both friend and foe.

DEATH OF MR. THOMAS E. ELLIS, M. P.

But now, just as things were beginning to look a little brighter all round, another sad blow has befallen the party in the death of its able and esteemed Chief Whip, Mr. Thomas E. Ellis, M. P., at the early age of 40. He did not take a prominent part in the Parliamentary debates—the whips never do. His work lay in the lobbies of the House rather than in the Chamber itself. As the chief organizer and general secretary of the party—which is what the first whip generally is—he had more to do with the inner affairs of the party than any other man. He had to organize victory and avert defeat. He had literally to keep an eye on every member of his party in the House, see that he voted the right way and keep his leader informed as to the votes to be relied upon in the division lobby. In addition to this he had to direct the affairs of the National Liberal Federation, and keep at touch with every constituency in the country. A Chief Whip has to be no ordinary man. He has to be as firm as a General and as gentle as a woman. He must be the embodiment of enthusiasm, hard work, tact and good sense. And all this Tom Ellis certainly was. Everybody spoke of him familiarly as "Tom," which was only another indication of the universal esteem in which he was held. It was Mr. Gladstone who first took him up as a "likely" man. That was in 1886 soon after his election to the House of Commons as member for Merionethshire. Mr. Gladstone never confined himself to the men who were born under the purple if he wanted a good helper; and so with his intuitive knowledge of men, he picked out the son of a Welsh tenant farmer, who had yet to win his laurels in the political arena, as a man to whom he might safely confide some of the official duties of the party. Previous to that time, Mr. Ellis had been called the "Parnell of Wales". Not that he had much in common with the great Irish leader, but because he had voiced the demands of the little principality so eloquently and had taken up her cause with a vigour and enthusiasm which had at once marked him out as the leader of "young Wales." Nor did he forfeit the confidence of his countrymen when he joined the official circle of his party. He always remembered their claims, and whenever an opportunity of forwarding them came to him, he made good use of it, with the result that he was one of the darlings of his people until the day of his death, and his memory will be enshrined in their hearts for many a long year to come.

The following story was told about Mr. Ellis by Mr. Lloyd George, M. P., which illustrated not only the pluck but the attachment to his friends and to his principles, which was one of the characteristic traits of his character:

A STORY OF MR. ELLIS'S PLUCK

Not long ago the Welsh Members raised in the House a question with regard to the freedom of the Nonconformists of Flint. The question was to come on at midnight. Mr. Ellis was ill. Only those who saw him could realise how he was racked by the distressing cough from which he suffered. But at half-past twelve in the morning, Tom Ellis, broken in health and physique, was there to fight for this country and his creed. He Mr. George) supplicated him to go home, but his reply was, "No, I am going to stick to it; I am going to see this through." It was Mr. Herbert Lewis who had brought the matter forward, and there was something pathetic in the earnestness with which Mr. Ellis added, "No, I won't go yet; I'm going to stand by Herbert." There he remained trudging through the lobbies until 3 o'clock in the morning, fighting for Welsh and the Welsh faith. On the following morning he was up betimes and at the liberal offices. Next night they were to raise the same question again. They only reached it at about 1 o'clock in the morning. Tom Ellis was once more present. In his then state of health, so near as he was to his death, the fatigue must have greatly taxed his strength, but there he sat until a quarter to three in the morning

Mr. Herbert Lewis, who is referred to in this pathetic little story, is the son-in-law of Mr W. S Caine who was himself one of Mr. Ellis' personal friends.

Mr. Ellis' health had been very indifferent for some time. He was only married last year and at that time he was far from well. Latterly he had suffered a good deal from influenza, and his medical advisers had to utter the fatal word "consumption." Just before the House of Commons rose for the Easter holidays he went to the South of France, but brain fever supervened, and he passed away on Wednesday morning after having been unconscious for 24 hours.

The death of Mr. Ellis creates a vacancy in Merionethshire, but the result of the bye-election which must ensue, may be taken as a foregone conclusion. At the last election Mr. Ellis polled 5,173 votes against 2,232 recorded for the Conservative candidate. With a majority of nearly 3,000 in hand, it ought to be a safe seat for a Liberal, and I should think it is very doubtful whether any Tory will think it worth while contesting.

ANOTHER BYE ELECTION.

ANOTHER bye-election took place on Wednesday. This time it was in a populous suburb of London—the Harrow division of the county of Middlesex. Middlesex has been notoriously Conservative for many years past. The man who came nearest to winning one of its seats for Liberalism was Mr. W. S. Caine, who stood for the Tottenham division in 1885 and was only beaten by about 700 votes, the only instance, I think, in which a Tory majority for one of the Middlesex seats has fallen short of 1,000 since the redistribution of seats. Harrow is a fairly typical suburban constituency, comprising a goodly number of well-to-do people with a strong sprinkling of the working class element. At the last contested election which was in 1892, the late Conservative member was elected by a majority of 2619, but on Wednesday the Liberal champion, Mr. Corrie Grant, reduced that figure to 1105, so that even the strongest of Tory strongholds are capable of being rudely shaken, provided a sound candidate is forthcoming and the true principles of Liberalism are not compromised. Mr. Grant stood for all that is best in the Liberal Party. He is a keen friend of India, a stout Radical in matters of political reform, and a strong opponent of jingoism. I am sure that it will not be long before he finds a safe seat in the House of Commons. He is one of those men that we can ill afford to do without, in the councils of the Empire. During the last few months he has rendered yeoman service to the great Peace crusade so successfully inaugurated and carried on by Mr. W. T. Stead. Wherever there is a good cause wanting a hard worker, Mr. Corrie Grant is forthcoming to step into the breach.

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN INDIA.

A bulky Blue Book has been issued by the India Office this week entitled: "Progress of Education in India 1892-3 to 1896 7"—the third quinquennial review compiled by Mr. J. S. Cotton M. A. It runs to 425 pages and is packed full of interesting information about the advance of education in India during the last five years. From the mass of figures which Mr. Cotton has put together I will quote only a few. In 1892 the total number of pupils in public institutions of all kinds was 3,348,919. In 1896 7 the number had risen to 3,788,382—not a very large increase, having regard to the immense population of India. There are also 568,488 pupils in private institutions showing an increase of about 60,000 on the figures of five years ago. It is hardly satisfactory to note that the rate of increase compares unfavourably with previous quinquennial periods. But upon this point, Mr. Cotton remarks: "Here as throughout, the chief characteristic of the last quinquennium has been consolidation rather than expansion." It is to be hoped that the next five years will reveal a little more expansion without less consolidation. Of course, in education, as in everything else, the plague and famine have been responsible for a good deal of setting back. In the last year under review there was an actual decrease of 1 per cent. in the total number of institutions, while the rate of increase in pupils declined from 3 to 1 per cent.

Bengal does not come out very well in a comparison between the different provinces. In that Presidency there has been no increase in the number of institutions, and only an increase of 6 per cent. in the number of pupils as against 13 per cent. for the whole of India. Burma, on the other hand, has made remarkable progress which may be attributed, perhaps to the pacification of the upper portion of that province. There the rate of increase has been 32 per cent. in institutions and 30 per cent. in pupils. After Burma come the Central Provinces, the North-Western Provinces and Assam.

Mr. Cotton has prepared an interesting table showing the proportion of pupils to the estimated population of school-going age. (The population of school-going age is estimated at 15 per cent. of the whole population of India.) From this table it appears that Burma again leads the way with a percentage of 22·3. This is highly creditable to the province which was most recently included within the Indian Empire. Madras shows a percentage of 15·4 and Bengal 15·2. The Southern Presidency has made much more headway during the last five years than Bengal has done, and both are still behind the Bombay Presidency which gives a percentage of 16·6. The percentage for the whole of India is 12·5.

It is impossible to subject a Blue Book like this to an exhaustive analysis within such a short space as I have at my disposal, and your readers must study it for themselves. It will well repay perusal. It is illustrated by four coloured maps showing the proportionate increase in both male and female pupils in the different provinces. It is to be feared that the education of females is not making very much progress It is hardly conceivable that in the North Western Provinces and Oudh only one girl in 200 is getting any sort of primary education! As compared with the Mahomedans, the Hindus show a better proportion of children at school. It is also interesting to note that English is steadily gaining ground. Of the children of school-going age one in 94 was learning English five years ago, but now one in 79 is learning it. In this particular Madras comes out an easy first with one child in 38, while the Central Provinces lag far behind with only one in 239. The annual expenditure on education in India amounts to only £3,500,000. I am tempted to contrast this with military expenditure but your readers know how great the disparity is between the two, and they also have a pretty shrewd idea as to which of the two gives the best return for their money. The only other comparison I will make is this: In England, out of a population of 31,500,000, we have 5,500,000 in primary schools. In British India, with a population of about 250,000,000 you have only 3,700,000 in elementary schools and of these only 350,000 are girls. We must look forward to a better record than this at the end of the next five years.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

THE Rev. John M. Bacon and a small party of scientific gentlemen who ascended in a balloon at the Crystal Palace the other day set out with the intention of trying experiments in aerial fog signals. Mr. Bacon, and Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. Nevile Maskelyne, Mr. Maunder (of Greenwich Observatory), and Dr. Lachlan (of Cambridge), have for some time past taken an interest in what may be termed "aerial echoes," and Mr. Bacon has, in his enthusiasm, and with permission of the proper authorities, spent days and nights on various lightships and light houses in all kinds of weather, noting the differences in the sounds of fog sirens, bell buoys, guns, &c. In making the ascent, Mr. Bacon intimated that "it would be of great scientific interest if observers would report the nature of such sounds as reach the earth, the positions and times of observations, and yet more particularly if reverberations, prolonged or otherwise, seem to proceed from the sky." The fog signal (four-ounce "Tonite" cartridges), contained in an innocent-looking cardboard box, were carefully placed in the car, and the aeronauts having taken their places, the rope was let go, and a capital ascent made. But says the *Daily News* representative, alas for the "powerful fog signals"! Eagerly did the spectators keep their eyes fixed on the "Excelsior" until she had literally vanished into thin air, but there was no flash, there were no reverberations.

LORD KELVIN has just reported on some interesting investigations made by Professor Archibald Barr and himself in Edinburgh, Bradford, and Odham on the subject of the destruction of town refuse. The report is of great interest to local authorities and the general public. In one instance he experimented on damp ashpit refuse containing a large proportion of vegetable matter from markets and shops. This was consumed without the slightest trace of smoke. In addition to the solution of the smoke difficulty, the residual products proved to be of great commercial value. In another case the steam produced by the process of destruction was utilised for the driving of electric lighting machinery and other power purposes. No coal or coke whatever was employed, and in this instance also there was an entire absence of smoke.

MAIL NEWS.

IN the invitations sent out for the Peace Conference from the Hague. The Vatican is not included nor Bulgaria. The Governments of the United States, China, Japan, Persia and Siam are invited to sent delegates.

DR. MARTIN, who was sent from St. Petersburg to Siberia to trace the origin of recent reports about the discovery of the bodies of Andree and his companions, telegraphs from Tomsk that a hunter whom he has questioned repeats that the Tungses found some bodies, and that the clothes in which they were dressed were not Russian.

MR. MACLEAN, M. P., speaking on the 6th of April at an Article Club debate on the Sugar Bounties, criticised the procedure of imposing countervailing duties on bounty-fed sugar introduced into India. He said he did not believe the British Government as a whole had yet consented to that law, and hoped it would never receive their sanction.

THE *Neues Wiener Tagblat* is informed, with reference to the Indian Sugur Act, that the Powers affected have communicated with regard to their concern in the matter. The Powers, it is likely, will not only make a separate representation to the British Cabinet, as some have already done, but will eventually unite to take common action.

A TELEGRAM from Pekin announces that a German priest has been imprisoned by the Chinese within the sphere of Kiaochau, and that a German naval patrol has been fired on by the Chinese soldiers. The German officer returned the fire, killing several Chinamen, but had to retire. The whole German fleet is now at Kiaochau, and a strong force is being landed to restore order. The Tsungli-Yemen has voluntarily dismissed three magistrates, for whose disgrace the German Minister has been pressing. Li-Hung-Chang has arrived in Pekin, having completed his mission to report on the inundations of the Yellow River and propose remedies.

GENERAL OTIS has issued an important proclamation which gives an outline of the United States policy. The following points are deemed of especial importance: The supremacy of the United States must and will be enforced throughout every part of the archipelago. Those who resist can accomplish no end other than their own ruin. The most ample liberty in the way of self-government will be granted the Philippine people reconcilable with the maintenance of a wise, just, stable, effective, and economical administration, and compatible with the sovereign and international rights and obligations of the United States. The civil rights of the Philippine people will be guaranteed and protected to the fullest extent. Religious freedom is assured, and all persons are of equal standing before the law. Honour, justice, and friendship forbid the use of the Philippine people or islands as an object or means of exploitation. The purpose of the American Government is the welfare and advancement of the Philippine people.

Correspondence.

THE PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In contradiction to Dr. Rasick Mohan's letter on plague which appeared in the *Patrika* of the 8th instant, I noticed two letters published in the "Indian Mirror.," in its issues of the 11th and 12th instants. As up to now, no one has come forward to throw light on this subject, and as even Dr Rasick Mohan himself, as it appears, has not taken any notice of the contradiction fraught with blunders and misstatements I think I should raise any humble voice.

As the first letter is simply rancorous it needs no reply. The writer must have been grieved to find that the same sort of typographical mistakes that he laughed at has unfortunately crept into his own letter, as for instance "orvical" for "cervical", "Vidu" for "nidus,' Certainly this is Nemesis.

I have got something to say on the 2nd letter for it has been written in a considerably fairer spirit.

Dr. Rasick Mohan wrote that he had seen malignant malarial fever with glandulars weltings but those cases were solitary, noncontagious and not so fatal. Several cases that he has seen here in Calcutta during this present outbreak (fortunately now mitigated) are very peculiar in their nature. He also observes a good many peculiarities in mental hebetude, the expression of the eye and physiognomical appearance of these patients which he never experienced in his professional life of nearly twenty years. This goes to prove that having due fegard to the recognition of malignant malari l rever accompanied with glandular swellings he has chalked out a line of demarcation in diagnosing this type of fever from any other types strongly resembling it.

In his letter, "Not an alarmist" says that the concentrated malarial poison may cause high fever and rapid death. To prove this he speaks of the fever that raged in Ula in 1862; but is there any record in the annals of malarial fever epidemics to prove that in almost all the cases there were glandular swellings or was the Ula fever characterised by the distinct glandular swellings which are to be conspicuously observed by medical men who have the opportunity to observe the plague cases here in Calcutta.

The gravest mistake that I find in this letter lies where the writer differs widely from Dr. Rasick Mohun *i. e.* on the question of *Cardiac failure.*

"Not an Alarmist" writes "When Dr. Rasick Mohun says that people are dying from failure of the heart, the natural inference is that the disease is not plague but a malignant type of malarial fever." This shows that "Not an Alarmist" has no knowledge of plague cases nor has he taken the trouble of crawling over the plague literature.

For the information of this writer and chiefly to add evidence to the independent observations of Dr. Rasick Mohan I quote the following lines:—

(1) "Of the causes of death, the most important is failure of heart's action, and it may be either sudden or gradual."—Report on the Bubonic plague, by Dr. Choksey, Extra Assistant Health Officer, Bombay.

(2.) "The chief characteristic of the pulse was its feebleness due to the extreme weakness of the heart's action, death from syncope was common and occurred with startling rapidity."—Report on the plague in Bombay by Surg.-Major H. J. Dyson and Surg.-Capt. I. T. Calvert.

(3.) "Heart fails suddenly, often giving rise to a fatal syncope."—Report on the Bubonic plague in Hongkong by Surg.-Major H. E. R. James F. R. C. S.

The late lamented Dr. Evans of the Calcutta Medical College, who died a martyr to the cause of pathological science while investigating the nature of this fell disease, observed in plague cases particularly this fatal symptom. Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. A. Harris M. R. C. P., I. M. S., late officiating Principal, Calcutta Medical College, in his evidence before the Plague Commission tells us the same story.

Extracts from the plague literature to prove that the cardiac failure is a very common occurrence as a cause of the death of plague patients would be too numerous. So I need not quote further. This is a common fact though unfortunately unknown to the "Not an Alarmist."

The pathogenetic functions of the plague bacilli or that of the different varieties of toxins and plemaines on the different organs and tissues of the human body, should, if possible, be deeply studied by the writer of this contradiction before he breathes out his opinion on such an abstruse subject as the Pathogenesy of the bacteria is. Of course, we entreat him to do so if he is a medical man and this letter is written simply with a view to correct the erroneous impression of those who hold the same opinion with him. There are men, who in their zeal and earnestness to find fault with others, commit blunders which tend to bring down ridicule and contempt on their own shoulders. Wise men should think twice before they utter a word. I hope "Not an Alarmist," should never forget this golden advice.

I know there are medical men who do not venture to approach even the threshold of the house of a patient suffering from a contagious disease of a fatal nature, owing to the formidable apprehension of the pathogenetic micro-organisms or the microscopic murderers; so no opportunity presents itself to them for ascertaining the true nature of a terrible disease; and also there are medical men whose high position does not allow them to study the peculiar nature of any outbreak of fearful disease that rages especially in the lower strata of society, but still they are bold and rash enough to ignore its appearance, not because they are totally ignorant of the events that are passing before their eyes but because they prefer to persist in their erroneous impressions that wrongly force them to hazard a thoughtless opinion.

BEPIN BEHARI DUTTA.

Many Lives Saved

In almost every neighbourhood there is some one whose life has been saved by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy, or who has been cured of chronic diarrhœa by the use of that medicine. Such persons make a point of telling of it whenever opportunity offers, hoping that it may be the means of saving other lives. For sale by

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

THE BAGBAZAR *MAHOTSHAVA.*

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—On Saturday last a Mahotsaba, under the auspices of the Gauranga Samaj, was held with great *eclat* at the premises of Babu Pramatha Nath Dutt, No. 48 Raja Rajbullav's Street, Bagbazar. The street was beautifully decorated with flags, foliage, plantain trees and pitchers brimful of water. Placards with the name of Sree Gauranga written on them, were stuck upon walls along the street. There was a large Durbar Samiana above a plot of ground resembling a grove, and under it was held a meeting which was addressed by Babu Jatindra Lal Mitra B.L., with an eloquent speech. Amongst others Miss Margaret Noble came to witness the festival. She seemed much impressed with what she saw. Two orchestral structures were made and they were decorated with velvet flags and cocoanut leaves. Nahabatwallas discoursed sweet music welcoming the guests. A tent, too, was pitched for the comfort of the invited guests. At noon the image of Sree Krishna was duly worshipped. Some 250 Sankirtan parties, mainly through the exertions of the members of the Gauranga Somaj, attended the Utsaba and chanted the names of Radha Krishna and Gauranga and Nityananda, with Kholas and Cortals (cymbals.) Rich and poor attended the festival on equal terms and all caste distinctions were obliterated for the time being; and it seemed as if the Avatar of Nadiya had again come down to this vale of tears and tied up all people in one bond of Love. The scene was, indeed, very imposing. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Religious feeling was aroused even in the minds of atheists and agnostics. They were for the time being carried by the current. The teachings of Sree Krishna Chaitanya, it seems, have at last begun to exercise their magic influence upon their mind. The invited guests were hospitably treated with humility and meekness by Babu Pramatha Nath Dutt who himself served them all. The Utsaba continued up to 2 A.M. Thanks are due to Pramatha Babu for bearing the cost of the festival. Needless to say such Utsabas, which are being held in different parts of the metropolis are purifying the spiritual and moral atmosphere of the city.

A SPECTATOR.

RUSSIA'S NEW ICE BREAKERS.

A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.

To free her ports from ice in winter has long been an object of Russian ambition, and several large ice breakers of sorts have been constructed for her in England. Of the latest of these a correspondent of the *Standard* writes from St. Petersburg:—

I have just received a detailed account of an important experiment made at the instance of the Minister of Finance for keeping open communication from the Baltic and St. Petersburg with the port of Cronstadt during the winter months. Cronstadt is, as is well known, ice-bound from about the first week in November until the middle of April by a solid, compact mass of ice so strong that artillery is regularly transferred on sledges from the island to the mainland. How to convey passengers and goods to Cronstadt during these months by ships has long been under the consideration of Russian ship designers, and two Admiral Makaroff has fallen the honour of solving the problem.

From the designs of the Admiral, Messrs. Armstrong, Mitchell and Co., of Newcastle, have lately constructed a vessel called the Ermak. She is of steel, is three hundred and five feet long, of eight thousand tons burthen, and six thousand horse-power. The ship is very strongly built, and besides provision for carrying passengers and cargo is also adapted for towing. But the chief feature is a specially arranged screw under the bows. Admiral Makaroff came to the conclusion that if a volume of water could be forced beneath the ice it would have the effect of raising the huge mass which, in those circumstances, could be broken by the prow of the ship being propelled against it. In a vessel employed on such work it was essential that she should be built without a keel. To counteract the great rolling which must follow from the adoption of this plan, water ballast was placed on board and so arranged as to avoid any great list. The full account of the voyage of the Ermak which has just reached here, shows that the ship has answered every expectation formed of her by her designer.

The vessel left Newcastle on the 2nd of March, Admiral Makaroff and several Russian officers and commercial men being on board, as well as nineteen passengers. The arrangements for the comfort of the latter are complete. The saloon is constructed with double windows and double skylights to preserve the heat, together with appliances for introducing hot air into the apartment. The walls are of English oak veneered with walnut, the saloon and the ship throughout being lit by electricity. When the Ermak arrived at Reval, a port in the Baltic, she met with solid ice. The screw at the bow was at once brought into requisition, the ice was broken and the vessel was able to steam at the rate of seven knots an hour as far as the Island of Hogland. But the novelty of the experiment demanded cautious navigation, and Admiral Makaroff have the ship to at night.

When the Island of Sescar was sighted, large frozen floes, varying in thickness from nine to ten feet, were fallen in with. Here the value of the special apparatus at the bows came into full prominence. The ice was broken into large pieces, which floated astern; but so arduous was the task of getting through the solid mass that the rate of progress was but two and-a-half knots. The Ermak reached Tolbeacon Lighthouse, about nine miles from Cronstadt, on the 16th of March. So unusual a sight in winter naturally attracted the attention of the whole of the population, and the progress of the vessel through the ice from three to five feet thick, surrounded as she was by sledges crammed with sightseers, was eagerly watched. The facility with which the ice was broken and sent astern as the ship steamed ahead was the one topic of conversation. On reaching Cronstadt harbour, the Ermak, which carried the Russian commercial flag, saluted the port, and at once proceeded alongside the iron-clad Poltava. The Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of the port, together with the Municipal authorities of Cronstadt, went on board the Ermak, to extend their congratulations to Admiral Makaroff and subsequently the officers and crew were entertained on board the Poltava.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

A MIRACLE WORKER IN PARIS.

THE novelty of the moment in Paris is—or was when the last mail left—a mystical healer called Dr. Edwards whose lodgings at 6, Rue Cadet, have for some time been crowded from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. every day by persons suffering from various diseases. Among them, says the *Standard's* correspondent, are the blind, the deaf, and the dumb, while the greater number of complain of chronic pains, asthma, dyspepsia, consumption, and other afflictions from which the members of the medical faculty have failed to relieve them. Almost all are persons whose cases have been pronounced incurable by the medical faculty, but the mystical healer encourages them to hope for renewed health and strength. Having heard of some of the alleged marvellous cures effected by this healer, who was born in Rome, and who till about six years ago was practising medicine in Australia, I called to see him and to question him concerning his methods. I was scarcely prepared for what I witnessed. Going up to the second floor, I found the door of the Doctor's unpretending apartment wide open, with a notice hanging to the doorhandle inviting all comers to enter without ringing. Several persons were standing in the ante-chamber and the dining-room, of which the door was open, was crowded with people of all classes of society, rich and poor, waiting to be admitted into the presence of the healer. While standing among them I heard scraps of conversation. Most of the unfortunate sufferers were there for the first time, and were gaining encouragement from others who had already derived real or imaginary relies from previous visits. The doctor's voice in the adjoining room could be heard from time to time, and before long the door was opened. The people thronged in, and I with them. There were in all about thirty patients in the room. Each presented himself or herself in turn to the healer, who standing at the further end of the room, enquired of each through a lady interpreter the nature of the disease or ailment to cure which his intervention was sought.

A PATIENT'S "CURE."

After witnessing the treatment of several patients, and perceiving that there was no short of ceremony, I commenced questioning the doctor and his patients. The first I spoke to was a lady of abou thirty years of age, who looked extremely illt and seemed to be suffering great pain. She told me that she had come to see Dr. Edwards because all the doctors she had consulted had failed to relieve the acute pain she constantly felt in her left side. She had not much hope, but, having heard of Dr. Edwards' success, she had determined to try him. It was soon her turn. Proceeding, as he always does, the healer put his fingers on the spot where the pain was felt. He made passes around it like a mesmeriser, then touching the spot again, made the motion, so to say, of picking out the pain and of throwing it on the floor. All the time he kept his eyes fixed on those of the patient. Then suddenly he said, "It has gone." But it had not. The poor woman was suffering as much as ever. Dr. Edwards continued the process, increasing the fixedness of his gaze. This time, after the passes, he stroked the pain down the patient's body and legs. After a while, the woman began drawing long breaths, colour came to her previously white cheeks, and in a few moments she exclaimed, "It is gone." She shook the healer's hand and thanked him warmly. Dr. Edwards, however, told her the pain would probably return, and that to be thoroughly cured she must return several times. If she is not an accomplice, she will return, and she probably added a gold piece to the bowlfull of coins of all sorts to which her attention was drawn by a lady as she passed out.

LOIE FULLER AMONG THE PATIENTS.

In the meanwhile Loie Fuller, the creator of the serpentine dance, had come in, and was watching the operations of the healer with intense interest. She told me it was her second visit, and that she hoped Dr. Edwards would save her eyesight, which was seriously injured by the strong electric light in which she has to perform every night. While we were talking, it came to the turn of a young gentleman who had lost the use of his voice. Loie Fuller related to me that the same young man was there the previous day, and that she had learned from the lady accompanying him that he had not been able to utter a word for several years. He spoke on that day, or rather whispered a few sounds, after the healer had manipulated his throat, and on the occasion of my visit I heard him speak in a low voice words or thanks to the doctor. After witnessing numerous other persons who came to the healer in pain and left declaring it had ceased Loie Fuller's turn was reached. She allowed her eyelids to be stroked, her temples and head to be manipulated, etc., and when she left the healer's hands she came to me, and seized my wrist saying: "I feel just as if I had been electrified; cannot you feel the fluid." I was obliged to confess I could not; but I spoke the truth when I told her I hoped the healer would be successful in improving her sight. After remaining about an hour I went away, but not before I had obtained some information concerning Dr. Edwards from his lady secretary. He is a man between fifty and sixty years of age, with long white hair and beard. He was born in Rome. Until the last six years he spent his life in Australia practising medicine. He says it was accidentally that he discovered his healing power. He had a young consumptive patient, the daughter of a friend. He was most desirous to save her life, but he found all his medical art powerless to check the disease. He then "willed" her recovery, and little by little she was restored to health. Since then Dr. Edwards has visited many of the islands of the Pacific Ocean, Mexico and the United States, and has, he says, met with great success. Some journals have declared that he professes to cure all diseases; but he told me himself that there were afflictions he did not pretend to cure, such as deafness from old age, &c. I am assured that he is now treating in Paris about two hundred and fifty persons a day.

THE attempt to erect one of the pillars of the new Falgu bridge which was damaged, has at last proved fruitless. It is now proposed to demolish it entirely. It is said that the pillar cost about sixty thousaud rupees.

CHAPRA and surrounding places were visited by a severe storm early on Tuesday morning, the 11th instant. I was accompanied by heavy rain, and quite a quarter of an inch was recorded during the hour and-a-half of its duration.

THE shooting party got up by the Judge and the Magistrate during the Easter holidays, in north Bhagalpur, returned to town bagging a leopard.

THERE is no foundation whatever for the statement that Mr. J. A. Bourdillon, C. S I., the Commissioner of the Patna Division, was likely to be appointed Manager of the Darbhunga Raj. The Maharaja of Darbhunga has not only no intention of departing from his present arrangement of direct supervision of his estate; but it is well-known that a recent order of the Government of India precludes Government officials from accepting appointments in British India under zemindars or other private persons. The nomination of Mr. A. M. Markham to the managership of the Hutwa Raj was made just before the order in question came into operation, and it is the last of its kind.

THE GENIUS WHO FAILED.

"THAT habit you have of predicting will get you into difficulties, young man," said Clarence, in his most pedagogical manner.

We had been walking together for the sake of our digestions, and I had been talking up a young man we both knew, who, as I viewed the case, was starting out on road that leads to failure in this life and perdition hereafter.

"Try to break yourself of the habit," Clarence went on, seeing that I had nothing to say in my own defence. "I suffered from it once. I can't say, as I should like to, that it ever got me into trouble, materially; but it did cause me a good deal of vexation on more than one occasion."

Then, when we had seated ourselves for refreshments at a small table by a window, where one got a satisfying view of the sidewalk traffic of Broadway, Clarence said, "I feel very much inclined to tell you the story of Pelham."

"Thank you," I said, I've read it. Tell me another one."

"Read it? Oh, you're thinking of Bulwer Lytton's novel. Psha! I'm thinking of incidents that happened right here in New York some ten or a dozen years ago. Just listen now."

So I applied a match where it would do the most good, and prepared to listen.

"The house where I met Pelham," Clarence began, "used to stand on Lower Fifth Avenue. A great piano warehouse occupies the site now. It had already fallen from its original dignity as the town mansion of a well-known family, and respectable, but not fashionable, people, mostly of artistic ambitions, occupied rooms in it.

"I went there to look up young Gus Winshow, whose elder brother I had known well when Gus was a mere baby. Gus had then just settled down in New York, after drifting about in the West a good deal. That was the time when Gus first began to really make a living with his pencil, and since then his living has got better and better every year. No, he was not the subject of my mistaken prediction. Just wait.

"Gus introduced me to two very charming young women, whom he called his 'chums' and 'colleagues of the brush.' In those days the bachelor girl was not so frequently met with as she is now, and so these two sisters, with their dignified, but free and easy manner, and their air of perfect self-reliance, interested me very much. They were a charming novelty.

"I was to call them again, and I went. And it was that evening that I met a young man whom Gus introduced as 'the Gem.' He was not a fashion-plate beauty, by any means, this 'Gem,' but according to my way of judging, he was about as prepossessing a young man as I ever set eyes on—dark hair and fine grey eyes full of intelligence, with a dark silky beard that he had allowed to grow altogether in its own way, as nature intended it. His manner, as I noted from the start was the very perfection of case, and to use for once a French term—I don't often, you know—'bienseance.' He seemed to be always smiling a smile, of satisfaction, as if he found everything about him pleasant and proper, and his smile, like his like his whole manner, was quiet.

"What made 'the Gem' all the more interesting—I may say at once that his name was Pelham—was the account Gus gave us of the way of their meeting. It was at San Francisco, at a hotel, where Gus had stayed some days waiting to hear from some friends in New York who had found work for him, and were going to send him a remittance to bring him accross the continent. This remittance had been delayed, and the hotel clerk was beginning to give Gus unpleasant looks, when Pelham, with whom he had a billiard-room acquaintance of only twelve hours, asked him in the pleasantest manner if 'he didn't think the fellow at the desk rather a cheeky customer.'

"You see, that was only Pelham's way of coaxing Gus into an admission of his awkward predicament, and after that the two of them became very friendly, and 'the Gem' walked down the street to a bank, came back to the clerk's desk with a bundle of big bills, and, after asking for his own account, casually added. 'By the way, you might as well put my friend's with it; settle it all in a lumps.' That incident naturally formed a good opening for friendship between Gus, Winshow and the casual young man. When Gus asked what had made him do such an unusual thing, he answered, 'Oh, I saw that the fellow would make himself a nuisance, you know, I understand all about delayed remittances and that sort of thing. And you're an artist, aren't you?'

"Later on Pelham told Gus he had known him for an artist by the shape of his fingers. He was talking by a music store with Gus on the same day that he had settled the two hotel bills, and was suddenly taken with a fancy to go in and try some pianos, and the end of that trial was a very pleasant piano recital by Mr. Pelham, at which all the salemen and half a dozen casual customers were present. The impromptu piano recital led to an earnest conversation between Pelham and a foreign-looking gentlemen, and that night Pelham told Gus he had been engaged to take the place of an accompanist of a touring concert company, the original accompanist having fallen ill.

'So, then, you're a musician?' says Gus.

'Oh, yes,' said Pelham. 'That's my style now, I suppose.'

"When I was introduced to Pelham he had just got through his tour with the concert company. He had bushels of reminiscences of half a dozen cities in the West and South, told his stories charmingly, and, I noticed, with a keen appreciation of every detail of local colouring.

"Well, Pelham evidenty made a great impression on those two bachelor sisters, and it was none the less plain that he enjoyed their company. He was constantly to be found in their rooms with Gus, and in those days was a recognised member of the little coterie. That meant a great deal to me, for both from what Gus told me their meeting in San Francisco and from present indications, it was beyond question that this Mr. Pelham, who ever might be, had unlimited letter of credit, and could command all the amusement that money could buy in this village, if he had been so disposed.

"So far he had passed with us all simply as a rich traveller, who was also an amateur musician of remarkable attainments. It was an accident that showed us the deeper depths of the man.

"Gus and I came in one Saturday afternoon to find Pelham strumming on a guitar, and chanting a weird thing, which it was explained to us, represented a Cashmere love song. Gus was worried that afternoon because he had to have an illustration ready by Monday morning, and couldn't finish it. The trouble was with one figure—a figure of a boy in a Greek tunic in the act of vaulting with a pole, I remember it was and he could not get that figure right for lack of a model.

"'Don't worry,' says Pelham, if you can't get a model, make a dummy—I always do.'

"We all exclaimed. 'You!' with one voice, for we had had no idea, that Pelham ever needed models or dummies, either.

"'Yes,' he said. 'If you dress up a mannikin for a pose like that, you get the muscular action all wrong you know. Just study it out in clay, or soap, or anything, and there's your model to draw from.'

"'I'd like to see you do it, said one of the girls—the fair one with the quaint, positive way about her.

"'All right, said Pelham, 'but it will take an awful lot of soap, you know.'

"Of course, soap was no object, under the circumstances; Pelham was given a whole bar to do with as he pleased. And then followed about the most remarkable exhibition in its way that I ever witnessed. He warmed and pounded and kneaded that bar of soap and worked it with his fingers for about three-quarters of an hour, and we began to see the shape of a running boy, dressed in loose tunic, with bare legs, developing on the drawing board they had given him. And presently he got up and took a knitting needle, deftly stuck it through the hands of the figure, and stood back to look at it.

"It was very good little study in the round of a boy just planting his pole for a high-pole leap. It was not a finished thing, mind you, but all the muscles seemed to be exactly as they would be in life, the folds of the tunic suggested movement, and the whole thing did admirably as a model for the subject.

"Pelham was the first to speak. 'There, now Gus,' he said. 'Can't you draw your boy from that?'

"'Mr. Pelham,' said one of the two girls, 'you are the first live genius I ever saw.'

"'I believe you must be an incarnation of the soul of Michael Angelo,' said the other.

"I noticed that when she—it was Fay, the fair sister—said that, Pelham looked at her quickly, and as if he were going to say something in reply, and then checked himself.

"Well, that was not the last exhibition of his wonderful talent which that young man gave us. He sat down one day, when Gus had brought his colour box, broke the lid off an old cardboard millinery box, and made a perfectly beautiful group of the two faces of the sisters, as they sat together, one sketching in charcoal, and the other watching and giving criticisms.

"You might think there was some mystery about this remarkable youth, but I can assure you he had made none himself. He told us that he had been 'born with a good fat silver spoon in his mouth,' twenty-five year before; that is parents were dead; that he had neither brothers nor sisters, had been educated in England and Germany, and had just come to the end of four years of travelling.

"I wanted to get some sense into my head,' he said, 'before I finally made up my mind to study a t. I spent a good deal of time in India, and now my mind is about made up. I hope to take my first lesson in drawing in Paris this fall.'

"'That last was the most astounding statement I ever heard him make. The idea of his never having taken a lesson in drawing so far!'

"Before he left us Pelham gave us a delightful little dinner at a restaurant that you and I know well on Sixth Avenue. At desert he handed the girls two keepsakes in the shape of two rings which he said he had designed himself and had had made here; but the dark maiden had a rubby in her ring and the fair a sapphire. He made them wear the rings on their forefingers.

"I needn't tell you that when our 'Gem' went away we were all very disconsolate. But I was curious to know whether either of those two girls felt toward him otherwise than as a friend. Aell I could ever conclude was that both were in love with him, for both of them refused good offers in succeeding years, and both are still old bachelor maids, with two superbly jewelled-rings on their forefingers. And, mind, these things happened more than ten years ago.

"But about that prediction of mine that failed. I quite expected to hear of Pelham in years to come as one of the foremost artists of the world. It was not merely that he had the gift of dexterity of execution, but when I talked to him about art, as I often did, it seemed to me that art was all the world to him.

"And so I waited and waited, often asking people who I knew had recently been in the Latin Quarter if they had heard or seen anything of this genius of ours. Some knew of him and his genius, but I never could hear of his having exhibited anything.

"At last, two years ago, when I was in Florida on business, I recognised my man, standing on the platform of a small railway station. I got off the train and let my baggage go its way, losing twenty-four hours' time on purpose to talk to him.

"And what do you think, 'he said?

"'Oh, yes, I remember you quite well—in New York. Painting? I never paint now. There are so many things in life that seem better worthwhile. I grow oranges for fun. It's a more healthful occupation, and it leaves one more time to think, and the world enjoys oranges much more than pictures, you know.'

"The leaping boy? Oh, yes. Those two girls kept it, I believe. No doubt they still have it locked up among their treasures."

A TIRUVADI correspondent writes:—One Venkatachella Iyer, a Brahimin residing in the village of Agara Thiruperambium, Kumbakonam Taluq, who was suffering from convulsions for a long time, and who was abandoned by his wife, a woman of 30, on that score, was consulting the pleaders here as to his filling a suit for the restitution of conjugal rights, and when he found that no such suit was maintainable, he filed a suit against his wife and some others for the recovery of Rs. 400 due under a registered bond, executed in the name of his wife. Later on the compromised the suit with his wife and took her home During his absence in Kumbakonum for about a week his wife is represented to have bolted away with his bonds, pro-notes, and jewels worth about Rs. 400. On his return home, he found the house locked up; he then came to Tiruvadi and took possession of a registered bond for Rs. 300, standing in his wife's name, from the house in which she lived. She complained of this occurrence to the local police, accusing him of theft. The husband was taken to the police station and detained there for some time for enquiry, and as no offence was made out the document was returned to the wife. The husband next presented a complaint to the Deputy Magistrate of Tanjore accusing his wife and wife's brother of theft with respect to his bonds, pro-notes, and jewels; and the complaint was referred to the local Sub-magistrate a month ago, the complainant without taking any steps since then finally put in a petition for the withdrawal of his complaint on the 11th instant. The husband and wife are now living again together.

Remarkable Cure of Rheumatism.

KENNA, Jackson Co., W. Va.

About three years ago my wife had an attack of rheumatism which confined her to her bed for over a month and rendered her unable to walk a tep without assistance, her limbs being swollen to double their normal size. Mr. S. Maddox insisted on my using Chamberlain's Pain Balm. I purchased a fifty-cent bottle and used it according to the directions and the next morning she walked to breakfast without assistance in any manner, and she has not had a similar attack since.—A B. PARSONS. For sale by

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

The Best in the World

We believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best in the world. A few weeks ago we suffered with a severe cold and a troublesome cough, and having read their advertisements in our own and other papers we purchased a bottle to see how it would affect us. It cured us before the bottle was more than half used. It is the best medicine out tor clods and coughs.—The Herald, Andersonville, Ind. For sale by

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

ANGLO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 1.—The Russian newspapers contain a number of quotations from various English and German journals to the effect that the Russian Ambassador in London had been instructed to say that, in view of the forthcoming Peace Conference, Russia renounced her opposition at Niu-chwang, that a preliminary agreement had already been concluded between England and Russia, and that spheres of interest were shortly to be marked out. All this, I am informed, is quite wrong. M. de Staal has not been instructed to say anything of the kind, and no agreement has yet been finally settled either by M. de Staal in London or by Sir Charles Scott in St. Petersburg. Everything, however, continues to go on very favourably towards the desired end of establishing a *modus vivendi*. Anything more than this is not to be expected, and even this must be the result of much urging on the part of the British Government, which has a public opinion to satisfy, while the Russian Government has none that needs to be shown the least consideration.

St. Petersburg, April 2 (*Times*).—The strictest secrecy is being observed here relative to the negotiations between England and Russia. They may, it is hoped, lead to an agreement as to non-interference with each other's commercial operations and interests in China, but the best informed opinion leads one to believe that even spheres of influence or interest are not admitted to be feasible or advisable. Russia holds that China is not yet a second Africa to be marked out into spheres of influence, political, commercial or otherwise. The "integrity and inviolability of the Chinese Empire," however much the phrase may seem to be contradicted by recent facts, is a maxim which Russia must adhere to for her own sake, for, as the immediate land neighbour of China, she is now more than ever interested in maintaining the *status quo* in the Celestial Empire.

CENTRAL ASIAN NOTES.

THE Moscow correspondent of the *Standard* says the following account of Russian aims in the East is somewhat more detailed than any which has yet appeared. It is extracted from an article in the *Transcaspian Observer* dealing with Russian plans for the invasion of India:

At the present moment we are not at war with England, and we have no mind to conquer India. But we must be ready for this campaign if England hinders us in the lines we have laid down for ourselves, the first steps of which, by patient efforts that have cost much blood, have already been taken. If our progress in Central Asia has become more determined, the English are themselves to blame for having closed to us the Straits into the Mediterranean, and Russia, with a growing population and increasing industries, must find, and will find, an outlet for herself to a southern sea.

As Turkestan has begun to supply us more and more with raw cotton, so the Caucasus is beginning to develop her natural wealth. Great factories are already building to work up the raw materials of Turkestan. The cotton, silk, and wool of Persia likewise present immense material for our exploitation if we out a railway through Persia and make a more thorough acquaintance with the country. After the Emperor William's trip to Palestine, the question of this railway can no longer be postponed. We must be before the Germans on the Persian Gulf. Our main line must run from the Caspian to Teheran, Ispahan, Yezd, Kerman, Bampore, and the coast of Persian Baloochistan; from the main line a branch might be made to the Persian Gulf. Neither in Persia nor in Mesopotamia must there be any other influence than Russia's.

In this way the fundamental object of our progress southward must be the interests of trade and industry But it would quickly take the form of a menace if England should oppose our progress. Certain complications might lead to war. The conquest of India could not, of course, bring us any advantage, but it would entirely uproot England economically, and reduce her to the state of Holland. These views should be understood by English statesmen, and ought to dissipate their excessive suspicion while undermining their confidence in those fanatic foes of Russia among the rulers and generals of India. They must understand, and never lose sight of the fact, that we have no need to overturn their empire in India, if only they do not oppose the natural aspirations of Russia towards the south, to which she has the right of a great and powerful people.

The termination of the "main line" and the "branch" respectively, though not named, the correspondent adds, are obviously the seaports of Chahbar and Bunder Abbas, about which it is believed a secret treaty was concluded between Russia and Persia some fifteen years ago on the basis of a memorandum for the occupation of Persia, drawn up by the present Russian Minister for War, General Kuropatkin. The resuscitation of this question at the present time is not without a special interest, in view of recent occurrences at Muscat. With Russia at Chabbar and France at Muscat on the opposite side of the Gulf of Oman, the two "friendly and allied" nations would doubtless find themselves ideally situated for any further designs of aggrandisement on the basis of the demands of a trade and industry yet to be created.

ENGLISH NOTES.

THE *Manchester Guardian's* correspondent in London hears that there is serious friction between the authorities at the War Office and the Foreign Office as regards the garrisoning of Omdurman. In view of the possibility or the probability of further trouble with the at present straggling followers of the Khalifa, Lord Kitchener thinks that there should be at any rate a backbone of British troops to assist in holding the present position and in making any advances that may be requisite. But Lord Wolseley, reasonably enough, objects to whitemen being permanently employed in a district unhealthy at all times and in which through at least half of the year they would be likely to die like flies. The compromise suggested by the War Office, that British troops should be at Omdurman in the safest months and at Alexandria or elsewhere for the rest of the time, does not satisfy the Foreign Office, as this would leave Lord Kitchener's military base ill-protected just when its Dervish assailants, to whom climatic considerations are of small account, would be most dangerous.

"DISAFFECTION" IN THE WEST INDIES.

THE *New York Herald* had published the following letter of Mr. Andrew Munro, Member of the Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands, under date March 3, 1899:—

"Within the last few days a memorial from the inhabitants of St. Christopher-Navis, the oldest English settlement in the West Indies, has been forwarded to the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Her Britannic Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, praying the Imperial Government to take steps during the present session of Parliament to abolish the sugar bounties, or, alternatively, to open negotiations with the Government of the United States for the transfer of these colonies to Uncle Sam, in exchange for the Philippines, or otherwise, as may be mutually agreed upon by the two Governments.

"The memorial to which I allude has been signed by members of the Legislature, by the leading owners of sugar estates, and by a large number of merchants, managers of estates, artisans, laborers and in fact by the representatives of all classes and interests in the Presidency.

"The significance of this memorial can hardly be overestimated, for although the movement in favour of a political union with the United States is at present in the incipient stage, there is no doubt that the people of the colonies generally disgusted by the apathy and utter indifference of the British Government to their interests, are ready for change of flags.

"Eleven years ago James Anthony Froude, the English historian, indicated very clearly in his book, 'The English in the West Indies,' what was coming, and even then wrote:—'The Yankee, whether, we like it or not, is the acknowledged sovereign in these waters.'

"Since then Cuba, the pearl of the Antilles, and Porto Rico have virtually become United States territory, and in despair of obtaining just treatment from the British Government, colonies that have for nearly three centuries been loyal to the English connection are spontaneously asking to be transferred to the Government of the Republic. And small blame to them. For, with a selfishness that is almost incredible England has looked on with cynical indifference while the bounty granting countries on the Continent of Europe have persued a policy deliberately calculated to ruin her colonies.

"Over and over again the colonists have petitioned the Imperial Government to enact a law similar to the provision contained in section 5 of the United States tariff, which would impose countervailing duties on bounty-fed products entering the United Kingdom. But all in vain. By placing the colonists and the foreigner on an equal footing in the English markets, it was possible that the British working-man might have to pay one-fourth of a cent per pound more for his sugar, and, of course, that settled the matter.

"Every consideration of justice and fair play has been sacrificed to this miserable quarter of a cent, with the result that the British West India sugar islands are on the verge of absolute ruin and are looking wistfully to the United States for succour. Even now, indeed, as Mr. Chamberlain naively admitted a few weeks ago, it is mainly due to the bounty provision in the Dingley tariff that the sugar industry in the West Indies has not entirely collapsed. The Colonial Secretary went so far, indeed, as to argue that the United States having done so much for us it was unnecessary for the British Government to do anything.

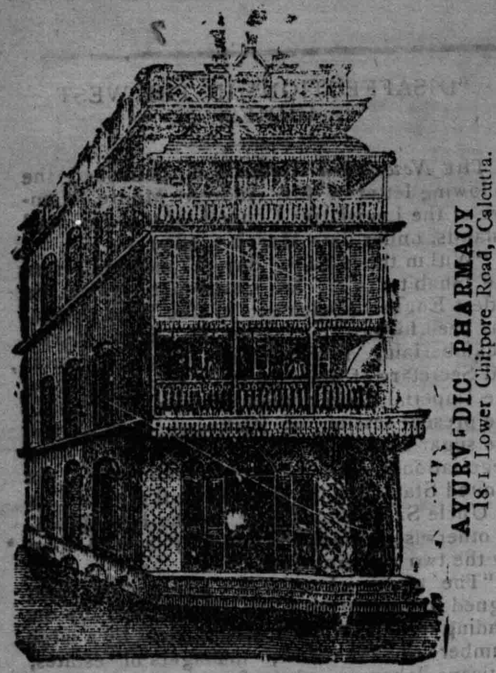
"What a confession for a Minister of the Crown to make! Is it a wonder under these circumstances that West Indians are asking for a transfer? Is it a wonder that they are recalling the words of James Anthony Froude?

"'If I were a West Indian I should feel that under the Stars and Stripes I should be safer than I was at present from political experimenting. I should have a market in which to sell my produce where I should be treated as a friend. I should have a power behind me and protecting me and I should have a future to which I could look forward with confidence. America would restore me to hope and life; Great Britain allows me to sink contenting herself with advising me to be patient. Why should I continue loyal when my loyalty was so contemptuously valued?'

"The question with which the eminent author of 'The History of England' ends the above passage is being asked by West Indians at the present time. And failing the prompt settlement of the bounty question I have little doubt that the memorial addressed by the inhabitants of St. Christopher, the parent English 'plantation' in the West Indies, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, will prove the precursor of many more in the same strain.'

THE Madras High Court has of late been making efforts to raise the standard of professional morality among the local legal practitioners, and has promulgated some very stringent rules for their guidance. Quite recently an order was issued to the effet that Vakils, *viz*, legal Graduates of the Madras University who are entitled to practise before the highest courts in the Presidency, are to be prohibited from engaging in any trade or calling other than that of the law. Hitherto, it has been a very ordinary practice among Vakils to combine the calling of a professional money-lender with that of a lawyer; and not long ago one of the Native leaders of the Madras Bar was well-known as a regular money-lender. Others engage in various trades, and a Milliner's shop in Madras was till very recently run by one of the luminaries of the local Bar. With regard to the lower class of legel practitioners, *viz.*, Pleaders, who can only appear before Mufussil Courts, rules prohibiting trading and other extra-legal avocations have for some time been practically in force; but of late complaints about their shady and unprofessional conduct have been so frequent and have increased to such an extent that the Madras Government, on the recommendations of the High Court Judges, has directed a special Pleadership Examination Board, consisting of the Advocate-General and a few other local legal dignitaries to take cognisance of these cases. Hitherto the Madras High Court was the only tribunal which could inquire into these complaints and award penalties; but offending Pleaders have become so numerous of late that the High Court Judges sought to be relieved of the unsavoury task of adjudicating on their ever-increasing delinquencies.—*Pioneer.*

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta



Novelty in Ayurvedic Medicine.

KAVIRAJ, NOGENDRA NATH SEN'S

Ayurvedic Pharmacy,

18-1, Lower Chitpore Road, Tariti Bazar
CALCUTTA.
Telegraphic Address, "KAVIRAJ 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.

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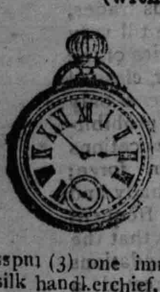

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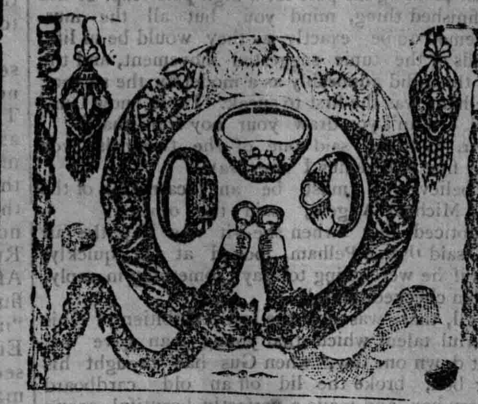

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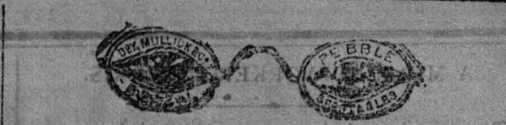

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