

Amrita Bazar Patrika

BI-WEEKLY EDITION--PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY

VOL. XXXI.

CALCUTTA, SUNDAY, MAY 7, 1899

NO. 33.

পদক-পাতক।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে
মূল্য ৩০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট যন্ত্র

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

অমৃতগব্বী।

শ্রীমদেব দাস প্রণীত।

এই গব্বী উপদেশ বৈষ্ণব গ্রন্থ দুই শব্দ
বঙ্গের পূর্বে লিখিত।

মূল্য ছয় আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ এক আনা।

অমৃত বাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

শ্রীমদেব প্রকাশ।

শ্রীমদেব প্রভুর প্রিয়মুখের ও শিষ্য

শ্রীশ্রীশ্রী নারায়ণ কৃত।

শ্রীমদেবপ্রভুর দীপা সন্থকে অনেক

মুদ্রণ করা আছে এবং শ্রীমদেবপ্রভুর

দীপা বিশদরূপে বর্ণিত হইয়াছে।

মূল্য বায় আনা। ডাঃ মাঃ এক আনা।

পূর্ণাঙ্গবাজার, ত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

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মাসিক পত্রিকা। বার্ষিক মূল্য ২০ টাকা।

অনেকে প্রথম হইতে শ্রীমদেবপ্রিয়া পত্রিকা

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একবারে নিঃশেষিত হওয়ায়, আমরা তাঁহাদের

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আমরা উক্ত নিঃশেষিত সংখ্যাগুলি পুনঃপ্রতি

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THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, MAY 7, 1899.

CERTAIN DISTINCT PLEDGES OF
THE GOVERNMENT.

Now that Lord Curzon is studying Indian questions, we would humbly request H. E. to go through certain important State papers which have now been almost forgotten. It was Sir John Strachey who was the author of the Decentralization scheme which led almost to a revolution in the administration of the country. This scheme was also the Despatch of the Duke of Argyll on the Road Cess question are the two State papers in which the Government was pleased to make certain distinct pledges. By the decentralization scheme, the Government gave some degree of independence to Local Administrations. They were given a certain sum for their needs, with the promise that they would be allowed the advantages that they could secure by economy. By the Road Cess Despatch the Duke of Argyll promised that the proceeds derived from the said Cess, would be made over absolutely to those who would pay it.

But, as a matter of fact, the local administrations are not allowed that independence promised to them and the Cess-payers are not allowed to have any real control over the proceeds of the Road-Cess.

Indeed, the India Government treats India as its own property, and the local Governors as its stewards. It issues mandates upon these stewards for money, and the stewards protest. They say that they have no money to send and that they can only send money by starving departments and stopping all reforms. But the autocratic landlord does not listen to such excuses, and it reiterates the demand for money. The stewards again say that they had got only a bare pittance from their master for their urgent needs, that their resources were very limited, that they succeeded in managing their business, only because they were strictly economical, that the previous understanding was that if they could save any money by economy, the Government of India would not, in any way, interfere with those savings and, therefore, they ought to be excused.

But the autocratic landlord is inexorable. The stewards are paid servants and they find that they must either yield or give up their employment, and they naturally prefer the former alternative. Why should a steward endanger his own valuable position for the sake of the tenantry? And they do one thing to recoup themselves for their losses. These stewards have their under-stewards in the District Boards. For, be it remembered that if the Government of India made an arrangement with the Local Government, the Local Government also had made an arrangement with the District Boards. The stewards then mete out the same treatment to their under-stewards as the autocratic landlord does to them, viz., they issue peremptory mandates upon these District Boards to help them with money!

We sometimes ventured to give a hint to the effect that the Indians expect something substantial from Lord Curzon, simply for two reasons, viz., first, that he has the ability and, we believe, the desire to do the people of India good; and secondly, that the way in which India's resources—the resources of this poor and helpless country—are frittered away is immoral in the extreme. Let the India Government do justice to the Local Administrations and let the Local Administrations do justice to the funds placed at the disposal of the District Boards, and then it will be possible for the people to remove some of their most crying needs.

Of course, India has not been reduced to slavery by the British Government, for the Indians are governed by laws. But what the British Government has done them is this. It has reserved in its own hand the power of taxing the people and is spending every pice of the revenue thus raised. And what is the result? How has this enormous power been used by the Government? Let us quote Mr. Maclean:—

It is literally true, that at the present moment out of the fifty millions of net revenue, half comes to England to pay the Home Charges, while probably another third is spent on the army, which is mainly employed in guarding the frontier. Very little of the Indian revenue is spent in fact in India at all.

Considering the extremely sacred nature of the trust that the British Government has taken upon itself, it should go on its knees, when imposing taxes or spending them, to pray to God, so that it may be saved from the temptation of abusing the holy responsibility which it can do so safely and easily.

SURESH CHANDRA BISWAS.

We said in our last that Suresh had some differences with his father. The fact is, his father was a devout Baishnav, and he naturally felt horrified at the conversion of his son to Christianity and gave him up for lost for ever. Suresh's father is still alive, but he leads the life of a pious ascetic at Sree Brindaban.

Suresh was no ordinary lion-tamer. Some of his performances in this line created wonder and amazement and elicited applause from the highest circles in Germany and elsewhere. His daring feats formed the

subject of thrilling articles in many important newspapers of Europe. Indeed, he had thoroughly mastered the art of training wild animals. But though attached to a circus party, Suresh did not lose his opportunities to improve his mind in various ways, during his travels. Says he, in one of his letters: "I have studied a great deal. I have gone through almost all the sciences of the West, and am conversant with at least seven languages. I speak English, German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Danish and Dutch."

In 1889 Suresh was put in charge of a hospital at Rio de Janeiro, and there he not only learnt how to treat such serious cases as yellow fever, but also to handle all the instruments of surgery. "If I stop at this hospital long," writes he in a letter, dated 5th January 1889, "I will be a good surgeon. I can do nearly all the operations and the surgeons approve of them."

In another place Suresh talks of the medical science in rapurous terms: "Medical science," says he, "is the noblest of all sciences. I have studied it diligently. I have been up to the threshold of its mysterious temple and have learnt many secrets. I adore the science itself, but I hate the professors of it, because they have no benevolence in them. A doctor without benevolence is like an angel without wings." Mr. Punando Limos refers in his letter to the great skill of Suresh as a master of the healing art.

We shall now refer to the letter of Mr. Punando Limos, which is specially interesting as it bears independent testimony of the heroism of Suresh Chandra. Writes he to Suresh's father under date, 12th March 1894:

Your son, of course, you must know already, was a military man serving the Government of Brazil. He held and holds yet the high post of the first Lieutenant of an Infantry regiment of Brazil. Lately he renowned himself in the battle of Niteroy by his undaunted courage, devotion and bravery. On the memorable night of the battle when the said town was besieged by the enemies after bombarding it for six hours your son, our dear friend, who was unhappily there in the service with his regiment, was sent with 50 men to oppose the mighty march of the enemies, and like many other forces was sent in every direction. Soon he was discovered by the enemies and the voice came to his ears, "who comes there?" The voice was instantly answered by him—"the brave soldier of the legal force of the Republic." "Render (surrender) yourself or you die" was the answer of the enemies. To this his arrogant answer was "the brave soldiers of the Republic render (surrender) not"; and, then turning to his soldiers, ordered an accelerated march over the enemies; this march was received by a heavy discharge of portable cannons which the enemies had with them. He (Suresh) halted, looked at his men and said: "Comrades, the enemies have revolver cannons, and the distance is too near for us; the sons of our beloved Brazil have a heart that fears not to die and you will see how a son of the holy land of Hindustan can be the master of these cannons in five minutes; prepare" and giving a few hurrahs he cried out, "follow," and precipitated himself against the cannons. Once there he was truly the master of the cannons, but then ensued the massacre and the result was his victory.

What Indian can read the above without being filled with pride at the extraordinary heroism displayed by a countryman of his in a foreign and distant land in the cause of order and good government? The description reminds one of some of the brilliant feats of Garibaldi, the Italian hero, which won for him the admiration of the whole of Europe and America. Let us, however, again quote from the letter of Mr. Punando:—

A Brazilian Indian, who followed him (Suresh) from the depths of the far lands of Brazil, where he was for sometime, and who serves in the same regiment as a common soldier, because he would not leave him, told me in a conversation I had with him about the excellence with which his master fought that night like a man of great valour which comes from a great heart, and it is a pity and great pity that such a man should be lost from all our eyes.

Mr. Punando Limos continues:— He (Suresh) had been with us at the end of February, as he was a great friend of our house and told me that if some day he should disappear from here, I should do him a great favour as to write to Calcutta, that his name was honoured wherever he was and that his son should know how to keep up that name after his death. He had left his newly-married wife and a son of one year and four months old in our house, and, of course, they are sacred people for me as long as they will live. He has left enough for them to live on, and my houses are many and my domains are vast—more than they could wish.

Mr. Punando thus testifies to the fact that Suresh Chandra is a gentleman, every inch of him, and that he has a cultured mind:

In society Suresh Chandra was a very quiet man, very polished in manners, well-educated, his head full of new ideas, always in pursuit of science, indifferent to danger, and very addicted to philosophy. His scientific knowledge is so great that he cured my wife of a paralyzed leg, which no doctor could cure, in a week, by what he called animal magnetism. He gave her no medicine except now and then passing his pointed fingers over her well-covered members.

It was on receipt of the above letter from Mr. Punando Limos that the rumour was circulated to the effect that Suresh was dead. His letter, dated 13th May, 1894, noticed in our last, however removed all fears about his life. No communication was received from him for a long time. It would appear that he commenced writing the note that was received here after Mr. Limos's letter, on the 3rd September, 1894, when he fell seriously ill and thus left it unfinished. We quote this portion of his letter below:—

Rio de Janeiro, 3rd, September '94.

I received your letter the other day and in it I see I have pleased some countrymen of mine with my military achievements. For me there is nothing extraordinary for what I have done—it was so natural in me then: but many other officers had done more, some of them, alas! I will never see again. As for my military education, I have served in the Cavalry Regiment for three years as a soldier and five years in the Infantry as a graduated soldier. When the revolutions broke out on the 6th of September last and all the war vessels joined together to block our beautiful bay of Rio de Janeiro and began to bombard the strong fortresses of Santa Cruz, Lage and Sur Joao, then we began to feel there was work to be done. The fortresses gallantly responded with their heavy artillery to the better artillery of the men-of-war. There was recruiting and concentration of forces every where throughout the country. Every elevated place was fortified all round the bay. There was skirmishing every day and everywhere, bombarding once here and once there. The revolted marine with their 20 men-of-war, turned all their attention to the city of Niteroy, when they could not bombard the town of Rio de Janeiro, because of thousands of strangers that lived in there. The poor city was razed to the ground and at last they landed thinking that we must be fatigued, or we were not sufficient for them. So the battle took place on the 9th of February, when after three hours of hard fighting, the mariners were defeated and some of fled and got safe to their boats, and the rest of them were our prisoners. Uncle! think not the military post I hold was so easy for me to win. I never thought of being an officer. Often and often they talked of my promotion, but always my name was cancelled from the list for the simple reason of my being a foreigner. Lately the revolution broke out and I and my other companions were under the orders of a General and this General, though he knew me not, saw how we behaved ourselves during the skirmishes and found out my military valor in leading my platoon gallantly against the fire of the enemies.

He did not care to know nor did he pause to consider whether I was a foreigner or not. It was sufficient for him to see what I was worthy of and reported my case to the Marshal Vice-President of the Brazilian Republic and I was promoted to the post of a Lieutenant and as such you know that I have assisted to the last decisive battle of Niteroy.

Herewith I send you a rough sketch of the battle of Niteroy, where I was feared even by my own comrades though I never ill-treated them. You all express your wishes I should relate to you all the details. Ah! uncle, it is horrible to relate the horrors of war, where life which we so much prize is sold as if it were the cheapest thing in the world, and he who cares for it the least saves it the most. What is courage after all, but the tranquil resolution to offer it (life) most willingly in exchange of the thing we wish for? It is all very well to use your prudence and calculations when the enemies are far away, but when they are near and in offensive position there is only one way to proceed—it is to muster all your forces and advance; and the more energetic your advance the more it will intimidate your enemies. You wish to know more details of my life. Have I not always written to you from different parts of this world wherever I had been? Have I not told you that I have travelled all through Europe as a lion-tamer, managing these animals in a cage in menageries and circuses? Herewith I send you a newspaper of Buenos Ayres where my life was published.

The letter was not posted at the time it was written; so neither the sketch of the battle of Niteroy nor the newspaper cutting alluded to above reached Suresh's uncle. His last letter, in which his letter of 3rd September 1894 is enclosed, is not dated. Suresh thus describes his sudden disappearance which led to the rumour of his death:—

As to my disappearance it happened in the following manner. In the evening of the day when the battle took place, I marched back to our quarters with ten mariners as my prisoners, and went for a walk alone. In my way, a woman decently dressed, asked me if I knew where the dead were carried to. I willingly went with her to show the place. There I was surprised to encounter two mariners who, without giving me time, attacked me with dagger in their hands. I drew my sword and defended myself. They finding me strong enough both for defensive and offensive purposes, took to their heels. I immediately thought of coming back to my quarters a little far from the place. I had not gone yet fifty steps than a kind of giddiness came over me. I was obliged to sit down upon a stone and naturally began to analyse my sensations. Everything seemed to me dusky and I felt cold on my feet. The coldness began to creep along my legs; it reached my knees, crept over my side and stopped on my breast; then I felt the same kind of cold in my ear, it began to creep down my face and stopped in my breast and I lost all sensibility. I took three days for the return of sense. I was carried to the blood hospital half-naked by two unknown men. The doctors knew not who I was. Eight days afterwards, when I could express myself I wished to return to my quarters and I was found again as I was considered lost.

What a pity that a gifted man like Suresh Chandra Biswas has no opportunity to develop his talents in his own country under the enlightened rule of England, and that he should naturalize himself in a foreign country and serve a foreign Government to earn distinction!

THE EVIL ONE AND HIS AGENTS.

SIR W. RATTIGAN, Q. C. has, in an article in the *New Century Review*, offered his advice how Lord Curzon, as Viceroy of India, should do his work. The advice that he offers is bad throughout; yet the *Pioneer* devotes four columns of its space in praise of it. The *Tribune* of Lahore shews in an article, of which an extract appears elsewhere, that Sir W. Rattigan has no *locus standi* in this matter. He can presumably know nothing of the subjects he has taken in hand for discussion. But the painful surprise is the praise bestowed upon the article by the *Pioneer*.

Did we not, only the other day, point out that the tone of the *Pioneer* is now veering

towards liberal principles? That being his opinion, can he support the article under discussion? And how mighty glad we were to see the *Times* laying down that, the highest function of the Viceroy consists in interpreting the wishes and aspirations of the Indian people to the people of England? When such is the tone of leading newspapers in India and England, why should Sir W. Rattigan disturb the harmony by venomous writings and why should the *Pioneer* offer him aid in this matter by praising them?

The Indians have all the aspirations of an intellectual race, and the native press, finding all the doors of progress closed against them, have to explain to their alien rulers, their real situation, in moderate language. By this we do our duty, we serve man and God. If the native papers are only vipers, what is Sir W. Rattigan who comes forward unwarrantably to seduce Lord Curzon from his path of duty? He calls us names, let us pay him in his own coin. Let us vote him a cobra. But a cobra conveys no definite meaning as the viper does: let us therefore call him that serpent which seduced Eve.

Now that we have come to Eve we remember that Sir W. Rattigan belongs to a Christian race, and he offers his advice to a Christian Viceroy. Remembering this we have to view the conduct of the writer in the light of the Christian Bible. In that Holy Book we see that God rules the Heaven, and a rebellious Subject rules the Hell. This Hell is a place which has no bottom and is also very hot. Society there is peculiarly constituted; pleasure consists in cruelty; justice means violence; meanness is the sign of nobility; and lying is the basis of speech. In that society the rebellious Subject, the Evil One, with all his followers, live only to commit mischief and seduce honest men from the path of rectitude. The one great object of that Traitor is to augment the number of his followers. God, as King, is merciful; He is a Father and it is His desire that all His children should go to Heaven. But this rebellious Subject is ever on the alert to see that this great object of the loving Father is frustrated.

Now, how does the rebellious Subject effect this? He and his followers can come out of their hot place of residence, though it has no bottom, and roam amongst men. They can enter the body of any man; they can take any shape; they can also offer things which tempt the minds of weak men. Thus entering the body of men, they can whisper bad counsels and tempt a man to commit murder. When a man is angry, they insidiously inflame his anger and lead him to commit violence. Just see how they tempt a man. A man sees an open door with nobody there. A follower of the Evil One, the Traitor, immediately whispers into his ear, "Go, there's none, go and steal." And the man listens to such counsel and thus a follower is gained for the Traitor.

Sometimes they take human shape, and in the guise of a beautiful female seduce a man of honor. Sometimes they will appear before men as preachers and preach atheism and free love. And sometimes, they will even write articles in newspapers trying to befriended wrong against right, the strong against the weak, and offering advices, which, if followed, would only augment the following of the Traitor who lives in the bottomless pit. They have a particular attraction for newspapers, for through them they can seduce Kings, Viceroy and leaders, and a large number of men. Emissaries and agents of the Evil One are abroad; they are everywhere to be found. Wherever there is any chance of mischief they are there. Lord Sandhurst is, to all accounts, a most amiable ruler. How was it that he was led to throw his province *topsy-turvy*? Well, the emissaries alluded to above abounded there, in the Secretariat, in the Press, and in many other places, and that explains the situation.

We have very little to add to the above. Lord Curzon occupies one of the highest positions in the world. It is, therefore, but natural that many would feel disposed to offer him advice. It is for Lord Curzon to choose his advisers. His Lordship is a Christian and the Bible ought to be his guide. It is this Holy Book which will enable him to choose good advice from bad. If any one offers an advice which is compatible with the teachings of the Bible, he can welcome the advice and the adviser without reserve. But if any one comes with an advice which is not strictly in accord with the teachings of the Bible let him regard the approach of that man with suspicion.

We see the article under notice signed by Sir W. Rattigan. But who knows that a creature of the Evil One has not taken unwarrantable liberties with his name? Is he willing to acknowledge the article? Even if he is so willing it is yet to be seen whether he is in his right senses and not under the grip of an emissary of that Being.

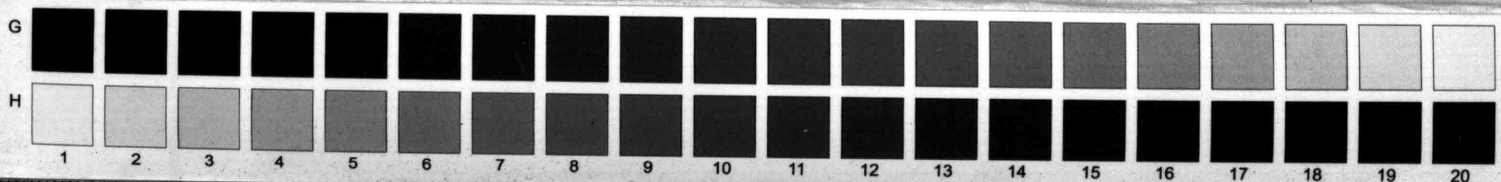
WE hear His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal has rejected the application for mercy made on behalf of Ahmed Ali who has been capitally punished. The reader may remember that Golam Hossien and Ahmed Ali had been adjudged to be hanged by the Sessions Judge of Barisal. On appeal the High Court discharged the first accused and confirmed the death sentence in the case of the other. A petition,

very largely and influentially signed, was submitted to H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, praying for mercy, with the result stated above. We don't know the reasons which have led His Honor to reject the prayer. But, before doing so, he ought to have taken note of one fact. A large number of men, who had no connection with Ahmed, were moved by the circumstances of his case, and prayed to His Honor not for justice but for mercy. Under the circumstances, His Honor might have found his way to make a concession in favor of the unfortunate boy, who is only 18 years of age, without hurting the majesty of the law. And then, why is the prerogative of mercy vested in the Governors of Provinces if they would not exercise it in a case like this? We are assured by our informant that both the District Judge and the District Magistrate of Barisal are sorry to hear of the manner in which the appeal has been disposed of. Another representation has now been made to His Excellency the Viceroy. We hope, Lord Curzon will be graciously pleased to view the matter from the stand-point of the Barisal people, and do a humane act which will no doubt secure for him the blessings of Heaven.

THE above case shows that Sir John Woodburn thinks that the claims of justice are superior to those of mercy. This is all right. It seems, however, mercy now and then displaces justice from His Honor's heart, that is to say, when erring officials are concerned. Mr. Egerton, the Magistrate of Murshidabad, committed acts of gross illegality and wrong. The manner in which he behaved with Dr. Khudiram Ghose was simply atrocious. The claims of justice were, however, allowed to be forgotten and no notice taken of his conduct, as far as the public is aware. The case of Dr. Khudiram Ghose reminds us of the independent members in our Local Council. How is it that the Hon'ble Babus Surendra Nath Bannerjee and Norendra Nath Sen did not interpellate the Government about such an outrageous case? What happened was this. The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Bannerjee sent in a question regarding the high-handed proceedings of Mr. Egerton in Murshidabad, including the case of Dr. Khudiram. It was printed in the Notice paper, but, somehow or other, it took wings and disappeared, and Babu Surendra Nath could not thus ask the question. The Hon'ble Norendra Nath Sen also sent in a question relating to the case of Dr. Khudiram. It was not only printed in the Notice paper, but reproduced in all the local dailies. Babu Norendra Nath, however, did not read the question in the Council, and the Government was thus saved the trouble of giving a reply! We don't see the need of independent members in the Council, if they are not in a position to bring these gross cases of miscarriage of justice to the notice of the Government. The Hon'ble Norendra Nath withdrew the question, it is said, because the Hon'ble Mr. Bolton told him that he would enquire and let him know the result. But where would Babu Norendra Nath Sen be when the enquiry would be finished? And why was any enquiry needed when the case was judicially tried? We fancy, Babus Surendra Nath and Norendra Nath are representatives of the people and not of the Government.

WITH what a light heart some of the Indian Judges pass capital sentence in this country will appear from the facts of the following case. Abdul Goffur was charged with murdering his mistress, a girl of 16 years of age. There was absolutely no evidence to show that they had a quarrel with each other, or that there was jealousy at the bottom. On the other hand, eye-witnesses deposed that when the man and the woman were last seen together they were in the best of terms. The assessors were for acquittal; but their voice, which is supreme in every other country, was ignored; and the accused was sentenced to death by the Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore. On appeal to the High Court, both the conviction and the death-sentence have been set aside, and the prisoner acquitted. Our good Lieutenant-Governor will see that, our Judges are not immaculate; and therefore, when people object to the severity of their sentences and ask His Honor's help, the safer course for him is to accede to their prayer.

It is no disgrace to enter into discussion with a learned community like Native Christians. Then, again, religion is a sweet subject, sweeter than any other. But yet we declined to enter into a discussion with the *Indian Christian Herald* on religious subjects, for two reasons, viz., first, the columns of a political paper are not suited to polemical discussion, and secondly, religious "discussion" is not "religion". What we wanted to know of the *Indian Christian Herald* was information on one point, viz., Do Christians think that salvation is the exclusive property of the Christians? In other words, do they believe that men who do not accept Christ will not be saved, and that even those who were born before the advent of Christ or in countries where his name had not been preached would be damned? We got no reply to the above query. We would add another question to the above. Did not Christ promise a second Advent? Last year we were surprised to get a visit from two missionaries, a lady and a gentleman, who said that they belonged to the



Christian sect of second Adventists, and they explained their position in this manner. They opened the Bible and shewed us texts in which Christ had promised a second Advent, and they said that they were waiting for that auspicious event. We told them that they were very good souls and the promise made by Christ was a fact and we believed in it, and that the promise has been already fulfilled. They wanted to know how the promise has been fulfilled. We told them Jesus promised a second and more powerful Advent, and the Lord Gauranga is a fulfilment of that promise. They shook their heads, and then we pointed out to them that they were acting like the foolish Jews. They, the Jews, knew that their Shastras had predicted a Messiah but when he came they did not acknowledge him. In the same manner the Shastras of the Christians promised a second Advent and when the second Advent came in the person of the Lord of Nadia, they acted like the Jews and refused to accept Him.

OUR readers might remember the case of defamation against the "Malayalee." We now learn that the Editor and the Proprietor of the paper have addressed a letter to the Collector of Malabar under whose jurisdiction the *Malayalee* is published in regard to the defamation case pending against them in the Quilon District Magistrate's Court. They say that Tangacherry being British territory no action, civil or criminal, can be taken against them in any Court outside British India and request the Collector to give a decision as to the legality of the procedure followed by a Magistrate in Travancore. We do not see how the Collector of Malabar can give a decision in the matter. The question is one of international law and can be decided only by a Court of competent jurisdiction. The Editor and the Proprietor say that they have accepted the summons from the Quilon Magistrate's Court; and if they appear in obedience to the summons they will have acknowledged the jurisdiction of the Travancore Courts. But if they refuse to obey the summons, the Travancore Court will be powerless against them as it can only proceed against them through the British authorities. It would be interesting to know what order the Malabar Magistrate passes on the application.

"ICH DIEN" has contributed two more articles on the Permanent Settlement of Bengal to *Capital*. Both of them are very ably written, and we hope to reproduce them in an early issue. The writer, it seems, has studied the subject from all points of view and his conclusions are therefore unanswerable. His principal object is to show that it is the State and not the zemindars, which has profited most by the Permanent Settlement and that the Government has added further wrong to the zemindars by resuming waste lands and imposing Dak, Road and Public Works Cesses in violation of the terms of the Settlement. A notion prevails that the zemindars are not only very rich, but are the most highly taxed people in the world. By comparing the land-tax of India with that of Great Britain, and the condition of the Bengal zemindars with that of the land-holders in England, the writer shows that the notion has no foundation in fact. In Great Britain the land-tax is only four shillings in the pound on the rental of the kingdom, that is, only one-fifth of the rental. But, here, during the Permanent Settlement about three-fifths of the produce of the country was assessed as Government revenue. Clearly, then, the land-tax here is thrice what it is in England. If you add the cesses to the above, the land-tax would be more than what it is in England. As regards the condition of land-lords in England, the writer shows that they are at least four times richer than the zemindars of Bengal. We shall revert to the subject in a future issue.

WE have much pleasure in publishing here the following letter that we have received from our friend, Mr. A. Chowdry:—

You quoted a passage from a judgment delivered by Sir Henry Russell, in one of your issues last week, but could not give the reference. Here it is.

The judgment was delivered about the middle of January 1808, on the trial of John Grant, a cadet in the Bengal establishment, for having wilfully and maliciously let on fire and burnt a hut at Baraset, the property of one Keenoo, Bearer, on the 24th of October 1807.

The case is reported in the "Asiatic Annual Register," Vol X, for the year 1808, pp. 24-29. (Bengal occurrences).

We hope to publish the case in a future issue.

A HINDU preacher has been punished at Ootacamund by Mr. District Magistrate Weir, for having given offence to Christians. The punishment awarded was eight months' hard labor, and the *Madras Times*, a Christian paper, observes that the punishment is severe. The same paper further reminds the Christians that "missionary books before have very roundly abused Krishna and Hinduism, not forgetting Mohamed and Islam." Of course, a Christian feels hurt if his Prophet is abused or even spoken of disrespectfully; but we do not think that the Ootacamund Christians moved, in the matter, from any love of Christ. For, if they loved their Master, they would never have resorted to the criminal courts for His defence, and thus harm His Cause much more than the Hindu preacher

could have done by his attacks. The veriest child can understand that, to go to law courts for reparation, if Christ is abused, is to make His religion stink in the nostrils. As for the Magistrate who awarded eight months'—was he moved to this severity from his love of Christ? We can assure him that Jesus Christ will not thank him for his zeal. Was this severity due to policy? Nothing is so sure to create disaffection in the land as the betrayal of religious bigotry on the part of the rulers. Was it due to his sense of justice? Let us see. The stock-in-trade of the vast majority of missionaries here, is abuse—abuse of the Hindu and Mussalman religions. Whoever heard of a missionary being sent to jail for having abused the Prophet of the Mussalmans or the God of the Hindus? What we believe is that, Magistrates of the type of Mr. Weir of Ootacamund are the greatest enemies of British rule in India. But, perhaps, we do injustice to Mr. Weir. Is not the Government of Sir A. Havelock just now shewing great zeal in the cause of Christianity? The Young Men's Christian Association has got a grant of Rs. 25,000, not from the pockets of His Excellency but from those of the Indians for a house, besides bricks, the services of Engineers, etc.. Of course, His Excellency has this precedent *vis.*, that the Government of India utilizes the heathen's money for the maintenance of a State Church in India. When this is permissible, Sir A. Havelock has a right to argue, that there can be no inconsistency in making grants for the furtherance of Christianity. Yet it strikes us that the best course for the Government would be to give up altogether this hollow profession of Christianity. The Government itself has no faith in Christianity; for if it had it, the heathen's money would never have been utilized for Christian work. The very act of compelling heathens to pay for Christian work is unchristian. In short, we cannot persuade ourselves to believe that it is possible for a sincere believer in Christ to send a man to jail for eight months with hard labour for having spoken disrespectfully of Christ or to tax heathens for the spread of Christianity.

THE following letter will speak for itself—

A startling piece of news comes from Manipur. Three persons named Junna Sing, Takid-lambam Chowba and Khordongba Chowba, were tried by the Assistant Political Agent for the alleged murder of one man and sentenced to death. The friends of the accused came to Silchar to consult a pleader with a view to submitting an appeal to the Chief Commissioner of Assam. The pleader before taking the matter in hand sent the following telegram to the Chief Commissioner:—

"Junna Sing, Takidlambam Chowba and Khordongba Chowba sentenced to death by Assistant Political Agent, Manipur, for alleged murder of one man. Pray stay execution pending disposal of appeal being submitted to Chief Commissioner."

The reply was that the sentence of death had already been confirmed. Mr. Hudson, the Assistant Political Agent, has the rank of an Assistant Commissioner and could in a regular district mete out two years' hard labour as the highest punishment in any case. But by being translated to Manipur, he has it in his power to send three men to the gallows without any jury or assessor or any lawyer either. The ethics of the arrangement is revolting indeed. It is very much to be deplored that the Chief Commissioner should not see his way to interfere with the sentence because it had already been confirmed.

SUSINDRA C. SINHA, Kalingpur.

Would any body be pleased to inform us whether there is any country in the world where more than one person are sent to the gallows for the murder of a single individual? We never expected that an enlightened and kind-hearted ruler like Mr. Cotton would allow such a barbarous sentence to be carried out in his province. "Tooth for tooth," and "eye for eye" is the old Mosaic law. Even this is considered too harsh in many civilized countries. The enlightened rulers of this country should therefore never encourage a barbarous and horrible practice like the one noticed by our correspondent. Such a practice cannot be justified whether on moral or even on legal grounds. This we hope to show in a future issue. The facts of the case are not before us. But granting that it was an atrocious murder, even then the life of one man, who dealt the last blow, should have been taken, and not of all who had participated in it, in a more or less active manner. Then, is it a fact that the Assistant Political Agent, who could send a man only to two years' rigorous imprisonment in a regulation district, has been invested with the power of passing death-sentence in Manipur? In consideration of this fact also, the Chief Commissioner, we think, should have interfered and commuted the capital sentence to one of transportation for life.

THE uncle of Suresh Chandra Biswas writes us to say that their native village is not Metiary, but Nathpore which is very close to Metiary. The last letter which he received from Suresh Chandra, will be found in another column and will no doubt be read with interest. We publish the letter as it is, without interfering with the writer's English, in which, he says, he is not very strong, as he has now to deal with Portuguese and other languages. His uncle also tells us that the Rev. J. Ashton of the L. M. S. College, Bhowanipore, keeps a regular correspondence with Suresh. The following extract from a letter of the Rev. Mr. Ashton that he had written to the Rev. Father Lafont, while introducing Suresh's brother to him, contains some further particulars of Suresh's early life:—

The bearer is the brother of Babu Suresh Chander Biswas, one of our pupils who confessed his faith in Christ and was baptized in our mission some 2½ years ago. I was very fond of the lad and he was almost like a son in our family but after a time a restless desire came over him to see the world and nothing would content him but a visit to Europe. He had the courage to work his way to England as an assistant steward on a B. I. Steamer. When he got to London he visited my parents—they and my sister took interest in him. He passed through many troubles till, almost at the last extremity, he came across Mr. Jamraah, who took him into his employment and before long he actually became a lion-tamer and exhibited in most of the cities of Europe and even in the Agricultural Hall in London. After many adventures he settled down in Rio-de-Janiero, Brazil, where he still is. There he held many positions, at one time had charge of the Zoo there, etc., but finally, strange to say, entered the Brazilian army and rose to be a Lieutenant.

He has sent his family some placards and also newspapers—but they are I believe in the Portuguese language. Krishna Lal Babu is very anxious to get them translated. It has occurred to him and to me that you may perhaps be able to read Portuguese, or if not, one of the Fathers may be able to do so. If you or they could take the trouble to translate the papers and if a literal translation is too much to expect (unless you can get some subordinate to help in the matter), we should be glad to have at least the substance of the articles.

THE district of Mymensingh would appear to require special looking after. The honour of a woman is not safe—even in the sacred precincts of her own house. The exemplary punishment awarded by the Joint-Magistrate, the other day, in a case of this nature does not seem to have had any effect yet. The rascals are as daring as ever. The other day some of the Budmahars forcibly entered the house of one Damu Sheikh of Nimak Parura near Gachibati and carried off his young sister. For seven or eight days no trace could be found of the missing girl. But after that she was sent back to her own house. The girl, we learn, is still unconscious. The Police have succeeded in making two arrests. Unfortunately this is not the only instance. Cases of this nature are not few and far between—they are almost of daily occurrence. The last issue of the *Churu Mitr* of Mymensingh contains reports of several such cases and we have selected the above as a typical one.

A BOY'S ADVENTURE WITH A BOAR.

(Specialy written for the Patrika.)

THE adventure which we have to relate today happened in the early seventies, in the district of Nadia. In it the most prominent part was played by a Bengali boy, who was not quite fifteen years of age, a boy who has since achieved a name and fame for himself, his reputation not being confined to the continent of India alone. Of course, we hold back the name, for, after all, what's in a name.

On the day of occurrence, it was close upon evening, and three Bengali boys were returning home from a fishing excursion. They were in high spirits having got a good supply of fish to make the mouths of the members of their families water and take away the sul from any words of rebuke that might rise to their lips owing to the absence of the youngsters from home.

Suddenly their attention was attracted by the furious barking of dogs and the wild halloo of men. They looked in all directions: A far off they saw three Europeans, gesticulating wildly to them to keep off. Nearer they saw a rather terrifying sight—a large boar galloping over the plain with its huge head and large tusks lowered, followed closely by a pack of English dogs making desperate efforts to reach the quarry.

Of the three boys, one was S. B., and he at once realised the danger all three were in; though he was no bigger than his companions, and was still a mere lad of 14. He asked them to make the best of their way to their respective homes, to run away as fast as their legs would carry them; while he himself stood his ground, without flinching, and almost with laughing eyes.

On and on came the boar like the rush of wind. S. B. still stood there. In vain did the Shahebs warn him of the great danger he was in, in vain did they raise their guns to their shoulders but they could not fire lest they wounded the dauntless boy. Fierce and fiercer grew the barking of the dogs, near and nearer they came.

At last, at last the boar was within striking distance, the froth from its mouth, it was foaming and fuming, covered the boy. It was a large animal, and standing almost reached S. B.'s shoulders. A moment and he would have been caught up and torn in twain by the terrible tusk of the boar. There was a most cruel and ominous glitter in its eyes, perhaps it eagerly looked forward to the last pangs of its victim.

That one moment was sufficient to save S. B. We cannot guarantee that even with the boar within a foot or two of him his cheeks did not blanch. Whatever it was, S. B. did not lose his presence of mind. He stepped back a yard or so and then raising his fishing-rod above his head he put all his boyish strength, which, however, was not inconceivable, on one single blow between the eyes of the brute.

That blow did not fell the boar but considering the heat it was in, it was sufficient to stagger it. Before it could resume its gallop or turn round on its assailant, the dogs were upon it. There was a severe struggle between the boar and the dogs. Numbers, however, prevailed at last, and the boar lay bleeding and panting on the ground at the feet of the boy who stood triumphant with the broken fishing-rod in his hand.

The Europeans soon came up and one of them gave the dying boar the *coup-de-grace* which ended its struggles.

The boar was carried off as a trophy to the nearest indigo factory whence the Shahebs had come for a day's sporting, while the boy returned home but not before receiving substantial evidence of the liking and admiration of the Europeans.

H. D.

CAPTAIN CUBITT is appointed Deputy Commissioner of Thal Chotiali and Political Agent in the Sinowee and Railway districts.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

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—London Review.

To be had at the *Patrika* Office.

THE CHETLA KIRTAN PARTY.—A correspondent writes that the Chetla Kirtan Party was a great success, several thousand people having attended it. Babus Rakhal Das Addy and Amulya Dhone Addy of the locality bore all the expenses of the festival.

KARVAK HARIBHAKTI PRODANEE SAVA.—A correspondent writes that this religious Sava, which has been in existence during the twenty years, is doing a vast deal of good to the locality by chanting Kirtans and holding religious services on every Saturday.

MR. FOLEY.—Mr. B. Foley, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Financial Department, has given over charge of that office to Mr. R. Sheepshanks, and has left for Burdwan, where he is to act as Magistrate and Collector, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. Fisher.

SANKIRTAN.—Under the auspices of the Gauranga Samaj a grand Sankirtan party will be held at Russaputee, Clive Street on Tuesday, the 9th May, between the hours of 6 and 12 P. M. The merchants of that quarter will decorate the street with arches, bunting, evergreens and Chinese lanterns.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—The second Sub-divisional officer of Baraset yesterday disposed of a very sensational case in which a young Mahomedan of Chukeberia, near Baraset, was charged with highway robbery and assault. It appeared that a lady of Chukeberia Chowdry family accompanied by her two young daughters was coming down to Calcutta in a carriage belonging to the master of the accused. On their way the party were waylaid by the accused who after brutally assaulting the lady and her daughters snatched away a cash-box containing jewellery and cash of a considerable value. He was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

THE LT. GOVERNOR AT DARJEELING.—Sir John Woodburn arrived at Darjeeling day before yesterday at 4 P. M., the train having been delayed unusually late. He was met at the railway station by General Wodehouse, C. B., C. M. G., Colonel Hendley, R. A. M. C., Captain Horsford, A. D. C., the Hon. Mr. Collin and Mr. Power, Vice-Chairman of the Darjeeling Municipality. His Honor was met at Siliguri by Mr. Earle, Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Cox, District Superintendent of Police and by Mr. Carey, Manager of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway. Mr. Pugh, of the Railway Police, accompanied the Lieutenant Governor from Calcutta. The Hon. Mr. C. W. Bilton, Chief Secretary to the Bengal Government, and the Hon. Mr. C. Slack arrived by the same train.

OFFICIAL HIGH-HANDEDNESS.—When will official high-handedness in Tazpur cease? This time the District Superintendent of Police comes to the front as will be seen from the following telegram sent to us by one Dino Nath Hazarika. Mr. Shuttleworth's name and fame are not unknown to our readers. The wire runs as follows:—"Mr. Shuttleworth, District Superintendent of Police, trespassed my house in Amiatpatty and assaulted me personally last night believing I rebuked his syce. Other zulams to neighbours were wired to the Chief Commissioner. Case instituted. Particulars follow."

A SCANDAL.—A great scandal took place at Motihari when Mr. A. P. Pennell, C. S., the additional Sessions Judge of Saran went there to hold Sessions. Mr. D. J. Macpherson, C. S., the District Magistrate did not allow him to hold Sessions in the Government buildings, and Mr. Pennell was therefore obliged to hold his court in camp. There might be difference between the members of the two branches of the public service, and in fact the merciless way in which Mr. Pennell was in the habit of exposing the magisterial vagaries as also cases of police oppression, might have estranged the feelings of all the executive officers, but such open wrangling between two of the highest officers of a district does not add much to the reputation of the officers concerned. It is said that Mr. Casper, the Sessions Judge of Saran has gone down to Calcutta to move the authorities in the matter.—*The Behar Herald*.

A CONSERVANCY STEAMER.—The construction at the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore, of a steel steam wheel steamer for conservancy work on the Chindwin River, has been sanctioned by Government.

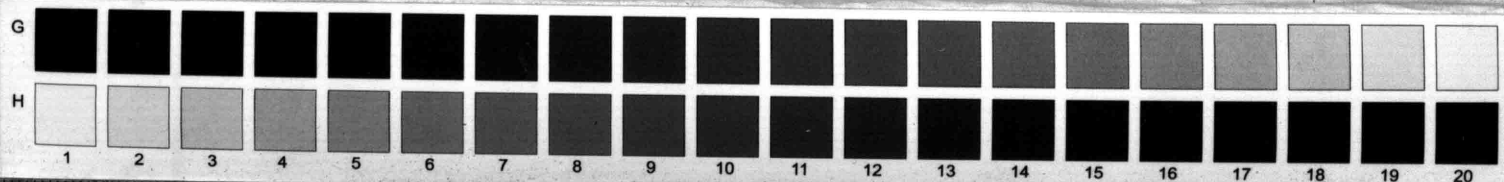
DEPARTURES FOR DARJEELING.—Mr. R. T. Greer, C. S., Inspector-General of Police, Bengal, proceeded to Darjeeling day before yesterday. Mr. C. L. S. Russell, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the departments under the Chief Secretary, left for Darjeeling on Sunday. Mr. F. F. Lyall, the officiating Under-Secretary in the Revenue and Municipal Department, follows shortly; while Mr. Sheepshanks remains in Calcutta.

MIRACULOUS POWERS OF A WOMAN.—A Ghazipur correspondent writes to the *Indian Empire*:—The woman whose mysterious power of turning dust into rupees, mohar and several other articles, has arrived here. No sooner she touched the ground from board the Steamer Rama playing between Tati and Steamer Ghat, than she drew an immense crowd of people around her. Copper and silver coins she continued showering upon them liberally and freely still she took shelter in a small cottage belonging to a Mahomedan apparently utterly disturbed and annoyed by her followers. Two Police constables came to the place and they being satisfied of her wonderful powers led her to the city Kotwal giving her complete assurance not to keep her in custody. The woman who is called Maye-Lokhi, probably for her profuse liberality took the Kotwal by surprise by depositing golden coins on the ground. When questioned by the Kotwal of her whereabouts and native country she responded thus: "I am an inhabitant of Fyzabad and an Agarwa by caste; in the bloom of my youth a Gin was enamoured of me. Wherever I go and whatever I do I obey my Lord "Gin's" direction and permission. He is all along and will ever remain with me till my life is snatched away by death." She is expected to remain here for a day or two more; further details of her astonishing miracles will be sent to you for publication.

A MURDER AT DACCA.—Our Dacca correspondent writes:—Another shocking murder has lately been committed in the heart of this town. One Mahabbat Bepari had bitter enmity for various reasons from a long time, with one Zulfakar. One Umesh Biswas was a servant of Mahabbat. It appears that lately Mahabbat seemed to have made up his differences with Zulfakar, and used to ask him to his house in the town often. About a week, one afternoon Zulfakar was called to the house of Mahabbat. At about sunset this Mahabbat came to the town station and lodged a complaint that his servant Umesh Biswas, and Zulfakar were examining some accounts. When a dispute arose between them, and sometimes after this Umesh Biswas struck Zulfakar on the heart with thick iron piece (used in breaking bricks), and was continuing to strike him more, when he (Mahabbat) himself in anger, took up the iron piece and struck a few blows on Umesh. On this information, the police ran to the spot and found Zulfakar dead, his brains protruding, and Umesh Biswas altogether stunned, with severe marks of injury on the head showing total fracture of the frontal bone. Umesh's case was also thought hopeless, but he is still alive at the hospital but has not yet fully recovered his consciousness. Police has arrested Mahabbat himself as the murderer. Mahabbat has made another statement before the Magistrate corroborating his statement before the police. Public feeling has been much excited over this diabolical murder, and it would not much redound to the credit of the Magistracy and police, if the culprit goes undetected. Mahabbat has certain influential persons to help him and no body can object to such help, but all that the public has a right to expect is that the real offender may not escape with impunity.

CACHAR MAN-EATER SHOT BY GURKHAS.—The man-eating tiger in Cachar is no more. Major Loch, Commandant of Military Police, Fort Aijal, finding that his river communications between the North Lushai hills and Cachar were being interfered with by the brute, gave a roving commission to three of his Gurkhas to try and meet with the tiger and to destroy him. The plucky little men arrived at Jhalacherra on the 22nd, and proceeded without delay to Nagacherra, where the tiger had killed three men. They could not induce a villager to accompany them to the scene of the tragedy, but they must have been well directed, for at 1 P. M., not a quarter of a mile from the Dajissay river, they fell in with the man-eater. He tried to stalk them in the low scrub jungle, and executed a flank movement for this purpose. In the wary Gurkha he found, however, a different antagonist to the harmless wood-cutters he had hitherto been preying on, and in the act of crouching for the final spring, Harkabir, sepoy, planted a bullet from his Snider rifle just above the tiger's left eye. The tiger collapsed, and was brought in triumph to the manager of the nearest tea estate, who held the plucky sepoy the fifty rupees reward he had offered for the destruction of the brute, as well as twenty rupees generously contributed by another manager of a neighbouring tea garden. Besides the above reward the men will get the fifty rupees offered by the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar for the destruction of the man-eater, who is computed to have killed about 25 men in all. The tiger measured 8' 8" unskinned; he was an old male with a defective lower fang, but otherwise in good condition. He showed a severe cut in the loin, inflicted by the unfortunate Manipuri in defence of his brother.

DEAD RATS.—The good people of Cawnpur appear to have been upset by the appearance of dead rats in the premises of a local gentleman. Dead rats were found all over the house and then followed the death of dogs, and to crown all this, the syce died. The Police were on the spot soon. The Civil Surgeon who *post mortem*ed the dead body of the syce, thought the case to be sufficiently important to require the presence of Colonel Thomson, the head of the Sanitary Department, and accordingly telegraphed for him. During the enquiry it was found out that the landlord had been using arsenic in manuring his garden, and this may account for the death of the rats and dogs. But as regards the syce, it seems suspicious. What has made the people still more afraid is the Civil Surgeon has been recent as to the cause of his death. Apparently the death of the syce was a mere coincidence; for two weeks have passed, and no other death of similar nature has taken place.



A HINDU DEVOTE.—On Saturday the 22nd ultimo at about 11-30 P. M. there died at Kumbakonam a great and pious soul long living in this town and known to the public as the *Mona Swami*, i. e., Swami the Silent. This name was given him most appropriately as he used to keep his silence unbroken and, in fact, he was never heard to speak to any one.

THE MADRAS DEFAMATION CASE.—With reference to the charge of defamation preferred by the Hon. M. Bhashyam Iyengar against the *Madras Standard*, the latter paper, in its issue of the 4th instant denies that it ever meant to impute any personal motives to the complainant, but admits, on reconsideration, that its remarks were carelessly worded and capable of misconstruction. The paper regrets the remarks as having been made to injure his reputation and to cause him pain of mind, and hopes he will be pleased to receive its assurance that no such thing was ever intended.

ADVENTURE WITH A SNAKE.—A correspondent writes from Shibsagar:—A few days ago a man was passing at about 5 P. M. along the N. W. corner of the Sbsagar tank. Feeling a pressure from behind he unconsciously turned round and to his horror saw a big jet black snake holding tight between its teeth the fringe of his dhoti. At the impulse of the moment he began to run, but the snake did not let go its hold. Opposite Dr. Fink's bungalow his dhoti fell off and he fell down senseless on the ground. Several persons with sticks in their hands came to the rescue, but could not find the snake. The Bepary escaped unhurt. The same correspondent writes further, on the 23rd ultimo, there was a preliminary meeting to consult as to what steps should be taken to send a memorial to the Chief Commissioner for establishing a college in Assam.

ANOTHER POSTAL REFORM WANTED.—The postal authorities have recently shown so eager a desire to initiate reforms, that they will possibly consider the advisability of rescinding that annoying rule, which forbids the enclosure of even a single postage stamp in a letter or package without previous registration. The aspiring author who posts a manuscript to a newspaper or journal is accustomed to enclose a stamp for the return of his effort if not accepted. He is breaking the post office rules unless he registers the packet. There are many other ignorant offenders, though it is only very occasionally that postmasters discover the fact. A rule which is capable of being easily ignored and generally ignored, might with the greatest safety be removed altogether, if only in the interests of those unselfish few whose public conscience forbids their breaking it.—*Englishman*.

DEATHS FROM FEVER.—The number of deaths attributed to fevers in Bengal in 1897 was 1,679,132 as compared with 1,760,225 in 1896; and the death-rate was 23.62 against 24.77 for the preceding year. The smaller mortality as compared with the previous year was chiefly due to the exceptional healthiness of the earlier months, January to April, the result, no doubt, of the early cessation of the rains during the previous season. The excessive mortality from fevers in the Hazarbagh district was attributed to the debilitated condition of the people from famine. The Civil Surgeon of Faridpur calls attention to a factor in the production or encouragement of malarial that is every year gaining ground,—the steeping of jute in every available pool of stagnant water. The heaviest mortality took place in the months of November, December, and August and the lightest in February, June and May.

HAND TO HAND FIGHT WITH A TIGER.—Lohardaga is in Chota Nagpur and is noted for its tiger-infested jungles. The inhabitants of the district are mostly Kols and Mundas. These aborigines are as little afraid of wild beasts as they are of the former. Indeed, these children of nature cannot be made to admit the power of tigers etc. for doing any harm except when "Set" by witches and demons. These people will ramble through the deepest forest with as little fear as their four-footed neighbours would, to carry off dogs and cattle. But a concrete instance. The other day a Munda of Bandhtali in Lohardaga was going to the field with a plough on his shoulder. We do not presume to divine the thoughts of this simple rustic, but we can say that he was as much prepared to face a tiger as a fellow being. A tiger did come and attack him from behind. Nothing daunted, the Munda, turned and was soon engaged in a hand-to-hand fight with his foe. In spite of his age,—he is 50 years old—he succeeded in killing the tiger which measured 7½ feet.

ALL FOOLS' DAY AT BARISAL.—We learn from one of our Barisal contemporaries, the *Kashipur-nibasi*, that something very unusual happened there on the 1st ultimo. According to our contemporary, All Fools' Day was celebrated this year, for the first time in the annals of Indian History, in Barisal, by the native inhabitants of the town. Although such an onward move towards *pukkah* European civilization in a small town like Barisal, sounds rather queer to the ear, yet it must be a true fact, as our contemporary vouches for the truth of the same with a long descriptive account of it in its editorial columns. It is said that early on the morning of the 1st April the little town of Barisal was, strictly speaking, in a topsy-turvy state. Almost all the sign boards in the Jail Road were found to have changed their places, that is a dispensary was changed into a press, a doctor into a Kaviraj &c. Besides this there were many other boxes played through the post, which greatly convulsed the people who were made April Fools. A Professor of Brajmonah College was said to have waited in the Steamer ghat, looking for the arrival of his father-in-law and mother-in-law, as announced by a telegram, supposed to be sent by the latter. He would have had to wait a long time if the hoax had not been discovered by the arrival of the Steamer in the ghat without the expected guests. Another instance of "April Fool" was the despatch of a basketful of cockroaches, well packed and addressed to a local Munshi. This will no doubt be one of the record events in the History of India. It is to be only hoped that this instance of Barisal will rouse the more advanced sister-countries from their lethargy, to join her in the onward movement, which is made in to the right direction.

Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT:—CRIMINAL SESSIONS—MAY 5.

(Before Mr. Justice Prinsep and a Common Jury.)

THE BALFOUR CASE

ACQUITTAL OF THE ACCUSED.

AFTER a protracted trial of five days the case brought by one Mrs. Balfour, a boarding-house-keeper, against Chandra Mohan Banerjee, Hari Madhab Lahiri and Kisori Lal Gosain, was dismissed to-day and the defendants acquitted. When the adjourned hearing was resumed this morning counsel for the defence addressed the jury on behalf of their respective clients. Counsel characterised the case as a got up one—got up with a view to extort money from the accused. The evidence was full of discrepancies. It was of such a nature that no jury could act upon it. The Presidency Magistrate should never have committed a case like this, and counsel expressed surprise that on such materials the case should have been sent up here. Counsel believed that on the evidence the jury would have no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that the case was a false case and that the accused were quite innocent. The jury should on no account convict on evidence as given by the women whose object in bringing the case was very transparent.

The defence then went on to examine their witnesses.

Mr. James Spears of the Calcutta Bank was the first witness called. He deposed to the fact that the prosecutrix giving her name as Mary Grave raised a loan of Rs. 400 on a promissory note. [The case for the defence is that this money was raised with a view to produce before the Presidency Magistrate the Rs. 500 which she said the first accused had left on her table while the prosecutrix said that the money was raised to pay the fees of her counsel at the Police Court.]

Mr. Harris, a client of Babu Kisori Mohan Gosain was next called. He said that he had engaged Babu Kisori Lal in a case of his and he being informed that Kisori was ill on the 28th August he wrote to Babu Umesh Chunder Gosain, a pleader of the Hughli Court, to apply for postponement.

Babu Umesh Chunder Gosain, the Hughli Court pleader, was next called. He supported the previous witness as regards the letter and said that he filed a petition in Court for the adjournment of the case on account of Kisori's absence, as he was the senior pleader in the case. The witness moreover stated that Kisori was ill from the middle of July to the end of August last year and he saw him confined on his bed. She was under the treatment of Dr. Gopal Ch. Gossain.

Rai Bahadur Dr. Kedar Nath Chatterjee was next examined. He said towards the end of July last year, he was called to see Babu Kisori Lal. Witness found him suffering from rheumatic fever and confined to his bed.

Dr. R. L. Dutt, Civil Surgeon of Hughli, was also called in. He was called for consultation with Dr. Gopal Chunder Gossain under whose treatment the patient was. In cross-examination, witness said Dr. Gopal was not his friend as two doctors in the same place could never agree (Laughter). Moreover one was a homoeopath and the other allopath (Renewed laughter).

Dr. Gopal Chunder Gossain was next examined. He said that from 15th July to 15th August last year the patient was under his treatment. From the conviction in which he was in, it was not possible for the accused to come to Calcutta on the 31st August.

After the examination of a few more witnesses the defence closed their case.

Mr. Jacob then summed up the case for the prosecution saying that the charge had been amply established and the attempt to prove an alibi on the part of the third accused had miserably failed.

His Lordship then summed up the case at some length. His Lordship observed that the case ought never to have come before them. The Magistrate ought to have dealt with it. As it was it had needily caused a large sum of money to be spent by the parties and a large amount of Court's time needlessly taken. As it had come, their Lordships remarked the jury must do justice to it. His Lordships then commented upon the evidence and pointed out many extraordinary circumstances in the behaviour of the prosecutrix and Mr. Johnston.

The jury without retiring returned unanimous verdict of not guilty and the defendants were acquitted and discharged.

The Government of India will spend Rs. 20,000 during the current year on the sanitary improvement of Que. ta.

The Viceroy has commenced inspecting the offices in Simla and was to have visited the Foreign Department yesterday in person.

The following Royal Engineer officers are posted to the Public Works Department: Captain J. P. Blakeway, to the Central Provinces; Lieutenant W. F. Mathews to the Eastern Bengal State Railway and Lieutenant O. G. Brandon, to the North-Western Railway.

At the Esplanade Police Court on the 4th Mohunlal Keshavai, a moonin of the firm of Ramnarayan Buldevdas, was charged with criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 63,000; and Maneklal Ghellabhai was charged with aiding and abetting in the offence.

A FIRE occurred on the mail train from Bangalore to Metapollam on the night of May 2. After passing Jollapett the fire was spreading to the first class carriages, so all travelling in them were removed to third class carriages, in which they travelled as far as Salem, where proper arrangements were made. No casualty occurred.

The Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway has submitted a revised estimate, amounting to Rs. 203,501 for the restoration of the permanent-way of the Nilgiri Railway. The original estimate was for one lakh and a half, but further repairs found necessary have raised the cost involved. The opening of the Nilgiri Railway is not likely to take place on the 1st proximo, the date reported by the Madras Government to the Government of India. The 1st July is now regarded as the probable date of the opening.

MAHOMEDAN LAW OF MARRIAGE.

AN INTERESTING CASE.

THE marriage law among the Mahomedans must be very elastic, if what the argument advanced by Mr. H. P. Sen, Barrister-at-Law, before Justices Ghose and Wikns yesterday in support of an appeal in a bigamy case. The accused in the case was one Kadir Fulsheik and he had been convicted by the Sessions Judge of Myseningsh of marrying a married girl and sentenced to three years rigorous imprisonment. When the girl was first married she was only 8 or 9 years old and the necessary consent required under the Mahomedan law was given by her mother and step father. That marriage took place in 1892 and shortly after she had attained the age of maturity in 1896. She married for the second time and this time the consent was given by her own self. This second marriage took place while her first husband was living and without obtaining any divorce from him. The second marriage took place in 1896, but the present prosecution was not started till three years later in 1899. The Sessions Judge asked the Jury to decide the following points in coming to a conclusion, viz, whether the first husband had not released the wife by a Tal-knama; whether the accused married the girl knowing that she had at that time a husband living by whom she had not been divorced. These points were all found in favour of the first husband, and the jury being thus misdirected, as Mr. Sen put, by a majority of votes found the accused guilty.

Learned counsel contended that the Sessions Judge had placed before the jury a somewhat erroneous and wholly incomplete view of the Mahomedan law of marriage, a careful consideration of which was essential in such a case. Counsel submitted that the Sessions Judge ought to have asked the jury to determine whether or not the girl's first marriage was with a person who was worthy of her, in rank, social position, age, and, Mr. Sen added, in appearance also, otherwise the marriage was wholly void and impermanent, and this view was supported by Mr. Justice Amir Ali in his book (Vol. II p. 335). Counsel contended that the Sessions Judge ought to have pointed out to the jury that the girl must be over 12 years before she could ratify her marriage (Wilson on Guardians); that she had married the second time soon after she attained the age of maturity amounted to repudiation of her first marriage (I. L. R. 19 Cal. 79).

Counsel submitted that under all these circumstances the first marriage was wholly inoperative and void, at least no criminal prosecution could be sustained (Amil Ali Vol II. 336).

Their Lordships admitted the appeal and set it down for hearing.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

THE second ordinary monthly meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta was held last evening in the Town Hall. The Chairman presided and besides the Vice-Chairman there were over sixty Commissioners present. This somewhat unusually large attendance was due to the fact that election to the General Committee took place.

THE COMMITTEES.

There was something like a crusade against the Sub-Committees and the Chairman proposed to abolish some of them. There was however a violent opposition to the proposal and with the exception of the Complaints Committee the vote for the abolition of which was almost unanimous, the rest were kept untouched.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

The following Commissioners were elected to form the General Committee for 1899-1900.

Nominated: The Hon'ble Mr. Oldham, Rai Bahadur Durgagati Banerjee, Maharajah Sir Narendra Krishna, Prince Buktarsah, Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Murray.

Elected: Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, Babu Radna Churn Pal, Mr. Apar, the Hon'ble N. Sen, Mr. N. N. Ghose, the Hon'ble S. N. Banerjee, Babu Kali Nath Mitter, Babu N. In Behari Sircar, Babu Preo Nath Mullick, Babu Ram Taran Banerjee, Dr. Ram Mohi Lal and Mr. J. Ghosal.

THE TRAMWAY CASE.

The following resolution was adopted without any discussion:

"That the case be proceeded with to conviction on the evidence, but in view of the efforts made by the Tramways Company to put their business in order since this prosecution was decided upon, the Corporation will not press for punishment."

ELECTRIC SUPPLY.

The following resolution of the General Committee was confirmed:

"That in the agreement to be drawn up in connection with the supply of electric energy to the suburbs, a clause be inserted providing for rent to be paid for the poles to be put up by the Electric Supply Company."

THE VITAL STATISTICS.

The vital statistics for the month of December, 1898, were laid on the table.

The Hon'ble S. N. Banerjee observed that it was useless to lay before them vital statistics so old as that of December last. They might have historical and acquarian interest, but they were useless to make any practical suggestion with regard to them.

The Chairman agreed in the remarks that fell from Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee and promised to see that they were printed earlier.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S SALARY.

The Commissioners confirmed the resolution of the General Committee at a meeting held on the 14th April, 1899, recommending that the salary of the Vice-Chairman, Babu Nilambara Mukerji, be increased to Rs. 1,200 per month, in consideration of the great energy, devotion and very satisfactory manner in which he has been performing his duties.

The rest of the business was of a formal nature.

A NATIVE correspondent telegraphs to a contemporary from Dehra Ismail Khan, 3rd May:—"On the kind advice of Lieutenant Crosthwaite, our popular and sympathetic Settlement Officer and Collector, the local zemindars have started a Zemindars' Association for teaching themselves the advantages of thrift prudence and self-help, and for affording mutual aid, on lines somewhat similar to those on which agricultural co-operative unions are worked in Germany and other European countries."

Plague News.

VITAL STATISTICS,—MAY 4.

Ward No.	Population.	Average death-rate of previous five years.	Number of deaths in each Ward.	PLAGUE.
				New cases.
				Deaths from plague reported as occurring on this date.
				Deaths from plague occurring on previous dates but reported on this date.
1	36,885	8.3	4	
2	26,614	4	1	2
3	36,431	4	5	
4	34,828	3.3	6	2
5	39,180	4	5	1
6	41,667	2.4	1	3
7	26,606	2	1	
8	50,781	5.7	1	1
9	49,472	4.5		
10	22,668	2.3		
11	20,761	2.4		
12	6,083	...	1	
13	28,366	2	2	1
14	29,207	2.3	1	1
15	13,218	1.4		
16	4,620	...		
17	4,598	...	2	
18	4,820	1	...	
19	33,147	4	4	
20	23,020	2	1	
21	22,831	2	1	
22	42,561	4	6	3
23	14,804	1	...	2
24	15,340	1	2	
25	26,833	2	3	
Campbell Hospl.	3	4		
Address uncertain				
Total	6,49,401	60	80	12
Total up to date 14th April.			1,345	1,205

BOMBAY RETURNS.

THE plague attacks reported on the 4th instant number 70 and plague deaths 46, the total mortality being 153.

RIOT IN SIND.

KARACHI plague returns show 41 cases and 7 deaths on the 4th. A Eurasian lad, named Moody, pupil of the Grammar School, died of plague on that day.

Owing to plague cases having occurred among the fishermen at Khudda, the authorities ordered the occupants to evacuate their huts and go into quarantine, but on a refusal to comply with the order, the Collector and the District Magistrate, with the District Superintendent of Police and two companies of the Grenadiers proceeded to Khudda on the morning of the 4th and drew a cordon round the infected huts; after which the Collector again ordered the occupants to remove to the quarantine camp, but they still refusing to do so, the police were told off to eject the occupants forcibly. While this was being done a large crowd of the fishermen collected, and shouting *Deen, deen*, attempted to break through the cordon from outside with the object to offer resistance to the police forcibly ejecting their co-religionists thus compelling the Grenadiers to come to the charge with their bayonets, and beat back the crowd, a number of whom were bayoneted. This had a quieting effect upon the crowd which soon dispersed. All the occupants, of infected houses were then removed to the quarantine camp, which was guarded.

IN THE PUNJAB.

SEVEN fresh cases of plague occurred at Maharampur, Jullundur district, on the 2nd instant.

SIR W. RATTIGAN ON LORD CURZON.

LORD CURZON will now be relieved of much of his anxiety. Sir William Rattigan, Q. C., has come forward to teach him how to set about the work before him. The luminary of the Lahore Bar has contributed an article to the *New Century Review* on "Lord Curzon and the Work before him in India," and it is so saturated with wisdom and knowledge of matters Indian that the *Pioneer* has gone into ecstasies over it, devoting to it over four columns of its space. The Allahabad paper, in introducing the essay to its readers, remarks that "few men in India at the present day can pretend to speak with such exceptional knowledge of the people as the writer." Quite so! No man was, in his private as well as public capacity, placed in as good a position to study the trend of thought in Young India, or to take note of the signs indicating the changing conditions of life in this country. For one thing, the whole of his life in harness was passed in the Punjab, a Province which, of course, is the very best place for observing the play and the effect of the emancipating and enlightening forces that contact with the West has generated in India. He pronounced, in the article under reference, on the Native Press, and where are better facilities of forming an opinion on it than in the Punjab? He speaks of the political aspirations of this "native Indian subjects," and where do they find expression in a more unmistakable manner, and where do they secure greater attention on the part of the authorities in the Punjab? He lays down the law on the question of University Education, and where can the relevant system of University Education India be led to better advantage than in the Punjab. In short, as we have said, no Province like the Punjab if you wish to know all about the India of to-day, and Siam, on account of his having spent all his days in India in this Province, and in this Province alone, is certainly best qualified to form an opinion on matters (social, political, educational, economical, etc.) which are now agitating the most advanced section of our society. Furthermore, he was never sent at any public meeting of a political character; is never heard a native politician publicly explain the claims of his countrymen, and never took any part in the various progressive movements set on foot by his 'native Indian subjects' except one or two started under official auspices. His Excellency the Viceroy, therefore, can have no better guide in judging the "political attitude" of our educated community and studying the situation. Sir William was for long the head of a University from which every little reform has had to be extracted at the point of the bayonet, and which has the unique distinction of having on its governing body men several of whom are quite innocent of the accomplishment of reading and writing. His opinion on the University question, consequently, cannot but be worth following.—*Byboms*.

TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

MALDA, APRIL 8.

The case against Mr. Byers, the Engineer, and his two servants charged with defiling a Kali's temple by slaughtering fowls in the premises and sprinkling blood on the veranda of the temple has been withdrawn,—Mr. Byers having tendered a written apology which was read before a meeting of the Hindus. The Hindu Community thanked the Magistrate for having effected the compromise.

MADRAS, MAY 5.

The Editor of the *Madras Standard* appeared to-day before the Chief Presidency Magistrate to show cause why summons should not issue against him for charges of defamation preferred against him by the Hon. Mr. Bishyam Iyengar. It was brought forward by the writ for the accused that in spite of every care and precaution, mistakes like this cannot always be prevented. Though in the present case a mistake was made, it was sought to be amended, by publishing an apology not only on the 4th but also on the following day. Some other discussions followed and his Worship eventually directed summons to issue and fixed the hearing of the case for the 5th of July.

(FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.)

LONDON, MAY 2.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes addressed an immense and enthusiastic meeting of the Chartered Company to-day. He declared emphatically that Rhodesia in course of time would hold her own against the best gold producing countries in the world. He warmly eulogised the broad-mindedness of the Kaiser who had generously forwarded his plans. It was the fear of little Englanders that prevented the Imperial Government guaranteeing the Railway from Cape to Cairo; but he had found the men from practical City men, Mr. Rhodes concluded his speech by declaring that the unrest in South Africa would continue until the Transvaal Government mended its ways.

LONDON, MAY 2.

The Queen has started on her return journey homeward.

LONDON, MAY 2.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach replying to a deputation said he was unable to modify the wine duties, but he would make matters as smooth as possible for the trade.

LONDON, MAY 3.

Ibrahim Ali, who was sent as General Kitchener's envoy to the Sultan Darfur, found that the latter had been dethroned by a usurper, who attacked and routed Ibrahim Ali's escort numbering 150 men killing 120. The survivors have returned to Omdurman.

LONDON, MAY 3.

The Italian Cabinet has resigned. General Pelloux in announcing the decision of the Ministry stated that the debate in the Chamber of Deputies showed that there was a large minority opposed to the Government's Chinese policy, consequently it was futile to prolong discussion which would impair Italian prestige.

LONDON, MAY 3.

The Filipinos are still parleying with the Americans for peace, but hostilities have been resumed. The resistance of the insurgents however is waning.

The *New York Herald's* Siam news is denied but negotiations for a settlement of pending difficulties between France and Siam are proceeding in Paris. M. Doumer Governor of Indo-China, has also been instructed to push matters on.

LONDON, MAY 4.

Despatches announcing the advent of the joint commission reached Samoa some days ago. The British and American Consuls at once proclaimed an armistice, but the German Consul refused to sign the Proclamation.

The result of the Federal Referendum in South Australia is 65,000 for and 17,000 against.

ROMBAY, MAY 5.

The English mail steamer was signalled this morning at 3.25. The mail is expected to arrive in Calcutta by special train on Sunday at about 1.53 A. M.

LONDON, MAY 5.

The correspondence between Mr. Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Transvaal Government relative to the dynamite concession has been presented to the Transvaal Volksraad. Mr. Chamberlain in a despatch, dated 13th January, declared that the dynamite monopoly was not bona fide for the benefit of the State, and was therefore a breach of the Convention with Great Britain. The Transvaal replied on the 9th of March that the concession was bona fide, and there was no breach of the Convention, and moreover the Government was entitled to its own opinion as to what tended to benefit the State. It is believed that this question is likely to become acute. In the meanwhile a petition purporting to be signed by 9,000 Uitlanders, has been presented to President Kruger, denying the grievances recited in the petition addressed to the Queen.

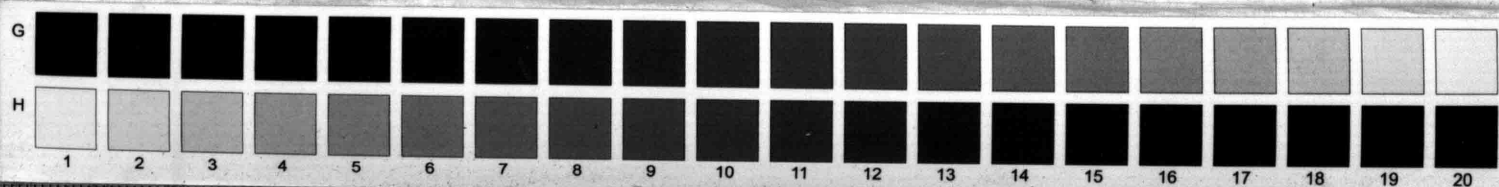
LONDON, MAY 5.

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WASHUDEV CHAPEKAR is to be hanged on Monday next, Ranade on Wednesday, and Bakrishna on Friday next. It is reported that the Government have ordered the exclusion of the public from the precincts of the jail.

WE regret to announce that the Rev. Dr. S. H. Kellogg, D. D., of the American Presbyterian Mission, Mussoorie, was killed by a fall from his bicycle on the 3rd instant.

UNDER the orders of the Chancellor of the University a Supplemental Convocation of the Madras University was held on the 4th instant for conferring degrees on eight candidates, who succeeded in the recent medical examinations since the last Convocation in March. Sir Arthur Collins, Vice-Chancellor, presided and conferred the degrees.



LETTER FROM LIEUT. BISWAS.

THE following letter was received sometime ago from Lieutenant Suresh Chunder Biswas by his uncle here:

MY DEAR UNCLE, I have promised you to write my own biography and I will keep my word, but in going to accomplish it, I must tell you beforehand that my life, since I left home, has been, a wonderful page, a romance, a dream, even myself, when I think of it, can hardly persuade me from thinking otherwise, and sometimes I ask myself can it be true? It really seems to me to-day, that I have dreamt a long dream, so rapid, so varying, and so wonderful it had been. Another thing I have to acquaint you with, that all along my narrative, I will especially treat of the mental evolution, how and where I came to it, of my scientific experiences, and of all that is wonderful in philosophy, science, literature, history and art: for that I must mount with you to the most distant and remotest period of the history of the universe, in literature I will lead you up to the most intricate passages of the Cabala and Lahar, the so-called book of sight, not to say nothing of the Vedas. Scientifically I will communicate to you my strange experiences in electricity, magnetism, medicine, metaphysics, psychology, alchemy and astrology, and philosophically I will show you all that is true and beautiful in Roman, Grecian, Egyptian, Chaldean, and Indian philosophy.

All this is extremely necessary, for our beloved land of India has fallen into oblivion and discredit, the reaction of its once mighty civilization is too apparent, its national progress is in a lamentable state of staid stillness; I can divine the cause of it, our mighty fathers were giants in intellectual powers, they ransacked all the creation in search of Nature's truths and they possessed them, they knew all that can be known in this earth, all that is possible for human spirit to achieve, and at last met face to face with the Divine Spirit, the Arch-creator. They were satisfied and they died willingly leaving the results of their work in hieroglyphics, and in gigantic stone and metal monuments, that their descendants might continue their researches in pure spirit after new truths, which by living in this earth, they found impossible to do. Others followed, and lived in the spirit of their ancestors, but gradually the successors of those men-gods began to feel tired and to abandon the spiritual or intellectual life, perhaps attracted by the seductive of the powerful enchantress M-ya. Once in her hands, they found it was extremely difficult to extricate themselves and so they gradually came to recognise her (M-ya's) divine powers. She was defied and at last worshipped in various human and animal shapes. Female sex was worshipped in the form of the sacred Yoni, and the holy symbol of Adhanyar was forgotten.

During the long years of slow degeneration, remorse the most acute bit their conscience and to deliver themselves from its sting, they invented the maxim, that if God the Almighty is the creator of all things, and everything that is below, that is, all that is below is governed by all that is above, there is no need of our liking one kind better than the other, let Nature work just as she likes and do with us just as she pleases, that which is to happen must happen. But these men loved power and wealth, so they invented temple ceremonies and rites, and introduced polygamy in society of the rich and powerful that they might prolong their hold upon the weak minds. Then, our India that was first in wisdom and civilization India where even the Chaldean, Egyptian, Hebrew, Greek and Roman wisdom, religion and civilization were borrowed, is to-day, as I have said, in a lamentable state of staid stillness, a rich, but an inert and unassertive mass. The truth of what I advance, I will prove by dwelling largely upon it through the course of my narrative; but at present I will finish by asking what Hindu mind can think on it, lives, and does not feel a despairing sorrow that rends the heart, a sorrow that knows no consolation; and to dissipate this dark misty oppression, it is ours to rekindle the sacred fire that once burnt in the sanctuary of our temples, it is ours to invoke the holy spirit that once lived in our forefathers, it is ours to revive the wisdom and cultivate the knowledge that once adorned our philosophy, it is ours to extricate ourselves from passions that chain and customs that debase, it is ours to volatilise what is fixed, to liquify what is solid, to spiritualise what is grossly material and the chief doctrine will be found, with the progress of the mind and wisdom, the body will thrive, for mens sana in corpore sano and a new Krishna, a new Rama will come, and new Kalidases, will produce a race of Dushmanta and Sakuntals. They will reconstruct in spirit our Benares and Brindaban, will put those colossal granite temples supported by gigantic elephants or sphinxes to their places and will reveal by miracles the two divinities of the earth hidden there, the priesthood and Kingdom.

The temples, in the hands of true priests, will be alternately surrounded by darkness and light of supernatural knowledge, sometimes the day will be dark and the night illuminated, the lamp of the temples will light by themselves the voice of thunder will be heard within, and malediction will alight upon the head of the profane that will dare to enter there. The temple will protect the peace, the King's army will fight for the religion of the initiated, and the imprudent that will dare to pass the threshold of the palace will instantly fall stricken dead. Stricken dead not with arms or with swords, but by invisible hands, either killed by lightning or proscribed by electric fire. What a religion and what a power! Such was our country once. Our Nimrods and Semiramises are no more. Where is that grandeur that once encircled our ancient cities whose remembrance, at the present age, is simply fabulous? Where are those immense kingdoms that enthroned once the capitals of the giants that tradition confounds to-day with the angels and princes of the heavens? What a mighty mystery lies buried in the tombs of our nation? And are we not mere children, when we, without invoking those terrible souvenirs content ourselves with our petty enlightenment and boasted progress? Alas! But some will ask now? What shall we do for the realization of our ancient marvels?

The Baron Du Patit, in his work "La Magic devolue" says "qu'on pent, par une puissante immission de fluide magnetique, foudroyer un jne vivant" that is "a man can, by a powerful emission of magnetic fluid, kill a living being." The magnetic power of a man

can go still further, but it is not that pretended magnetic fluid. If, according to the opinions of our ancient sages, is called "Akasa" or astral light, the element of electricity and thunder, that a man can, I will only hint at present, submit to his will and direct it. But again how? Zoroaster who was initiated in the Indian wisdom, says, it is necessary to know those mysterious laws of equilibrium that secure the powers of weakness itself for the empire of good, it is necessary to purify the body by sacred trials, to struggle against the phantoms of hallucination and madness, and each, as it were, the astral light, it is necessary to tame those fantastic canine races that float in the reverie, and it is necessary to understand the language of light if I can use a favourite expression of the ancient oracles. Then only a man can direct it, as Nam, the founder of Roman grandeur and civilization, did against the enemies of holy mysteries, but if a man is not perfectly pure and if he is still dominated by some animal instinct or passions which subject him yet to the fatality of the tempest of life, then he will burn himself in the fire that he kindles, he will be the victim of the great serpent that he imprudently sets free and he will perish thunder-struck as I was the case with the Roman philosopher Vullus Hostilius.

A mighty thing, after all, is human genius, human knowledge and human will, it is the Godlike attribute of humanity in this earth; but its exercise is not without danger, and the path to its acquisition is beset with powerful enemies, the mightiest of them being fear, hallucination, and madness. If I am still alive and in the possession of my reason, I have only to thank my own poor will or rather the angels and the astral influences that have guided my desolate steps through long years of lonesome and painful wanderings, of fearful psychological experiences, and unlearned things that I was destined to see, of which I will give an account in the course of my narrative. I say psychological, because to arrive at a complete comprehension of truth, it is necessary to say that the anatomist, who numbers up the bones, describes the forms and functions of the tissues, and organs which constitute the physical structure, explains nothing of the true man, but the house he lives in. The physiologist, who explains the motions which proceed throughout the wonderful house-keeping processes of human life, supplements in some degree the science of anatomy but does not more than his contemporary by way of unveiling the mystery of that being who inhabits the many-sided structure. I have read their books full of technical terms which in appearance say much, but in truth say nothing and explain less. Where is the medical authority that will explain the mystery of conception? Where is this man of modern science that can throw light upon the problems of—who am I? What am I? Whence I come? and Whither am I bound? The answer ever be rendered? If so, it must come from the realm of true knowledge, the esoteric innermost, from whence and to which the exoteric is but a temporary pilgrim. Any attempt to elucidate the problems of being, conducted in one direction, must fail. Theory must prompt the possibility of new discoveries, and facts must lead us on to the evolution of new theories, even phenomena are needed to startle our self-conceit from the arrogant assumptions of half-enlightened, half-blind belief, and failures must follow on the heels of successes ere we can presume to erect a milestone on the path of destiny for the guidance of others. When every method has been exhausted, and all the avenues to the ray of light have been carefully traversed, then only can the soul of man venture to affirm,—"I know, follow me."

I remain
Your most affectionate
SURESH BISWAS.

HIS Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad has commanded that an Administration Report should be written for the last five years. Mr Dunlop, who wrote the last report, has been asked to do it.

THE "geisha" or dancing girls, in Japan are usually sold to their trainers when quite young by their indigent parents, and are carefully educated in music, conversation, and dancing. The life, once entered upon, is difficult to escape from; but so far as the girls are personally concerned, no disgrace attaches to them. If a man ransoms one and marries her, she takes this rank and station without any stigma attaching to her.

COLONEL NEWMAN, I. M. S., Lahore, will officiate as Principal Medical Officer in the Punjab, vice Surgeon-General Spencer, who acts as Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, vice Surgeon-General Harvey proceeding on leave.

THE citizens of Trinichopoly held a public meeting in that city on the 23rd ultimo with Mr. T. G. Sunderasa Sastriar, B.A. in the chair. The meeting was addressed by Dr. T. M. Nair of Madras, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—(1) In the opinion of the meeting the utterances of Rev. J. A. Sharroo K. M. A. of the S. P. G. Mission, in public meetings too numerous to mention, and especially his statements in the October No. of the 'Indian Church Quarterly Review' of 1898, are highly shocking to the feelings of the Hindu community, on whose character it forms a gross libel unworthy of a Christian Missionary, (2) And that the S. P. G. Mission be requested to be pleased to take severe notice of this reprehensible conduct of the said gentleman, and do the needful.

It will be remembered that on the 28th of March last, Mr. Justice Russell granted sanction for the prosecution for perjury of Havildar Dadu Meah and three sepoy witnesses who gave evidence for the prosecution in the case against Jamadar Rohan Mahomed Haje Abul Bari and Inspector Jolliffe. Before, however, the prosecution of the witnesses in question could take place, it was necessary for the prosecutors to obtain the sanction of the Commissioner of Police. For some reason this was not granted; and the matter remained in abeyance till yesterday evening, when Mr. Sealy, on behalf of Mr. Nageswar Sitaran Ransulkar filed an information against the witnesses in the late case. It was stated that Mr. Nageswar took a deep personal interest in the case and field the information on public grounds. The Magistrate issued warrants for the arrest of the witnesses concerned.

HOW DO PLAGUES TERMINATE?

"M. L." writing to the Times of India on this subject says:—

All past experience testifies that every plague invasion has its duration period, and that every plague dies out in process of time. This spontaneous cessation of a plague, invasion is generally accepted as a fact that admits of no dispute. But the question "how do plagues terminate?" is not only unsettled, but no evidence can be found recorded anywhere as to how they terminate. They go when they please, and apparently, when their mission is ended. It is, however, only reasonable to believe that some influences begin to operate to prepare the way for terminating a plague invasion, and that these influences when once begun, go on unchecked until the invasion comes to an end. What these influences are no one knows, because any unusual phenomena that may have preceded the termination of previous plague invasions have either not been observed or have not been recorded. The question now before us, "how do plagues terminate?" is, therefore, purely speculative. But there are certain directions into which careful inquiry may be of use, even at the present time. The most obvious direction of such inquiry is into weather, climatic, and meteorological changes of an unusual or unusual kind, for it may be rationally assumed that even the worst kind of plague bacilli may enjoy good seasons, when they thrive and flourish, and bad seasons, when they die and perish, just as it is said that when they are located and nursed in the happy ground of animal flesh they flourish, and when animal flesh is denied or removed they perish. Like all living things plague bacilli are breeders, and unusually great breeders, and if breeders then they occupy a place in the animal creation, which subjects them to extermination under certain conditions. Their life history extends only over a limited period, as we know they flourish for a reason and perish when that period ends. The question before us, is—Can we foresee the end? Before this question can be answered it may be asked, do any preliminary warnings show themselves when the beginning of the end of a plague invasion is coming into evidence; if so, what are these early signs?

The only special or unusual meteorological or seasonal conditions that have presented themselves during the present year are those connected with the recent storm and rain, which passed over Bombay a week ago. The storm was a double manifestation—a storm wave that spread itself over two days with an interval of several hours in the middle. On the first day the storm came, accompanied with a cyclonic or shifting wind which moved nearly all round the compass. But the storm was only of a few hours duration, and the whole disturbance lasted for only a few hours, when, as might have been expected, the atmospheric temperature went down. But the decline in temperature was unusual. From a hot weather temperature of 90° Fahr. the mercury fell to 75°—a fall of 15° in half a night. This very decided and sudden decline was remarkable, but what is still more remarkable is that instead of the mercury rising the next day to its usual summer heat of 90° Fahr., and bringing back not only the previous heat, but a feeling of extra heat and closeness which always follows a sudden reduction of temperature due to rain and rain clouds, the low temperature remained all the next day, when, in the evening a second part of the previous day's storm wave presented itself. The shifting strong wind returned, and so did the rain, and the lightning, and this second storm remained in the city until morning. Heavy nimbus clouds, well charged with rain, moved briskly in the sky and passed on to the Deccan, leaving this city with a bright and clear sky. The second shower of rain too helped to keep down the previous low temperature that followed the first days fall of rain, and more than that, the temperature has not gone up again to its previous seasonal height, so that there has been a week of unusual low temperature, and now after more than a week the maximum indoor temperature has only reached 83° Fahr. Is this prolonged unusual, very unusual, low temperature a likely condition to remove some of the strength and virulence of the plague? Can this very unusual "weather" be the beginning of the end of the plague? It is quite possible that a plague must be shaken and made weak prior to its final end, and perhaps, last week's storm has given our plague this shaking and made it weak. The evidence of this weakness, if the plague has been weakened in the way suggested, will be perceived in July.

In suggesting that the beginning of the end of the plague invasion will probably manifest itself in preceding unusual meteorological or climatic changes, it is reasonable to suggest also that there will be more than one preceding change such as that of our double storm of last week. The phenomena that began the change may repeat themselves or now and other similar changes may show themselves during the course of the decline of the plague that is now going on. All such coming changes should be carefully observed, and the data carefully collected for future reference. Should there be any connection between unusual meteorological changes and the beginning of the end of a plague invasion, a record of these preceding phenomena will be a useful and perhaps a sure guide for the future. The invasion has endured for three years, or three complete plague seasons. That it will show a weakness before it expires is a fact in its history, for it never ceases suddenly. It tells off slowly before it finally ends, and if its zenith period is January—let us say—then it does not end in January, but goes slowly on in diminishing force, and ends finally in the season of its previous natural decay—say in June.

SCIENCE NOTES.

A CHICAGO inventor has recently patented an electrically illuminated clock, the idea being to illuminate the figures on the dial in turn by the mechanism of the time-piece. It is specially adapted for clock towers and is not very expensive to make.

A TOTAL eclipse of the sun will occur in 1930 along the lines reaching North-East from New Orleans to Norfolk and thence across the Atlantic to Spain and Algeria. The totality is but brief in duration; still it is expected that many observers will take part although fewer observations can be made than in a longer duration were available.

AT the Oread Institute, Worcester, Mass., there is an electrical cooking school where instruction is given to students in cooking. The current for the purpose of heating and lighting is furnished by a dynamo. In the practice kitchen each student has an independent gas or electric stove and the teacher can walk around in the space between the rows of stoves inspecting the work of each pupil.

A NEW aneroid barometer which can be thrown in and out of action as required, has been invented by Colonel H. Watkin, C. B. The instrument has precisely the same appearance as an ordinary aneroid, and the only addition is a flynut at the back, by means of which the vacuum box can be put in action when a reading is required. Travellers and surveyors will now be able to ascertain correct altitudes owing to the marvellous accuracy of this instrument.

SCIENCE plays a more or less prominent part in the theatrical business of to-day. The Parisian papers report the appearance in Paris of some American vandilists of the gentler sex whose dresses were bedecked with hundreds of minute incandescent lamps. And now the electric vehicle has found a use of its own on the stage. In a play now running in Paris the comedian Baron traverses the boards in an automobile, much to the enjoyment of the audience.

THE Frena pneumatic release is a new auxiliary to the hand camera as it overcomes among other advantages, the risk of shaking the camera in the act of setting off the shutter and enables an exposure to be made in many positions where it is otherwise most inconvenient, and with the aid of a long tube and ball enables the operator to retire to a distance and make the exposure unobserved. It consists of a spring plunger attached to the ordinary tube and ball, and can be clipped on or taken off the camera as required without removing the screws which hold it in position.

IN some recent experiments on magnet steel it was found that the intensity of residual magnetism of 35 specimens, tested in the form of bars varied from 220 to 560 gauss (lines per square centimeter). In the case of 13 specimens tested in the form of closed rings the intensity varied from 625 to 860 gauss. Assuming an intensity of 700 for a circuit such as is that of magnets, the section of steel to produce the same flux must be about 13 times greater than if a cast iron electromagnet were used or more than 20 times greater than in the case of a wrought iron electromagnet.

THERE is every reason to believe that the proposed National Antarctic expedition will start in 1900. Grants of £1,000 each will be received from the Government Grant Committee of the Royal Society, and from the Council of the British Association for this laudable object. At present the total amount available is about 15 thousand pounds, but to equip a satisfactory expedition with two ships, would require one hundred thousand pounds. If twenty-five thousand pounds can be obtained steps will at once be taken to organise a modest expedition with one ship, and so comply to some extent with the desire for co-operation on the part of Germany. With a view to help, the scientific societies in Australia are moving in the matter, with the object of influencing the premiers of the different colonies.

MRS. LANGE and Melzing of Vienna, have succeeded in taking photographs of the mucous membrane of the stomach in the living subject. Stomach tube some 60 centimeters long and with a diameter of 11 millimeters is provided with an electric light at its lower end, and at the upper end is a camera. The stomach is first emptied on its contents, and after being washed is distended with air. Then fifty pictures or more can be taken in rapid succession in from ten to fifteen minutes. The apparatus can be turned on its axis so that all parts of the mucous membrane can be photographed. The photographs are naturally very minute, but they can, of course, be enlarged to any extent.

THE plague microbe is most persistent as may be seen from the following facts: In 1060 the Dutch city of Herlen was devastated by the plague. Whole families perished, and among them a family of the name of Cloux, the members of which were buried in the Herlen church. Thirty or forty years ago it was found that the masonry or the tomb was out of repair, and the vault was entirely rebuilt. The masonry which remained in the vault an entire day were attacked with the infectious glandular swelling "bubo" notwithstanding the fact that two centuries had passed since the epidemic. This speaks much against the Manometan and Christian method of disposing of their dead and points to the wisdom of the Hindus in cremating their dead.

BIRDS are believed to know beforehand the advent of a great storm or other violent disturbance in the weather and indicate such changes by their peculiar behaviour. During one of the nights of August, last year, there was a very severe storm, accompanied by wind, rain, thunder and lightning over a considerable part of Illinois. For 48 hours before the storm broke, not a sound was heard from a single one of the numerous song birds in the district. That there is some connection between the conditions of the atmosphere and the behaviour of birds will be known from the following. When birds cease to sing, rain and thunder will probably occur. Robins will perch on the topmost branches and whistle when a storm is at hand. Parrots and canaries dress their feathers and are wakeful the evening before a storm.

A NEW method of photographing in natural colours has been discovered by Professor R. W. Wood, of the University of Wisconsin. The colours are said to be obtained by diffraction; and, though at present the production of the first finished picture is somewhat tedious, duplicates can be made as easily as ordinary photographs are made. The pictures are on glass and are not only colourless, but almost invisible when viewed in ordinary lights; but when placed in a viewing apparatus, consisting of a convex lens on a light frame, show the colours of nature with great brilliancy. The principle is that the picture and the lens form spectra which overlap, and the eye placed in the overlapping portion sees different portions of the picture in colour depending on the distance between the grating lines at the place.

A NOVEL burglar-alarm has been invented and patented by Arthur De P. Risley, of Richfield Spa, N. Y., which consists of a simple and inexpensive electrical matting placed under the carpet of a room. The matting consists of an elastic non-conducting fabric which is provided with a series of aligned orifices. Conducting strips are arranged which are connected with the terminal conductors of an electric alarm circuit. Within each of the pockets formed by the orifices and conducting strips, a shot is placed which, when the matting is in use, will rest upon the lower conducting strips, but will be out of contact with the upper conducting strip by reason of the thickness of the elastic non-conducting fabric. If the matting be stepped upon so as to compress the elastic fabric, one of the upper conducting strips will be brought into electrical contact with a shot, thereby closing the circuit and sounding the alarm. When the pressure is removed the elastic fabric will raise the upper conducting strip out of contact with the lower one, thus breaking the circuit.

CAPTAIN BURDEN, I. M. S., is posted to Gilgit as Assistant Agency Surgeon.

THE Government has sanctioned a special grant of Rs. 50,000 to metal the Kohat-Thal road from Kohat to mile 39, where a branch road goes off to Shinawari.

MR. H. C. DOBBS, lately Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor, North-Western Provinces, is to be succeeded Captain Erskine as First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore.

MR. MACONCHIE, J. C. S., Under-Secretary in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, on leave, rejoined yesterday; Mr. Hailey, who has been officiating, reverts to the Punjab Commission.

MAJOR E. A. KETLEWELL, Tutor and Guardian to the Maharaja of Ulwar, to Europe on three months' leave, and Lieutenant F. S. L. Waller, of the Deoli Irregular forces, officiate.

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NATIONS AS APRIL FOOLS.

NATIONS are like individuals, to repeat a hackneyed remark; they have the same passions and the same follies, and, moreover, can be fooled in the same way. One of the most colossal instances of this in modern history is the way in which the French nation was literally "spoofed" into war by the Man of Blood and Iron, whose recent death has removed the last of the gigantic figures of the century.

Innumerable biographies of Bismarck have given the history of the famous Ems despatch. Things were in a strained condition between France and Prussia, but peace was by no means out of the question when, on July 7th 1870, the French Ambassador arrived at Ems for the purpose of waiting on the King of Prussia in order to get a reply to the demands of France. On the 13th a version of the interview was telegraphed from Berlin, in which the King was represented as treating M. Benedetti with such wanton discourtesy that the temper of the French people was roused to fever-heat, and shouts of "To Berlin!" resounded through the boulevards.

As everyone knows, the real facts were very different; but Bismarck, determined on war had not scrupled to misrepresent things in order to provoke France to hostilities. Three days afterwards the fateful message "War is declared" was flashed through the world.

It is not comforting to have to reflect that Great Britain has more than once had to acknowledge the superior astuteness of foreign diplomats, Madagascar—that bone of contention—is a case in point.

By the Anglo-French agreement of August 5th, 1890, a French protectorate was recognised, and was the cause of much grumbling in England, the concessions given to France being regarded as much too liberal. Mingled disgust and astonishment, however, were created here by the news of January 23rd, 1896, when a new treaty was signed between France and Madagascar, by which the island definitely became a French possession.

The Queen was to retain her title, with such advantages as it conferred. Said "advantages" appear to include exile, as on March 11th, she and her family were deported to the island of Reunion. Great Britain declined to recognise the system of taking possession, and held that her treaties with Madagascar still held good; but up to the present moment her protests have proved ineffectual and General Galhen continues to wield absolute power over the island in the name of the Republic.

Indeed, 1896 provided two Diplomatic defeats, for England at the hands of France, for on January 15th Anglo-French agreement on the matter of Sam was signed. By this document the idea of a "buffer State" was abandoned, and France obtained a solid lump of territory. The advantages to Great Britain were not so apparent. However, against this we have to put the historic bluff that did not come off—where France tried to spoof England into recognising her claims to Fashoda and adjacent parts. We all know what England's reply was.

Louis Napoleon's Coup d'Etat in 1851 was one of the most gigantic spoils even carried out. During skill and patience of no mean order were required for this great stroke, whereby France went to sleep a Republic and woke an Empire. By an apparent resignation to the order of things, is established in France, Napoleon hoaxed the heads of the Republic into permitting him to return to his native land. In June, 1848 he was allowed to take his seat in the Assembly as Deputy, and six months afterwards was elected President of the Republic.

At this time his secret agents were busy throughout France working for the restoration of the Empire and so step by step the wily nephew of Napoleon I. went on, hiding his real intentions under cloak of devotion to the Republic. In 1850 at a review he was saluted with shouts of "Long live the Emperor!" from some of the regiments, and on the famous "Second of December," 1851, the Constitution was abolished.

ADVICE TO YOUNG ADVOCATES.

LORD RUSSELL of Killowen gave law students the benefit of his experience as an advocate last night. The occasion was the annual meeting of the Gray's Inn Law Society, which was held in the ancient dining-hall of the Inn. The Lord Chief Justice, in delivering his address, said he regarded moots as a very important in the direction of efficient technical legal education. The Bar enjoyed many rights and privileges, but in these days men had to justify the right to the possession of these advantages by bringing some equivalent advantages to the general community and equipping themselves by persevering study. He had dreamed dreams, when he supposed he was old enough to have imaginative influences removed from him, of the best, broadest, and highest system of legal education conducted and systematised by a collegiate body. The object of the Masters of the Inns of Court should be, not to exclude, as in the past, aliens from membership, but to open the doors of the profession not only to the inhabitants of our colonies and dependencies, but to all the world, and to rejoice to be able to afford to all an opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of and respect for our system of laws and our because of its just enlightenment. He had practised more or less at the Bar for forty years, and had gone about the courts with his ears open and his eyes not shut, and seen a great deal to admire, and a great deal not to admire. An argument should be clear, should be simple, direct, and fair. The judicial faculty should be cultivated, if present, to judge their own and their opponent's cases, to make up their minds what were their own weak points and what were their strong points, and to look at their adversary's case in the same way, and to mass their strength on what they determined to be the turning point of the case. Lord Justice Mellish, the best arguer in Banc he had ever known cited cases and was brief in his argument. Mr. Justice Coleridge took his son, afterwards Lord Coleridge to see one of the most distinguished lawyers of our generation. Sir William Follett, and announcing that his son was going to the Bar, said "Perhaps you can give him a word or two of advice." Sir William said, "Yes, I think, I can. When you are stating your own case, never forget also to state your adversary's case and he added, rather slyly, "for probably you would be able to state it less favourably than he would." They should avoid the "plunge into the cases style of argument, deserting the case in hand for cases in books and the 'promissory' kind of argument which postponed dealing with the points put to the advocate. Finally, there was the cocksure argument of the young man full of learning who got up and said, "This is a very clear case, the authorities go in an unbroken stream in my favour," and sat down, but not necessarily the victor.

THE SENSATIONAL BANKURA OUTRAGE CASE.

We take from the *Bankura Dispatch* the following orders passed by the Sessions Judge of Bankura on the petition of Srimaty Barada Gowdini. The facts of the case have already been reported in these columns.

In this case the Police submitted a B. Form and reported it to be a doubtful case but in order to get rid of their responsibility asked for a judicial enquiry. The story of Kanga Chakravarty, Abinash Khan and Purna Dass before the Police Sub-Inspector was that the complainant was in liaison with Purna and that for that purpose she had been to their house, but being detected by her relations, she out of shame, turned the talk and accused them of having forcibly taken her into their room. The occurrence took place at noon. The evidence is that immediately after the occurrence the information was lodged at the thana which was a minute's walk from the place of occurrence. The hour at which the occurrence was reported to the thana is according to the first information 2-4 P. M., but the Sub-Inspector did not turn out to the place before 5 P. M. From the Sub-Inspector's report in B. Form we find that at the spot, the complainant pointed to Purna and Abinash as having forcibly taken her into the room and ravished her. She swears that she gave as much to the Police when she gave the 1st information as she gave when she gave the 2nd information, and whether she added a lie. Considering that immediately after the occurrence she went to the thana and then when the Sub-Inspector arrived on the spot with her within 2 or 3 hours, she pointed out these two men, I am inclined to believe her story that she mentioned these men as her ravishers and that her statement was not properly recorded by the Police. The complainant, a young country woman, swears that this is the 1st time she came to Bankura and there was not a vestige of evidence on the Dy. Magistrate's record to imply that she was in intrigue with Purna. The hypothesis that she went to the house to carry on a liaison with Purna must be a pure assumption, and from the fact that it was adopted by the Police and yet the Police did not dare ask for sanction to prosecute her for making a false charge, combined with the fact that Abinash Khan is the son of an Honorary Magistrate of the town, I have grave suspicions as to the integrity of the Police enquiry and record. In any case the conduct of the Police seems to me to be dilatory and reprehensible. Here a grave charge of rape and wrongful confinement in broad day light under the very nose of the Police Sub-Inspector, is made to the Police Sub-Inspector. Nothing could have been easier for him than to walk a few steps from the thana to the place of occurrence at once and ascertain the truth or falsehood of the complaint, but there is an unusual delay and sukkawarnness on his part to arrive at the spot, and this does not submit his report to the Magistrate until the complainant goes and moves the Magistrate impugning his conduct. The Magistrate received the complaint and after having read the Police report ordered a judicial enquiry by a subordinate Magistrate. As the complainant moved the District Magistrate impugning the Police enquiry that petition ought to have been considered as a complaint, and as he ordered a judicial enquiry by one of his Deputy Magistrates (apparently under S 202 Cr. Procedure Code) a final order of dismissal after it had been passed upon the report submitted by the Deputy Magistrate. The only order recorded is "enter true under S 354 I. P. Code, accused to be released from bail." The effect of this order was that the complaint was dismissed under S. 203 Cr. Procedure Code, and I treat it as such I have considered the evidence that the complainant produced before the Dy. Magistrate and I am of opinion that a further enquiry should be ordered. The Dy. Magistrate reported the case to be true under secs 354 and 542 I. P. Code. If so a process should have been allowed under these sections. There is no doubt a discrepancy as to the names of the accused persons who committed the offence as recorded in the 1st information and as contained in the petition and statement on oath, but as I have already observed there is reason to suspect that the 1st information was mutilated and the fact that the complainant pointed out her ravishers immediately on the arrival of the Sub-Inspector at the spot lends force to that suspicion. She swears that she mentioned their names before the Sub-Inspector as a fact she pointed them out as soon as the investigation commenced; and she repeated her story in her petition of complaint before the Magistrate. She is therefore entitled to have her complaint heard. The burden of the Dy. Magistrate's story is that she did not allege in her 1st information to the Police that she was ravished. Nothing could have been a more incorrect statement. There is an express and positive allegation of rape in the 1st information. When a woman describes how she was seized, how her breast was handled and adds that she was made *bejint* she means she was ravished. This is the common and natural way in which a woman can describe her ravishment, and I am surprised that a Bengali Dy. Magistrate understood it otherwise. I think that the complainant has made out *prima facie* case and I direct a further enquiry into her complaint.

A METEOR of phenomenal size and brilliancy was observed in Lahore at about 10 P. M. on Sunday last.

A GREAT sensation has been caused in Bombay amongst the Hindus, owing to a small temple on the main road leading to the railway station having, it is said, sunk a little below the ground level and the deity inside it having shifted a little from its normal position. Thousands of people have flocked to see this phenomenon and religious ceremonies have been held.

THE Government of India have approved of a hill residence at Maymyo for the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma. This in a manner points to Maymyo being so far considered a success as a hill station, and, as the railway ought to be opened within a year, it bids fair to become the health resort of Burma. The Government have been spending much money on barracks, houses, and roads and many improvements are contemplated in the near future.

THE conception of the title *Kaiser-i-Hind* (Emperor of India) is generally attributed to the late Dr. Leuner. The Majority of the Indian and English newspapers, including even the *Times*, have slipped into this error. Knowledge says that Sir William Muir, K. C. S. I., now Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, is the author of this title. It is said that in the capacity of Financial Member of the Viceroy's Council he made the suggestion to Lord Lytton, and the latter, at the farewell banquet he gave to Sir William on his departure from India, shortly before the Proclamation, said that "whilst the Queen, in accordance with the advice of Her Majesty's present Ministers, has assumed the title of Empress of India, there was only one man who could make Her Majesty *Kaiser-i-Hind* and the man to whom Her Majesty was indebted for the title by which she would henceforth be popularly known throughout her vast Indian dominions was no other than my honourable friend Sir William Muir."—*Tribune*.

NIGHT FARES WHO STARTLE CABMEN.

THE cabmen of the metropolis see life as very few other people do, and it cannot be a matter of surprise that sometimes they have very strange experiences. But over and above these there are a few mysteries which occupy a permanent place in most well-informed cabmen's memories. The other day (writes a representative) I had an interesting chat on this subject with a smart driver.

A startling experience of his own happened a few years ago. Once, at about midnight, he took up near Ludgate Hill Station a fare, who ordered him to drive along the Embankment till told to stop. He had a bulky parcel in his hands, which he took inside with him. When approaching Westminster Bridge the fare pushed open the trap and instructed him to drive slowly back again. Two or three journeys were thus made along the Embankment, and then, at last, when another had been half made, there was sudden order to stop. The man, who was of middle age and well-dressed, jumped quickly out, rushed to the wall, threw the parcel over, and then walked calmly back to the hansom.

There was no one else about at the time, and it was plain now that he had been looking for a quite deserted spot. His instruction now was to drive to a big hotel in the West-End, and cabby, who had suspicions, decided that he would do so and say nothing, but that afterwards he would pay a visit to the police station.

Judge of his surprise when, on reaching the hotel, he found his cab empty! His man had, with a stealth and cleverness which must have been marvellous, slipped out of the cab unnoticed. The difficulty of the feat may be imagined. Cabby may not have been quite so alert as usual, everything being quiet and no traffic being about, but he was dumbfounded on making his discovery. As he had not been able to get a look at his man sufficiently good to enable him to identify him the game was up, and the mystery still remains unsolved.

Another cabby's eventful evening was when he picked up a fare who, first of all, instructed him to drive to a street in the West-End, and when arrived there told him to keep on driving up and down it. It was a wretchedly wet night, and it looked as if the man inside was waiting for somebody, but, nevertheless, when the far ordered a halt for a few minutes while he stepped into an hotel for some refreshment, cabby, curiously inclined, peeped inside through the trap.

To his astonishment there lay on the seat a revolver with its barrel gleaming as quickly as possible the driver got hold of and examined it. Five chambers were loaded, and instead of the cartridges, then replaced the weapon on the cushion and climbed to his box. He had no sooner done so than his fare rushed back, put his arm inside the hansom, and was evidently relieved to find the weapon, which he had apparently forgotten, still there. A few minutes later the parade up and down the street was resumed, and then at last, as a gentleman emerged from a doorway, the fare jumped out, pointed the revolver at him, and pulled the trigger three or four times in succession. Of course, there was no response but a harmless clicking and, hastily coming to the conclusion that something had gone wrong, and it was all up, he took to his heels. Efforts to catch him were unavailing, and this, too, is still a mystery.

The cabman's good sense on this occasion probably prevented a murder from taking place, and his 'outness' at other times has often resulted well. For instance, late on a certain night one of the fraternity was driving slowly down Gray's Inn Road, when a man rushed from a side street, jumped inside, and exclaimed, "Drive me away as quickly as you can. \$5 if you go fast enough. Anywhere you like." There was something about this which the driver thought very queer, and he put a very literal interpretation upon the "anywhere you like" clause of the agreement, for he drove by a circuitous route which, in a few minutes, brought them to the other end of the same street that the man had rushed out from.

Half-way down it he saw there was a great commotion, and a crowd of excited people were standing outside one of the houses. Before the man realised the state of affairs he had been driven right up to the crowd, and on attempting to jump out was seized by a couple of policemen and charged. A robbery had been committed there, and a man had been wounded in trying to prevent it.

Another trick of a cabman was once highly successful. Two men of strange appearance hailed him, and asked to be driven to a street which had a very bad name. With them in the cab they had several bundles. The driver's suspicions were aroused, and he resolved to try a dodge of his own. He drove along, but presently stopped suddenly outside a police station and called out, "Here's the police station!" If everything had been all right the men would probably have sworn and wanted to know what cabby was doing. As it was, they leaped from the cab like a flash, lightning, and in a moment had vanished. Their bundles they left behind in their hurry. They were found to contain jewellery, and inferences were obvious.

FAMOUS PEOPLE IN LOVE.

ALTHOUGH some great men have remained unmarried throughout their lives it is remarkable that of the world's celebrities to-day Mr. Rodas, Mr. Arthur Balfour, and Lord Kitchener are almost the only bachelors. Nearly all the great men in the world living have enjoyed the happiness of the married state, and some of them faced life's journey with their wives under the most romantic circumstances.

What could be more ideal than the Prime Minister's early struggle after marriage? When he was about twenty-six years old a struggling journalist and politician, he fell in love with Miss Alderson, a daughter of one of Her Majesty's Judges. She was poor, and the then Marquis of Salisbury refused to sanction the engagement. Eventually father and son came to terms, according to which the lovers were to cease seeing and writing to each other for a year.

The clever young nobleman's affection stood this test; and at the end of that period he insisted on his father's approval of the match. Then he married her on a paternal allowance of a few hundred a year. With this sum the future Prime Minister of England faced life with brave young wife, who was almost as skillful a writer as her husband was. Between them they succeeded in earning as much as £2,000 to £3,000 a year.

The late Mr. Gladstone's marriage was no less romantic. Early in the century a beautiful Welsh heiress, known as the handsome Miss Glyn, was at a dinner party in Paris. Amongst the guests was a handsome and clever young man in whom the principal place at the table took a friendly interest. Miss Glyn first observed him through hearing her neighbour declare that young man will be Prime Minister of England. She met him again the following winter, when he was spending a holiday in Rome. There they renewed their acquaintance. One night young Gladstone took the Welsh heiress to view some ancient ruins by moonlight, and in that romantic spot delivered the sweetest speech even he ever made. All the world knows how happy and blessed the marriage was.

The most perfect bliss was enjoyed by Lord Beaconsfield and his wife, who was a widow, named Mrs. Wyndham Lewis. There is hardly anything to equal their devotion to each other. On one occasion when they were driving down to the House of Commons, preparatory to a big speech by the Conservative leader, the door of the vehicle was shut upon one of Mrs. Disraeli's fingers. Knowing that the accident might cause anxiety to her husband, and that this

might diminish the success of his speech, the plucky little lady bore the pain for the whole of the journey, and concealed her sufferings from him till they were returning from the House of Commons.

One of the most delightful pictures ever drawn of a British statesman is recorded by Lord Rowton, who served as Lord Beaconsfield's private secretary. On one occasion when "Dizzy" had made a speech of greater success than usual, he found Mr. and Mrs. Disraeli dancing cheerfully around the table like a pair of children.

When Wm. Cobbett, the famous pamphleteer and reformer, was a soldier serving in Canada, he saw an artilleryman's daughter, about fourteen years old, working at a washing tub. There was a good deal of character, as well as of beauty in the girl's face, and Cobbett, the moment he saw her, exclaimed, "That's the girl for me!" Some years afterwards he sent her money to come to London, and they were married. The match proved a very happy one.

There are many eminent men living now whose choice of a wife was the result of love at first sight. That was the case with Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, (nee Marie Wilton), who met each other for the first time at the theatre where they were playing in the same piece. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain met his present wife at a dinner given in his honour when he visited America a few years ago, and they were engaged in less than a week. A still more recent case has been furnished by the two daughters of the Prince and Princess of Wales. The one married the subject of Her Majesty, the Duke of Eife, and the other also fell in love with a tall, good-looking Danish officer, who came over here to attend a Court function.

Amongst literary men there are innumerable instances of romantic and passionate devotion.

Nathaniel Hawthorne was induced by his wife to write, so was Mr. Thomas Hardy, whom Mrs. Hardy persuaded to abandon the occupation of an architect. Mr. Rider Haggard has paid the same compliment to his wife, and so has Mr. Max O'Rell. Lord Tennyson's was, as we all know, a perfectly ideal marriage.

Many of Tom Hood's writings were dictated to his wife.

Of all poets' marriages, probably the happiest were those of Robert Browning and Dante Gabriel Rossetti. The former was told by his friends that it was risky to marry an intellectual woman, who was also a poet, like Miss Barrett. But he did so secretly, and the marriage proved one of perfect happiness. After returning to England from their honeymoon abroad, Browning went to the church where he was married, and kissed the paving-stones in front of the door out of gratitude for the blessings the partnership had brought him.

The first volume of Rossetti's poems touched upon his devotion to Mrs. Rossetti. On the day of her funeral he walked into the room where the body lay, carrying the manuscript under his arms, and, disregarding the company present, he spoke as though she were still living. He declared that the poems were addressed to her; and that she must take them with her; and then, placing the manuscript beside her in the coffin, left it to be buried in Highgate Cemetery. Seven years later Rossetti consented before he died to have the body exhumed and the poems published.

Another touching love-match is the great Duke of Wellington's. When he was Captain Arthur Wellesley he met Lady Catherine Packenham, daughter of the Earl of Langford, a lady of much beauty. This, too, was at a dinner party, and the gallant young officer fell in love the moment he saw the society beauty. She returned his affection, but the Earl would not listen to a proposal which coupled his daughter's name with that of a penniless young officer. Secretly, however, the young people plighted their troth, and young Wellesley went off to the wars. He was away nine years, and meantime greatly distinguished himself, returning home with feelings of joy to claim the girl of his choice. A severer trial than any he had faced in the wars was in store for him. Two years after his departure from England small-pox had ravaged the district, where Lady Catherine Packenham resided, and destroyed all her personal beauty. When Wellesley came to claim his bride it was to offer his hand to an unhappy and disfigured young woman. Sobbing bitterly she besought him to go away and to release himself from the engagement. He declined to do anything of the sort, and insisted on marrying her.

Still more pathetic is the history of General Wolfe's attachment. He, too, had fallen in love with a maiden to whom he was passionately devoted. Her name was Miss Lowthe, and an engagement was entered into. Before its termination Wolfe was sent to Canada. On the night before the fall of Quebec, the hero of that siege had a presentiment that death was approaching. He entrusted her lock to a brother officer, bidding him carry it to the girl of his heart in case the presentiment was fulfilled. Nor are the marriages of the great of to-day without their romantic interest. Lord Roberts married when a young man the daughter of a non-commissioned officer, who afterwards became quarter-master, and her knowledge of military matters has proved of immense assistance to her husband in his career.

THE cold snap of the last fortnight has departed from Simla, and the days are now becoming decidedly warmer. The Mushobra woods will for the next two months be a welcome change from the heat and dust of Simla. With one or two exceptions, all the houses in that delightful little suburb have been booked for the season.

BARON VON STUMM, an officer in the Queen Wilhelmina's Own Prussian Hussars, has been appointed Attaché to the German Imperial Consul General and has arrived at Simla to take up the appointment.

THE Simla fine arts exhibition will be held this year about the usual date, and promises to be a great success. The Committee are making new rules to the effect that exhibitors must say beforehand which prize or prizes they desire their work to compete for.

THE following horrible mode of self-destruction by a native is reported from Sarawak:—Haji Momin, an old man of nearly 80 years of age, committed suicide in a somewhat unusual manner. He was found unconscious in the scrub at the back of his house with a knife in his hand, with which he had stabbed himself 13 times in the abdomen. Through the largest of these wounds he had pulled out his entrails and had cut them up into lengths as they came out, no less than 13 severed pieces being found on the ground beside him. He was removed to his house but died immediately afterwards.

JOY A PLEASURE AND A DUTY.

I consider it not only a pleasure but a duty I owe to my neighbours to tell about the wonderful cure effected in my case by the timely use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. I was taken very badly with flux and procured a bottle of this remedy. A few doses of it effected permanent cure. I take pleasure in recommending it to others suffering from that dreadful disease.—J. W. LYNCH, Dorr, W. Va. This remedy is sold by SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and B. K. PAUL & CO.

MUSCULAR WIFE AND TREMBLING HUSBAND.

THE Society for Political Study, a female club including many of the most prominent and influential women in the United States, held a mass meeting in New York on March 20th. The occasion was what they called their "Spring Inventory," the summing-up of the victories of the past and the forming of plans for the future.

The sensation of the meeting was an opposition speech by Mrs. Morton.

"Beware," she said, "lest ye become as women were when ancient Rome fell—women with muscles. We think ourselves new women, but there were much newer women in the first century. It is no good when we see muscular young women and spindle-shanked young men."

"Woman in the hour of her victory is too grasping. If this 'progress' goes on I can see as in a vision its very strange outcome. I see six-footed wives, gathering up their four-foot husbands, and knocking down trees with them. I see the woman supreme, and the man her slave. I see the husbands, subdued to meekness, while the wife sallies forth with her shovel over her shoulder to earn the money that should feed the little ones."

"Spindle-shanked and filled with a tremulous fear that the dinner might be spoiled. I see the husband standing at the door to welcome the tired wife after the long day's toil. I see him tenderly remove the harness from her weary shoulders, take the heavy shovel and hang it on the h-t-rack, bring the fresh-bought jug of beer, and pour out a soothing flagon."

"And then I see the six-foot wife sit down at the dinner-table and toy wearily for a time with the scorched beef and cabbage, and I see her grind her teeth and curl her lip in silent scorn; and then I see the wet, wet tear steal down the white cheek of the subdued husband, and see his little firm shaken with subdued sobs."

This line of discourse, however, was too much for that audience, and before Mrs. Morton had even warmed into her subject a wave of disapproval passed over the hall, and obliged her to desist.

ANOTHER AWFUL FIRE.

ALREADY another terrible fire less extensive than the Windsor Hotel calamity, but not less sudden or complete in its destruction has claimed many lives in New York city. The outbreak occurred in the early morning of Friday at the house of Mr. Wallace Andrews, the millionaire president of the Steam Heating Company, close to Fifth-avenue, in Sixty-seventh street, the heart of the wealthiest residential district. The flames spread with such fearful rapidity that a few minutes after their discovery the walls of the house were holding one seething inferno. It was the most rapidly destructive fire known several of the inmates were carried out by policemen and firemen unconscious from smoke, but only to die in the rescuer's arms. Many of the servants were killed or terribly injured in jumping from the windows. Some bodies were discovered lifeless near the doorways, where they had evidently been overcome by smoke while trying to escape. Those known to have perished include Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, their daughter, and her children—two little boys and a girl; and seven servants. On the third floor two bodies, believed to be those of Mr. Andrews and his wife, were found with their arms locked around each other. It is almost certain that some of the victims were suffocated without even awaking, and perished without feeling their terrible fates. The household retired to rest tired. They had been packing in readiness for departure from their New York house next day. Sparks from the Andrews residence were carried across the space between the blocks and set fire to the house of Mr. A. J. Adams in Sixty-ninth street. The servants of the Adams' household had been watching the fire at Andrews' from the open windows, and it is thought the sparks blown in set fire to the curtains. The house was destroyed in amazingly short time. The latest report gives six of the inmates injured. According to one account, Mr. Adams' housekeeper has perished. Mr. George Gould's house is opposite to the Andrews' residence. Other millionaires live in the neighbourhood. They were all aroused soon after the outbreak, and were witnesses of the fearful holocaust. The total loss of lives in the Andrews fire varies in different reports from eleven to fourteen. Some of the remains cannot possibly be identified. There are eight injured in the two fires, one case being hopeless. Among the neighbouring houses menaced by the fire were the residences of Mr. George Gould, Mr. Philip Armour, Mr. James and Mr. H. O. Havenmeyer. The inmates fled into the streets. The police order the spectators who crowded the windows of the surrounding houses to close every one of them; there was great danger from the burning embers driven in the wind. The house of Mr. Andrews was burned out so rapidly owing to the flames leaping along the tapestries which lined the wide staircases and passages. The woodwork of the interior was flimsy. When the outbreak was discovered the first floor was already one mass of flames. An explosion followed in a few minutes, and then hissing flames shot up from the basement to the roof.

Another account says that Mr. and Mrs. Andrews slept on the third floor. They were found locked in loving embrace, where they had fallen, when suffocating smoke prevented their escape. They were dressed in their night clothing, but were almost nude when the firemen found them. Mrs. St. John, the married daughter of Mr. Andrews, was found by the firemen who broke into the house kneeling over her baby's cradle, shielding him with her arms. She was carried out struggling to keep near her child. She died in a few minutes, and the child died at the same time. At Mr. Adams' residence, where the second fire occurred, Policemen Wagner made a phenomenal rescue by forming a living bridge of his body stretched from one house to the other. The early morning scene in the neighbourhood of the fire was remarkable. Men, women, and children, clad mainly in night robes, stood in the street. Many women fell on their knees in the street and prayed for the people dying before their eyes in the flaming house.

One extraordinary scene was witnessed during the fire. A woman, flying from the flames, had reached the ledge below the third storey window, and seemed beyond rescue by any available appliances. The fireman could not reach her from the fourth storey window adjoining the building; but, without a moment's hesitation, three of his mates swung him like a pendulum, holding him by one leg, but the woman was beyond his reach. After three attempts, and when the situation became desperate, she summoned up her courage and made a feeble jump, whereupon the firemen caught her wrist and saved her.

It is now known that 13 persons perished in the fire. The origin of the outbreak has not yet been discovered, but it is hinted that it may have been due to incendiarism.

The "Evening World" states that Mr. Andrews received by mail five weeks ago an infernal machine and explosives enough to blow up a house.

MR. BEDFORD, Chief Superintendent Accountant General's Office, Bombay, is permitted to retire at the beginning of this month, and Mr. Rebeiro is appointed in his place.

VARIETIES.

THE greatest fall of rock, that has for years occurred in the Niagara Falls, took place on Friday morning March 31st at five o'clock, when ten thousand tons of rock or more fell from the bank above the Whirlpool Rapids, blocking the gorge railroad and smashing the elevator shaft. A single boulder weighed 200 tons. A greater fall threatens to take place.

A WRITER in the Boston *Globe* gives some new facts about the Kipling household which may be of interest to many. "It is my best judgment," he says, "that Mr. Kipling is now receiving from 75,000 dollars to 100,000 dollars yearly from his royalties and his literary work. I have means of knowing in a general way, and I do not believe the amount is exaggerated. Mr. Kipling is a generous spender, but I should be surprised if his entire personal and family expenses exceeded 10,000 dollars. Yes, he is fairly frugal. Mrs. Kipling is an excellent financier."

THERE is a right and a wrong way of doing everything. This extends to handshaking, in which much ceremonial propriety lingers. One rule may be emphatically laid down. It must not be done too vigorously. Firstly, because it is vulgar to treat a friend's arm as if it were a pump-handle; and, secondly, because it may cause hurt. Dakiel reports a curious case in Philadelphia in which neglect of this elementary rule has caused litigation. Miss Edith Bonney, a young lady of that city, was recently awarded 10,000 dollars, damages against Frederick Farow. It appears that when he was introduced to her a year ago he was so much impressed that he shook her hand vigorously and squeezed it so hard that he broke one of the bones and rendered the hand useless, necrosis setting in.

IN ANNUM, if in fact of good resisting power are of course, unknown, and unfortunately adroit thieves are not unknown. To defend his most costly treasures the King had to resort to means in harmony with the natural circumstances of his country. Armed human guards he could not fully trust. Animals do not steal money, and Nature had supplied him with an animal which could not be wheeled, not killed except with a good deal of trouble. The crocodile is such an animal. The King could have the crocodile guard his special reserve. In the interior of his place the King caused to be constructed a large pond or basin which he kept constantly filled with water. Then he took several teak logs which he had bored with holes and into these holes he put his special reserve of gold and silver. The holes were closed up and the logs put into the tank. Then some crocodiles of the largest and fiercest description were installed in the tank, and maintained there—not being fed, however, with such a superfluity as to interfere with their natural ferocity. Any person who should undertake to reach the treasure-laden logs would surely be eaten by the crocodiles. And any one who should undertake to put the saurians out of his way would have to make noise enough to attract the attention of the human guards and of the King himself—for the King of Annum is required by custom to remain very closely in his palace. At any rate the royal crocodile treasury has never been robbed, and it cannot be.

NAPOLEON the Great was one of the richest, if not quite the richest, sovereigns in his day. His methods of acquiring money were thoroughly characteristic, and, to do him justice, he never except in the matter of men, robbed the country he reigned over. After a successful campaign against Austria or Germany it was the great warrior's custom to secure to himself by private treaty sums varying from twelve millions to twenty millions sterling from the beaten country. The levies or extortions from his enemies are said to have amounted to £75,000,000. On his death he left by will £3,000,000, not a penny of which was ever paid. Indeed, the Bonaparte after his death felt upon evil days, and it is within the recollection of many that a Bonaparte family of the Imperial blood once kept a dress-making establishment in the west of London. Prince Victor Napoleon—the possible Napoleon V.—lives in a very quiet establishment in the Avenue Louise, in Brussels, and cannot, at an outside computation, be worth more than £5,000 a year. His brother, Louise Napoleon, colonel of Russian regiment, possesses about the same amount. There also lives in the Avenue Louise, in Brussels, a grandson of the King of Rome, the great Napoleon's son. The King of Rome contracted a morganatic marriage with a beautiful actress at the Vienna Opera. Her grand-son is well-known by sight to the people of Brussels and bears the most striking resemblance possible to the great Corsican. The ex-Empress Eugenie, who is reputed to be one of the wealthiest women in Europe, has stated her intention of leaving fortune of £2,000,000 to the one who is accounted by the Bonapartist party.

MAJOR STEWART, R.A., who was bitten by a dog, returns from Paris next week, and rejoins his post of Assistant Director-General of Ordnance. Major-General Strahan, R. E., returns to Simla on the 10th instant.

HERE is a high compliment to India and Ceylon tea. An advertisement in the *Canadian Grocer* says:—"In 1899, 14,000,000 lbs. were consumed in Canada and the United States, while in 1898, the consumption in the same countries was over 6,000,000 lbs., showing the enormous increase of over 47,000,000 lbs. This marvellous and universal appreciation is due to merit alone, as it is an established fact that these are the purest, cleanest, and tastiest, and most economical teas the world produces."

A TERRIFIC hailstorm swept over Nanpara precisely at midnight, the other day, causing great destruction to the *rabi* crop which had not been cut. At first the hailstones which fell were small, but subsequently they increased to the size of a large flat potato, and weighed one-quarter of a pound and more. Thousands of birds of all kinds were killed, and were found under the trees. Minas, partridges, and other birds fit for human consumption were taken away by the poorer classes.

AN ANCIENT BELIEF.

The ancients believed that rheumatism was the work of a demon within a man. Any one who has had an attack of sciatic or inflammatory rheumatism will agree that the infliction is demonic enough to warrant the belief. It has never been claimed that Chamberlain's Pain Balm would cast out demons, but it will cure rheumatism, and hundreds bear testimony to the truth of this statement. One application relieves the pain, and this quick relief which it affords is alone worth many times its cost. For sale by—

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

AN EPIDEMIC OF WHOOPING COUGH. Last winter during an epidemic of whooping cough my children contracted the disease, having severe coughing spells. We had used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy very successfully for croup and naturally turned to it at that time and found it relieved the cough and effected a complete cure.—JOHN E. CLIFFORD, Proprietor Norwood House, Norwood N. Y. This remedy is for sale by—

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

