

# Amrita Bazar Patrika

BI-WEEKLY EDITION--PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURS DAY

VOL. XXXI.

CALCUTTA, SUNDAY, MAY 21, 1899.

NO. 38.

পদকপাতক।

দশপু হইয়াছে

বুঝা ৩০ টাকা।

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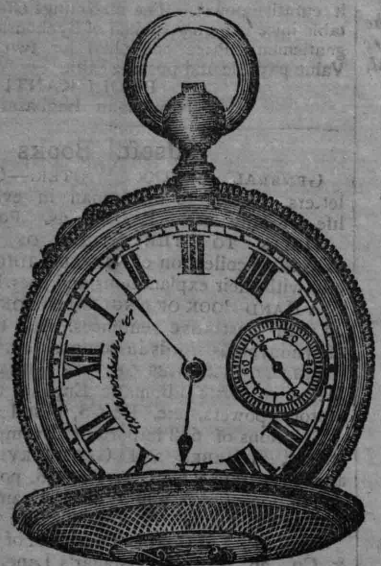
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নতুন পুস্তক।

মহারাজ নন্দকুমার চরিত ১১০ টাকা

ঐশ্বর্যচরণ শাস্ত্রী প্রণীত।

অতি প্রাচীন ইংরাজী, ফারসী, বাঙ্গলা ও  
পারসী দলীল পত্র ও গ্রন্থ অবলম্বনে লিখিত  
ইহা হইতে, এত দিন লোকে উপভাস ও বিদে-  
শীয় লেখকদিগের নন্দকুমারের বিস্তৃত চরিত্র  
পাঠ করিয়াছেন, এখন বিত্ত চরিত্র পাঠ করন  
ইহাতে নবাব আলিবর্দী শিরাজদৌলার জীবিত  
হাব ও রানী তবানী প্রভৃতির হত্যাকার আছে।

হৃদয়গতি শিবাকী— ১১০ টাকা।

মহারাজ প্রতাপাদিত্য— ১০ টাকা।

প্রধান প্রধান পুস্তকালয়ে ও ২০ নং কর্ণওয়ালিস  
স্ট্রীট সংস্কৃত প্রেসে ডিপজিটরী কলিকাতা

## Monks Elixir

THE GREAT INDIAN REMEDY.

Specific for Dog and Jackal bites and the only infal-

lible remedy for Hydrophobia.

The antidote to canine poison is an indigenous

separation of a veteran and eminent medical man

City, and has been given to us with the bonafide

of relieving suffering humanity after two years

permanence.

ACTION.—It arrests bleeding from the bite

instantaneously, subdues inflammation and reduced

swelling of the bitten part in 3 or 4 days at the most

It purifies the blood by eliminating the poison.

REMARKS.—The medicine should be discontinued

the inflammation has gone down. The dis-

appearance of inflammation is a sure index of the

elimination of the poison. The medicine should be

used immediately after or within a fortnight after the

bite. It acts as a preventive against the develop-

ment of Hydrophobia by purifying the blood

When hydrophobia is developed and the medicine

aids to give immediate relief, the concentrated tincture

of this medicine, sold here at 10 Rs. per drachm is

to be used. The preparation has never been found to

fail in a single instance. No household should be

without this preparation.

NUMEROUS TESTIMONIALS

Each phial & Rs. exclusive of packing add postage

Sole Agents, B. K. ROR and BROTHERS,

4, Sooken street, Calcutta.

## Hahnemann Home

(REGISTERED.)

IN connection with the Homoeopathic Dispensary

opened in the name and style of HAHNEMANN

Home, and the Electro-Homoeopathic Dispensary

recently carried on in the name and style of BATAVIA

Co., we beg to draw the attention of the public that

we had to renounce the name of BATAVIA and Co.,

and have amalgamated the Dispensaries under the

common name and style of HAHNEMANN HOME,

the former as HAHNEMANN HOME, Homoeopathic

Branch, at No. 2-1 College Street, and the latter as

HAHNEMANN HOME, Electro-Homoeopathic Branch,

at No. 2-2 College Street, Calcutta, in the same

house and with the same stock of medicines, etc.,

the proprietors retaining the name. We need hardly

add that our medicines will, as hitherto, be of the

same superior quality and imported from the same

firms in England, America, Germany and Italy as

before.

We therefore respectfully request our constituents

both in town and in the country to send their

orders for Homoeopathic as well as Electro-

Homoeopathic Medicines to the address of HAHN-

EMANN HOME.

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## EVIDENCE OF MR. R. C. DUTT BEFORE THE CURRENCY COMMITTEE.

RAISING THE RUPEE IS TO INCREASE TAXATION.  
Will you just say, in your own language, what you would like to say first as to the effect of those proposals?—The first effect is likely to be that, that it would lead to a general increase of taxation in India. Because all the taxes are paid in rupees, and, by closing the mints, the value of the rupee has been enhanced, and, if the same number of rupees are taken now as were taken before, it means a real increase in taxation.

FALL IN RUPEE IS NO LOSS TO GOVERNMENT.

Did the proposals of the Government of India to arrest the fall of the rupee have the effect of raising its value?—Yes, I think it was 1s. 2d., if I remember rightly, in 1893, and it is now nearly 1s. 4d., so that within this last five years the value of the rupee has been enhanced by 2d. as compared with gold. With regard to the fall from 1871 to 1893, I may be allowed to explain that the Indian Government and the Provincial Governments got a natural increase in their revenue in consequence of the fall. The land revenue and other revenues went up in this way. The prices in rupees rose all round; the prices of food-grains rose, and, as the Government in its recurring settlements made that a ground of enhancement—because the Government as landlord is entitled to an increase of rent if the price of the produce rises—there was a natural increase in land revenue. Then also with regard to the income-tax; as the incomes, estimated in rupees, went up, the Government got an increase of the income-tax; so that, while there was a fall in the value of the rupee from 1871 to 1893, Government was directly, and in a natural way, getting an increase in the revenues as estimated by the rupee.

Do you mean that they would get more rupees?—They would get more rupees. The depreciation of the rupee has not been a loss to Government, because in this way there is a general increase in taxation without making the burden heavier on the people—there is a general increase in taxation as estimated by the rupee



THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, MAY 21, 1899.

## THE ANGLO-INDIAN PAPERS.

"EVEN the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman*," says that *Hindu*, "have grown sympathetic under the stress of the new Viceroy's large-hearted statesmanship." Without demurring in the least at the high compliment paid to the Viceroy, we cannot yet agree with the view that it is to the influence of Lord Curzon alone that this improvement in the tone of Anglo-Indian papers is due. In the two propositions we agree, *viz.* that there is such an improvement, and the sympathetic policy of the Viceroy has largely contributed towards it. Indeed, we have ourselves stated these two propositions in these columns more than once. In Calcutta we have four Anglo-Indian papers of note, *viz.*, the *Englishman*, the *Indian Daily News*, the *Statesman* and *Capital*. The *Englishman* is in the hands of one who is thoroughly Liberal at heart and from him we Indians expect a great deal. The *Statesman* has all along advocated liberal principles. The *Indian Daily News*, under the present regime, seems to be all that one can desire. *Capital* is in charge of an Englishman who is almost a Hindu at heart. Thankful as we are to Lord Curzon for his liberal utterances, it would be unjust to the contemporaries named above, to say that they are merely converts to the views of the Viceroy. There can be no doubt about the change of tone in the *Pioneer*, but it is not necessary to inquire into the cause which has led up to it.

This, however, is certain that it is impossible for the Anglo-Indian papers to deal with the people of India in that brutal manner which characterises some English papers in England. The latter, yet labour under the impression that "the Indians are 'blacks' whom the English are charitably giving an education and leading towards civilization, but the natives, naturally ungrateful, turn round their benefactors and abuse them through a viper press which an over-generous Government has allowed to create and develop." This is the view which some of the papers hold of the Indians, and, therefore, they do not feel any scruple in speaking of them as they would do of the negroes and other savages.

The Editors of Anglo-Indian papers are, however, on the spot. They come across the Indians, esteem and form friendship with many of them, and find it impossible to write of them in the way Mr. Stevens was pleased to do. The Indians have been able to convince all honest Englishmen residing in India that they are an intelligent people and have their virtues like other civilized people. Thirty years ago an Anglo-Indian paper would not have felt any scruple in calling Indians liars and all that. The most generous of them would perhaps have ascribed only a few virtues to them, and taken credit for his large-heartedness.

Mr. Clift compiled a geography for the benefit of Bengali youths. In this book, he describes the people thus: "The Bengalis are intelligent, gentle and submissive, but they are avaricious, treacherous, ungrateful and liars." The author did not feel that he was doing any wrong by his description, and the educational authorities, in an equally innocent manner, introduced the book in our schools, for the benefit of Bengali youths! At the present time some Anglo-Indian papers have even gone so far as to drop the term native and substitute Indians for it. We do not mean to say that the race of Englishmen, who treated the Indians as an inferior race, has altogether disappeared. For don't we see at Railway stations notices like these, *viz.*, "For gentlemen," "For natives," meaning that a native can never be a gentleman! Indeed, it is a great gain that the Indians have been able to secure the esteem, if not the friendship, of a good many Anglo-Indian papers.

It is confidently believed that the press will at no distant date rule the world. There is no doubt of it that the press is day by day gaining more and more in influence. In India, however, the press can wield more power than it is possible for it to do anywhere else. In this country the Government is carried on under despotic principles by aliens. Other countries are governed by the representatives of the people themselves, or by monarchs of their own choice. In India, a great gulf separates the rulers and the ruled. The rulers do not know what passes in the minds of the people, while the people are equally ignorant of the mental surroundings of the rulers. Yet they ought to know each other; and without such knowledge, it is impossible for both the rulers and the ruled to move a step. Thus the press is a greater necessity here than in Russia or even in England. And since the press is a greater necessity in India than in any other country, it can make itself more powerful and useful here than elsewhere.

The rulers here are aliens, and they would very much like to be informed of all that takes place around them. Indeed, it was solely for this that the Indians were allowed to create a press. Unfortunately, for reason, which need not be enumerated, our ruler, of the present day have become more sensitive than their predecessors; they can not put up with criticisms in the Indian press. They resent such criticism, nay

they take so dire an offence at the criticism of the Indian press, that they prefer to be in darkness than to be enlightened by it. In their thoughtless fury they actually sought to plunge the country, themselves, and their surroundings into Gimmerian darkness by gagging the press. They would grope in the dark; they would take the chance of falling into a pit rather than allow the Indians to hold a light for their benefit. But yet the Anglo-Indian papers can do that service which the Indians were doing before. They, at least many of them, however, have chosen to give up their legitimate functions *viz.*, independent criticism.

## HOW CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS ADMINISTERED HERE.

THE cases that are brought to the notice of the High Court, shew very well that we have not yet been able to overcome the barbarous mode of administration that obtained here in pre-British days. Some of the stories that are told to the Hon'ble Judges go to prove conclusively that the people have no protection when an official has been led to proceed on the war-path. Of course, there is the High Court for which God will bless the English nation. It is the High Court which proves the inherent sense of justice that the English nation carries in its heart. But yet a man cannot come to the High Court at once. He has to suffer much, pecuniarily and in other ways, before he is able to take protection of the High Court. In the Ghat-silla case, which formed a subject of interpellation in Parliament the other day, we find a man asked to see the Magistrate in a friendly manner, sent to *hijet* when he came, and awarded twice the highest punishment allowed by law, on the third day of his appearance! This is summary justice with a vengeance, though no martial law has been proclaimed in the country.

Well, after the Ghat-silla case was disposed of, the petition of one Ahmed Hossein, a wealthy zamindar, of Purnea, was presented to the Hon'ble Judges for consideration. The accused says, that he found his house surrounded by the Assist. Magistrate, the Police Superintendent, the Assistant Police Superintendent, three Police Inspectors—indeed, altogether a small force of about 100 to 150 men. We need not enter into the details of the *zoolum* said to have been practised on the petitioner. Suffice it to say that the Hon'ble Judges, hearing his story, directed the transfer of the case to another district. Cannot things be carried more quietly? What led to this violent demonstration we know not; probably the man had been represented as a great *budmash*. But however great a *budmash* one may be, it is not necessary in Bengal, so thoroughly tamed, to carry on things in a manner which reminds one, as we said, of pre-British days.

The next case is one which also reads like a romance, though it has not yet come before the High Court. It is a case which requires the serious attention of His Excellency the Viceroy, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and the Anglo-Indian papers which have, of late, adopted a more sympathetic attitude towards the people of this country. We think the *Englishman*, the *Pioneer* and other patriotic papers, which are jealous of the honour of the Government, should not allow a case like this to go unnoticed. Lord Curzon, who is a new-comer in this country, will see how the liberty of the Indian subject is sometimes a myth, and how a District Magistrate and a District Police Superintendent can do anything they like in this unhappy land. But to proceed with the facts of the case. In October last, Babu Jagadananda Goswamee of Baluchur, submitted the following petition to Mr. Egerton, Magistrate of Murshidabad:—

In the Court of the District Magistrate of Murshidabad.

The humble petition of Jagoda Nandan Goswami, of Baluchur, Thanna Manullabazar, in the District of Murshidabad, most respectfully sheweth:—

1. That on the 22nd August last your petitioner was informed at the Manullabazar Police Station by Sub-Inspector, Babu Ram Lal Palit, that your petitioner has, under your Worship's orders, been placed in class C in register number XV as a bad character, and that he was to be henceforth strictly watched by the Police and aroused from his sleep at night in order that his presence or absence might be noted.

2. Ever since the communication of this order to your petitioner he has been daily enquired after at night by the Police and awakened from his sleep. He has further been put to great inconvenience, trouble and annoyance in consequence of the above order, not to speak of the loss, humiliation and shame to which he has been subjected and to which he will continue to be subjected if the said order be not withdrawn.

3. Your petitioner is at a loss to understand the reason why such an order has been passed by your Worship against your petitioner. Your petitioner is anxious to learn the grounds upon which the said orders have been based.

4. Your petitioner belongs to a very respectable and ancient family in Bengal, being in fact descended from Nayananda Goswami, brother of Gadadhar Pandit Goswami, one of the spiritual companions of the Lord Gauranga of Navadip. A member of this family like your petitioner is looked upon with great veneration and regard by every Hindu in Bengal. Your petitioner, by right of his descent from the aforesaid noble companion of the Lord Gauranga, has got various disciples in Bengal, numbering not less than four hundred. In your petitioner's house at Baluchur there are two deities, Radha and Gopinath, installed and worshipped daily and such is the sanctity and glory of these two deities that pilgrims and devotees and people in general crowd there and do their homage at all hours of the day and up to 9 o'clock at night. Your petitioner is owner of zemindaries, lakheraj lands, jotes, gardens, and other properties which in all yield an annual income of about 1,200 Rupees. The income of your petitioner from his disciples would amount to about Rupees 400 annually. Your petitioner and his ancestors are connected with

respectable families in Bengal and your petitioner enjoys a high reputation for piety and religious devotion.

5. Your petitioner has therefore learnt with considerable surprise, regret and mortification that he has been classed with active and dangerous criminals and bad characters in the Police Register. There are absolutely no grounds whatever for such an extraordinary step being taken against your petitioner, and your petitioner ought to be told, as he is entitled to know, the nature of the information upon which action has been taken by your Worship.

6. The object of keeping Register XV for persons under surveillance is well known and indication has been given of persons who may be classed in the C. Register. Your petitioner is a peaceful and honest citizen of Baluchur carrying on his profession as a guru in a legitimate way and he lives openly and honestly upon his well-earned income. Your petitioner is the last person who can be thought of for inclusion in class C. If your petitioner be told the grounds upon which action has been taken, your petitioner will be able to demonstrate that there can be no room for any suspicion against your petitioner.

7. Your petitioner apprehends that the inclusion of your petitioner's name in class C has been the result of ill feeling and malice and your petitioner respectfully prays for a careful and unbiased enquiry in his presence.

8. In consequence of his classification as a C class bad character, your petitioner has suffered and is suffering from great mental pain and sorrow. He is being put to great inconvenience, trouble and annoyance. He has been considerably lowered in the estimation of his friends, relatives, disciples, and his profession is likely to be seriously injured. His humiliation and shame have been great.

9. Under the above circumstances your petitioner humbly prays that:—

(1) Your petitioner be told upon what information your Worship has acted in this matter.

(2) Your petitioner might be informed of the grounds upon which your Worship has passed the aforesaid order.

(3) That for the reasons stated in this representation the name of your petitioner be at once removed from class C in Register XV P. C. from No. 257 and if considered necessary an unbiased and careful enquiry be made in the presence of your petitioner.

And your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

(Sd.) YAGADANANDA GOSWAMI.

The Vaishnavas of Bengal know, with what veneration is Pandit Goswamee Gadadhar, the life-long and constant associate of the Lord Gauranga, held in the country. The petitioner is descended from Pandit Nayananda, brother and disciple of Pandit Gadadhar, and is therefore a member of a highly spiritual and ancient family, honoured throughout this province. It seems one day, in August last, he was informed that he had been voted a "*budmash*" or bad character, and that the police had been ordered to dog his steps day and night. From his petition, it will be seen, he asked to know why had he been voted a *budmash*? The Magistrate, without giving any reply to his prayer, recorded the following order on the 14th of August 1898:—

Put up—when I go to Baluchur, I will enquire further into this when I go there.

W. EGERTON.

It was arranged between the Magistrate and the pleader for the petitioner that an enquiry should be made in the presence of the accused and then should order be passed. But days and months passed, and yet no enquiry was held. And the Goswamee submitted on the 31st of January, 1899, a fresh petition to the Magistrate as follows, describing his unbearable situation and seeking redress:—

In the Court of the District Magistrate of Murshidabad.

The humble petition of Jagoda Nandan Goswami, of Baluchur, Thanna Manullabazar, most respectfully sheweth:—

1. That on the petition filed by your petitioner requesting your Honor to remove your petitioner's name from class C in register XV P. C. from No. 257, your Honor was pleased to pass an order for holding an enquiry.

2. That your petitioner understands that owing to the pressure of work and Mofussil tours your Honor has had no time for the said purpose.

3. That your petitioner humbly begs to bring to your kind notice that your petitioner belonging to a respectable family has been since put to great inconvenience, trouble and annoyance not to speak of the loss, shame and humiliation. He has further been compelled to remain at Baluchur instead of making his annual visits to his disciples and going over to his Zamindaries.

Under the circumstances your petitioner humbly prays that your Honor may be kind enough to pass orders for making the enquiry by any Police Officer your Honor thinks fit. And your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Again days, weeks and months rolled on, but no notice was taken of the petition. A few days before he left Murshidabad for England, Mr. Egerton was, however, pleased to pass the following order:—

ORDER.

I had of course seen the D. S. P.'s note, dated 10-10-98, before and wished for a further report. D. S. P. states now as his opinion that "undoubtedly" the petitioner should be kept under surveillance and I therefore consider that the petitioner's name must remain in the Surveillance Register. At the end of this year if his conduct is good in the meanwhile, the petitioner can apply for exemption and I will consider the petition.

(Sd.) W. EGERTON.

Dt. Magistrate.

1-3-99

So you see, here is a most respectable man, with a respectable income, branded as a *budmash*, and why? That the man, so outrageously punished, does not know! He petitions the Magistrate for protection, but for six months no notice is taken of his prayer. And at last, he is told that he is "undoubtedly" a *budmash*, because D. S. P. thinks so, and the matter ends there. We do not know how to comment on the case; we can only contemplate its features with wonder and amazement.

The Goswamee knows not what to do now. It is doubtful if the High Court can give him any redress. The only thing, we fancy, he can do, is to sue the Magistrate for damages when he returns to this country. But that is, of course, out of the question. For, even if the Goswamee ventures to take such a step, Government will never permit him to sue a member of the Civil Service. Will Sir John Woodburn be pleased to release the Goswamee

from his intolerable position? Will Lord Curzon be graciously pleased to take some notice of this case?

BABU PRITHWIS CHANDER ROY has published a pamphlet to condemn the sugar measure. His contention is that the bounty-fed sugar has not in any way affected the manufacture of sugar in this country. He refers to Blue-books for his proofs, though we must say these do not establish his contention. These Blue-books are, however, untrustworthy guides, so much so that even the Government has no faith in them. Besides, the natives of the country have nothing to do with Blue-books, as they are in their own country and have their eyes to see and minds to analyse. Let Babu Prithwis, therefore, take a trip to Goverdanga which is about two hours and a-half's journey from Calcutta by rail. There he will find that 95 per cent of the indigenous sugar manufacturers have been closed. Let him go to Kotechandpore, the most important sugar-manufacturing town in Bengal. And he will see that most of the factories have been closed. Let him enter Baraset, and the same spectacle will present itself to him. Now, the question to be settled is,—how did this happen? Let Babu Prithwis go to Messrs. Turner Morrison and Company, the largest sugar merchants in Calcutta, and profit by their experience. They will be able to give him a fund of information, based upon actual experience. Now, it must be borne in mind that these Turners are as much opposed to bounty-fed, as they are to Mauritius, sugar. So he will get an impartial opinion from the Company. A letter from an active manager of this sugar Company was published in these columns sometime ago. We shall reproduce it here:—

The feeling in England, to which you refer is only caused by a fear of retaliatory measures against English exports being taken by the German and Austrian Governments, and from a rooted objection to anything in the shape of legislation which increases the cost of food for the poorer classes. People at home do not understand the importance of keeping alive the Sugar Industry in India and the other colonies and they quite overlook the fact that if cane sugar cultivation once dies out through the operation of the bounty system they will eventually be the greatest sufferers because Beet exporters would then have a monopoly and raise their prices to an almost unlimited extent and the only safeguard against such a dangerous monopoly is the action of those countries which have imposed a countervailing duty, *viz.* America and our own Government. And it is this safeguard that people at home are now attacking! As to what you quote that the countervailing duties may only benefit Mauritius growers and not India, there is no reason in this idea that I can see. The effect of the countervailing duties is that all sugars will then compete fairly on a natural basis and of course the best producers, the most skillful and cheapest labour and the richest and best prepared soil aided by the natural advantages of climate and other conditions, will have the best of it. But inasmuch as the countervailing duties should force up the price of sugar (after this temporary excess of refined stocks is removed) to about a Rupee more than it is at present, India must benefit by this price, equally with Mauritius. If Mauritius undersells Indian sugars it must be the fault of Indian methods, etc. and should result in an improvement of these in the natural course of events; but the competition of Mauritius is nothing like as dangerous as that of Beet Sugar (bounty-fed) since it will take all the producers of Mauritius and India to supply the demand of the Indian markets and to do this more sugar crops must be grown, more sugar refined or manufactured, I believe. My own opinion is that Indian manufactures can compete with Mauritius if sufficient sugar is grown in large plots to enable factories to work on a large scale and to obtain enough supplies of raw sugar to keep working the greatest part of the year.

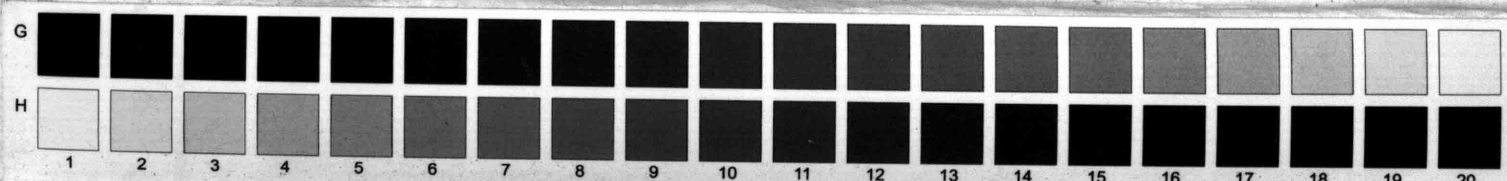
OUR enquiries into the subject have brought the following facts to light. When Mauritius sugar had not entered the Indian market, both the Indian refineries and the European factories sold the commodity at an exorbitant rate and made proverbially large profits out of it. Some wealthy men in this country and in England, owe their prosperity simply to sugar business. Mauritius came and introduced cheap sugar in Indian markets, perhaps at a loss in the beginning, and destroyed several of the European factories and along with them many native refineries, which supplied them with coarse sugar. A number of European factories which had larger capital and better machinery, almost as good as that used in Mauritius, however, succeeded in holding their own by reducing the price of their manufactures and selling them at the same rates as Mauritius. The result was that, as regards refined sugar, the Indian market was divided between Mauritius and the Indian factories. Mauritius had, however, one or two great advantages over the latter: its cane cultivation was more extensive, and its machinery better. Both these short-comings were removable; and companies like Messrs. Turner, Morrison and Co. were actually contemplating to take necessary steps in this direction, when bounty-fed beet-sugar came into the field, and threatened to drive both the Indian and Mauritius articles. If Lord Curzon had not passed the sugar measure this session, even such a large factory as that of Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., might have collapsed, and along with it almost all the native refineries in Bengal would have disappeared. After the destruction of these refineries, indigenous and European, the beet sugar merchants would have been the sole masters of the situation and might

have commanded any fancy price for their articles.

Well, before the advent of the bounty fed beet sugar, at a rough estimate, half of India was in the possession of Mauritius and half in that of Indian, sugar. The beet sugar being now driven from the country by the Sugar Act, the original state of affairs will be restored, that is to say, half of India will again come into the possession of Indian and Anglo-Indian, and half into that of Mauritius, factories. This is the immediate gain of India from the measure. The Mauritius sugar being not bounty-fed, India cannot complain if it gains by the Indian Act and ultimately undersells the Indian article; but Mauritius cannot undersell India, if the latter can grow more cane and date trees. So what our patriotic people ought to do is not to grumble because Mauritius has profited along with India by the Indian Sugar Act, but to take steps by which the ryots can be induced to extend cane and date cultivation in this country. Just imagine that Messrs. Turner, Morrison and Co., have to import lakhs of maunds of coarse sugar from Java! If these factory-men are supplied with as large quantities of coarse sugar as their *confreres* get in Mauritius, they can set up better machinery on a more extensive scale, and drive Mauritius sugar from Indian markets as labour is cheap here. The Sugar Act of Lord Curzon has thus not only saved the sugar industry of this country but will give an impetus to the cultivators to produce more *gur* and coarse sugar, and thus open out a most profitable source of income which had almost been closed against them.

ONE of our correspondents over the signature of K. L. Bose refers to the Balfour case which came to its close in the High Court the other day, and says that it "has unhappily furnished one more to the many instances which may be cited to prove how difficult it is to get justice in the lower Criminal Courts in Bengal." Mr. Allen, Counsel for the accused, while arguing the case before the Judges in the High Court, characterised the proceedings in the lower court as "scandalous." Our correspondent thinks "this expression was not strong enough to describe adequately the character of these proceedings." Our correspondent then goes on to say: "Now what are the facts? A certain European woman appeared before the Magistrate and told a cock-and-bull story against some respectable men of native society. The Magistrate at once issued warrants against them without making an attempt to find out the facts. Some days after the same woman appeared and stated that she had mistaken in giving the name of one of the accused and that his name was 'Babu Kessori Lal Gossain'—a scion of one of the first families in Bengal, a distinguished graduate of the Calcutta University, a pleader of the High Court, an Honorary Magistrate and a man of high principles and character. It never struck the Magistrate that chances were, such a man was not capable of committing an offence as alleged, and that it was his duty to make a preliminary enquiry as laid down in Sec. 102 C. P. C. before issuing process against him. He too readily believed the story told and at once issued process, thereby disgracing a man of high social position and character. What followed, then, is a matter of public notoriety. Adjournment after adjournment was granted and no attempt made to sift the evidence, and the case was allowed to drag its slow length along for seven months! In vain did the accused's counsel protest against mixing his client's case with that of the other accused. In vain did he ask for an immediate enquiry and urge that he was in a position to prove his client's complete innocence. The case was allowed to hang for 7 months and afterwards committed to the Court of Sessions as if the accused were either murderers or burglars or felons of the worst type. The accused were still further harassed; they were put to enormous expense in engaging counsel to defend them. The case was taken up by the Sessions Court and the Judge expressed his surprise that it came before him at all. He found out that it was one which could not be believed. The true character of the complainant and her witnesses was exposed and the accused completely proved his alibi and was acquitted by the unanimous verdict of the Jury, composed mainly of Europeans. Now, it is lucky that the accused are wealthy men and had good evidence. If the case was otherwise, perhaps they would have been sent to jail. What remedy have the accused now against the complainant? She can't pay damages, for she has no money. On the other hand, the case has given her some advertisement. The accused are put to great expense, trouble and anxiety and then they succeed in proving their innocence. If this can happen in the City of Palaces under the very nose of Government, what might not take place in the far Mofussil?"

This para appeared on the 18th of our daily. The Eighteenth of May dawns upon the world, and it will ever remain memorable in the annals of that world. To-day is the birthday anniversary of the Czar of all the Russias; but it is not that which makes it so important. All the same, it is the Czar with whom will be associated the sanctity of the occasion for he is the originator of the movement which culminates to-day in a meeting of the represen-





tatives of all the civilized Powers of the world. They are to discuss a subject in which is interested not this nation or that nation, but the entire humanity. To-day meets the Peace Conference at the Hague, and be the result what it may, it will be a red-letter day in the history of the world. From the day that the Czar issued his Rescript, the question has created such an amount of interest and evoked such unanimity of feeling, that it is needless now to enter into any detailed account of the same. Every one must be aware of the enthusiasm with which the proclamation was received by the public. Peace-loving people simply went into raptures over it while others, though shaking their heads in doubt and hesitation, did not care to make any definite pronouncement against it. We, too, are somewhat of pessimists and we cannot persuade ourselves to believe that the various representatives will return from to-day's Conference and at once induce their respective Governments to disband their armies and proclaim the reign of Peace. Far from it. On the other hand, we hold that no immediate good will come of it. But the ultimate result will, no doubt, be of immense service to humanity. The movement set on foot to-day under such august auspices cannot but be productive of some substantial good. The very way in which the proposal has been received, unmistakably shows that the people are sick of the state of things now obtaining. Europe is an armed camp and the tension has almost reached the breaking point. As far as the details of the scheme have been made public, it does not appear to be wholly an utopian idea. What has been done with regard to individuals, is now sought to be applied to nations. There was a time when duelling was the only means of settling a dispute between man and man. But that has given place to a better state of things. The principle of arbitration has long been recognized and applied with advantage, to the every-day conduct of human life. Why should not the same principle be resorted to when nations are concerned. Arbitration, then, is the keynote of this grand humanitarian scheme and the blessings of God and man will be theirs who help to bring it to a successful issue. Nothing will contribute to the progress of humanity as a whole so much as this scheme, and we can only pray to the Almighty Father to guide the members of the Conference, in their deliberations and help them to arrive at a conclusion beneficial to the rulers as well as the ruled. Amen!

THE debate, on the sugar question, has given rise to strange combinations. The question has driven Mr. Maclean to the ranks of the Radicals; it has made India, the Congress organ, to side against the Indian press. In this country, the suggestion, that the measure was introduced at the instance of Mr. Chamberlain for the benefit of the Colonies and not by Lord Curzon for the benefit of the Indians, has somewhat damped the spirit of those who had previously given the measure a warm support. The point from which the subject is to be viewed is, whether it will benefit India or not. If it is likely to benefit India then let us accord it a welcome; no matter if it equally benefits the Colonies. England is a free-trader, because such a policy serves its interests. But it will give up the policy immediately if it goes against its interests. Only in the last century Indian fabrics commanded a large sale in England. And then the British manufacturers grumbled and threatened. The entire English population forgot the principles of free-trade. One has to go through Mr. Cole's admirable and exhaustive book on the subject to see what a strong agitation was set up against this importation of Indian products. Then the principles of free-trade were thrown overboard without mercy. Well, by means of protection the Indian fabrics were expelled from England, and subsequently the tables were turned! India, which had at first supplied the markets of England, found its own markets glutted by British fabrics. Of course, any independent nation would have stopped this by thorough protection! But India was helpless. And when the Indian manufactures were destroyed the British manufacturers again became free-traders! This is the way of the world. As England grows nothing, free-trade suits it very well. Suppose we come to know how to produce cheaper fabrics and send our goods to Manchester. What will be the result? England will immediately give up its free-trade principles and impose prohibitive duties upon our goods. Here one has to go to the towns which manufacture sugar, to see how they have suffered. It is quite true they have suffered much from competition with Mauritius. But they have suffered also from competition with bounty-fed sugar. We have thus two enemies to contend against. The sugar law has destroyed one of them, and that is a gain. If India had been an independent country, it would have protected itself from Mauritius competition by a protective duty. Yes, free-trade is good, but nations do not follow its principles when such a policy affects their interests injuriously. When you can destroy the manufacture of others by importing, be a free-trader. But when another country comes with cheap articles to destroy yours, adopt protection! That is, as we said, the way of the world.

WITH regard to the forthcoming elections, the Bengal Government might have avoided all complications and earned the gratitude of the people, if, instead of disfranchising the Dacca Division against the deliberate declarations of two previous Lieutenant-Governors, it had nominated either Babu Surendra Nath Bannerjee or Babu Norendra Nath Sen to a seat in the Council. That is what the Corporation of Calcutta prayed for. But they wanted bread, and Government is going to give them stones. If the Government had not interfered, but left things to take their natural course, then what would have happened was this: Either Babu Surendra Nath or Babu Norendra Nath would have entered the Council through the Calcutta Corporation, and Babu Ananda Mohan Bose through the Dacca Division. We would thus have secured two worthy men without the interference of the Government. With the interference of the Government, we are also going to get not more than two members, but, in the place of Babu A. M. Bose, either Babu Surendra Nath or Babu Norendra Nath will step in. There is thus nothing in the action of Government which entitles it to the thanks of the people; on the other hand, they have every reason to get alarmed at the dangerous innovation which the proposed arrangement will enable the Government to introduce and disfranchise any Division it likes at its sweet will. We have over and over again admitted the good intentions of the Lieutenant-Governor in this connection. We have not the slightest doubt in our minds that His Honour would never have cared to meddle with this affair, if he were not led to believe, that he would please the educated public by changing the place of election in the way he has proposed to do. But Sir John Woodburn will now perceive that the proposed arrangement has its serious drawbacks, and that the only possible way by which he can secure the gratitude of the people is either by not interfering with the elections at all, or by appointing either Babu Surendra Nath or Norendra Nath to a seat. Of course, we prefer the latter arrangement, and the Calcutta Corporation has also made the same prayer. In short, that is the prayer of the entire nation, which is that, over and above the six elected members, to give it one more nominated member. Is it too much to expect this little boon from such a good Governor as Sir John Woodburn? By parting with this one seat, Government will lose nothing. Indeed, it can part with several such seats, and yet command a majority of votes. The number of members in the Bengal Council, fixed by the Councils Act, is twenty, of whom not more than ten shall be officials. Eight of these seats, we believe, are just now in the possession of official members, and one of the remaining two may safely be made over to either Babu Surendra Nath or Babu Norendra Nath. Indeed, Sir John Woodburn, if His Honour so chooses, may easily avail of this opportunity of granting this boon to the people and laying them under an obligation. If His Honour, however, does not see his way to show this generosity, then we would humbly submit that His Honour should not introduce chaos and confusion by doing away with the arrangement made by two of his predecessors.

ELSEWHERE will be found a story of resurrection in a case of death from snake-bite, which happened four hundred years ago. Like Behul's husband, Muraree was bitten by a snake to death, and like him, he was restored to life. As for the miraculous part in this story of Muraree, let it be borne in mind that the Hindus have no faith in miracles. They know that the soul of man is capable of infinite development, and that God has given man the opportunity of making himself almost omnipotent. What the *Yogis* teach is nothing but the way how the soul can be developed to this extent. Here incidentally we may refer to the fact that the miracles of Christ will not so affect the Hindu mind as to lead one to accept him as an *Avatar*. The Lord Gauranga, accepted as such, earned the distinction by other means. Indeed, every one of his chroniclers emphasizes upon the fact that whenever a miraculous feat was performed by the Lord, he enjoined his followers, who came to know of the circumstance, to conceal the fact. The Lord obtained his position by other means. As for the resurrection of men killed by snakes, we have little doubt that it can be done. As in drowning so in snake-bite, death is caused by suffocation. And if it is possible to restore to life men who had apparently died of drowning, there can be no impossibility in a man being thus restored who had died of snake-bite. Indeed, stories told of men being restored to life, who had met with death from snake-bite, are so numerous that we cannot reject them as creations of the imagination.

A MUSSALMAN paper complains that the Mussalman in India are poor while the Hindus are wealthy. That the Hindus are better off than their Mussalman brethren is quite true; but we do not know how the Hindus can be blamed for it. Even when the Mussalman ruled India, the condition of their community was precisely as bad as it is now. Mussalman Governors were sent out to rule provinces, districts and jagirs; but if they could fight very well they were not good business men; and they were thus obliged to appoint Hindus as ministers and accountants to carry on their

business. Mussalman Jagirdars let out their jagirs to Hindus, and remained satisfied with a fixed income. It was thus that the affairs of the country came to be managed by the Hindus. Abdul Fazl, in his *Ayeen Akbari*, says that the Mussalman could not manage Zemindaries and pay rent duly; and thus in their stead Kayastha Hindus were appointed as collectors of revenue. Mussalman, as a rule, are hospitable and apt to lead an extravagant life, many of them squandering away their property in no time. They live in a higher style than their means would allow them. And this is one of the causes of the ruin of many wealthy Mussalman families. Some of the ancient Hindu families also owe their ruin to this cause. And then, the Mussalman law provides for an infinite division of property. A Mussalman Zemindar has to divide his property not only among his sons, but among many other relations, near and distant. This division is carried to such a length that it is not always safe to purchase the property of a Mussalman, for claimants to it may start up from quarters never dreamt of before. It must also be borne in mind that a large number of Mussalman in India were Hindus, mostly of the poorer classes. They were oppressed by the Brahmins and compelled to flock to the standard of the Mussalman conquerors by whom they were received on equal terms. Besides, violent conversions to Islamism were possible only among the lower classes. It was thus that the poorer classes of Hindus were converted to Mahomedanism, and it was thus that the Mussalman became poorer than the Hindus. Indeed, the Mussalman took all the poorer classes of the country into their fold; and though it increased their numerical strength, it did not increase their wealth or intellectuality. When the Britishers came to be masters, they patronised the Mussalman almost exclusively. In the early days of British rule, almost all the Native *Hakims* were Mussalman. They, however, could not keep their position; why, it is useless to discuss. The English rulers also found that almost all the great Zemindaries were in the hands of the Hindus. So, you see, it is no fault of the Hindus or the British Government that the Mussalman are poor. But, if the higher class Mussalman have decayed, the masses are far better off now than they were before; and this should largely console our Mussalman contemporary.

The suggestion by our esteemed correspondent, Babu Deva Prosad Sarvadhikari, of holding a grand *kirtan* party on the birth-day of Her Imperial Majesty the Queen-Empress, has, it seems, been received with approval by the Gauranga Samaj, and, we understand, that they are going to have a conference in this connection shortly. It may be noted here that Bishop Welldon has issued a circular, asking Christians, Hindus and Mussalman to celebrate the coming birth-day of Her Majesty, by a thanks-giving prayer for the long life and health of the Queen. We are obliged to the Bishop for this act of liberality, for Christians, as a rule, do not admit that others, not professing their faith, worship God at all.

#### AN ANTI-KISSING LEAGUE.

In a little town in America, near New York, the Lady Mayoress, whose name is Mrs. Settle, has started an Anti-Kissing League. She has converted over two hundred ladies to her creed. The converts are mostly young. It must not be thought that they wish to abolish kissing altogether. Their idea is to make kissing go by favour, as it should, and not let it remain a habit indulged in promiscuously by everybody. They argue that kissing is a thing the practice of which has been sadly abused. The members of the Anti-Kissing League admit that their own sex is the chief offender. They say women kiss among themselves to a ridiculous and disgraceful extent. They kiss when they meet, they kiss when they go away, they kiss when they quarrel—the spiteful kiss—and they kiss when they “make up.”

The Anti-Kissing League is determined to stop all this. And every new member who joins must solemnly asseverate to kiss no one but her parents and sweetheart, if she has one. Thus will the dignity of kissing again be restored.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Kapurthala has postponed his arrival at Simla till tomorrow. His Majesty's Maharaja of Kapurthala has postponed his arrival at Simla till tomorrow.

THE swaberry crop has yielded most plentifully at Simla this year, while prices have ruled much easier than has been known for several seasons now. The cultivation of the fruit—which is in the hands of petty market gardeners—is chiefly pushed in the valley below Jutugh and at Syree though some fine specimens can also be obtained from the Municipal orchards at Mahasir.

THE Anarkali Police is busy making enquiries in connection with the discovery on the 12th instant of a corpse within the precincts of the deserted Police Chowki near the bridge on the Bari Doab Canal not far from the Chief's College. The body was in an advanced state of decomposition but there was unmistakable evidence of foul play. On inspection the head, though skillfully placed in a natural position, was found to be quite severed from the trunk. The hair on the head and face seemed to be all burnt, evidently to prevent identification. A small knife and a comb were found on searching the clothes, and it is, therefore, conjectured that the deceased was a Sikh. No workable clue has been got in hand yet, but everything is being done to trace the tragedy to its source. By the way, the co-operation of the Sikh regiment quartered at Mian Mir, we hope, has been invited by the police in the work of unearthing the criminal.—*Tribune*.

#### Calcutta and Mofussil.

### Indian Sketches

BY

Shishir Kumar Ghose

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

W. S. Caine

PRICE—1 RUPEE AND 6 ANNAS.

“I heartily commend to every cultured and earnest Indian, to every Christian Missionary, and also to every European who cares to look beneath the surface of Indian life and thought, the contents of this deeply-interesting volume of miscellaneous articles from the pen of Shishir Kumar Ghose.”—W. S. Caine in the Introduction.

The sketches are written in excellent English and an attractive style. These sketches are of a miscellaneous character—stories of a distinctive imagination, excellent descriptions of exciting scenes, theological essays, dissertation on Sauticism; poetry; a spirited and long defence of their political rights ignored by the Government, entitled “The perpetual slavery of India” which I would do good to certain of the English people they would only take the trouble to read, and man other interesting essays. It is pleasant to find that our friends in India are capable of writing such an interesting strain as to be found in this book.—*London Review*.

To be had at the Patrika Office.

DECORATION OF VICEREGAL RESIDENCES.—Mr. Lord, of Messrs. Turner, Lord and Co., the famous furniture merchants of London, has come out to India with a view to decorate the Viceroyal Residences. He has visited Viceroyal Lodge, Simla, and has now arrived at Calcutta, to inspect Government House.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAY. The approximate earnings of this Railway for the week ending 13th May 1899 were Coaching, Rs. 1178; Goods, Rs. 49; Miscellaneous, Rs. 8. Total Rs. 1235 or Rs. 329 per open mile. In the corresponding week of the previous year the total earnings were Rs. 1482 or Rs. 45 per open mile. Total for 19 weeks from 1st January 1899 Rs. 22,425 as compared with Rs. 28,101, total for corresponding 19 weeks of 1898.

FOREST FIRES.—Of late years in Bengal, a year in which fire protection was satisfactory has been followed by a year in which measures taken to protect the forests from fire have proved unsuccessful. During the year 1897-98, 27 per cent, of the area (529 square miles) in Lower Bengal over which special protective measures were in force (4,953 square miles) were burned over. In 1896-97, only 62 square miles, or 3 per cent, were burned over.

A DACOITY.—Lately a dacoity of a daring nature was committed at Dedhura. Some servants of a zemindar were carrying Government revenue to Balasore, and near the Jamcoonda station, of the Orissa Coast Can., they were attacked by a gang of dacoits. In the struggle that followed two of the zemindar's men were wounded, and the dacoits went away with a bag of money containing a thousand rupees. The police is investigating the case, but no clue has yet been found.

OVERDONE.—The weather has been notoriously abnormal of late, and this may account for a fresh shower of honours so much out of season in connection with the Tirah campaign. At all events no other very satisfactory explanation is obvious. Not that the newly decorated did not perform excellent service in their various capacities; but the list of honours conferred at the time was in all conscience long enough, and within its limits no one ought certainly to have been found for all who could reasonably hope for special distinction. One of these days we shall be forced to invent a fresh distinction in order to be able to distinguish among the distinguished.—*Pioneer*.

UNWELCOME VISITORS.—A large number of foreigners, calling themselves Iranes, are now at Murshidabad. Since their arrival, they have been indulging in all sorts of vagaries to the great annoyance of the shop-keepers of the place. They hawk about by day, having in their possession a variety of foreign coins, viz., dollars and yens, and some coins which appear to have been made during the reign of Akbar the Great, and some during the times of Ramchandra, the hero of the Ramayan, the epic poem of the Hindus, and in this they trade. The women seem to be more troublesome than the men. The Nawab of Murshidabad has given them Rs. 220 in the shape of alms. The major portion of the Iranes left for Azimganj the other day.

CONCESSION TO TEACHERS.—The “Assam Gazette” of the 6th has published the rules regarding some concessions that have been made by the Government in favour of school teachers in Assam. It has been notified that from the 1st of June 1899 teachers in Government schools drawing salaries not exceeding Rs. 50 a month will be allowed the privilege of educating in the school in which they are employed one son free and one son at half the usual rates of fees. This concession does not apply to nephews or wards. Government pensioners who retired from service in the department and whose pensions does not exceed Rs. 25 monthly may be allowed a similar privilege. The concession may also be extended to the orphans of officers who died in the service while in the receipt of pay not exceeding Rs. 50, also to orphans of pensioners in the Department who were drawing pensions not exceeding Rs. 20 monthly.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—There is being taken intense interest in the forthcoming Paris International Exhibition, by the Governments of Europe, and by many leading members of the trading and mercantile communities in every country on the continent. But what are the Indian Government and Indian traders, merchants, manufacturers and artists going to do to profit by the great exhibition? The Indian Government exhibits only forest produce and minerals, and the Indian Princes propose to assist in providing carriages for exhibition. We are not aware how the Indian public associations propose to utilize the exhibition to the best advantage of the

country. We should, however, propose that the Industrial Associations in the country should send delegates to Paris to report on the exhibition, with an eye to the present condition of Indian arts and manufactures. The reports to be submitted by them will prove highly serviceable to many Indians for a considerable time to come.—*Hindu*.

#### THE SUPERSTITIOUS KOLE.

HIS BELIEF IN WITCHCRAFT:—A SAD MURDER CASE.

THE Calcutta High Court (Prinsep and Hill J.) had before them yesterday a very sad case of wife murder by a Kola, believing her to be a witch. The man had been tried by Mr. Hamilton, Officiating Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpur, and sentenced to transportation for life for the heinous crime, which his superstition prompted him to commit. The story, as told by an eye-witness, was to the following effect. He heard the cry of the wife of Booti Ho, the prisoner, one night and got up and went to his house. He saw the woman lying dead with wounds in her head and covered with blood. The accused was standing five or six cubits from her and was holding an axe in his hand. The witness seized the accused and called for help. Other persons then came, the accused was tied to a post and was sent next day to the thana. On their asking the accused why he had killed his wife, he said it was because she was a witch and had bitten the thumb of his left hand. The Sessions Judge found that the accused and his wife were on good terms. So one had ever heard her called a witch.

The accused who was undefended in the lower court, gave his version of the case as follows. He said that his eldest son was eaten by his wife and died without any natural illness. On the day before the murder the deceased said she had no children and no husband and omitted the customary puja for their safety. In the night he was roused from sleep by feeling his thumb bitten, and he found his wife was doing this. He got up seized her by the throat, but she escaped and was running away. The axe was in the house and he picked it up and ran after her. He was angry and struck her on the head with the back of the axe and killed her. The Sessions Judge then observed.—A belief in witchcraft is deep rooted among the Koles. Whether the deceased tried to bite her husband while he was in bed or whether he attacked her and she bit him in the struggle, cannot be determined with certainty. But that the accused believed her to be a witch and determined to kill her, there is no reason to doubt. There is no reason to suppose any premeditation on his part. The witnesses say they were on good terms. The deceased's neglect to perform the puja appears to have been the exciting cause of the accused's act, of which he does not even now fully realise the heinousness. Being satisfied that she was a witch he appears to think that the only possible course was to kill her. Agreeing with the assessors I find the accused guilty of murder. For the reasons given above I think the ends of justice will be sufficiently met by a sentence of transportation for life.

Their Lordships after going through the papers rejected the appeal.

#### A SORRY JOKE.

THERE was a tinge of surprise in the habitually haughty look of Geoffrey Barnewell, as he approached the entrance of his richly-furnished apartments in the college, and found Paul Torrence passing out.

Though the two were fellow-students, there was little intimacy between them. They belonged to different “sets.” The Barnewells were a proud and wealthy family, and Geoffrey was an only son. He was taking a collegiate course because it was a thing expected of him. It won't do for a gentleman to be quite a dunce and Geoffrey submitted to being bored occasionally by the Greek professor, precisely as he did to being put through his paces by his dancing-master. From his point of view both occupied about the same plane.

Paul Torrence, on the other hand, was a youth in straitened circumstances. He was a diligent student, not only through ambition to excel, but because he hoped, in the profession for which he was preparing, to gain the means of one day repaying the generosity of his widowed mother and devoted sister, who were stunting themselves to enable him to enter on the career on which his heart was set.

“I beg your pardon, Mr. Barnewell,” said Paul; “I was looking for Walter Deane, and, learning that he had gone to your rooms, I came in search of him. Finding the door ajar, I ventured to look in. I trust you will excuse the liberty.”

Barnewell bowed stiffly. “You will hardly find Deane,” he answered. “I have just met him on his way to the train. He is going home on a week's leave.”

Torrence looked disappointed. Walter Deane alone, among the wealthier class of students, had shown him any friendship, and a close intimacy had sprung up between them. Paul was in the habit of talking over his plans with Walter, and there was a matter on which he specially wished to consult him.

Shortly after, as Paul Torrence was passing a group of students, in the midst of whom was Geoffrey Barnewell, to whom the others seemed to be listening eagerly, his ear caught the words—

“Who else could have taken it? Didn't I meet him coming out of my door? I hadn't been gone ten minutes; the note lay on the table, and when I returned it wasn't there.”

“H—sh!—be careful; here he comes,” whispered one of the crowd, warningly.

“Let him hear it if he likes,” said Geoffrey Barnewell, casting on Paul a disdainful, defiant look.

Instantly a deep flush overspread the usually pale features of Paul Torrence.

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 naturalized to it at that time and found it relieved the cough and effected a complete cure.—JOHN E. CLIFFORD, Proprietor Norwood House, Norwoods N. Y. This remedy is for sale by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO. and

S. K. PAUL & CO.



Advancing and facing Barnwell, with a look as defiant as his own—  
"Apparently I am the subject of some accusation," he said, calmly.  
"A guilty conscience needs no accuser," was the answer.  
"I must have a more definite explanation," returned Paul, in the same calm, determined tone.  
"You shall have it! I met you coming from my apartments half-an-hour since. On entering I found that a banknote, which I had left on the table, was missing."

"And you infer—  
"The inference is easily drawn—the note must have been stolen."  
"And the thief,"  
"Is yourself."

A rush of hot blood dispelled the deathly pallor which, for an instant, had settled on Paul's face. Springing forward, with a single blow, he sent the burly form of his insulter sprawling on the grass. The bystanders got between them, and Geoffrey was assisted to rise.

"You shall pay!" dearly for this," he growled through his clenched teeth, as he suffered his friends to lead him away having no wish evidently, to continue the present contest, though he was much larger and more powerfully built than his assailant.  
For some moments Paul Torrence stood like one under the first shock of a dread calamity, whose full force he had not yet had time to realise. He had never been in a brawl before; but he was not slow to perceive how serious might be the consequences of what had just occurred.

At that day a blow was necessarily the precursor of a hostile meeting and by no class was this rule more rigidly observed than by college students. Paul knew that Geoffrey Barnwell was of a temper too imperious and revengeful to submit tamely to his recent chastisement. As for himself, to refuse the satisfaction which was sure to be demanded, would be accepted by his fellows as strong proof of the loathsome accusation under which he lay.

His head drooped, and his eye glistened as he thought of his marred prospects, and of the sorrow and, worse than all shame, impending over those whose honour and happiness he held dearer than life. With a heavy sigh he turned slowly away.

It was near sundown that evening when Paul Torrence and Geoffrey Barnwell stood twelve paces apart in an open space hidden by surrounding trees. Every thing had been arranged by the seconds. The principals held their weapons in readiness. Barnwell's face, which bore the mark of his recent discomfiture, wore a look of deep malignity. That of Paul Torrence was pale but composed.

"Are you ready, gentlemen?" inquired the second assigned to give the word.

"Yes," both answered.

"Fire! One!—two!—three!"  
At the first word Paul raised his arm and fired in the air. A gleam of fierce delight flashed over Barnwell's features. Taking deliberate aim at his adversary he fired barely within time, the report of his pistol drowning the voice of Walter Deane as he rushed forward, calling out:—Hold! Hold!

Walter, it should be explained, having missed the train, had returned to the college, and learning what had taken place, had made all haste to reach the scene of conflict.

Paul stood for a moment motionless, then tottered, and fell heavily. In an instant Walter Deane was kneeling at his side.

"He is dying," said the latter, looking up at Geoffrey Barnwell, "and I know not which of us Heaven will hold most accountable for his murder. I was in your room to-day just before we met, and seeing the banknote you had carelessly left on your table, I hid it, by way of joke, in your Greek lexicon, intending to tell you on my return, if you didn't sooner discover it in the course of your studies, which wasn't very likely."

Geoffrey walked away sullenly, while the others carried Paul to comfortable quarters. For a long time he lingered between life and death; but, thanks to the physician's skill and the careful nursing of Paul's sister, Ruth, assisted by Walter Deane, the scale at last turned in favour of life.

Geoffrey Barnwell's malignity in deliberately seeking the life of one who had taken pains to spare his, rendered him so unpopular that he soon after left the college. Paul Torrence became a leading member of his chosen profession, using all his influence to put down the pernicious custom of which he had so nearly fallen a victim; and Walter Deane, as the husband of Ruth Torrence, settled down into the soberest of Benedictines, and never attempted another practical joke.

#### AMERICA'S FREE PRESS.

THE New York correspondent of the *Times* writes:—The notion that there exists in this country, and throughout this country, a free and independent press has, no doubt, a certain basis in fact, but is subject to limitations. One of these I will try to explain. The topic connects itself with that of a recent letter on "The New York Custom house" and its abuses. There is in that letter a brief account of the part played by the *Evening Post* of New York in the exposure of those abuses, and of the attempt of certain tradesmen to punish the paper for its boldness by withdrawing their advertisements. But the matter is important enough to deserve a fuller exposition.

There can, I think, be no doubt that the tradesmen who organised the "Merchants and Manufacturers Board of Trade" did so in the belief that they could, in one way or another, stifle the criticism of the press on their proceedings. How they contrived to befooled the late Mr. Dingley with fantastic expectations of an impossible revenue from the hundred dollar personal luggage clause has already been set forth. How they contrived to induce the Secretary of the Treasury to hand over to them and their spies the enforcement of this preposterous law has never been made clear. Mr. Gage has, so far as I know,

A PLEASURE A D A D T  
I consider it not only a pleasure but a duty to 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 a permanent cure. I take pleasure in recommending it to others suffering from that dreadful disease.—  
W. LYNCH, Dorr, W. Va. This remedy sold by  
SMITH STANISTREET & CO  
at B. K. PAUL & CO.

offered no apology for his conduct nor any statement of his reasons for allowing private detectives in private interests to supervise his own officers. There are other mysteries still to be unravelled, and the relation between these tradesmen and the press is one of them. For the abuse was so monstrous, the invasion of private rights so flagrant, the discredit to the country so wanton, the indignities inflicted upon innocent persons were so many, that here, if ever, was an occasion for a free and independent press to come to the rescue of an outraged public. The free and independent press or a portion of it is never tired of vaunting its power and its disinterested zeal in defence of public and private rights. Yet it has missed in this case one of the best opportunities if ever had of performing an obvious service, and vindicating its claim to be the defender of public faith. But the great morning journals of New York left all that to be done for them by a single evening paper, and that a paper which, though powerful and prosperous, cannot compare with some of the morning papers in circulation or in wealth. Why did they decline or neglect to discharge their plain duty?

I will not undertake to answer that question, because it involves a discussion of motives, and motives can only be inferred from known facts, including character—as one of the facts. But some of the facts at least are known. Those which I have mentioned above and in a previous letter—the fact that the personal luggage clause was due to lobbying by the Shayne gang in Washington, that the same gang were allowed to spy on inspectors and insult passengers at the docks and that the law was enforced in the most vexatious way—have long been of public notoriety. Nobody denies for disputes these and other facts equally notorious and equally disgraceful. When the law and the detectives went into operation there were accounts of both in the papers. There were letters from indignant passengers. There was if I remember rightly some languid editorial criticism in one or two papers. The rest with the exception of this one evening paper were silent. So again I ask why?

Well I do not know it as a fact, but I offer the conjecture that the advertisement question had something to do with this editorial silence. It is no new thing in New York for the counting-house to invade the editorial department. Some of the New York papers indulge themselves in the luxury of what is called a council. They hold, that is, a daily symposium, in which matters concerning the conduct of the paper are debated, and are determined sometimes, if not always, by a majority vote. Among the members of these editorial councils are the heads of the advertising and other business departments of the paper. I suppose it is natural that they should take business views. If they think a certain editorial policy likely to injure the paper commercially they oppose it. They regard the newspaper as primarily a commercial enterprise. There is a company of shareholders who consider that the paper exists in order to provide them with fat dividends; or there is an individual proprietor whose view of the matter may not be adverse to that.

The financial manager, or general manager, as he is sometimes called, considers himself the natural advocate and representative of these interests. As the New York papers are issued at prices varying from 1/4d. to 1 1/2d., their profits are derived largely, if not wholly, from advertising. To touch this source of revenue is, therefore, to touch the commercial life of the paper. Now the members of Shayne's rabble, though many of them are in the second or third rank of business, or even lower, advertise. Shayne himself who is president of this precious company advertises rather largely. He had but to let it be understood that he would withdraw his advertising from any paper which criticised him or his spies, and it becomes conceivable at once that the gentlemen of business connected with the threatened paper should take alarm. They are governed by what we would call business motives. And, perhaps, a good many of these journalistic enterprises with large capital are governed, in the last resort, by what I may, without offence, call mixed motives.

A single illustration may serve. One very important New York paper published a narrative by an arriving passenger of his experiences, with some lucid comment on the impertinences of Shayne's spies. Shayne replied, defending himself and abusing his critic. The passenger wrote a rejoinder, completing his account, but this was not published. Why? Can the fact that Shayne advertised in this paper and continued to advertise have had anything to do with the suppression not only of the reply to him, but of the concluding part of the story. Did he threaten to stop his advertisement, and did this threat have any influence?

We don't know about that, but we do know what happened to the *Evening Post*. That paper has been guilty of a double offence. It not only exposed and daily denounced what it calls the "Baggage Abuse"—a standing headline these last two months—but pushed its inquiries a little further into the nature of things. One day it published an article giving figures and facts tending to show that the American may buy clothes abroad, import them, pay the full duty on them, and get them at a cost less than the prices demanded here or goods inferior in stuff and in style, all which is perfectly true. Shortly after, ten large firms of drapers—people who advertise by columns and by contract simultaneously withdrew their advertisements. Two of them have put their reasons into print, unmindful of the familiar advice to the incompetent judge. The briefest of the two says:—

"I concluded that it was not to my business advantage to continue advertising in a newspaper which sought in its editorials and inspire articles to deprive me of the value of the advertising space for which I had paid."

The editor has no difficulty in disposing of this gentleman. Of his reply it seems sufficient to quote a single sentence:—

"You wish to influence the conduct of the paper in your own interest by inflicting a penalty when it publishes something of which you disapprove."

The reply might be put even more concisely, as a question:—Is a newspaper to allow itself to be edited by its advertisers? The advertisers, and I fear, some editors or proprietors, seem to think it ought. The *Evening Post* thinks, I ought not, and acts

on that conviction. It is the poorer to-day for so doing. That it will be the richer and stronger in the end I hold it a sin to doubt. The public in the long run must support its champion, the more so when he is a champion who swears to his own hurt, and changeth not. And since I may seem to be pleading rather strongly the cause of this single journal I should like to relieve myself in advance of a possible charge of partisanship or personal friendship. I have a long-standing controversy with the journal in question. It has methods of conducting controversies which I do not approve, and it does not approve of me. But in this matter it deserves, I think, support and unstinted eulogy from everybody who cares for true freedom of the press and for disinterested honesty in the conduct of it.

Happily it gets a good deal of support of a very practical kind. Many of its readers support it by closing their accounts with the firms who have banded together to ruin the paper they cannot coerce or intimidate. Columns of letters from such readers appear day after day, of which the two following are specimens:—

To the Editor of the *Evening Post*.  
Sir,—Please send me a list of the firms that have withdrawn their advertisements from the *Evening Post* because they object to a free expression of opinions and facts. I wish to avoid trading with any of them.

#### CASH BUYER.

New York, April 9th.  
To the Editor of the *Evening Post*.  
Sir,—Will you kindly send me the names of firms that have ceased to advertise in the *Evening Post*, and also a list of the members of the "Shayne" league. We are in sympathy with your course, and will not patronize those who are on the list.

A. P. B.

Boston, April 8th.  
The drapers deny that they formed their conspiracy on account of "the Baggage Abuse," but it will be seen that in the minds of the public the articles on that subject and on the relative cheapness of foreign-bought apparel are inseparable. The latter gave the shopkeepers a pretext for avenging themselves on the author of the exposure of the former. The controversy goes on in many different forms. A protest addressed mistakenly I think to the Shayne "Board of Trade," asking them to mend the error of their ways has been signed by many hundreds of ladies—among them many of the best and most distinguished names in New York and other cities. The published list fills seven columns. The private spies are, I think, no longer allowed at the docks; and the demand for an itemized declaration under oath of all articles bought abroad by each passenger is thought to do their work. The "merchants' association has been weakened. The Treasury has been forced to make concessions which, though in terms of little value, in practice do, to some extent, relieve the strain, though the list of stockings and corsets is still insisted on. And the Shayne people as well as the boycotting advertisers have found out that there is a losing side to their game.

Whether more or less has been gained it remains true that this contest in behalf of decent customs regulations and the true freedom of the press has been carried on by the *Evening Post* and, for all or nearly all practical purposes by that journal alone and single handed. Its co-leagues and rivals have looked on with folded hands, or in one case at least, have sided with those who would make an independent press impossible. The spectacle of this apathy or jealousy, or whatever it may be, is not a pleasant one, but it is one which we have to contemplate to-day in New York. It is the fact on which is based the statement with which I began—that to the freedom and independence of the New York press there are clear limitations.

#### WHERE THERE ARE NO ELOPEMENTS.

ELOPEMENTS are never heard of in Germany, and yet there is no such thing as getting married there without the consent of parents. Certain prescribed forms must be gone through or the marriage is null and void. The proposal being made and accepted, then comes the betrothal. This generally takes place privately, shortly after which the father of the bride, as he is then called, gives a dinner or supper to the most intimate friends on both sides. When the fact is declared, and leaves them to publish it in the world, which, however, has generally been fortunate enough to anticipate the information. The cards of the betrothal are then circulated amongst friends and acquaintances.

#### THE HUMILITY OF AN EMPEROR.

THE peculiar medieval customs which are observed at Vienna during Easter reach their climax in the so-called foot-washing ceremony performed by the Emperor. The intense religious nature of the monarch accounts for the remarkable circumstance that he has never missed one of the religious observances of the Court, at which his presence is required by rigorous ceremony, since he mounts the throne. The foot-washing ceremony is based on the great Scriptural precedent which is carried out by the monarch upon twelve of the oldest and poorest of his male subjects in the presence of the entire Court and the foreign Ambassadors. In the days when the Empress appeared in public, her Majesty used to perform the same act of humility—to a dozen old women. The men are fetched from their homes in Imperial carriages, and attired in old German costume, are seated at a table upon a dais. His Majesty then places before them viands and wines with his own hands. It constitutes a banquet of set courses, though nothing is eaten during the ceremony, the Emperor shortly afterwards removing the untouched dishes, when they are packed in baskets by the Imperial servants and placed by the side of the aged recipients in the carriage on their return home. The tables having been removed, the foot-washing is carried out with great ceremony. A long cloth is spread over the knees of the old men, and the chaplain intones an "Evangelium." The monarch then kneels, and assisted by two Court prelates, goes through the formality of washing the old men's feet. Thereupon a Court official advances with twelve purses of money, and these the monarch hangs round the necks of his aged guests.

THE Government of India has sanctioned an estimate, amounting to Rs. 22,088, for constructing an Anglican Church for the troops stationed at Balun, Dalhousie.

MR. TOWERS, C.S., is posted as first Assistant to the Agent, Governor-General in Rajputana, and Captain Kennion is posted as Assistant to the Resident in Kashmir.

#### SOLICITOR, AS CO-RESPONDENT.

THE petition of Mr. William Harold Griffith Evans, a tailor, cutter, in the employ of his father, in George street, Hanover square, for a divorce, by reason of the adultery of his wife with Mr. Thomas Platts, a Blackburn solicitor, was resumed yesterday, before Sir Francis Jeune and a common jury. There was claim for damages.

Mr. Inderwick, Q. C., and Mr. Pritchard appeared for the petitioner, Mr. R. J. Willis for the respondent, and Mr. Deane, Q. C., and Mr. Willock for the co-respondent.

Further evidence was given in support of the petitioner's case by Thomas Cheney, a private detective, and a chamberlain employed at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington, who stated that the respondent and co-respondent had stayed at the hotel.

Mr. Deane, Q. C., said there would be no question about the adultery. The only question was when it began. He further contended that there was no case to go to the jury on the question of damages, relying on a case which has decided by Lord Hannen in 1873, to the effect that once the parties were separated there was an end to damages.

His Lordship said he thought the question of damages was entirely one of fact.

Mr. Deane said that on the facts before the Court he thought his Lordship should direct the jury that there was no case for damages. It was quite true that very shortly after the marriage the petitioner and the respondent disagreed, and there was a separation, and in the year following the marriage there were proceedings about a separation in the Court. From that time forward the husband never attempted to get his wife to return to him. He had entirely drifted from his wife at the time when she sent him the letter, telling him that she had committed adultery. There was not a particle of evidence to show that Mr. Platts committed adultery with respondent antecedent to the year 1898.

His Lordship: There is no evidence, but I am not prepared to say there is no inference from the facts. It is clear they were on friendly terms before the marriage.

Mr. Deane said he would call his client to prove that he had not visited Mrs. Evans until she went to Blackpool. His contention was that if a man accused of adultery had no part in breaking up the petitioner's home, he was not liable for damages.

His Lordship said the decision to which Mr. Deane referred was one to which he could not assent.

Mr. Deane: It is a decision of this Court, and is not only good law, but good sense.

His Lordship: I do not call it good sense.

Mr. Deane: Surely the measure of damages in this Court is always the loss the husband has sustained.

Mr. Inderwick said he hardly assented to that. Pecuniary loss was an element in the question of damages, but it had always been held that a man was entitled to general damages.

His Lordship: Is it not a question for the jury? I should have said, even if the parties are separated, if the wife is seduced, it is an intolerable insult, and a wrong to the husband. I think the jury should be asked to decide that question.

Mr. Platts, the co-respondent, was then called. He said that he was introduced to the respondent at a Conservative ball at Blackburn about six or nine months before the marriage. He did not see her again to speak to her, except casually, until after the marriage. The date was September, 1897. The first impropriety took place at Balham in November, 1897. He knew then of the separation.

Mr. Deane was proceeding to question witness as to the wife going to America, when Mr. Inderwick objected, Mr. Deane submitted that it was material. He said he could not call the respondent because she was hostile to his client.

Mr. Platts, in cross-examination said that the statements in the respondent's confession were exaggerated. He certainly took a great fancy to her, and he admitted violent love-making, but the first adultery was at Balham.

His Lordship, in summing up the case to the jury, said he might at once tell them that they must award some damages in this case. In considering the question of damages, no doubt one of the main elements was the breaking up of the home. If the separation of husband and wife was not caused by the co-respondent, then he ought not to pay such damages as in the case where he was the cause of the breaking up of the home. It was for the jury to say whether a man whose wife's affections were permanently seduced from him, the wife being rendered a degraded woman, her children suffering by her committing probably the greatest sin against herself and society—whether, under those circumstances, a husband had not been subjected to intolerable insult and wrong. The fact that he separated from his wife did not render the blow less acute, or the wrong the less.

In the result, the jury found for the petitioner and assessed the damages at £200.

A decree nisi, with costs, was granted.

A COMMITTEE of officers will shortly assemble at Murree to discuss the possibility of further decentralizing correspondence and of simplifying and decreasing a number of forms and returns at present required by Court Accounts and other Departments.

A DARING dacoity has been committed near the Ferozepore railway station. After the train arrived a native merchant, who had six thousand rupees in cash with him, hired a coolie to carry it. When they were about half-way between the station and the city, some men attacked them with chiblis, and wounded the coolie seriously. The bunia bled, and the dacoits made away with the money, and no trace of them has been found. The coolie is lying in a precarious state in hospital.

MR. VENKATASUBBIAH, of Bolarum, author of "Ventures in Verse," writes to the *Hindu* to say that he has received the following letter from Mr. Alfred Austin, the Poet-Laureate:—Villa Lander, San Domenico, Florence. Dear Sir,—I can honestly say that I have been much surprised and pleased by the familiarity you show in your "Ventures in Verse," not only with the English tongue, but likewise with the structure and music and its metres, and I warmly congratulate you on your singular success in these respects. Believe me, Yours faithfully (Sd.)—Alfred Austin.

The Queen to-day laid the foundation-stone of the extension of the South Kensington Museum. The gathering on the occasion was a most brilliant one, including the Prince of Wales and other members of the Cabinet and Corps Diplomatique.

It gradually transpires that the prisoners at Pretoria are civilians. The suggestion made in the Transvaal official despatch on the subject that they acted upon orders received from the War Office is ridiculed. The prisoners have been remanded for a fortnight on the capital charge of enrolling men and intending to arm them in Natal, whence they were to return on a given signal and seize Johannesburg.

#### Telegrams.

##### [INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

##### THE PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.

BURDWAN, MAY 19.

The Provincial Conference met to-day at 2 P. M., with a large and enthusiastic gathering, filling up the whole body of the Town Hall. Delegates from Faridpur, Beerbhoom, Barisal, Khulna, Krishnagar, Ranaghat, Kusteia, Howrah, Serampore, Jalpaiguri, Berhampore, Dacca, 24 Pergannas, Rajshaye, Calcutta and other places attended.

Rai Nalinakshya Bose, Bahadur, Chairman of the Reception Committee, opened the proceedings in an able speech, reminding the audience that it was the first time that the Conference was held at Burdwan and that to Bengal belonged the credit of inaugurating the Conference movement.

Babu Balkanta Nath Sen (Berhampur) moved, Rai Yashodra Nath Chowdhry (Taki) seconded, and Baboo Tarapado Banerjee (Krishnagar) supported the motion for the selection of Baboo Ambica Charan Mozoomdar as president of the Conference.

On taking the Chair, Babu Ambica Charan was received with an ovation. He delivered a most eloquent and stirring address. The day's proceedings closed with the appointment of the Subjects Committee. The Conference meets to-morrow at noon.

##### (FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.)

LONDON, MAY 16.

A great sensation has been caused in South Africa, and in London by the news that seven officers formerly belonging to the British army have been arrested at Johannesburg, charged with inciting to treason and with the enrolment of men for the purposes of rebellion.

All the prisoners have been conveyed to Pretoria, where they were lodged in gaol. Mr. Conyngham Greene, British Agent at Pretoria, has visited the prisoners in gaol.

LONDON, MAY 16.

A dinner was given by the Northbrook Society at the Imperial Institute to-night in honour of Lord Elgin, Lord Northbrook, President of the Society, presided, and among those present were Lords Rosebery, Lansdowne, Harris and Cross, and Sirs Henry Fowler, Richard Temple, Donald Stewart, George White and Munchejee Bhauagari.

Lord Rosebery, who proposed the health of the guest of the evening dwelt upon the incalculable difficulties he had surmounted during his Viceroyalty, and doubted if any Viceroy since Lord Canning had had such cruel visitations.

Lord Elgin, in reply, said he had always set his face against aggression or even retaliation. He dwelt upon the necessity which existed for the various expeditions undertaken during his term of office, and said the frontier tribes now know they cannot offend with impunity. Difficulties, he added, may come to the surface in India at any moment, but the country was more settled when he left it than when he arrived.

LONDON, MAY 16.

The following honours are gazetted, all for services on the North-West Frontier of India:—Colonel Reginald Hart to be Knight Commander of the Bath; Colonels More-Molyneux and Maurice Barton and Captains Rowcroft, Wells, Cole, John, Hill and Elliott Lockhart, to receive the Distinguished Service Order.

LONDON, MAY 17.

In the cricket matches which have been played this week the Australians have beaten Surrey by an innings and seventy-one runs. Howell, of the Australian team, took all the Surrey wickets in the first innings for 28 runs. In the match between Yorkshire and Gloucester the latter team was beaten by an innings and 196 runs. Sussex has beaten Worcester by five wickets. The matches between Kent and Nottingham, Derby and Warwick, and Lancashire vs. Hampshire have all resulted in draws.

LONDON, MAY 17.

Major Marchand has reached Djibouti on his way home. Great preparations are being made to give him a fitting welcome when he reaches France.

THE HAGUE, MAY 18.

The Peace Conference assembled here to-day, Baron De Staal, Russian representative, is President. Various speeches were made eulogising the magnanimous motives of the Tsar, and hoping his generous scheme would be realised.

PARIS, MAY 18.

All the postmen in Paris have suddenly gone on strike owing to a dispute regarding the question of wages. No letters have been delivered to-day, and business in consequence is generally upset. Government is employing soldiers and policemen to do the work, and threatens the wholesale dismissal of the postmen.

LONDON, MAY 18.

In the House of Commons this evening Mr. Chamberlain, replying to a question said that Sir Alfred Milner, with the approval of the Government, had accepted a meeting with President Kruger at Bloemfontein, with a view to the settling of all difficulties and satisfying the demands of the Uitlanders. Mr. Chamberlain added that President Kruger stated that Sir Alfred Milner's reply went beyond his intentions, but he would gladly discuss every proposal in a friendly way.

LONDON, MAY 19.

Advices from Paris state that the postmen have resumed work.

LONDON, MAY 19.

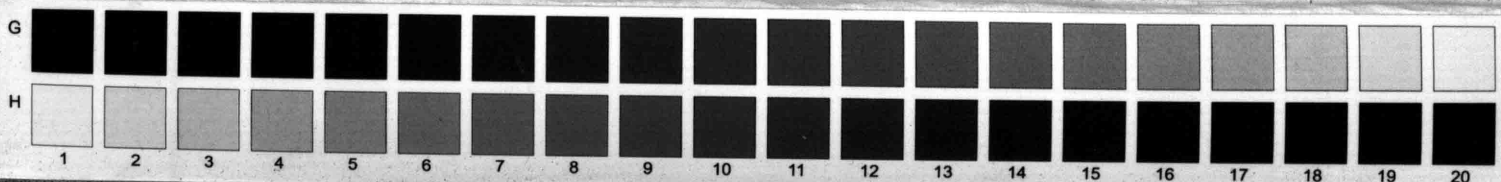
The meeting between President Kruger and Sir Alfred Milner at Bloemfontein takes place on the 31st instant. The *Times* describes President Kruger's later Franchise proposals as absolutely inadequate.

LONDON, MAY 18.

Colonel Sir George Albers de Hochepe Larpent, commanding the Bedford District, has committed suicide.

LONDON, MAY 18.

The Leigh divorce case, in which Lady Rose Leigh was respondent and the Earl of Cottenham co-respondent, has resulted in a decree nisi being granted to the petitioner.





# MAN-EATING TIGERS AND PANTHERS IN HYDERABAD.

A HYDERABAD correspondent writes to a contemporary:—Some exciting adventures with man-eating tigers and panthers occurred recently in the district of Beder, a large and important commercial centre in the Nizam's dominions, and the accuracy of the details sent in may be relied upon, as they bear the official stamp. It appears that three Rohillas went in search of the dreaded panther. They came upon the brute lying half concealed in a bush. One of the Rohillas fired and hit it in the groin, and the second soon after brought his "Brown Bess" to the shoulder, but the panther now slunk away. All three men drew their swords and followed in the wake of the wounded beast, and when they approached it, one of them, who was isolated, was suddenly confronted by the brute, who at once spring upon this swordsman and seized him by the thigh, brought him down, and next clawed his shoulder. His comrades came up quickly and cut the panther down. The men, women and children of the villages through which the carcass was borne, triumphantly came out en masse and offered homage to the Rohillas as the deliverers of their village. The wounded man is pulling through at the Behar hospital. The slayers refused money award, and they have asked for Inam Lands instead. Another panther and a tiger were killed a few days previously near the same scrub jungle. The tiger was shot from a *maul*, while feeling on his quarry, and the panther met its death from the hands of four woodcutters. While occupied in hewing down old trees separated from one another by short distances, "Spots" suddenly made his appearance. The men raised a shout to scare him away, but nothing daunted, he sprang upon the nearest man and bore him down. Before his companions could save his life, the unfortunate man had been mortally mauled; but the brute was bravely attacked by the rescuers with hatchets, and killed. The wounded man was borne away to the village, where he died soon after. The best bag in this district was of a tiger shot under extraordinary circumstances. The animal, a grand specimen of the Tami type, had taken refuge overnight in a sugar-cane nullah. The labourers knocked off work for their noonday meal. One of them, a lad, sat apart from the rest, and concealed from view, close upon the lad. "Stripes," seeing his chance, fell upon the lad. At this moment the father of the boy, a Koli, coming in that direction with loaded gun in hand, and finding his son thus seized, ran to his rescue. It was too late. The tiger had already killed the boy, and sprang back with the body into the nullah. The father followed stealthily, and shot the tiger before it had had time to feed on the boy's body. The animal, now stuffed, stands in the first Taluqdar's Kutchery verandah. It measures from tip to end a little over 10 feet 2 inches. It is a record for the Deccan.

MR. W. PHELPS has been elected President of the Punjab Trades Association, Simla.

ANOTHER thunderstorm, with a high south westerly wind and slight rain, passed over Cawnpore early Thursday morning.

ALL the children of Members of the Simla Volunteers will be entertained at Annandale by Lieutenant Colonel. Upcott on the Queen's Birthday.

MR. C. A. PERRIN, Sanitary Engineer to the North-West Provinces Government, has been permitted to retire, Mr. W. B. Gordon, officiating.

RHEUMATISM, with its attendant sciatica, has been very prevalent at Murree of late, and one of the worst sufferers has been Colonel Burton, but he and all the other victims are improving.

AFTER threatening for some days past, a very heavy downpour of rain with slight hail took place on the evening of the 18th at Benares. During the hour it lasted it blew a regular gale. The rain has now ceased, but high wind continues and more rain may fall later at night.

A TELEGRAM from Surat states that a party of twelve Parsees—men, women, and children—went out to Khajot, on the south side of Surat, for a boating excursion on a bar of the river Tapi, near Vaux's tomb. When out a mile a gust of wind capsized the boat. A Parsee priest witnessed the mishap and gave the alarm to the nearest village. Before help could be rendered the whole party had disappeared in the water. Whether the boatmen were saved or not is not known.

News reached Bombay on Thursday morning that No. 8 up train on the B. and C. I. Railway, due at 8 o'clock from Ahmedabad, had been deliberately derailed by some persons maliciously removing fish-plates on the line a mile south of Palghar, and that seven passengers had been injured. The engine was running between twenty and twenty-five miles an hour, and on reaching three pairs of rails from which the fish-plates had been unbolled, ran off the line followed by the tender, the front brake van, and three first class carriages. The passengers injured were in third class compartments.

LADY CURZON'S garden party on Thursday afternoon, which was, perhaps, the largest on record, was, contrary to the usual custom, held on the lawn in front of Viceregal Lodge, the guests arriving by two roads from the mall, which greatly relieved a crush. Lord and Lady Curzon received and greeted their guests in a large *shamiana*, an operation which lasted for a considerable time. The whole of Simla, including all the big officials, was present, and there were an unusual number of ladies and very smart frocks. The Viceroy and Lady Curzon left the grounds about seven o'clock, after which the party quickly dispersed.

At the end of last week Sher Muhammad, a near relative of the Malik of the Hoti Khels, was on his way to Kohat, accompanied by some friends and servants in a couple of *ekkas*, when he was attacked by about fourteen Gumati outlaws near Adami Bridge on the Bannu Kohat Road. A good many shots were exchanged, with the result that one of the outlaws was seriously wounded by Sher Muhammad, who was armed with a Winchester, and one of the *ekka* ponies was shot. After this Sher Muhammad with some others made a clean bolt and escaped. The outlaws then plundered the occupants of the other *ekka*, and mounting their wounded comrade on the remaining pony escaped to the hills. A pursuit party followed on their track, but returned unsuccessful.

## MADRAS PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.

### THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

MR. EARDLEY NORTON, who rose amidst enthusiastic cheers began by saying that he should be less than human and even more imperfect than he was before opening his address he did not make the frank confession to them in public that he was deeply and sensibly moved by the touching way in which they welcomed his return once more into political life. It would be impossible to listen, as he had listened that afternoon, after the various speeches of the various gentlemen to various creeds who had done him the honor of coming there and proclaiming their gratification at his return to their midst and not to feel that whatever might have happened in the past, whatever might have been the reward or the reverse of his services for the past twenty-five years, his reward that day was full, perfect and complete. He had that day heard the flattering remarks of Hindu, Mohammedan and Christian speakers, and he thought that no man who ever put his foot on a public platform would deserve or desire to deserve more. He said that he was bound to admit that it was with the greatest reluctance that he had been dragged from the quiet of his home to this temporary appearance on that platform (cries of No, No) and he should have preferred to remain in the midst of his books. It had immense pressure applied to him which he knew was of the kindest and the most friendly of all feelings and it was impossible for any one who called him self a man to have had the invitation in the way in which it was preferred to him and to have said "No" at the end even if he had said it at the first. Partly owing to that pressure and partly in consequence of his own view of the duty which twenty years of residence in this country had taught him that he owed as an Englishman to the demands that had been made upon his time, he acceded to the request. It seemed to him that Europeans were bound as well by considerations of political expediency as by higher considerations of human sympathy and he held to do all that lay in their power to assist the people and to give them all that was best in themselves. He acknowledged gratefully and with pride that these struggles in which they were called upon to assist were the necessary, intended and legitimate education which England had so bountifully placed at the disposal of the people. They were fulfilling that duty England's mission in endeavouring to fulfil as best as they could their own mission. It might be, he did not see it was, that some of their criticisms were very crude. It might be that some of their ambitions were misplaced. It might be that some of their methods were unreasonable. He did not say it was so, but those were the criticisms they were bound to meet frankly and in their own interests. Even if all this were true, the very fact that they were trying day by day and year by year as he knew from his own personal knowledge since 1879 to improve their social and political position by the application of Western principles to the systems which obtained in the East, was full of hope as it must be to all persons who, like himself, regarded all these manifestations of intellectual activity as indications of political promise. Looking at the matter from the point of expediency, which was the very lowest rung of the ladder, he said, there were few matters in which Indian interests were involved which did not also affect the position of Englishmen in this country. It was therefore expedient that they should be more than watching the play from the stalls. They should get behind the scenes, mix with the actors and be at their rehearsal, though it was difficult at all times to stand in another man's shoes and to comprehend the position of a neighbour. If they (Englishmen) were really to understand the people's wishes and if they were really and satisfactorily to grasp their aspirations and give practical effect to them, if that be part and parcel of practical statesmanship, surely it followed that Englishmen should set aside something of their reserve and step through town and field to mingle with the human race. (Hear, hear). They must learn and sometimes be taught they had much to unlearn. While it was expedient that Englishmen should give Indians an opportunity of personal converse with them to minimise error and correct the perspective properly, they should also hear, see, study, mark, learn and digest and accommodate themselves as far as possible to all that they could teach them of what was good and right and true. Englishmen were proud and justly proud of their Parliament as the House of Commons was the first Legislative Assembly in the world, yet John Bright, himself a democrat and leader of the people once told the House of Commons inside its walls that that House often did many things which were just but he doubted whether the House of Commons did one thing because it was just. (Laughter.) To no one more than to himself had it been a matter for regret that having been so long here he had never risen to the grand occasion. That was not a confession which it gave him pleasure to make. It was a confession of humiliation, a confession of error, a confession that they had not been able to do their duty. They were there busy with their own business and engaged in their accumulation of money. The exception seemed to him rather to point to the truth of the rule. Whether the Englishmen in the future would improve or not he did not know. But it seemed to him that they had deteriorated during the past thirty or forty years. That was the dire and sad outcome of the situation so far as he had been able to gauge it after a considerable amount of care. He could conceive of no grander or higher task than that of getting out of difference, of caste, creed and color. During the twenty years he had been here he had never heard or read of a single word of fair criticism directed upon their fair and honest efforts and upon their legitimate wants as disclosed by their responsible leaders. Coming to the question of Religious Endowments he said he would not help thinking that Government acted somewhat precipitately in enacting the Act of 1863. It was drawn up in immense hurry and everything important was left out from it while everything unimportant was included. The Hon. Mr. Ananda Charlu who had introduced a Bill on the subject in the Imperial Council at Calcutta would speak on the subject to-morrow. He would only say that the scheme which some one had drawn up for setting apart 2½ lakhs as salaries for an establishment for supervising the Endowments looked very ingenious and as though meant for the benefit of some public servants who might retire from service and take up the very easy and lucrative post of Dharmakarta on Rs. 1,500 per mensem. As compared to this scheme Mr. Chamberlain's scheme for Old Age Pensions was nowhere. (Laughter.) Regarding the conditions of the ryots he said he had not gone into the subject very deeply but it seemed to him that it would be a strange and unwise doctrine that any Government should take upon themselves to legislate for posterity. In this question he mixed up the question of Industrial schools and technical education and his opinion was that they should get Local Boards and District Boards should either themselves provide for such education or induce Government to do so. They were making a serious mistake in asking Government to take up the matter entirely into their own hands. As to Provincial Contracts no man had put the position of Government and therefore of the people better than Sir Arthur Havelock. They were made to work and labour and toil with the sweat of their brow and when they came to accumulate their wealth

it was taken away for frontier wars over which they had no control. The people had to carry this agitation to England and induce the Secretary of State, how unfair the arrangement was how restrictive of their industrial enlargement it was. They might also congratulate themselves that at no time since the Public Service Commission they had come within the practical reach of their ambitions than under the rule of Sir Arthur Havelock. There were certainly one or two native collectors, four native District Judges and one High Court Judge. He congratulated Sir Arthur Havelock on the fact that he had in many respects amply fulfilled the hopes which he had given them and honestly tried to do them good.

Referring to a pamphlet he had received from Calcutta on behalf of their old friend, E. and I. Association under the new name "The Anglo-Indian Britisher" he pointed out that that Association had paid a high compliment to the Congress for its work and it was a compliment which ought to fill the people with great hopes for the future.

Mr. Norton had also a word to say to the new Viceroy when it appeared to him seemed to be bent upon making a new departure and had a desire to make a place for himself amongst statesmen. More than ever it had now become necessary to specialise all their knowledge and facts both to meet the criticisms of their adversary and to enable them to push themselves with their arguments. The time had, he urged, come for some central institution being erected with a Library of reference containing all books and official publications touching every pressing question affecting India. Such a Library did not exist anywhere in Southern India. They ought to subdivide their work and educated men ought to be told off to different departments of work and their whole time must be given to those departments so that they might always be able to give in half an hour any information required on any branch of knowledge. He did not think it was by any means an Utopian scheme and wonderful results would flow from it. They who had already been through so many sacrifices and begun to understand the value and nature of educational self-sacrifice must realize with him how absolutely necessary it was that they should be able at a short notice to investigate the hollowiness or truth of any charges against them. He illustrated the points by referring to the discussion in the Viceroy's Council of the Sugar Duties in which all members except Mr. Mehta had approved of the Bill. In the previous night's Mail it was stated that Sir Henry Fowler had given notice to the House of Commons that he would move that that House should not pass the measure as they knew Mr. Maclean has taken the same view. He would himself pass no opinion on the matter, but he should like to know where he could get the information on the subject if there was no library of the kind he was pleading for. It might be that the Bill is rescinded and it is what would become of the authority to the support given by his friend, Mr. Ananda Charlu. Speaking of the alleged disposition amongst them to exclude from their attention men who were not of their class and who were not of their own way of thinking, he warned the assembly for its own safety against the danger of narrowing the present platform. If they tried to place any selfish interpretation on the Queen's proclamation to the detriment of the Eurasian or Anglo-Indian they would wreck the ship and certainly deprive themselves of all genuine sympathy and support in England and in India and raise up for themselves an impossible barrier of ferocity and contempt. He exhorted the conference to be catholic in this matter in the best, noblest and truest sense of the word. There was no reason for despair but there was ample scope for encouragement and congratulation and for further incentive. They had already made substantial progress and received from their Governor marked and generous recognition of some of their cherished ambitions. In conclusion he said that there was no half way house between progress and decay, all nature hourly sang to them the story of advance and change. Success lay in action not in retrospection. They should do noble deeds, not dream all day long (loud and continued cheers).

## VARIEITIES.

### THE SOUTH POLE EXPEDITION.

CHRISTIANIA, April 26.—The President of the Geographical Society here has received a letter from Mr. Borchgrevink, dated Cape Adair, Victoria Land, February 28, in which the explorer says:—"I have now landed on the great Australian continent, with staff, instruments, and 175 dogs. The greatest discipline has prevailed throughout."

### MESSAGE IN AN APPLE BARREL.

A CURIOUS discovery has been made at Chesham, Bucks, by Mr. Joseph Hearn. While unpacking a box of Tasmanian apples he came across one wrapped in paper, on which was written—"This apple was packed by Miss Kate Piety, grand-daughter of late Thomas Piety, of Kent, England, any one of you know their address, please send it to me at Derwent House Falls, New Tasmania. I am very dark and good-looking, and would be pleased to see any of you who came my way."

### A LOCK OF NAPOLEON'S HAIR.

ON April 25th, at Messrs. Sotheby's auction rooms in Wellington-street, Strand, a genuine lock of hair of the Emperor Napoleon was sold for 7 guineas. This interesting relic is accompanied by the original letter with which it was sent, and also particulars of Capt. Poppo, who was in the 3rd Regiment. He was appointed "Permanent Orderly over General Bonaparte" and remained in that capacity until June, 1817. In his letter to Mrs. Le Vaux, he says, "Enclosed is what I promised you—it is small but precious. I have but little left."

### WHAT ARE PROBABLY THE ONLY THREE OSTRICHES IN ENGLAND.

FROM Sokoto arrived at Liverpool on April 25th by the mail steamer, Sobu. They are the property of Lieut. G. F. Abadie, of the West African Frontier Force, who intends presenting them to the Zoological Gardens. The birds are very fine specimens, and are some nine or ten feet high. Lieut. Abadie got them when he was four months old, and about three or four feet high. They were absolutely tame, and run about among the natives in the streets at Jebba without any fear.

### A WHITE ELEPHANT FOR PARIS.

It is a white elephant, not in the figurative, but in the literal sense. According to the *Gazette* the white elephant which Mr. Doumer has sent to Paris from Cambodia is four years of age. The animal was received at the Gare de Lyon by Mr. Sauvignat, assistant director of the Museum, and other officials, and was installed in the Jardin des Plantes. On Monday the white elephant took a little constitutional in the garden, but the airing did not appear to be enjoyable, for after a few steps the animal showed a disinclination to proceed farther and was led back to the winter retreat, where the temperature was warmer.

### ACTORS' SUPERSTITIONS.

WITH the exception of sailors there is perhaps no class more swayed by superstition than actors and actresses. To open an umbrella on the stage is considered very unlucky. Peacock's feathers are universally held in awe. Then the "thirteen" superstition is widely prevalent, and no experienced actor will handle a cherrywood cane behind the footlights. The presence of a white cat, a white rabbit, or a white dog is considered to bode no good for a play newly set before the public. Gardenias must not be worn upon the stage, and among other

things which actors persuade themselves they must not do in the theatre is to whistle or sing in the dressing rooms. Every theatre has a cat, but it is always a black one. A grey or a white cat is speedily chased out of the building.

### EXPERIMENTS WITH LIQUID AIR.

A VIENNA wire of April 24 says: The *Tageblatt* received a report on the experiments carried on at Ober-Sievering with the new explosive produced from liquid air. A number of tests were made, some with guns in use in field and garrison artillery, others in blasting operations. The advantages of liquid air over the explosives at present employed in warfare are summarised as follows: Liquid air exerts a far greater force than a larger quantity of dynamite, and this it does without heating the barrel of the gun. It is, moreover, more easily transported, more simply manufactured, and more safely handled than the other explosives. Dr. Sieger, who conducted trials of strength at Ober-Sievering expresses the opinion that liquid air will supersede all existing explosives in naval and military artillery.

### POISONOUS PLANTS.

THE Consulting Botanist of the Royal Agricultural Society has just presented a report to the committee dealing with the danger to animals and stock which arises from poisonous plants growing on or near pasture land. The familiar buttercup comes under the banner as "a worthless and dangerous weed," all its varieties being more or less acrid and farmers are warned that it should not be allowed to exist in any pasture. The Cypress has apparently been badly labelled, for common opinion puts it down as a rank poison for cattle, whereas the report declares that although it is a stringent no record exists of its having caused any injury to stock. Yews, laurels, and rhododendrons are very poisonous, the two latter yielding an essential oil rich in prussic acid, cattle having access to them die with all the characteristic symptoms of prussic acid poisoning—laboured breathing and suffocating convulsions—and should never be allowed near them.

### A MEXICAN EARTHQUAKE.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to a home paper under the initials "N. E. N."—"I do not know whether your readers would care to read the account of an earthquake in the city of Mexico, which I received from a friend some little time ago. It strikes me as graphic and picturesque. The shock was severe enough to raze to the ground a considerable portion of one part of the city. My correspondent writes as follows:—"We have had an earthquake, and I have never had a sensation like it either physically, mentally, or spiritually. I was up here writing in my room, which opens with French doors on to a large stone balcony overlooking the court in which the fountain is. For some time there was an increasing trembling, which I at first thought was the moving of furniture, though it seemed strange that it should shake a heavy stone building; but when I began to feel dizzy I said to myself 'earthquake,' and I then went out into the balcony, and sure enough, the whole building was visibly swaying, and the large hanging lamps swung like censers. There was no noise, which made it all the more weird. I ran downstairs and found every one hurrying into the street (it was in the afternoon) and in the wide street which opens into the Alameda (public gardens), at this point was very impressive scene. All traffic had stopped still, and there were hundreds of people in little groups on their knees praying, some aloud, some to themselves, the men with their hats off; those who were not kneeling were holding on to one another, as no one could stand steady. The lamp posts were swaying like trees in a wind. Some people were calm, others in abject terror. I can't say that I was not afraid at all, though as soon as I was out of the building I couldn't see the chance of any danger. The earth was not any longer trembling or shaking, but swaying, which was most demoralising. I felt something as though a solemn and dignified nightmare had come true; or as though we had been suddenly transferred to somewhere near the Presence where the working of Nature was going on. It was very strange indeed. No one was hurt in our part of the town, and I can see now how very little danger there really is, for there was plenty of time to get into the open."

## COURTSHIP ON WHEELS: LOVE LETTERS AND DAMAGES.

AN ardent courtship which passed through all the usual stages in the brief period of three months was followed by an action for breach of promise in the Under Sheriff's Court yesterday, and damages 200. The plaintiff an attractive young lady, aged twenty, appeared in Court in a tailor-made costume of green cloth and a sailor hat. Being technically an "infant" she sued by her father, Mr. Henry Purser Dullea, a commercial traveller, living at 37 Canonbury Square, N. The defendant, Mr. Stanley Arthur Rowley, is twenty-four, and a partner in the firm of James Rowley and Sons, hat and helmet manufacturers and wholesale stationers, of Redcross Street, E. C. The two young people met at a wedding in July, 1897. They renewed their acquaintance early in the following year, and the fatal three months set in introductions to the respective parents, an engagement, and a heavy correspondence. Both parties, said counsel, were passionately fond of cycling, and a good deal of the courtship took place on wheels. Plaintiff in her evidence, said that defendant, soon after he first met her, suggested an early marriage, and with regard to this means said that he spent enough to keep three wives. (Laughter.) He added that he intended after marriage to buy a Racer and horse and drive to the City to business. Several of the letters were read of the kind familiar in these actions. One began—"My dear Florrie, I went straight home and had a good night, dreaming of you the whole time." "It is a hard job in these days to find so perfect a girl and so good-looking as you." When plaintiff was ill he wrote: "My own darling Florrie, cheer up, my darling, I hope it will not be long before I see you, and only a short time before we are one." Another was signed "Your still death" and another thus, remarked counsel, addressing her as his wife before the occurrence took place. From Hastings on August Bank holiday the defendant wrote a loving epistle signed "Yours till death" but a week later his tender communications ceased. Mr. Cohen (in cross-examination): You are not very broken hearted, Miss Dullea, are you? Plaintiff: I was very much upset at the time. "But I saw you smiling when my friend read those funny letters." "But I can smile even if I am broken-hearted." (Laughter.) The defendant was not called, and the jury as already stated, gave the plaintiff £200 damages.

### 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 hence bears testimony to the truth of the belief, and this relief which it affords is alone worth many times its cost. For sale by

1TH STANISTREET & CO., and B. K. PAUL & CO.

## DEATHBED REVENGE.

THE following story of the vendetta of a Countess comes from Trieste:—

The Count and Countess Napodano lived happily together on their estate at Matugacci, a village on the Istrian Peninsula, until the Count fell in love with the daughter of the local doctor, Concetta Devajo by name, a charming young girl of 18 years.

Count Napodano deserted his wife and eloped with Concetta Devajo, whose scruples he overcame. The Countess Napodano obtained a divorce from her husband, who then married Concetta.

Two years later Count Napodano and Countess Concetta returned to Matugacci. The former Countess Napodano, after being cast off by her husband, had sickened, and was now on her deathbed. Hearing of the arrival of her former husband and quondam rival she sent a message to the latter that she would like to see her before she died.

The Countess Concetta, feeling many qualms of conscience, and wishing to honour the wishes of the dying woman, went to see her. The invalid asked her to stoop and kiss her. As the fresh, young face of her rival came near her own, the dying woman raised herself, and by an almost superhuman effort, bit a piece clean out of Concetta's cheek and mouth, then fell back dead, with a contented smile on her features.

Concetta was disfigured for life, and her husband, the fickle Count, has already left her for a new love.

## THE EMPRESS'S HAIR.

ACCORDING to foreign contemporary, the German Empress has passed through troubles of late. "In other words," says the paragraph, "she has had a sad time with her hair. When the silver threads began to come the Empress was very much depressed about it, and an accommodating friend got her a bottle of hair dye, 'warranted harmless.'"

The misguided Empress used it, with the usual dire results. She would gladly have gone into retirement for a while, but that was impossible, and with fear and trembling she presented herself at the next family meal.

"The august William gave her one awful look, and then demanded the bottle. In vain she protested that there was no bottle. The Emperor searched until he found it, when he disposed at one fell swoop of the stuff and the man who had sold it. But the Empress was not to be daunted, and, at her request, a friend sent to Paris for another dye, which was duly applied."

The very next morning the Emperor eyed his wife with wrath, and demanded who had sold her that gliding so shameful to see on the head of a mother and a spouse. So that bottle went the way of the first.

The Empress did not fancy going about in motley, so far as her hair was concerned, so she again appealed to her friends to procure something which would completely bleach the hair. This final experiment is said to have been successful.

"So young, and yet so false! It is impossible to believe that the bonny brown-haired Empress is now a white-haired old woman," and therefore a tribute may be paid to the ingenuity of the compiler of this paragraph.

## THE STICK AND THE CRUST.

A STICK and a crust of bread. Like the hands of a clock these two articles "tell the time" of day for nearly a year in a certain man's life. Yet, unlike the hands of a clock, they were not visible at once. When he needed the stick, he had no use for the crust; and when the crust was welcome he had no further occasion for the stick.

Albeit he was a young fellow of twenty-six, you would be wrong in supposing this stick to have been in the nature of a weapon for attack or defence. In that case the crust and the stick would have been harnessed. As it was, they did not. For the stick was a support, not a club.

Now, when a man feels the pressure of eighty or ninety years he is apt to want a travelling companion of that sort; but one in the very hey day of youth, not suffering from any injury and not constitutionally feeble, or malformed, should commonly be able to walk without a stick. And so this young man had always done up to the time when he fell out with crust and with all that the crust stood for or represented.

This own account of the circumstances runs thus: "Up to October, 1893, I had been a strong, healthy, and active man. Then I commenced to feel weak and out of sorts. I was heavy, tired, and had no ambition or energy. What had come over me I could not imagine. I had a foul, nasty taste in the mouth and was constantly spitting up a thick, dirty phlegm. My appetite left me, and what little I ate lay on my stomach like lead, causing me great pain about the chest. A short, distressing cough settled upon me and troubled me day and night."

"At night my sleep was disturbed and broken with night sweats and frightful dreams. I had great pain at the left side around the heart, and my breathing was hurried and short. Next I began to spit blood and was greatly alarmed at it. I wasted away rapidly, losing over a stone weight in a month, and became so weak that I was unable to rise out of my bed without assistance."

"Although only a young man of twenty, I was obliged to hobble about with a stick, and could walk but a short distance even at that. Worried and anxious I attended the York County Hospital, where the doctors sounded me and said I was in a consumption."

Here we have another of the serious and often fatal mistakes that are made in cases like this. Mistled by symptoms which in some respects resemble those of consumption, medical men hastily decide that the lungs are affected, treat the patient perfunctorily for the hopeless disease he is not affected with, and leave the result to chance. Hence he often dies of dyspepsia and its complications—his true disease, which, unlike consumption, is easily curable by the remedy our friend finally employed.

"They gave me cod-liver oil," he continued, "and medicines, but I got no better. Indeed, I was so low-spirited and miserable I didn't care what became of me. As time passed I grew weaker and weaker."

"After I had endured ten months of this, Mr. R. W. Dickinson, the chemist in Walmgate, advised me to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. After taking it a few days I felt much better, my appetite reviving and my food giving me no pain. I continued to take this medicine only, and soon the cough and breathing trouble left me and I began to gain strength and flesh. When I had taken three bottles I was as strong as ever, and could eat and enjoy even a dry crust. I have since had good health. You are at liberty to publish this letter and refer all inquirers to me. (Signed) Isaiah Lewis, 124, Walmgate, York, April 5th, 1894."

If the reader wonders how a man could suffer so much, become so emaciated and weak, and be pushed so near the grave's edge through what is sometimes flippantly called "mere indigestion," he has yet to learn that the digestion is the arbiter of life and death. The "crust" (food), enjoyed and digested, means life and strength. Rejected it means the "stick," to supplement swift-coming weakness; and then the prone position, when help is vain. Mother Seigel's Syrup enabled Mr. Lewis to substitute the crust for the stick. It cured his dyspepsia.

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## PRESS LAWS IN THE PAST.

(By J. CHAUDHURI.)  
(From the Judicial Review.)

The first newspaper in India was published in Bengal on the 29th January, 1780. It was in English, and was conducted by an Englishman, and it long enjoyed the fullest liberty and latitude of discussion. The Government for years did not interfere with it, nor did it display any desire for repression. But printing presses began to multiply. British supremacy in India was not yet an accomplished fact. There was a continuous strife for supremacy between rival foreign powers and ambitious native chiefs, who were then in their death struggle. Combination between native chiefs, intrigues with the reigning dynasties, and alliance with the French for thwarting the British were of common occurrence. The indiscriminate dissemination of political news and reports at such a time was considered by the British authorities as a considerable source of danger. This furnished to the Government the first excuse for the adoption of repressive measures over the Press in India.

In 1799 an offending editor was arrested, and though he was not deported, the right of the Government to do so received an affirmation from the Supreme Court of Calcutta. But in 1794 the same editor was deported to Europe for reckless writing, and the action of the Government in this matter met with the warm approval of the Court of Directors.

In 1799 a censorship was established, and a set of rules was published, of which the more important ones provided that no paper was to be published at all until it shall have been previously inspected by the Secretary of the Government, or by a person to be authorised by him for that purpose. The penalty for offending was to be immediate embarkation for Europe.

In 1813 the following new rules were issued:—  
“(1.) That the proof-sheets of all newspapers, including supplements and all extra publications, be previously sent to the Chief Secretary for revision.”  
“(2.) That all notices, handbills, and other ephemeral publications be, in like manner, previously transmitted for the Chief Secretary's revision.”  
“(3.) That the titles of all original works proposed to be published be also sent to the Chief Secretary for his information, who will, thereupon, either sanction publication of them or require the work itself to be submitted for inspection, as may appear proper.”

The result of such rules was that the Press in India soon came to consist of mere advertisement sheets containing police reports, account of balls, fetes, and private theatricals, correspondence on matters of minor local nuisance and non-political extracts from English papers.

In the meantime British conquest was making rapid progress, and British power was becoming securely established. The Government had nothing to fear now from foreign foes. The editors and the public were gradually turning their attention to matters of internal politics, and soon took to discuss the acts, measures, conduct, and policy of the Government. Collision between the editors and the censor became more frequent, and about 1816 the desirability of freeing the Press formed the subject of frequent and prominent public discussion. The censorship could no longer be justified on the ground of political exigency.

It was then that the Executive for the first time urged that a control over the Press in India was necessary for the maintenance of that prestige which, it was said then, and oftentimes repeated afterwards, was the mainstay of the Government in this country. As a compromise between this public demand for a free Press and the demand of the Executive for the maintenance of prestige, in 1818, the censorship was removed and a new set of rules was passed, only restricting publication of:—

“(1.) Animadversions on the measures and proceedings of the Honourable Court of Directors, or other public authorities in England connected with the Government of India, or discussions on political transactions of the local administrations, offensive remarks levelled at the public conduct of the members of Council, of Judges of Supreme Court, or of the Lord Bishop of Calcutta.”  
“(2.) Discussions having a tendency to create alarm or suspicion among the native population of any intended interference with their religious observances.”  
“(3.) The republication from English or other newspapers of passages coming under any of the above heads, or otherwise calculated to affect the British power or reputation in India.”

“(4.) Private scandal and personal remarks on individuals tending to excite dissension in society.”

It is remarkable that the Executive in India have made periodic attempts to impose similar restrictions on the Press—the last, not so very long ago and not in very different terms.

Soon after the removal of the censorship in 1818, Mr. Buckingham, Editor of the “Calcutta Journal”, made himself immensely popular by his bold criticism and fearless advocacy of the liberty of the Press. His example also awakened a sense of duty in his Calcutta contemporaries. This change of attitude of the Press in India naturally excited the jealousy of the Government. In 1819 Mr. Buckingham received a warning for certain aspersions against some local governors. And in 1822 the votes for his deportation by the Council of the Government of India were only annulled by the single vote of the Marquis of Hastings, then Governor-General, who was a great friend of a free Press. He had publicly declared that a good Government had nothing to fear from public criticism, and that he for one always courted and dared investigation into his public acts.

It is a fact of the greatest importance that it was during his administration that the first vernacular newspaper was published in Bengal on the 23rd of May, 1818. This was a journal called the *Samachar Darpan*, or the mirror of news, started by Dr. Marshman, a Christian missionary, with the object of stimulating enquiry and diffusing general information. Even such a project met with official opposition. The official view was that the introduction of a newspaper into the native community would produce deplorable results. And it was on Dr. Marshman's assurance to discontinue the paper, if disapproved of by Government, that the opposition was withdrawn. Lord Hastings, however, lent every encouragement to the project, and being of opinion that the effect of such a paper would be extensively useful, directed that it should be transmitted throughout the country at one-fourth the usual rate of postage. The paper soon commanded a wide circulation, but before long it had a rival in the field and in this it may be said to have accomplished its object. It stimulated a spirit of enquiry amongst the Hindus which has remained unabated up to the present day. The *Durpan*, the missionary paper, from want of familiarity with Sanskrit literature, often displayed in its columns considerable misconceptions of Hindu ideas and ideals of life. To remove such mistaken notions, as also to instruct his countrymen, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the greatest Hindu reformer of the present century, and also one of the master-minds of modern times, started a journal called the *Kaumudi*. Tropical “moon-light” was a very appropriate emblem for a paper which shone in the reflected light of truth and wisdom both of the East and the West. In the columns of the *Kaumudi* this great editor not only enlightened the public about what was best in the Hindu civilisation, but also what was best in the modern. This it may truly be said that with the liberty of the Press commenced the renaissance of India, and the growth of modern vernacular literature. But, like other great men, Raja Ram Mohan Roy was greatly in advance of his time. His views met with more opposition than following from his

own countrymen, and soon a great many vernacular journals were in the field. But these rival journals were by no means models of good taste or of moderate writing. But with all their defects their opposition had a brighter side and was fruitful of great good by stimulating enquiry and thought.

Had it not been for the liberal Press policy of Lord Hastings, the birth of a new religious and intellectual life in India would perhaps have been long postponed. It is also important, as having falsified the vague apprehensions and the evil prophecies of officials that the introduction of newspapers in the native community was sure to produce “deplorable results.” Still strange to say, this apprehension has somehow managed to lie dormant amongst the official traditions in India, only to start into life periodically and then after a brief and spasmodic existence to lapse into oblivion, till disturbed by a fresh nightmare.

On the retirement of the Marquis of Hastings the Press policy of the Government underwent a sudden change. The immediate cause of this was the appointment of one Mr. Adams, a member of the Indian Civil Service, to officiate as the Governor-General till the arrival of Lord Amherst, as the Viceroy. It should be mentioned that the Court of Directors and their servants in their self-interest have always been opposed to a free Press in India. So it was no wonder that Mr. Adams, representing their views, did not continue the enlightened policy of his predecessor. One of the first acts of his brief administration was to get Mr. Buckingham, the popular editor of the *Calcutta Journal* and the fearless defender of a free press in India, arrested and deported out of the country. Immediately followed a still more surprising and sudden blow to the liberty of the Press. Without any intimation or justification were issued certain Rules and Ordinances prohibiting the publication of:—“Observations or statements touching the character, constitution, measures or orders of the Court of Directors or other public authorities in England, connected with the Government of India; or the character, constitution, measures or orders of the Indian Governments, or in any way tending to bring them into hatred or contempt, to excite resistance to their orders, and to weaken their authority.” The restriction went further, and comprised practically all matters defamatory of or disrespectful to personages ranging in rank from the members of the Royal Family to members of Council, and dignitaries, varying in dignity from the Sovereign to public officers of Government, and within this comprehensive class were specifically mentioned the judges of His Majesty's Courts. The regulations had also within their scope discussions having a tendency to create alarm or suspicion, which so often, and so lately as last year, formed an important item of penal legislation.

A very remarkable feature in these rules is that they present a remarkable affinity to the Press laws that preceded and followed. Practically, however, Governor Adams' rules did not play an important part in the history of the Indian Press, for Lord Amherst soon relieved Mr. Adams of his incumbency, and allowed considerable latitude to public discussion.

Lord Amherst was succeeded by Lord William Bentinck, on whose statue in Calcutta will be found inscribed the following words, from the pen of Macaulay. “He gave liberty to the expression of public opinion.”

Sir Charles (Lord) Metcalfe, who followed him as the next Governor-General, totally liberated the Press in 1836. Ever since, the freedom of the Press in India has never been assailed except on two occasions, and then only temporarily. During the licensing of the newspaper press and restricting public discussion, likely to retard the restoration of public peace, was passed in 1858, and remained in force only for a year. Its operation, even at such a time, under the Viceroyalty of Lord Canning, was exceedingly restricted. He, in one of his dispatches to the Court of Directors, writing about certain prosecutions under the Act, said:—

“We authorised the Advocate-General not to press for punishment if the defendants would plead guilty and expressed contribution for their offence. This course was accordingly adopted; the defendants pleaded guilty, and were discharged after entering into recognisances to appear and receive judgment when called upon.” But nobody was ever so called upon, nor any punishment inflicted under the Act, and simple warning in some cases and apology in others was considered sufficient for maintaining order and preventing mischief, even during the days of the Indian Mutiny. Since then, for over twenty years the Press in India enjoyed the fullest liberty.

Unfortunately, in 1877, there was a severe famine, and very inopportunistically the following year a great Durbars was held at Delhi, for declaring the Queen the Empress of India. There was also considerable discontent caused at the time by the inauguration by Lord Lytton of the Frontier Policy, which has been the cause of India's financial ruin, and also owing to the appropriation of the Indian tax-payer's money for the purposes of the Afghan war. The vernacular Press of the day took up the common cry against the extravagance of the Government, and said many unpleasant things. The Government of the day under the irritation of the moment, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, but without any notice to the public, at one sitting passed the Vernacular Press Act, since repealed. This Act placed the vernacular Press under the control of the executive, and at the mercy of the magistrates.

Its main provisions were, that a magistrate, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, could call upon the printers or publishers of all vernacular papers to enter into a bond not to print or publish in their papers anything likely to excite feelings of dissatisfaction to the Government, or antipathy between different races, castes, and religious sects, and to require the amount of the bond to be deposited in money or securities. If any such newspapers published any matter to which the Government objected on any of the above grounds, the Government could, after a warning, seize the plant, &c., of the offending newspaper and declare the deposit forfeited. The newspapers could obtain exemption from making such deposits by undertaking to submit the proofs to the Press Commissioner before publication, and not to publish anything objected to by such officer. The Local Government was also empowered to seize books, pamphlets, and other printed matter which they considered objectionable, as also the presses at which they were printed.

About the time that this Act was passed, the Bengali newspapers were the most uncompromising critics of the Government policy of the day. So one of the first results of the passing of the Act was, that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal called upon all vernacular newspapers in the Province to give bail-bonds for future good conduct. This at once showed that when arbitrary powers are given to the executive in India, how even those in the responsible position of Governors, if they happen to have a personal dislike to public criticism, are anxious to put it into operation, quite regardless of its future consequences.

The consequence of gagging the vernacular Press, or the native organs of public opinion, cannot better be expressed than in the words Mr. Gladstone, while it does not remove the sting, whatever may be one's politics, nobody would perhaps be prepared to deny that Mr. Gladstone was an acute and far-sighted statesman. It has been universally admitted since that the real danger of gagging the Press lies there.

The highly objectionable nature of the Act, the indecent haste in which it was passed, and the indiscreet use that it was put to by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal created a strong feeling against it in this country and in political circles in Eng-

land. Although the Act had been passed with the permission of the Secretary of State for India, yet when it was sent to him for sanction, he withheld his sanction to the censorship clause and directed the Government of India to repeal it. After this the remaining portion of the Act remained practically a dead letter, and was totally repealed under the next British Ministry. The grounds for the repeal were himself: “Now, sir, in the Government of India I have the satisfaction of thinking that the only ground on which we can make the difficult task of governing India hopeful or possible, is that we shall endeavour to govern India for the good of those in India, and that, however, we may associate the retention of our Indian Empire with British interest, so to wrap our mind is to divert it from that which we feel to be first and highest duty—namely, the direction of all our proceedings in that country by the best lights we possess, and with all the assistance we can get towards the promotion of the welfare of the people. It is no exaggeration to say that not only have we taken up that ground, but the people of India know and believe that we have taken up the ground. They have, or think they have, plenty of causes of complaint. I am sorry to say I regard this Press Act as one of the most salient among them, but I observe, most of all from reading through extracts sent home in order to make a case for this Act, all these complaints in India appear to me to be particular complaints. They complain of the errors of Government just as we complain of them in this country. When an Act is passed which we think bad, we complain, but we do not, because we complain, renounce our allegiance to the Throne. So, if I rightly understand the feeling of the Indians, they complain of particular Acts, of the operation of particular laws, yet there is nowhere a disposition to deny that British rule is beneficial to India; and I confess to my astonishment, to my gratified astonishment, I found an extract in which the writer contends that the hopes of India as she exists at present, lie in the continuance and not in the destruction of British rule. Well, where you have made a progress so real and so considerable at that, when you stand necessarily on a footing of inequality and are not yet in a condition to apply to the whole of India the very first principles of Civil Government without considerable restraint, I think if one thing is more obvious than another, it is that, whatever we do give, we should not retract, and that when we have communicated to India the benefit which is perhaps the greatest of all those that we enjoy under our own institutions—the publicity of the proceedings in which the nation is interested, and the allowance of sufficient time to consider them at their several stages, to afford securities against wrong and error, it is deplorable in a case like that in India that the utmost haste and closest secrecy should have been observed, not in amending or altering, but in completely changing, as far as the native Press was concerned, a cardinal part of the legislation of the country.”

With these words was the Vernacular Press Act repealed.

At the end of another twenty years there was a fresh outbreak of frontier war, famine, earthquake and plague and once again there was loud lamentation in the country and a consequent clamour in the vernacular press. Individual eccentricities were not confined to the columns of the newspaper-press but were loose in some localities in the commission of an isolated and out-of-the-way crime. In times of distress and trouble the Government like individuals are apt to see or believe in distorted visions. The same old apprehension of some undefined danger, flowing from indiscriminate and irresponsible scribbling in the newspaper press, again took possession of the government and led to the passing of the Sedition Laws of the last year, which in other words meant return to the press policy of the past. Although it has remained ever since a dead letter yet it remains yet to be recorded as a matter of past history.

## Original.

## DEATH FROM SNAKE-BITE.

## A CASE OF RESUSCITATION.

THE account given by an Englishman of a man killed by snake-bite and miraculously saved by a Hindu saint, reproduced in these columns some months ago from an English paper, must appear a myth to most men. But here, in India, the belief is universal that a man, dying of snake-bite, has his soul chained to his body for some time after his apparent death,—and it is for this that the corpse of such a man is not cremated but thrown into water. The reason for this is, that it leaves a chance to the seemingly dead man to get back to life again,—a chance which is lost if the body is irretrievably destroyed by fire.

The story of Behula, who took, on a raft, the dead body of her husband, who had died of snake-bite on the night of their marriage, has been rendered into verse and sung all over Bengal, including the Santhal Parganahs. Innumerable stories are also told of men being restored to life after having apparently died from snake-bite, by saints and hypnotists. One such death occurred when the Avatar of Nadia, the Lord Gauranga, flourished, about four hundred years ago. A mention of it is to be found in the book called *Sri Amiya Nimali Charit*, or the career of the Avatar of Nadia.

Saranga was a great saint, an old man and an ascetic. He lived in Jahannagore, a part of the great city of Nadia, on the Ganges. He had come to know that Sri Gauranga was an Incarnation of God Almighty and therefore made over his soul to the Lord. The Lord lived in Mayapur, another part of the city. The Lord, then a youth of 24, one day went to Saranga and accosted him thus: “Dear servant of God, you must take a disciple; for you must leave one behind to continue your good work of salvation.” Saranga demurred. He said he was an ascetic. He had cut off all domestic ties, and in his old age did not venture to take a disciple, and form an attachment and thereby divert his attention from the lotus feet of God to an earthly being. The Lord said, “I would take no denial, Saranga. A disciple means a spiritual son, and such a connection would not divert your attention from, but help you in, your devotions.” Saranga again demurred and the Avatar again insisted, though this time in an imploring tone. The Lord said, “Will you not oblige me?” Saranga thus had no help but to obey.

He said “My Lord, my duty is to obey Thee. But I don't know how to select a disciple. I therefore promise that I take him for a disciple whom I see first, to-morrow morning,—whether that disciple be worthy of me or not, that is your look out.” Sri Gauranga smiled and said, “Be it so.” The Lord and Saranga then parted. Of course, Saranga had no liking for the arrangement, and it was to show this that he had imposed the above curious condition. The Lord, however, accepted it without hesitation.

Early next morning Saranga, as usual, went to bathe in the Ganges and do his *pooja*

there on the bank. He had forgotten every thing about the promise that he had made to his Lord; indeed he had taken his compact with the Lord scarcely in a serious light. He bathed and with wet clothes on, sat cross-legged in ankle-deep water and began his meditations with his eyes shut.

But what was the Lord doing at that time? He was then in his house at Mayapore several miles distant from Jahannagore. After he had performed his ablutions at the close of his nightly *Kirtan* at Sreebas's house, he told his followers the story of his compact with Saranga, and then suggested that they should accompany him to see what sort of disciple Saranga had been able to secure. And the Lord accompanied by his followers reached Jahannagore where, as we said before, Saranga lived. They saw there a vast crowd, manifesting joy by the frequent utterance of Haribole.

We shall explain how this happened. While Saranga sat absorbed in his devotions as stated above, something which had come floating stuck to him. This disturbed his reverie and he dreamily opened his eyes.

What he saw, however, startled him. He found that a dead body had been carried by the current into his lap! Saranga saw the corpse, and, how he did not know, the promise that he had made to the Lord came to his mind with lightning speed. Was not his promise to the effect that he would take him for a disciple whom he would first see that day? Now, the face of the dead body was the first that he had seen in the morning. It was true, the man was dead, but what did he care? That was the concern of the Lord. Besides he had no desire at all to take in a disciple. Here was thus an opportunity of obeying the Lord, and pleasing himself. So what he did was to bend his head and to breathe the words of initiation into the ears of the corpse, which had now well nigh settled itself upon his lap.

The result was immediate and wonderful, for the body began to show signs of life! Saranga would have pushed the body away after his work of initiation had been done, but he felt that he could no longer do it. The signs of life in the corpse manifested themselves in so clear a manner that the saint felt that it was not a corpse that lay on his lap, but a live man.

The custom among Hindus living close to the Ganges is to bathe in that river every day early in the morning. A crowd had, therefore, gathered there for bathing purposes. They had seen the approach of the dead body and the action of Saranga, and they now saw the miracle that was performed. All flocked round Saranga and his new disciple and began to shout Haribole, repeatedly, to express their joy.

The man thus resuscitated, being yet weak, had to be carried to Saranga's place. This was done by some of Saranga's followers, a large crowd following.

Just then the Lord Gauranga appeared and the crowd gave way to him and his followers. They all reached Saranga's hut.

The Lord sat with his followers around him. The Lord broke the silence. He first addressed Saranga and said, “So, in spite of your disinclination you have got your disciple.” And then turning to his followers, he said, “Let us see what sort of disciple dead Saranga has been able to secure. Come here, my dear stranger, and tell us who you are.”

Thus addressed the new-comer, the resuscitated man, who had then not only regained perfect consciousness but sufficient strength to be able to move and talk, approached the Lord and stood before him with folded hands.

He was only a lad of eleven, beautiful in person. Venerable Saranga was so powerfully moved at the sight of his beautiful son and by other circumstances that he had not the courage to look at the boy; he sat with his head concealed between his knees. Others saw the scene with wonder, their hearts overflowing. There was not a whisper; every one listened with rapt attention and a good many wept. It was only the lad who seemed to be in his proper senses and he thus detailed his narrative:—

“I am the son of a Brahmin and bear the name of Mooraree. My birth-place is called *Shar*, a village in the district of Burdwan. My father and mother are living there. They wanted to invest me with the sacred thread, and the ceremony was gone through yesterday. It is for this my head was shaved and I have put on a silk *dhooti*. I was bitten by a snake and I felt I was dying. It seems I died and they threw my body into the river which passes by our village and flows into the Ganges. It seems my body was thus carried here by the current. The rest you all know better than myself.”

In short, the lad had been bitten by a snake the day before, and having died his body was thrown into the river which flowed past the village of *Shar*. The current carried him to the Ganges and as Saranga was sitting cross-legged in knee-deep water, the corpse settled itself in his lap.

The Lord said, addressing the boy, “Through the Grace of God you have been restored to life, you should immediately go to your father and mother who are now bewailing your fate.” The lad remained silent for a moment, while tears began to trickle down his cheeks. After an effort he said: “I have now no other father and mother than this saint who has restored me to life. That life is his and I dedicate it to his service. Forgive me, Lord, for I cannot forsake my *Guru* (master) even for my father and mother.”

Saranga could bear it no longer. He burst into tears and fell at the feet of the Lord. “My Lord,” said he, “as I told you a disciple would only give an impetus to the soft sentiments of my soul which I was trying to suppress.”

The Lord wept with Saranga and said, “These soft sentiments need be developed and not crushed. It is through them that we should learn to love God. There is nothing carnal or selfish in the love that this boy will awaken in your soul.”

To continue the story: The father and mother of the boy were brought to Jahannagore. The intelligence spread far and wide, and thousands upon thousands of men came to see the beautiful boy, so miraculously restored to life.

The father and mother of Muraree were initiated by Saranga and Muraree forsook society and stuck to his *Guru*. After the death of the latter, Muraree succeeded him and got possession of the *Math* (temple) which Saranga presided over. It was called Saranga's *Math*, but subsequently it came to be called Saranga-Muraree *Math*. The *Math* exists

to-day in Jahannagore in charge of the Brahmin family of *Shar*, descended from the brother of Muraree, for he himself was an ascetic and therefore never married. These descendants of Muraree are called Gossains and they will tell you the above story to show how their family came to be Gossains, or spiritual guides of mankind.

## NOTES BY THE MAIL.

## A TERRIBLE CYCLONE.

A DESPATCH from St. Louis states that a destructive cyclone separate to have swept over Kirksville (Missouri) yesterday evening (April 25.) Thirty bodies, it is said, have been recovered from the ruins, and the number of dead is estimated at forty.

A later telegram from St. Louis states that the storm broke over Kirksville about half past six with tremendous fury, sweeping a path a quarter of a mile broad through the eastern portion of the town, 400 buildings being demolished. Heavy rain followed, accompanied by intense darkness, and the utmost confusion prevailed.

Rescue parties were at once organised, but in the awful darkness it was almost impossible for them to carry on their work.

Fire broke out in a dozen places, and the light of the flames proved of great assistance to the rescuers, who were now better able to extricate the dead and injured from the huge masses of debris piled up on both sides of the path cut by the storm. No attempt was made to extinguish the flames, and it is probable that a number of bodies were incinerated.

By eight o'clock 25 bodies had been taken from the ruins.

It is expected that the death list will reach sixty and the number of injured almost a hundred, though it will be impossible to give a correct estimate of the loss of life and property until daylight.

The storm struck the eastern portion of the city and passed away in a north-westerly direction. It was followed by a second cyclone twenty minutes later, which also passed over the town, but did little damage.

Another telegram from Kansas City says the number of persons killed at Newtown is now estimated at 15.

According to another despatch from Kansas City 37 persons were killed yesterday by a tornado which passed over Newtown 40 miles north-west of Kirksville.

Reports have been brought into Kirksville of numerous fatalities and severe damage to property, which have been caused by the cyclone in the surrounding country.

According to the latest advices from Kirksville 49 bodies have now been recovered and identified.

The Mayor of Kirksville, who has been actively engaged in the work of rescue, believes that at least one hundred persons have perished.

PLAGUE CANARD IN PARIS. The *Freemason* this morning gave publicity to a rumour that Indian plague had entered Paris through the medium of Oriental carpets, and that there were three cases at a large drapery establishment on the south side of the Seine. The report caused no excitement here, not even anxiety, as it was not credited. Mr. Blanc, the Prefect of Police, made a personal investigation at all the establishments which could be referred to, and found that there was no truth in the report. I have taken the opinion of several medical authorities, notably Dr. Brouardel, who believes that it would be extremely difficult for plague to enter Paris, a city which constitutes a very powerful sanitary barrier. Even if a case did arise in Paris, there would be no justification for a panic, as the patient could certainly be isolated.

## RUSSIAN CODE OF HONOUR.

One of the chief military papers of St. Petersburg gives an instructive picture of the “code of honour” forced upon Russian officers. The case narrated may be apocryphal, but it is declared to be typical. After a heavy night at mess, a young lieutenant is summoned next morning to the presence of his colonel, who remarks in a severe tone: “Do you remember, Lieutenant A., what took place last night after dinner?” “I can't say I do,” replies the culprit. “Well,” explains the colonel, “you were struck in the face by Lieutenant B. Because you would not let him take down a pistol hanging on the wall.” “Excuse us, colonel, we both had taken more than was good for us, but we are the best of friends, and if anything of the kind happened, we were neither of us conscious of it.” “I know nothing about consciousness, but I know the fact. Two officers of another regiment were present, and I must insist on your clearing your honour of this stain: Good morning.” The wretched man goes off to wake up B., who, on being told of last night's incident, exclaims: “I was a brute. Forgive me!” He then learns that it is not a question of forgiveness, now that the colonel has heard of it. They go out, and exchange shots up. One or other is killed or wounded.

DISAPPOINTMENT is felt at Simla at the smallness of the Frontier Honour's list announced from Home.

MR. G. D. ADVOCATE, Counsel for the Netherlands at Calcutta, has been appointed Consul-General for the Netherlands in British India.

IT is practically settled that Mr. J. A. Crawford, Acting Resident of Mysore, will relieve Sir Trevor Plowden, a the Hyderabad Residency, on the latter's retirement.

COLONEL D. SINCLAIR, Chief of the Civil Medical Department, Burma, has been appointed Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, in succession to Surgeon-General C. Sibthorp, retired.

THE Simla Horse and Dog Show, which follows the race week, will be held as usual this season, on some date early in June. Viceregal Lodge, with its fine stud of horses, this season ought to figure well in the prize list.

THE subject of Mr. Justice Ranade's early retirement is again engaging attention. It is expected that Mr. Ranade, on retiring, will divert most of his energies to the working out of Mr. Tata's scheme, which by the way has been promised support everywhere.

CONSTANT friendly letters continue to pass between the Ameer and Lord Curzon, and it is said relations with Afghanistan were never more cordial than at present.

THE authorities regard the signallers strike as ended. The Company have despatched the military signallers, loaned by Government, to their various stations, except fourteen, stationed at Wadi and Raichore. Further correspondence has taken place between Mr. Wenden, Acting Agent, and the men's solicitor. The latter asks, replying to Mr. Wenden's refusal of a conference or arbitration, for an interview, regarding settling up, and the Company's desire to negotiate with the men individually. Mr. Wenden has not replied. The Ahmednagar merchants have wired, offering the men practical help.

