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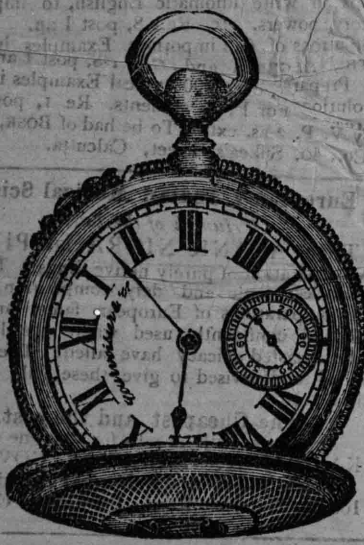
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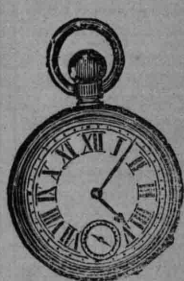
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FURTHER ADVANTAGE. Purchasers of 3 watches will get packing, postage free. Ditto 6 watches will get one watch free. Ditto 12 watches will get one silver watch free.

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## NIAGARA'S MAGIC POWER.

HARNESSING THE CURRENT.

THERE is building up at Niagara Falls a great manufacturing centre which is predicted by those interested, will in a few years place Niagara Falls among the first industrial centres of the country. Niagara Falls has been developing with mighty strides since the harnessing of the power, as they are pleased to describe it, of the wonderful cataract. Industry after industry has settled there. The population has increased, a new village has been built, and others are contemplated, new factories are constantly building, and hardly a day passes, but there are visitors with money to invest who are looking for sites for other factories and mills.

The harnessing of Niagara and the uses to which its energy has been put have been told about many times in electrical journals, but since the opening of the big power house there several years ago little except of the most general nature has been printed about it in the daily newspapers, and beyond the mere fact that Niagara water is being made useful as well as ornamental, the average man knows little about it. A description of the making of the power itself, therefore, will not be out of place here. The water, that is used by the Niagara Power Company, the biggest of the Power Companies of Niagara Falls, is taken from the Niagara River a mile above the falls. A canal and tunnel were cut. The canal was cut from the river above the falls to the power house and the tunnel from the power house to a place under the Suspension Bridge below the falls. The canal carries the water to the power house, and the tunnel carries it off after it has been used, and restores it to the river itself.

The power house is built close to the river bank. The canal running to the house has constantly a depth of water of about twelve feet. There is a cribbing along the wall next to the power house, that keeps out sticks and floating objects that might get into the machinery. Inside of this crib are two gates. Each gate protects the mouth of a high penstock. The penstocks are iron tubes 7½ feet in diameter and about 160 feet deep. The penstocks go down a long and narrow pit over which the power house is built. In the power house are two electric generators each weighing with the shafts on which they rest 160,000 pounds, or eighty tons. The generators are round, and with the shaft sticking up above them like pegs, they look like immense inverted tops. The shafts are solid steel for part of their length and hollow the rest of the way. This is to decrease the weight. A solid shaft all the way would weigh twice as much. The shafts extend down into the pit beside the penstocks. At the bottom of each shaft is a big turbine wheel. There the penstocks open on the turbine wheel. The gate at the top of the penstock being opened a solid stream of water seven and a-half feet in diameter falls 160 feet and runs through the wheel. The force spins the wheel around. The wheel, being fast to the shaft, carries that around and the generators, being fast to the shaft, spin with the wheel. The generators are 11 feet 7 inches in diameter, and they spin around at the rate of 250 revolutions a minute. That is, a spot on the rim of a generator travels a mile and three-quarters a minute.

The speed of the wheel is regulated automatically. If it were not for that it would reach in a few minutes such a speed that the whole machine would tear itself to pieces. Only 40 per cent. added to the present speed of the two generators would be sufficient to bring about this result, and the power house and everything in the neighbourhood would be torn to pieces very likely. The means taken to avoid that 40 per cent. additional speed, however, are such that this never has happened, and never can happen. It is mentioned merely to show the tremendous speed at which the generators are driven.

The volume of water going down the penstock and running through the wheel of each generator represents 5,150 horse-power. Each generator really makes 5,000 horse-power of electric energy. There is an apparent loss of 150 horse-power there, or only about 83 per cent. but in the first instance the 5,150 horse-power is stationary, and cannot be transmitted. In the transformation it becomes living power that can be sent anywhere. There are a thousand and one details about the making of the power that would interest mechanical minds, but this much will suffice to show the lay reader how the energy of the river is changed into energy that can be carried around, and peddled out in large and small quantities at the places where it can be utilised.

Delivering electricity is like delivering water or steam through a pipe. The faster you can force the water through the pipe the smaller the pipe you need to carry a given quantity, and the smaller the pipe of course, the smaller the cost. You use a wire instead of a pipe in carrying electricity and the faster you force it through the wire the smaller the wire you need to carry a given quantity. The chief item of expense in

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carrying electricity is the cost of copper wire, that wire and aluminium, which is still more expensive, being the only satisfactory conductors. The electricity at Niagara is generated at a pressure of 2,250 volts. The quantity or volume, which is described as the ampere, is 1,058 to a generator. To carry 1658 amperes at a 2,250 volt pressure would require so much copper wire that it would be commercially impossible to transmit it. So the current is run into transformers, where the pressure is increased from 2,250 volts, to 11,000 volts and thus it is delivered to Buffalo. While the increase in the pressure is necessary for the economical carrying of the electricity the high pressure is not safe or practicable for the uses to which the energy is to be put, and it is necessary to reduce it. The electricity is again run in to transformers at Buffalo and the voltage is reduced to whatever figure is desired. Some places use 350 volts, some 500, some 1,000, and so on. It can be turned into almost any volt pressure desired, or it can be changed from an alternating to a direct current, as is done in several places. This is the whole Niagara process, from start to finish. The amount of power already obtained by this process and the increased amount that it is possible to obtain explains the change that is going on at Niagara Falls. The average cost of horse-power the world over has been estimated at \$20 a year. At Niagara it is much less, scarcely more than one-half of that, in fact. Before the turning of water power into electric power at Niagara was an accomplished fact, that place threatened to continue what it was, and had always been, a show place, pure and simple, beautiful to look at, but useless in production and valueless in the commercial sense, except to a few hotel-keepers and local tradesmen. The country around was given up to farming, and the farmers got just a living off the land.

That is all changed. Investors have bought up all the farms and are selling them piecemeal for factory sites. Of the great industries that have come there the first to be told of is the International Paper Company. The company has one of its biggest plants there right alongside the electric power house. In a short time the whole institution will be operated by electric power. Hundreds of cords of spruce logs are ground up into pulp every day, and from that the product goes from tank to tank and from machine to machine until it runs out in great rolls a completed sheet of white paper, with never a touch of human hand from the time the spruce log is put in the crusher until the white paper, dried and ready for market, winds itself in a big roll, not to be unwound until it reaches a newspaper office. This mill turns out 125 tons of finished paper a day, and it grinds over a hundred tons of wood into pulp. There are thirteen buildings in the plant.

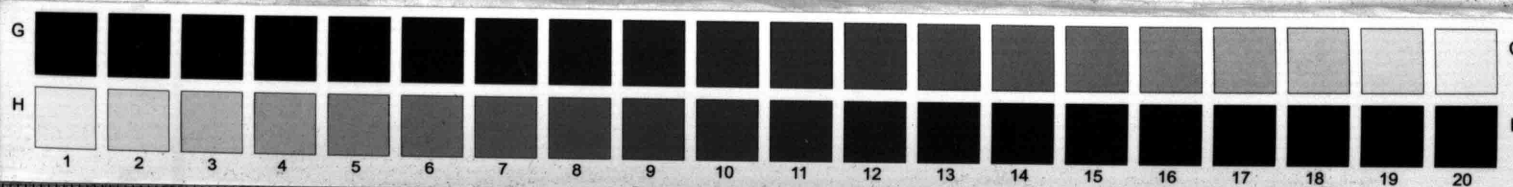
Paper making at the Falls was followed by aluminium making, and in the use of the electric power the aluminium plant has led the paper mill by years. The Pittsburgh Reduction Company plant is as big as the paper mill, and since the discovery of the electrolytic process of making aluminium this concern has used the electric heat. Next to the making of aluminium comes the making of carborundum. The Carborundum Company has one big plant there, and has a great deal larger factory in the process of building. The new building will cover almost a city block, and there will be employment for several hundred men. Of all known carbons, carborundum is the hardest next to the carbon in a diamond. It is made by mixing powdered carbon and silica and then subjecting them to a tremendous degree of electric heat that obtained in an incandescent furnace made of a mixture of powdered coke, pure sand, salt and sawdust in a box made of firebricks, at either end of which is a carbon rod. The electricity turned into this produces an intense heat which brings about the chemical changes and produces the crystals of carborundum. It takes a thousand horsepower of electricity to produce the heat that is necessary, and this is continued in varying degree for thirty-six solid hours. When the crystals are made they are crushed and put in huge tanks with sulphuric acid which is heated up to the boiling point. This removes the impurities from the crystals. It takes several days to do that work. Next the sulphuric acid is washed out, and the product is dried and graded, and finally pressed into wheels that are harder than emery, harder than any known substance, save diamonds. There are a hundred grades of the wheels made. The whole process is dry to tell about at length, but it is of very great interest to watch, and there is so much detail in it that the watcher marvels at the patience that it has taken to work it out. While the heat required is intense, it must not be above a certain degree. If it gets above that degree the material used decomposes and is spoiled. It is as exact a business as the puddling and rolling of iron or steel plates.

Another industry has grown up near the carborundum works. It is known as the Mathieson alkali works. It is the property of a young man only a few years out of college. He has a process of making caustic soda and blacking powder out of common salt, and he's doing a business of \$1,000 a day with scarcely any labour. The electric current and electric heat do the whole thing and labour is the minimum item in the cost of the product.

His business is growing, and the day the reporter visited the power house there was an investor on hand who wanted to buy a site, erect a factory, and start a rival business.

Two other industries that have developed through the electric power are the making of sodium by the Niagara Electro-Chemical Company, and the making of chemical compounds by the Oldbury Electro-Chemical Company. Each of the concerns has erected a large plant, and each employs many labourers.

The making of carbide of calcium is still another industry at Niagara. Carbide of calcium is a mixture of lime and coal dust heated in an electric furnace. Stack it and it disintegrates and becomes acetylene gas. Lime and coal are plentiful. It takes the electric heat to do the work, and that is the chief item of cost in the making of the product. The development of acetylene for commercial uses is in its infancy. It has been denounced as dangerous and everything bad, and in spite of all this the demand for it has been so great that it always exceeds the supply, and the carbide company at Niagara is no way behind in its work. Another carbide factory is talked of there. There are half-a-dozen other industries besides these, and a hundred others that are applying for terms and for factory sites, so that it will be seen that the future of the Falls as a manufacturing centre seems assured.





# THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JUNE 18, 1899.

## THE PRESS IN BENGAL.

WE deplored, the other day, the dereliction of duty on the part of the Anglo-Indian papers to their country of adoption, to the Empire in which they live, and to the race they belong to. Their clear duty is to see that India is benefited under British rule, and England is strengthened and glorified by its contact with its dependency. But they, as a rule, avoid questions in which the people of this country are interested; in short, they write only for Englishmen, forgetting that they live in the midst of a people who are entirely at the disposal of their own country, and who deserve their protection and help. The tone of these Anglo-Indian papers is now much better than it was before, but still they shew themselves utterly indifferent to questions in which their own people are not intimately and directly concerned.

The responsibilities of the native Indian journals, however, are still more onerous. They are the only interpreters, who keep the rulers and the ruled in touch. When, after the Mutiny, Mr. Wilson came to adjust the finances of this country, he was so anxious to know what the people thought and felt that he used to send his sower to the *Shomeprokash* office for that vernacular weekly paper. The Indian papers have another important function, namely, to educate the people. The people are divided into the higher and the lower classes, and the latter form the vast bulk of the population. What the higher classes have learnt about the affairs of the world is mainly through the newspapers. The lower classes have to be educated—they are sunk in ignorance and Cimmerian darkness.

When the higher and the lower classes have been trained so as to be able to realize their position in the British Empire, it will then be possible for the Indians to demand political privileges which are now denied to them. These privileges are denied to them, because there is division in their own camp, and because the higher classes, in many matters, are not supported by the lower. Let the Mussalmans know that their interest lies in acting in concert with the Hindus, and let the masses know that they are not slaves, but have their rights, and then it will be impossible for the Government, however unwilling, to ignore their just prayers. So, if the Indian papers of all classes have a very responsible work before them, the party papers and the vernacular papers have a responsibility which is still more serious.

But, unfortunately, the party papers sometimes create dreadful mischief by sowing dissension. A Mussalmán paper, conducted in Bengal, should feel an amount of awful responsibility which it is simply incalculable. But the Mussalmán paper, instead of giving sound advice, began to inflame the minds of its constituents against the Hindus. The result proved disastrous. Behar is a backward province, and an English paper, conducted by a Beharee, was hailed with delight by all lovers of their country. But that paper, instead of advocating union, charity and forbearance, waged a crusade against the Bengalis. Similarly the vernacular papers have a great work, and we hope, a great future before them. But, in Bengal, the prospect before them is not at all encouraging. Says the *Hindu*:

We are sorry to read that the conduct of the Vernacular Press in Bengal has given room for complaint. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, than whom there is no more sincere friend of the Bengali press, condemns the present tone and standard thereof in no equivocal terms. These papers, we read, "abuse their victim from the sole of his foot to the top of his head. They abuse the father, the mother, the sister, and the wife of one whom they choose to attack." That is sickening enough. And the *Indian Empire* rightly says: "It is a pity that our countrymen could stand such rampant journalism! It is a slur on their intelligence and sense of propriety, to help such irresponsible journals in their mad career." The *Patrika* itself remarks that Vernacular journalism of the present day in Bengal, with a few exceptions, "is a disgrace to the nation." Surely, the educated public in Bengal cannot any longer be indifferent to this evil, which to an out-sider appears simply to reflect on the condition of the society that is supposed to provide food for it.

We cannot complain, if the condition of Bengali society is judged by the contents of the vernacular organs. To judge the nation by that light, the Bengalis would be proved to be a nation of low curs, without a drop of higher sentiments in them. It may be asked, why do the Bengalis, who pose as the most enlightened race in India, permit such things? The reply is, when an evil has already taken root, it is difficult to eradicate it. We asked some of them, how they could thus disgrace the sacred functions of journalism? And their reply was that, they must make their writings racy to be acceptable, that the tastes of the reading public have been vitiated and respectable writing would no longer command acceptance! They have their weekly caricatures, every one of them; and we were assured by one of them, that as his contemporaries gave them, he had to do it to keep company. But these caricatures do not hurt the victims so much as they hurt their authors! Fancy they give the representation of a well-known man, adorned with a tail, and then present him to their readers! And this they call good joke and fun! They have no imagination to make their cartoons amusing, nor money to make them look respectable. Yet they must have their weekly cartoons.

Of course, they are all rivals, trying to demolish one another. It is open to a newspaper to demolish a rival by writing better articles or giving more correct or earlier news. But that is not the way adopted by most of these papers. They must bring down their opponents by unadulterated abuse. Time there was when the superabundant energies of vernacular newspapers could have been applied to the purpose of abusing the Government. But the Press Act has stopped that. And they must now, to live, abuse one another. Not that they hunt in packs. They hunt separately, each for himself. A is against B, C and D. And B is against A, C and D. And so on. They do not combine to pull down a common foe. A says of B that he is such a brute that he mimics his father. And B says of A that he squints. And this is wit and humour.

To put a stop to this evil, society must rise to a man. The leaders or the higher classes do not, as a rule, read vernacular papers, and they, therefore, do not much care what they say. But this is self-mess. These vernacular papers are educating the lower classes of people, that is to say, demoralizing them and vitiating their tastes. This mischief in itself is incalculable. But, as we said, if properly conducted, these vernacular papers can save the nation.

## RIOTS AND BRITISH OFFICIALS.

ONE reason urged against the employment of Indians to posts of responsibility is, that they cannot be relied on in times of emergency. We freely admit that an Englishman is the man to stand against odds; he will remain firm even when there is no hope; he will never know even when he is beaten. Such conditions, however, happen very rarely. In India, which has now been thoroughly pacified, the English official is, however, not the man to nip a rising disturbance in the bud. He is too exclusive to mix with the natives, and, therefore, he does not know what occurs before his very door.

The Sivakasi riots, which have caused so much havoc, did not come to the notice of the Government until hundreds have been wounded and killed, and hundreds of villages looted. If Tinnevely had been in charge of an Indian, he would have known all about the movement from the very beginning. He would have known the under-current that was pervading the Tinnevely society, and never permitted this disturbance to assume such gigantic proportions.

The Government has provided against every possible danger to the State, but the masses yet remain as combustible a material now as they were before the British rule. The respectable classes of society, nay, even Government officials, have to live in India on the crater of a volcano. Any day a local eruption may take place and threaten to sweep them off. The only way to stop such upheavals is, for the officials to keep themselves thoroughly in touch with the people or to take the help of the people in the work of administration.

Many telegrams about these riots have already been published in these columns, and others will be found elsewhere. The following telegram was published in the *Madras Standard* when the first news of the disturbance was received:—

The Nadar villages in Madura and Tinnevely Districts are being looted. The Maravars take the leading part. A talk is made public among ignorant people that the Government is indifferent to the persecution of Nadars. Gangs composed of thousands of people are looting, burning villages and outraging women. About fifty Nadar villages have shared this fate. About fifty men have been killed and about ten thousand men surrounded Sivakasi, looted and burnt it, and killed many. Several villages are looted daily. Want of precaution by local authorities has aggravated the evil. Great excitement and feeling of insecurity prevails everywhere. Nothing but prompt action by Government and a proclamation that Government would deal very severely with the peace-breakers could stop this state of affairs.

The following appeared in the *Hindu*:—

VRUDUPATI, June 10.  
The Nadar villages in the Madura and Tinnevely Districts are being looted by other caste Hindus except Brahmins. The Maravars take the leading part. A talk is made public among ignorant people that the Government is indifferent to the persecution of the Nadars. Gangs composed of thousands of people are looting and burning villages and outraging women. About fifty Nadar villages have shared this fate. About fifty men have been killed. About ten thousand men, who surrounded Sivakasi, looted and burnt it, and killed many people. Several villages are being looted daily. Want of precaution by local authorities has aggravated the evil. Great excitement and feeling of insecurity prevails everywhere. Nothing but prompt action by Government and proclamation that Government would deal very severely with the peace-breakers could stop this state of affairs.

When the riots are over, we all know, the district authorities will shew very great vigour. We shall then see batch after batch of prisoners sent to jail. We shall then hear of "ruling with a strong hand," advocated on all sides. We shall then see long reports with thrilling descriptions of capturing the rioters, and the pluck of the local authorities. And will not the police, the Magistrates, and the Judges be lauded to the skies if they were to succeed in filling the jails with prisoners? But where are they now? Where were they in the beginning? And where were they before the riot? When hundreds of men had been wounded and killed, when hundreds of villages had been looted and women outraged, the authorities awoke from their slumber to see the scene of desolation! What occurred at Madura and Tinnevely may occur at any place in India at any time, nay, they may occur again in the same place where they have occurred once.

Precisely the same scene was presented at Azamgarh, Ballia and other districts during the cow-riots. It is not known how many men were killed and how many villages were looted in those districts in the N.-W. P. But this is certain that for several days the two districts named above were in the hands of rioters.

In Bengal proper, the Pubna riot is an instance to shew how ignorant are British officials of their surroundings and how incompetent are they to cope with riots in India. In Pubna a mob of men assembled and roamed about as monarchs of all they surveyed. They appointed their King, Ministers, Generals and so forth. As in Tinnevely, so in Pubna, the insurgents gave out that they were acting under the orders of the Queen! This proclamation induced thousands to flock to their standard. The indifference of the local authorities gave color to that rumour. In Madras too, the aggressive Maravars gave out that they were acting under Government orders, and sure enough the Government was nowhere to give lie to that rumour.

Now, we repeat, when such things are possible in pacified districts, where is the safety of the subjects? If such is the insecurity of life and property, where is the security of administrative ability of the British officials who, we are told, are essential for the maintenance of peace in a district? We can guarantee that, no riot is possible in a district which is under an Indian official. And this, not because the Indian is abler than the European, but because, the native official is in touch with the people, because he knows that if he fails he will be held responsible.

The British officials, from the heads of Governments downwards, have become more easy-going and careless than their predecessors.

## THE RESIDENTIAL CLAUSE.

IN the Burdwan Division election, Babu Baikunta Nath Sen, we are told, has secured 11 out of 17 votes. If everything now goes on smoothly, he is thus sure to secure the Burdwan seat. We are, however, surprised to learn that one of his rivals, Babu Nalinakha, intends to move the Government to disqualify him on the residential clause. We hope, there is no foundation for this rumour,—first, because there is no doubt about it that Babu Baikunta Nath Sen is a resident of Burdwan and has a residential house in his native village; and secondly, no Indian, who has a drop of patriotism in him, should take advantage of this clause to unseat a candidate. When Sir Charles Elliott published the rules relating to the Councils Act, he specially noticed the "Residence" clause, with a view to disclaim being its author. His Honor saw that it was a provision, which, if enforced, would render the elections an absolute farce. Sir Charles Elliott was not willing to take upon himself the odium of being the author of that provision. When the rules were published, we at once saw that it was the trick of an official, who had, by that device, sought to throw obstacles in the way of the unfortunate people of this country. We said so and there was a great row when the trickery was found out. We made enquiries and were assured that Sir Charles would give a liberal interpretation to the provision. And when the Magistrate of Comilla sought the opinion of his Honor on this point, in reference to the election of Mouli Serajul Islam in 1893, the Lieutenant-Governor telegraphed to say that the Government would not place too restrictive an interpretation upon the words "ordinary resident." As a matter of fact, the Mouli was allowed to be elected without any hitch.

The point was, however, made very clear in the case of Mr. A. Chaudhuri. When he was elected by the Rajshaye Division, in 1893, Raja Shashishekhreshwar objected to his election on the ground that Mr. Chaudhuri did not ordinarily reside in the Division. A Commission was appointed and a sifting enquiry made; and the Government of India passed the following order:—

NO. 1162, DATED SIMLA, the 21st AUGUST, 1893.  
From—C. J. Lyall, Esq., C. S. I., C. I. E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 314 J. D., dated 13th July last, submitting for the orders of the Government of India, a letter from the Commissioner of Rajshaye (with enclosures) on the subject of a protest made by Rajah Seshi Shikhareshwar Roy of Tahipur, against the recommendation of the Municipalities of the Rajshaye Division for the nomination of Mr. Ashutosh Chowdhury to be a member of the Legislative Council of the Lieutenant-Governor. The first question referred for decision is whether Mr. Chowdhury can be held to be "ordinarily resident" in the Rajshaye Division, within the meaning of rule VI of the Regulations sanctioned for the Bengal Council under Section 1 (4) of the Indian Councils Act, 1892.

2. In reply I am to say that from a perusal of the papers submitted, the Governor-General in Council is clearly of opinion that Mr. Chowdhury's connection with the Rajshaye Division is not such as would qualify him as a representative of the Municipalities of that Division. He seems to have a house in the Division which he might use if he pleased, but to have almost completely abandoned its use, and in these circumstances he cannot be held to be "ordinarily resident" there, within any reasonable meaning of those words. The recommendation in his favour must, therefore, be disallowed.

3. As regards the course to be followed for filling the vacancy in the Council, I am to say that the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the Municipalities in the Rajshaye Division should be invited, under Rule VII of the Regulations, to make a fresh recommendation.

From the above it would be seen that Mr. A. Chaudhuri would not have been disqualified if he had not almost completely abandoned the use of the house he had in the Division. The Government was also not quite convinced, from the materials before it, that the house really belonged to him; for, it says "he (Mr. Chaudhuri) seems to have a house in the Division." So the situation is this. Any one having a residential house in the electoral Division, the use of which he has not entirely abandoned, does not come within the scope of the residential clause.

Applying the above interpretation of the rule to the case of Babu Baikunta Nath Sen, what we find is that not only has he a residential house at Alampur, his native village, but he visits it every year during the Pujah and other vacations and resides there with his family for weeks together. We ourselves have passed many days with him at his house at Alampur. The marriages of his two daughters also took place at his Alampur house, and he had to superintend the ceremonies. Then in a letter to Babu Baikunta Nath Sen, dated the 19th April, 1899, Babu Nalinakha himself admitted that Babu Baikunta Nath was an inhabitant of Burdwan and that he should "do honor to his birthplace" by attending the Provincial Conference that was held there recently.

In short, judging from the Government order published above, it is very clear that the Residential clause does not and cannot apply to the case of Babu Baikunta Nath. But granting that Babu Nalinakha has the legal right to enter an objection against Babu Baikunta Nath's election, we think that is not the way by which the national cause would be advanced. If Babu Nalinakha succeeds in his attempt, he will succeed also in reviving the clause which will prove a stumbling block to the cause of progress, to the election of the proper parties, and to the cause of the elective system itself.

The Calcutta Municipal Bill, which threatens to take away the little of self-government which this country possesses, owes its origin mainly to the allegation that, the capital of the Indian Empire has become over-crowded and been converted into a city of dirt and filth under the management of Bengali Commissioners. Of course, every one knows that the charge is not true; on the other hand, the fact is indisputable that Calcutta has improved a good deal since the introduction of the elective

system. But, granting for the sake of argument, that there is a good deal of truth in the charge, are the authors of the Bill really not aware how more crowded and dirtier are several parts of London, which is managed by the most enlightened people in the world? A pamphlet has just been published by the London *Daily News*, entitled "No Room to Live," which tells a dreadful tale regarding the condition of London.

In London only a limited number of human beings can exist on the same plot of ground and the huge city has become so overgrown that it is impossible any longer to find room to live within any reasonable distance from the centre. The great problem is for the workman to find sufficient and sanitary accommodation within reach of his work. The average wages of a London labourer are eighteen shillings a week; but, men who are willing to pay even a high rent cannot obtain a room to shelter them in some parts of London. Within a radius of two miles from the Elephant and Castle, we are told, there is not a vacant house to be had. A firm of house-agents in the New Kent Road have lists of people waiting for houses four hundred deep. So hard-pressed are the poor for want of room to live in, that they can only be got out of houses that have been condemned by evictions.

The special results of overcrowding in London are that out of a population of four and a-half millions, one-fifth are living in such a confined space as is actually forbidden by the law; one-tenth consist of families who have only one room between them in which the sexes promiscuously herd; some 200,000 live in block dwellings which are the destruction of all home life, and even numbers are housed in the work-house, because, though willing to pay, they cannot get ordinary accommodation outside.

Again in London the Public Health Act of 1891 requires that each adult should have 400 cubic feet of space, two children to count as one adult, and that after the age of twelve the sexes should live apart. These requirements allow two adults, or one adult and two children, together with the necessary amount of furniture, in a room ten feet square. Instead of this, frequently six, and sometimes as many as seventeen people, are found in a room of this size, and out of the population of London, 900,000 persons, are living in direct contravention of this law.

Some of the houses in London are described as hovels not homes, death-traps not dwellings, houses, brick boxes with slate lids.

We are next told that, in London people are frequently obliged to sleep under the bed as well as on it, and among some families in Spitalfields, the beds are rented on the eight-hour principle, having three different sets of sleepers every twenty-four hours. Even the measures which have been taken to relieve this condition of things have only helped to make it worse. The model blocks of workmen's dwellings, which it was thought, would lessen the congestion, only serve to crowd more people in to a smaller space, and are found in practical experience to be the most fruitful ground for epidemics. The late Sir Benjamin Richardson laid it down that no city could be really healthy that contained more than twenty-five persons to the acre. In Whitechapel one area has 3,000 people to the acre, or twelve hundred times the number allowed in Sir Benjamin Richardson's "City of Health," and this is chiefly due to the system of block dwellings.

The special part of London in which poverty and overcrowding are found in their most acute form is that great Inner Belt lying between the city and the suburbs, which is described in Mr. Arthur Morrison's "Tales of Mean Streets." Here live a great majority of those 400,000 persons who exist under what Mr. Sydney Webb calls "the soul-destroying conditions of the one-roomed home." These are conditions in which privacy and morality are equally at a discount. It is in this belt that the death-rate in a single house has been known to rise to 129 per thousand. At a coroner's inquest on the body of a woman who died in Lisson Grove, the coroner's officer stated that all he found in the room were a lot of old rags covered with vermin. "He had got smothered himself with the vermin. The room was in a shocking condition, and he had never seen anything like it. It was abominable, everything was absolutely covered with vermin. There was bread and butter on the table, but it was also covered with vermin."

Calcutta is, of course, not the cleanest city in the world; neither have sanitary reforms been carried to their highest perfection here. But we can say this, without fear of contradiction, that pictures of life in London, as described above, are not to be found in its filthiest and most congested parts. Because of this dirty and congested state of London, if any one in England had proposed a measure like the Calcutta Bill, taking away all powers from the elected Commissioners and entrusting them to a body of officials or their nominees and aliens who are mere birds of passage, he would have been put down for a mad man. But it is India, and who cares?

THE situation at Tinnevely is growing alarming. Here is the latest news regarding the riots:—

The riots in the Tinnevely districts are assuming rather alarming proportions, and are spread over almost 100 square miles of the country. The following particulars have just been telegraphed by a special correspondent:—Chinnapuram, ten miles from Virudupatti, was burned on Friday. A detachment of the 27th Madras Infantry was despatched and arrived in time to save the villagers from their peril. Nine persons were arrested on Sunday. News has been received that the party of nine sepoys left as guard at Chinnapuram had been attacked by two thousand Maravars. The sepoys fired a volley, killing six of the assailants. A night attack being apprehended, the sepoys appealed for reinforcements. Mr. Waller, the Assistant Collector, with half a company of sepoys under Lieutenant Firth, left Virudupatti for Chinnapuram. The Maravars, learning of the approach of more troops, dispersed after burning four Shanar villages in the neighbourhood under the very eyes of the approaching troops. On Monday the troops visited other villages, which had been threatened, and left some of their number to guard Vathurpatti. The rest returned to Chinnapuram, where Mr. Bedford, the Collector, met them with news of further risings at Sivakasi and other villages in the zemindaries. Mr. Firth and Mr. Bedford left with 20 sepoys for Tinkasi, 20 sepoys remaining at Chinnapuram, and the others at Tirudupatti.

where an attack was apprehended. More troops have just arrived. Riots, risings and disturbances have been reported everywhere. Captain Church, with 160 sepoys, has arrived for service in the Madura district. The towns on the frontier of the Madura and Tinnevely districts will be guarded by troops, the police being told off to villages. It is reported that it is the adhesion of Kullars which has resulted in so much looting. A later telegram says that another big village near Chinnapuram was burned last night (11th instant). The force at Aruppakotay has been strengthened as the burning of the Shanar villages in the neighbourhood is proceeding.

Four companies of the 27th Madras Infantry have proceeded to Virudupatti and two companies of the 4th Madras Pioneers to Madura from Trichinopoly in consequence of the riots.

The matter has, one can thus see, assumed serious dimensions. Yet only a week before, the authorities had almost no information as to the impending troubles. Even after the disturbance had commenced, the Madras Government attached no importance to it and remained satisfied with brief reports supplied to it by the District Magistrate of Tinnevely. The *Madras Mail* of the 9th instant complained that "Government is in possession of no detailed particulars of the riots beyond those contained in a brief telegram from the Collector, which goes to show that the riot is a caste riot between Maravars and Shanars in which the Maravars appear to be the aggressors." While ten thousands of people were fighting and hundreds were being killed, the Magistrate of Tinnevely could only furnish the Madras Government with the meagre information alluded to above. And this is the way they govern this country; and if native newspapers supply them with information regarding these sensational matters, they are put down for seditious!.

In the good old days, when there were not many Indian newspapers, the highest officials would carefully read all that appeared in them, and thus acquaint themselves with the current and under-current of Indian thoughts and sentiments. But the present generation of officials think that they are wiser than their fathers and can do without the Press. During the Tallah riots, the Indian Press did signal service to Government, and the then Lieutenant-Governor acknowledged it. We do not know if there are any newspapers published at Tinnevely; but if there are any, they are naturally afraid of dealing with these delicate matters under the present state of the law. Indian newspapers are, perhaps, the greatest check upon any organised combination of malcontents to do mischief. Government should therefore, encourage them as friends and not treat them as enemies. If the press were free and if there was a paper at Tinnevely, it would have been impossible for the present riot to assume its present gigantic proportions. For, it would have kept the public and the Government informed of the impending riot from the very beginning and the authorities might have nipped it in the bud.

EVERY Mussulman knows that the want of fodder for cattle seriously stands in the way of the agricultural prosperity of the country. In former times, there was sufficient pasture land for grazing purposes and cattle were in a healthy condition. But thanks to the destruction of all indigenous industries, all classes of people have now fallen back upon land, and thus they cannot afford to allow an inch of it to remain fallow. This process is not only exhausting the fertility of the soil but is indirectly affecting the cattle, which do not get sufficient food to keep themselves in health and are thus fast deteriorating. The growing of fodder is thus one of the greatest needs of the country. The guinea grass, which is brought all the way from America, can, in a measure, remove this difficulty. We ourselves tried it and the experiment proved successful. But it has one defect. It grows luxuriantly during the rainy season, when the want of fodder is the least felt. Here is the description of some Australian fodder plants, which may be utilized in this country:—

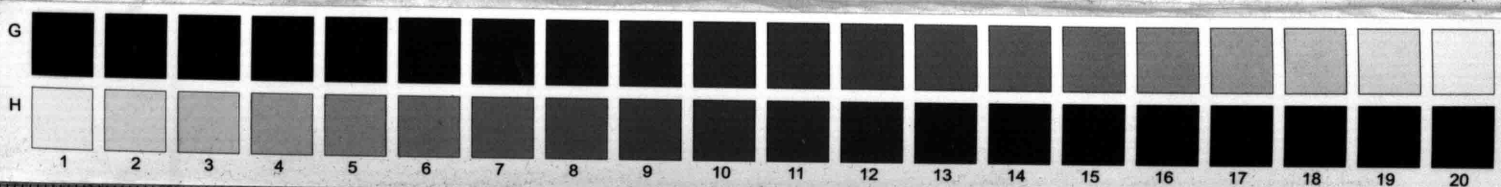
It has frequently formed a source of surprise to those visiting the Australian Colonies during seasons of drought to find considerable numbers of cattle, sheep and other live stock, in apparently healthy condition in districts where not even the tiniest blade of grass is visible. The explanation is that in some of the western pastoral districts of New South Wales, when there is no grass available, myriads of sheep and cattle manage to subsist for several months on the 'fodder plants' which, by a compensating law of nature, thrive luxuriantly in the "dry country." Among these the "Kurrage" and "Supplejack" occupy leading places.

Here is a good opportunity for Babu Hem Chunder Mitter of the Cossipur Nursery to serve the country by importing the plants and cultivating them here.

We thought that sedition-hunting had ceased, at least for the next five years to come, with the advent of Lord Curzon in this country. But we are startled to find the following telegram, dated Bombay, the 14th instant, in the columns of one of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries:—

The Public Prosecutor appeared before the Chief Presidency Magistrate (Bombay) this morning and filed an information against the Editor and Publisher of the *Gourakhi Marathi*, a daily paper published in Bombay. The nature of the information has not been made public, but the articles complained of appeared in the issues of that paper of the 26th, 30th and 31st March last, headed "The Rulers and the Ruled." A warrant has been issued for the arrest of the accused.

We have wired to our Bombay correspondent for further particulars, and till we get them, we are not in a position to make any comment on this matter. It seems, however, that the alleged sedition appeared in March last; and though about three months have passed since then, neither has the British Government in India been upset nor have the Mahrattas risen in arms against the authorities. The action of the Bombay Government will, however, be watched with great anxiety by the whole nation; for, every body knows that it is capable of doing many fantastical things when it has lost its head; and who can deny that it is not in a proper frame of mind when it can gird up its loins to try conclusions with a foe like the *Gourakhi*, the existence of which, beyond perhaps a limited quarter of Bombay, was never before





known to the outside public? Now, we venture to think, the responsible authorities of the Bombay Presidency have far more important duties to do than to employ their extra time, if they have any, in hunting for sedition among unknown vernacular papers, which are read by very few men, and whose effusions are never treated with any seriousness by any class of people. We find that Bombay is not yet free from plague. So, if the Bombay Government has leisure and superabundance of energy, it should utilize them for the purpose of stamping out this scourge of humanity and not to convulse the country by indulging in the luxury of a State prosecution. As we said, unless we are in possession of the full facts of the case, we cannot make any remarks upon it. But, what is inexplicable to us, is why should the Government of Bombay set its machinery in motion, when a warning to the offending editor would have served the purpose? If the Bombay Government is determined to proceed to the bitter end, Lord Curzon, we are afraid will have to interfere in the matter.

AFTER the above was in type we got the following telegram from our own correspondent at Bombay:—

BOMBAY, JUNE 15.

Mr. Vinayek Narayan Bhat, proprietor of the *Gourakhi* or the Cow-protector, a Mahratti daily paper of Bombay, was arrested at 3 P.M. yesterday, on a warrant issued by Mr. Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate. Mirza Abbas Beg, Oriental Translator to Government, filed the information charging Mr. Bhat with sedition, in respect of articles in the *Gourakhi*, commenting on the trials and executions of the Chapekars, published in its issues of the 26th, 30th and 31st March last. Mr. Hugh Sealy subsequently appeared for the accused and made three applications for (1) bail, (2) impounding copy of articles found by the police, and (3) summons on the actual writer. Mr. Bhat's defence is that at the time the offending articles are said to have appeared, he was absent from Bombay and that he had not only apologised for the articles immediately after his return, but had dismissed the writer from his service. Mr. Nicholson, Public Prosecutor, opposed the applications saying that as proprietor, Mr. Bhat was responsible for everything. The Magistrate refused the first two applications, but issued summons against the writer of the articles. The case was then adjourned to Saturday next.

We now clearly understand the position. The proprietor, and not the writer, has been hauled up, though the former was not only absent when the offending articles were published but apologised as soon as he discovered their objectionable character, and dismissed the writer. If proprietors of newspapers may thus be implicated in State prosecutions, then no one is likely to own a newspaper in this country. Suppose the proprietor of the *Gourakhi* was a woman. What would the authorities have done? Would they have dragged her also? Now, the proprietor of the *Gourakhi* did all that lay in his power to neutralize the mischief, if any, that might have been produced by such writings; and when he made the three applications, the first two should have been granted. But what the Magistrate did was to reject the very two prayers to which he should have acceded, and agreed with avidity to the proposal which he might have rejected and shown his magnanimity. The Bombay authorities, it seems, have again lost all control over themselves and nothing but mischief is expected all along the line if they play the terrible once more.

THE Calcutta High Court has just discharged the rule obtained by Babu Satya Nath Mahapatra for the transfer of his case from the file of Mr. W. H. Thompson, Deputy Magistrate of Manbhum. It may be remembered that it was in this case that Mr. W. B. Thompson, Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum, performed the extraordinary feat of inflicting on Babu Satya Nath twice the maximum punishment allowed by the law. The Judicial Commissioner, on appeal, set aside the conviction and sentence and ordered a fresh trial before another official. The case was thus transferred to the court of Mr. H. Thompson, the immediate subordinate of the Deputy Commissioner. Babu Satya Nath objected to this arrangement and moved the High Court for the transfer of his case from the file of the Deputy Magistrate, but, as we have stated above, their lordships declined to interfere. Of course, we must bow down to the decision of their lordships; but the situation will now stand thus: Satya Nath will be tried by an official who is not only subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner who bears no good feeling towards him but who himself has cause to be offended with the accused because he moved the High Court for the transfer of the case from his file, and thus showed want of confidence in him. And would not Mr. Thompson find it very difficult to convict him if he finds him guilty? For he cannot escape from the adverse remarks of the public for punishing a man who has given him some cause of offence. We very much regret, the Hon'ble Judges did not, when discharging the rule, take these circumstances into their consideration. By their decision, they have, we are afraid, not only thrown the accused into a state of blank despair but placed Mr. Thompson in an awkward position.

EVERY one knows that one of the blackest spots in the criminal administration in this country is the power conferred on Government to appeal against acquittal and for enhancement of sentence. The *Times of Assam* referring to this barbarous provision remarks:—"Let a hundred guilty persons go free but not one innocent man be punished" is said to be the motto of British jurisprudence, but in India it is otherwise. Here anyhow or other guilt must be brought home to the innocent also. "Some body must be punished for the day's work," "no conviction no promotion" and similar dictums are considered to be the safest keystones of Indian law.

The *Times* then cites the following typical case to show how criminal administration is carried on in the above fashion in Assam. One Mr. Skinner, an old resident of Tezpur, prosecuted a respectable Assamese named Moheswar Neog for having cut a tree belonging to him. Accused said that the tree belonged to him. The trying Deputy Commissioner disbelieved the defendant and sentenced him to two months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 40. Of course, on appeal, the District Judge set aside the decision of the lower Court.

But the unfortunate man had, in the meantime, served seven days' imprisonment. The question now is, who is responsible for the unnecessary trouble and humiliation to which the accused was subjected? And why should the Deputy Commissioner sentence a man to jail who simply cut down a tree, when a fine, at the most, would have served the ends of justice?

FROM the telegram of our Silchar correspondent published elsewhere, it will be seen that the Deputy Commissioner has committed Mr. Ross to take his trial at the next Sessions of the High Court under sections 302 and 326, I. P. Code. Bail has been refused. Accused has been located in the circuit house in the custody of the Police. We think bail might have been allowed to the accused without prejudicing the case for the prosecution. This refusal of bail means a great disadvantage to the accused; and here is a matter, in which the Anglo-Indian Defence Association may move in the interests of both Europeans and Indians.

OUR thanks are due to *Capital* for its article headed "Punjab Pincaples", which is reproduced in another column. The practice of fastening superannuated European officials upon Native States, or, for the matter of that, even upon private estates under Government control, cannot be condemned in too strong terms. They are pensioned off in British India, because they are considered incompetent, in consequence of their age and exhausted energies, to discharge their duties properly. But, in Native India, these very men will be entrusted with responsible posts and paid princely salaries, as if they were in the vigour of their mental and physical health and quite fit to do their work. Now, this is a sort of fraud which ought to be discouraged by every means, and with which the Government should have nothing to do. The thrusting of Europeans into appointments, either in British or Native India, which can be creditably filled by natives, is in itself a great injustice. But this injustice is turned into a cruel scandal, when, not only an Indian is robbed of his just rights, but an Indian State is made to entertain the services of an old and worthless European officer, on high pay, simply because it lies helpless at the mercy of the paramount Power. The case of Colonel Grey, noticed by *Capital*, requires no further comments from us; our contemporary has dealt with it strongly enough. Just fancy, this Colonel who, having been retired after 39 years' service, was made to hold a subordinate post at Simla on Rs. 500, has suddenly been converted into the Superintendent of the Bhawalpur State and Tutor to the young Nawab on Rs. 3,000 per mensem! And his first work, after having been thus made the real master of the State, is "to bilk the creditors" of the young Nawab by asking them to make a substantial reduction in their claims! We think, it is now time for the "antiquated old man" to prepare for the other world and not to add further wordliness to his soul, by teaching his young ward "these curious notions of honesty," and thus injuring the prosperity of the State as well as his own welfare in a future world. *Capital* requests Lord Curzon to interfere in this matter; we join our humble voice with his.

THE last number of the *Bharati*, which is a Bengali monthly edited by a Hindu lady, Miss Ghosal, has a good article from the pen of the editor on the Poona signallers' strike. The fair writer, it seems, has got her facts from Babu Surendra Nath Tagore, (son of our distinguished countryman, Babu Satyendra Nath Tagore) who is in communication with the Committee, appointed at the chamber of Mr. P. Mehta, to help the signallers. It seems that Babu Surendra Nath Tagore has already raised some money, and the editor of the *Bharati* appeals to her countrymen and countrywomen to contribute their mite to the fund. She says that, the condition of the poor signallers ought to evoke sympathy in every human breast, especially when they have so heroically stood by one another in their adversity. If every Bengali gentleman and lady were, therefore, to pay from Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 each, according to his or her circumstances, a respectable amount would at once be collected. Contributions in this connection will be thankfully received by Babu Surendra Nath Tagore, No. 1 Rainey Park, Baligunge, or by the editor of the *Bharati*, and the names of the donors will be published in that magazine.

THE announcement by Reuter that Mr. Paranjpe, a student from the Poona Fergusson College, has this year stood first at the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos will be received with joy throughout India. This brilliant feat, the first of its kind achieved by an Indian, again demonstrates the fact, if it still needs any demonstration, that Indians are in no way inferior to Europeans in the intellectual field, measured by any test however difficult. What Mr. Paranjpe has achieved will be best understood from the fact that the Cambridge Mathematics Tripos is the highest Mathematical examination in England and that the fight for the senior wranglership is a struggle between the keenest intellects, not only of England but also of other countries, who may have been attracted by the mathematical scholarship and training of Cambridge. The senior wranglership, which is the highest academic prize in England, is the goal of every mathematician's ambition and the distinction at once marks out the successful student as a mathematician of the highest ability. Eminent scientists like Sir G. B. Airy, Sir Gabriel Stokes, Lord Rayleigh, etc., were all senior wranglers in their time, and it may be noted in this connection that the foremost scientist of the age, Lord Kelvin himself, did not succeed in getting the senior wranglership but stood second. Messrs. A. M. Bose and D. N. Mullick (Patna College) are the only other Indian wranglers. Mr. A. C. Dutt (Jubbulpur College) standing as senior optime. There may be a few others but their names do not just now occur to us. The English people should be proud of the privilege of governing a race like the Mahrattas which can give birth to such an intellectual giant as Mr. Paranjpe. Unfortunately the Poona Brahmins are just now objects of deep dislike to them. The enlightened rulers should, however, help the development of the intellectual powers of the Mahrattas and not stint their growth by treating them with unjust suspicion and hostility.

A LONDON correspondent writes:—"India is now ruled by officials with excessive powers. We would not have objected to the arrangement if those who had abused their opportunities, were held responsible. Let the officials be informed, that they would not be interfered in any way with their independence, provided they did not abuse such powers for the gratification of their passion and prejudice. The policy that at present obtains is that the officials should be defended at any cost. That is a mistake; they ought to be immediately punished if they prove unworthy of possessing excessive powers. Let them be armed from head to foot, but do not let them harm the innocent subjects of Her Majesty." When speaking on the Munshigunj case, Mr. Woodroffe addressed the High Court Judges to this effect:—"Touch but the finger of one connected with Government, nay, even a punka coolie serving in a Government office, and the entire body of officials, high and low, will be upon you. And is it not a shame, that such an accusation should be brought against English officials by an English lawyer before the judges of the highest court in the land? It is the police and the Magistracy that represent the British Government to the people of India. It lies in the power of the police and the Magistrates either to make British rule popular or unpopular. But the criminal administration must often sink in the nostrils of an Indian. That is the fact. And why? The duty of the police is to protect the innocent from the guilty, and the weak from the strong; they should thus be regarded as the best friends of the people. But, in India, they and the people are at war. The reason is this. Accused persons have fewer safe-guards in India than in other countries, and these men are oftentimes punished on insufficient evidence. Secondly,—here let us quote Mr. Hill's language while addressing the High Court in the matter of Ambler:—"In England, in a case like this accused would have been lightly punished, but why punishments were so atrociously severe here?" That is the question which has not been answered yet. The people have no trial by jury in India; they may be subjected to a fresh prosecution after an acquittal; the punishments inflicted on them by the lower court may also be enhanced by the High Court. All these barbarous methods ought to be abolished, or never resorted to. It may, similarly, be said of the posting of punitive police forces. Let the Magistrates treat the accused more kindly and let them mix freely with the people, speak to them as friends, and help them in the development of their resources. Let these be their principal duties. Babu Nanda Krishna Bose was the Magistrate of Rajshaye; he has left there an institution for the improvement of silk. Let the Magistrates establish agricultural and industrial associations; let them put a stop to village feuds; let them teach the people the rules of sanitation; let them supply the people with their needs; and let them prove themselves real *ma baps*. They can easily do all these, but they would not do them. What a pity that their chief, and sometimes their only, business should be to send people to jail!

ONE of the gravest problems that awaits solution at the hands of the Government is that relating to riots in India. Riots should not be allowed to occur; when they do occur, they must not be allowed to extend; and in the end, the guilty must be punished, and the innocent protected. Of course, it has sometimes occurred that Magistrates have been able, by their vigilance, to stop riots, but oftener they have been found wanting. As a rule, unable to do it they are found only when the riot has come to an end, and the time for punishment has arrived. Just see, how the authorities down south are now praising one another for their excellent organization! But, why was the Tinnevely riot allowed to assume this gigantic proportion? And is it a very great feat of heroism to shoot down these club-armed rioters with buckshot and thus quell the disturbance? These riots should never be allowed to take place, and when they do occur, they should be put down by gentle means. Will the Government appoint a Commission to ascertain the causes that have led to the riots and the ways they have been dealt with? If Government could be persuaded to appoint such a Commission strange discoveries would be made—discoveries which would fill even experienced Anglo-Indians with astonishment. Would it be believed that, in many riot cases, the wrong parties were punished? And, as for the causes of some of them, the most important riot in India, namely, the one regarding indigo, was due to the intolerable oppression of the indigo planters. "Every indigo chest sent from Bengal," said Mr. Judge La Toure of the 24-Pergannas, "was dyed with human blood." The Pabna riot, which followed, owed its origin to the bitter prejudice that Sir G. Campbell entertained towards the zemindars of Bengal. The Benares riot was the result of a foolish ruler's attempt to commit an outrage upon the religious feelings of the Hindus; and the cow riots were introduced with a view to put down the National Congress. All the propositions laid above, can be proved beyond doubt, incredible though they may appear.

We publish elsewhere the judgment of Mr. Douglas, Sessions Judge of Dacca, sentencing one Rajjab to four years' rigorous imprisonment for counterfeiting the Queen's coin. The whole story reads like a romance. The facts, stated briefly, are these: The Police Sub-Inspector of Keranigunj got information that one Rajjab was in the habit of counterfeiting coins and hit upon a plan, of which one reads only in novels now and then, to catch the man red-handed. He availed of the services of one Baber Ali who managed to strike up a friendship with Rajjab. When he found that he had sufficiently secured the confidence of Rajjab, he proposed to the latter that they should counterfeit coins. Rajjab seemed shocked and protested that he knew not the art. But his so-called friend would not give up and went on hammering the idea into his head. Indeed, Baber Ali played his part so well that he actually brought the brother of the Police Inspector, before Rajjab, who represented himself as a rich Gomastha and expressed his willingness to buy all coins prepared by the latter. The man still struggled, but at last fell into the trap. He was actually surprised one day while in the act of counterfeiting coins.

It was thus clear that the man had been seduced by the Police Inspector and his

creature. Mr. Douglas in his judgment says the same thing:—

But it is an open question whether he would have done so except for the instigation of the Sub-Inspector and Baber Ali.

But, of course, the Police have the privilege of doing these and many other things. If a gentleman had led a man to commit a crime and then handed him to the police, he would have been considered a dishonourable man, and would perhaps have made himself liable to be criminally prosecuted. In the present case, not only did the Judge make no comment upon the conduct of the Police Sub-Inspector, but the latter will, no doubt, be rewarded for his feat.

The above reminds us of a similar feat performed by two European officials, three decades ago. They were then, respectively the District Magistrate and the Joint-Magistrate of —. They obtained information that a Mussalman, living in a village only a few miles from the Sadar, was in the habit of counterfeiting coins. Young as they were then, they were fired with a desire to arrest the offender red-handed. All necessary arrangements were made through the help of the police. A night was fixed for the surprise. The two Sahibs put on female dress, and so beautifully did they play their part that the attempt proved entirely successful. The man was caught red-handed.

THE origin of the Sivakasi riots is now getting clear. The dispute is between the Maravars and the Shanars of Tinnevely and Madura. The position of the latter is very low in society. They are toddy-drawers by caste and profession; yet, there are a goodly number of educated men to be found amongst them. Fired with the ambition of raising their social status they did certain acts which deeply offended the Maravars and other high-caste people. The Shanars, however, did not mind it, and being, it is believed, backed by Christian Missionaries, defied the threats of the Maravars, and thus the riot originated. The Maravars and the Kallars who have now joined them, are said to be a desperate class of people! When they are provoked, they are, we are told, capable of committing dreadful acts. Judging from the bloody work done by them, this phase of their national character has been amply proved. Knowing all this the Shanars should have proceeded very cautiously and not hurt their religious prejudices in a reckless manner. The *Hindu* cautions the Government against doing anything that is calculated to convert the Maravars who have hitherto led a peaceful life, into irresponsible gangs of criminals which, it is said they are determined to be, on the slightest attempt to deal harshly with them, irrespective of their religious claims. The Moplas are already a combustible material in Madras. It would be nothing short of a catastrophe, says the *Hindu*, should the Maravars and Kallars be driven by injudicious treatment to swell their ranks. As we have said elsewhere, it is not by harsh but gentle measures that disturbances should be stopped in this country.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us to say:—"At Sealdah the plague examination of Indian ladies travelling by the intermediate class is carried on with due privacy. They are examined by a lady inside a room through which they pass on to the platform. But unfortunately the arrangement is not equally good at many other stations. Take for instance, the case of the Howrah station. Here the lady doctor sits on a chair near the gate, close by the side of another official, and this we should consider to be rather too public for Indian ladies inasmuch as there is almost a crowd of officials on one side of the gate and a crowd of people on the other. The best method of examining Indian ladies would be in the compartments they are in. European ladies who travel by the first and second classes enjoy the privilege which Indian ladies of a high rank cannot avail of, simply because the custom of the country will not allow them to travel in those classes in mixed company. We know of a gentleman who wanted to buy second-class tickets for some ladies whom he was escorting while he actually meant to have them travel by the intermediate class, simply with a view that the ladies might be examined in the female compartment. But he was told by a plague officer that by this procedure they would only be liable to prosecution for evading plague examination."

HERE are the facts of a most sensational case which has just been disposed of by the Sessions Judge of Quilon:—"Some months ago we reported a sensational criminal charge of criminal restraint brought against Mr. G. M. Verghese, 3rd class Magistrate of Kayankulam, Travancore, by Mr. K. R. Rangaswamy Iyengar, Assistant Engineer. Mr. K. P. Sankara Menon, Sessions Judge, Quilon, delivered judgment in the case on Monday before last. The judge sentenced the accused to two and a-half years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,500, of which Rs. 500 was to be given to complainant as compensation. The sentence is no doubt hard. The *Western Star* thinks that Mr. Sankara Menon "has failed to exercise his discretion in a wise or judicial way." It is true that the charge was nothing half so serious as corruption or torture. But we think a Magistrate who is so far self-forgetful as to order the arrest for contempt of court of a responsible officer of Government who was only measuring the desert-room in the discharge of public duty deserves to be made an example of. We admit that the sentence could well have been a little milder, but we believe that the judge was not without justification in considering the case to be graver than appeared on the surface, and in considering the sin of a Magistrate as more heinous than that of a private citizen. For if that is how Mr. Verghese dealt with an influential officer drawing twice or thrice his own pay, how might he treat humbler and more helpless folk?"

HERE are further particulars regarding the State prosecution of the *Gurakhi* which we take from the *Pioneer*: In the laying information against Vinayak Narayan Bhat, yesterday, copies were put in of the *Gurakhi* newspaper, dated respectively 26th, 30th and 31st March containing three leading articles: (1) "What is the meaning of 'raja' and 'rajya'"; (2) "The Chapekars, Dravids, and Mr. Brevin, No. 1"; (3) "The Chapekars, Dravids, and Mr. Brevin, No. 2." Mr. Sealy, pleader, on behalf of the accused, said he was not in Bombay when the articles complained of were published. He had in his employ a man whose name he did not

at present wish to declare publicly. The police and prosecution knew it and he would hand it over to the Court. This man was employed in the press as editor, subject to accused's control. While the latter was present in Bombay everything went right, but on the 25th March last accused went to Nassik, and the day after he left the first article made its appearance. The accused did not happen to notice it until the 30th of the same month, when the second article was published. On reading the second article at Nassik the accused immediately came down to Bombay, and on the 31st he saw the third article published. On coming to Bombay he dismissed the man without any delay. Mr. Sealy applied for bail for his client, for a summons against the late editor who wrote the manuscript seized by the Police. The case is fixed for hearing to-day.

We are glad to read the following appreciative sketch in the *Pioneer*, which will be read with great interest:—"The Principal and Professors of the Fergusson College at Poona are to be congratulated on the brilliant success of their alumnus, who has beaten all competitors at Cambridge and emerged at the top of the Tripos list. Rejanath Purshotam Paranjpe is a Mahratta Brahmin who was born twenty-three years ago in the village of Murdi in Ratnagiri district. Though nobody could have foreseen his present triumph, his career both at school and at college speedily attracted attention by its extraordinary brilliance. In 1891, when only fifteen years of age, he passed first in the whole presidency in the Matriculation Examination and during the three years he studied at the Fergusson College at Poona—where, by the way, he was a favourite pupil of Professor Gokhale, whose name a couple of years ago was much before the public—he swept everything before him passing first in the first class in every examination. In 1894 he took his B. Sc. degree once again standing first in the first class, and in 1895 he became a Fellow of his college. In 1896 he proceeded to Cambridge as a Government of India scholar, joining St. John's College and there he has crowned his distinguished career by coming out Senior Wrangler. It is interesting to know—and we have the fact from the Fergusson College authorities themselves—that Mr. Paranjpe, before leaving for England, joined the body of professors who conduct the Fergusson College, pledging twenty years of his life after his return from England to service in the College on a salary not exceeding seventy rupees a month. By those who knew him Mr. Paranjpe is described as of a simple and gentle disposition, his sole aspiration being to devote himself exclusively to mathematical studies, and give his work to his old college for which he cherished an affectionate devotion. The Fergusson College sprang out of a school started in Poona in 1880 for the purpose of cheapening and facilitating education. The College itself has been recognised by the Bombay University since 1884 for the B. Sc. course. The Principal and Professors are all natives. The College is under the control of the Deccan Education Society which was founded in 1884 "to facilitate and cheapen education by starting, affiliating or incorporating at different places, as circumstances permit, schools and colleges under native management."

#### A MEMORANDUM ON THE WELBY COMMISSION.

(From our London Correspondent.)

LONDON, MAY 24.

I AM glad to say that the indignation which has been so freely expressed both publicly and privately to those responsible for the delay in presenting the report of the Royal Commission on Indian expenditure, is having the desired effect. It is, however, not at all creditable, either to the Chairman of the Commission or the members generally that the intervention of Lord George Hamilton should have been necessary to compel them to do their duty. The Commission has now been called together for the 5th June, but what progress will then be made remains to be seen. A memorandum has been circulated to the members of the Commission which is practically the preface only to the report. It consists of a summary of the different conclusions of the enquiry as condensed from the evidence which has been given on, (1) the financial machinery of the Government of India, (2) the progress of expenditure during recent years, and (3) the apportionment of expenditure between India and the United Kingdom.

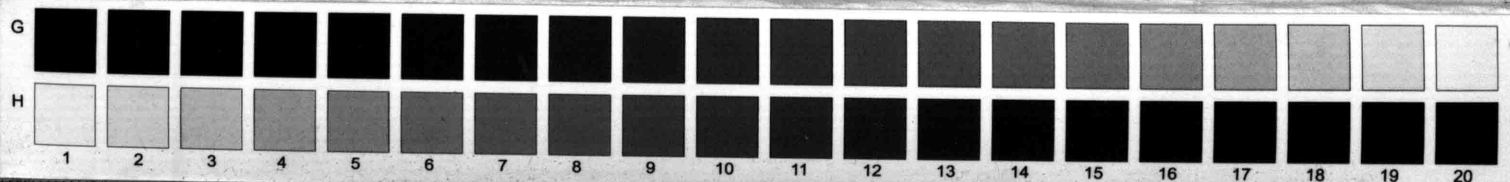
I expect the memorandum dealing with the apportionment of expenditure between India and the United Kingdom will be circulated to the commissioners before they meet on June 5th.

#### LORD WELBY'S NEGLIGENCE.

I think Lord Welby will have a bad quarter of an hour when he meets the Commission. I never remember a case of similar neglect on the part of so important a public man who had formally undertaken so important a public duty. It is impossible for him to deny that he has allowed fresh interests, undertaken after the responsibility of the Indian Commission had been incurred, to draw him away altogether from the consideration of the Indian evidence. No one can doubt Lord Welby's ability, but he has clearly undertaken more than he has been able to fulfil. This Indian enquiry is so vast in its scope, and so intricate in its details, that I cannot hope that Lord Welby will meet the Commission with any very definite and fully considered proposals for a final report, and he will probably throw himself a good deal on the Commission itself.

#### MR. LEONARD COURTNEY'S RECOMMENDATION.

I happen to know that Mr. Leonard Courtney has given very close thought to the whole subject, and is prepared with a series of recommendations that are sure to have great weight with the Commission. Mr. Courtney is, and always has been, in deep sympathy with the Indian people, a sympathy founded upon intimate association in earlier years with Professor Fawcett, who was perhaps the best friend India has had in English parliamentary life during the last 50 years. It would not be fair for me in this letter to speculate in any definite way upon the views held by Mr. Courtney, but I do feel sufficient confidence in him to say that it would not be a bad thing for India if the final report of the Commission emanates from a partnership between him and Lord Welby.





## LORD WELBY'S BRILLIANT FINANCIAL RECORD

Lord Welby has over and over again shown a sympathetic appreciation of the position of affairs in Indian expenditure especially with regard to the most important section of the enquiry, that of a fair and honourable apportionment of expenditure between the two countries; and it is Lord Welby's entire fitness for the preparation of the report that makes me feel so angry at this culpable neglect of duty which is inevitably throwing it into the hands of other people. However, I hope that now he has been aroused to a sense of public duty by the very unpleasant but undeserved criticisms which have been made upon him he may, with his extraordinary capacity for work and his great grasp of detail, gained during his long experience at the Treasury, pull himself together, and in conjunction with Mr. Courtney, and the other two or three men of personal Treasury experience, get out a report that will be worthy of his name and brilliant financial record. If he meets the Commission with a prepared mind, and with clear, well thought out recommendations, there will be no difficulty in his getting prompt absolution; but if he comes with no matured recommendations, the just anger of the commissioners, whom he will have treated with such scant courtesy, will be very great.

## INDIAN FINANCE.

It is to be hoped that the Commission will avoid criticism of a minute kind and will address itself to reforms that are within the range of practical politics, and concentrate its attention on those services or items which are really open to objection. The brief memorandum to which I have already referred certainly enables the critic to understand clearly enough whether there has been a tendency to increase more at one time than another, and equally to ascertain, if such has been the case, the reason of it. Nothing will be gained by going back too far in the history of Indian finance. For some years after the mutiny the accounts were necessarily imperfect and involved in consequence of the transfer from the East India Company to the Crown, and it is not easy to compare present day expenditure with those years, except by taking the great blocks of expenditure and comparing them over the whole period so as to arrive at an approximate result. From the close of the mutiny until 1883 or 1884 there was a period of peace and closely economical government. During that period it may be said that economy and the ordinary growth of revenue had enabled a good deal of the heavy taxation laid on during and immediately after the mutiny, to be repealed; and the public service of India could be carried on with a taxation not much higher than that before the mutiny. The increase of expenditure begins with 1883-84 and from then right on to the present year, expenditure has increased so much that practically all the taxation remitted during the 20 years after the mutiny has been re-imposed. It will clearly be an important part of the duty of the Commission to investigate how this has been brought about, and report very carefully upon it.

## Law Intelligence.

HIGH COURT: CRIMINAL BENCH.  
—JUNE 16.

(Before Justice Princep and Hill.)

THE LOW-KING-TROTTER  
ASSAULT CASE.

THE appeal in the above case, in which a sentence of three months' and two months' simple imprisonment was passed by Mr. Pearson, on Messrs. King and Trotter respectively, for causing hurt to Mr. Low, under circumstances already reported was heard and disposed of to-day.

Mr. Jackson with Babu Surendra Nath Roy appeared for the accused and Mr. Dunne with Babu Prosonno Gopal Roy for the Crown.

Their Lordships delivered the following judgment:—  
We have heard Mr. Jackson at considerable length on the appeal of R. G. King and on the rule granted for the purpose of revision on the application of E. C. Trotter. We are of opinion that the offence established was, under the circumstances disclosed, one for which imprisonment was the proper punishment. But having regard to the position and circumstances in life of the two prisoners and also to the particular season of the year at which the imprisonment will be undergone we think that in the case of Trotter, the sentence of one month's imprisonment, and in the case of King, the sentence of two months' imprisonment will meet the ends of justice, and we reduce the sentences accordingly. The orders of fine will stand.

No fewer than four million cartridges and three thousand Lee-Metford rifles have passed through Peshawar en route for Cabul within the last few months.

MR. G. PARAMESWARAN PHILLAI, B.A.M. R. A. S., has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society on the motion of Sir Charles Dilke.

AFTER hearing the pleaders on both sides in the G.I.P. Strikers' case, Mr. Sale, the Assistant Collector, Poona, framed charges against the Station-master and Assistant Station-master of the Kharkala station for endangering the lives of passengers at Kharkala by leaving the signal lamps until after sunset, and by not regulating the points to insure the safety of passengers. Both are charged jointly and separately under section 101 of the Railway Act. The case will be heard on the 19th instant.

AN Amritsar correspondent writes:—On Friday last at about 9 P.M. a horrible fire broke out by accident in the very centre of the city, i.e., "in Darshan Deodhi." The police arrived with five fire-engines at about 10.30 when the whole neighbourhood was desperately trying to cope with the element. But it spread rapidly abroad and burnt about twenty houses and shops. Fire-engines had to work uninterruptedly up to 10 A.M. the next day. The scene should have been seen to be realised, and the panic was simply terrific. The fire still lingers under the fallen walls and roofs of the houses. The loss is roughly estimated at about two lakhs. Two lives are said to have been lost. The oldest inhabitant does not remember similar occurrence in this great city.

## Calcutta and Mofussil.

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## SNAKES, SNAKE-BITE S

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MOVEMENT OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES.—The question of moving the Government offices to Calcutta in the cold weather is now under consideration, and possibly certain departments will remain at Simla, as was the case last year.

THE RUNGLING CASE.—The rule that was issued by the Judge of Dibrugarh on Mr. Cumming came on for hearing on Friday last. The Judge is said to have remarked that in his view the sentence had been very lenient but that under the circumstances of the case he would not care to refer the case to the High Court. The rule was discharged.

BURMESE OUTRAGE CASE.—Private Horrocks, of the West Kents, who was acquitted by the jury on the 10th ultimo for outraging the modesty of a respectable Burmese woman, has been held to have been unconnected with the crime. General Prothero, presiding at the Court of Enquiry, yesterday, received evidence from a young soldier, who named the ringleader and fifteen men, all of "C" Company, alleged to have committed the crime. The men were arrested and placed in separate cells under a guard to prevent them speaking to each other. A further enquiry will be held.

THE COPYRIGHT BILL.—It is understood that a Copyright Bill which shall secure 36 hours protection from the date of publication for press messages received from outside British India, will shortly be introduced into the Legislative Council. Representations have been made to Government from certain quarters that the protection should similarly be given to inland press messages and news in India, but the many difficulties connected with such legislation render it extremely improbable that this point can be taken up. If this question is considered at all, it will not be at present.

TRANSFER LOANS OF 1879.—A notification is issued by the Finance Department to the effect that two lakhs and twenty-three thousand rupees worth of Promissory Notes and loan certificates of the seven shillings sterling per cent., portion of the transfer loan of 1879, will be discharged on the 15th of September, 1899, at the rate of 131 rupees annas four. The Promissory Notes and certificates hereby notified for discharge will be received at the Public Debt Office, Bank of Bengal, Calcutta, from and after the 11th of September, 1899, and will be discharged in full together with interest up to the 14th of September, 1899, inclusive, as soon as they can be examined and passed for payment.

LIGHT RAILWAYS IN ASSAM.—In connection with Mr. Cotton's scheme for the development of Assam there are several projects under consideration for the construction of light railways, chief among which is the Mangaldai Tramway scheme, which has a length of thirty-five miles and is estimated to cost Rs. 6,65,000. Its original promoters have abandoned the scheme, but it has been taken up by another firm. Projects for over 200 miles of light lines are under consideration on which it is proposed, if the necessary capital can be found, to spend about forty-seven lakhs of rupees. They are designed to connect up the outlying districts of the numerous tea gardens, especially in Sylhet and Cachar, with the main line of the Assam Bengal Railway.

SALT REVENUE.—A Government document gives statistics of the Indian Salt Revenue, the quantity of salt issued, and the duty leviable thereon between the years 1895-96 and the current official year 1899-1900. In April, 1895, it appears, the amount of salt issued in all India by Government was 3,302,000 maunds, of the

value of Rs. 80,62,000, and in the month of April 1899-1900, 3,422,000, valued at Rs. 64,70,000. The figures of the various years show a steady though small increase in the salt revenue. In the year 1895-96 the sales equalled 34,590,000 maunds, of the value of Rs. 8,31,22,000. In 1897-98 they had grown to 34,523,000 maunds, of the value of Rs. 8,41,82,000, and in 1898-99, 35,270,000, valued at Rs. 8,57,92,000.

HOW TO PROLONG LIFE.—Mr. B. F. Roberts, a reputable physician in a small town in Missouri, announces that he has made a discovery which will prolong life. He has gone to Chicago to carry on his experiments with greater freedom. Mr. Roberts's elixir of life is composed of life cells from the lymphatic glands of goats, which are transplanted to the human body by hypodermic injection. Mr. Roberts claims that the accumulation of phosphates and lime salts in the system and the lack of oxidation in the blood are the causes of old age. The goat injection overcomes these conditions, and restores the system to a normal state. Mr. Roberts does not assert that his treatment will keep people perpetually youthful, but he says it will greatly prolong life. The Chicago doctors, who have seen some of the experiments, say the use of the injection on men and animals has had wonderful results.

A MODERN ROBINSON CRUSOE.—The last annual report of the criminal affairs in the Andamans contains an interesting account of an escaped convict which almost equals that of Robinson Crusoe. He escaped on the 22nd January, and it was not until the following Xmas Day that he was discovered on Rutland Island having made a raft on which he moved from place to place amongst the "Labyrinth Island." During his long escape he had been accustomed to make little huts on the sea-beach, with sleeping platforms, which kept him out of the reach of crocodiles. For food he snared pigs, capturing sometimes three or four in a night, and when found he was very fat, happy and comfortable. He was in no mood to surrender when the Andamanese appeared, and he attempted to make off to sea on a small raft. The Andamanese, however, started shooting arrows at him and then he stopped. He had a long story of his wanderings to tell when he returned to the settlement but his holiday was over, and he was within the high walls again.

DISPOSAL OF THE PARSIS DEAD.—A Bombay correspondent writes to the *Englishman*:—Some stir has been caused in the Parsi community by steps which have been taken by Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy and other leading members to establish a cemetery at the hill station of Matheran near Bombay, for the disposal of Parsi dead instead of the Tower of Silence. The suggestion has aroused expressions of strong disapproval in the community, and has been emphatically condemned by the Parsi high priest, who in the course of an interview said that the disposal of Parsi dead by burial was sinful and against the doctrines laid down in the Avesta. Dastur Darab, speaking on the subject, stated he could adduce a number of instances from the Vendidad, in which the disposal of Parsi dead was strictly enjoined by exposure of the body to the light of the sun, its consumption by vultures, and the preservation of the bones in an astodan. Not only were closed sepulchres forbidden to adherents of the law, but Zoroastrians were compelled to pull down and destroy any tomb and thereby to restore the natural purity of mother earth upon whom solely depended the system of animal creation.

CHASED BY A CIVIL SURGEON.—A Shillong correspondent writes to *East Herald*:—There seems to be a touch of the Scandinavian in Dr. Fink, our Civil Surgeon. On the 7th at about 12 o'clock he caned one Syama Mistry in a public road opposite the Charitable Dispensary. Syama was for some days in the employ of the Civil Surgeon as a carpenter. Thinking himself not well paid he did not like to resume work, whereupon Dr. Fink called for him. There was an exchange of words resulted in Dr. Fink calling out *Pakro isco*. The fellow began to run and three persons a chaprasie, a choudkari and a compounder followed him. Seeing the Thana Daroga (accidentally passing that way) he boldly came up to the Daroga when Dr. Fink caned him twice. The fellow ran to Court and showed marks of injury to the Deputy Commissioner, who told him to file a petition, if so advised. It is a matter of regret that the fair fame of Dr. Fink (than whom an abler and more painstaking Civil Surgeon did not grace Sibsagar) should be marred by such hasty outbursts of temper. The income-tax assessments here seem to be made on no rational principles and wire-pulling is not unknown in the department. The long list hung up in Court.

THE PLAGUE.—The writer on Indian affairs in the *Times* in an article on the 23rd ultimo upon the plague, states that "Calcutta has probably owed its comparative immunity from the plague to the timely vigour of the late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in flushing the drains and cleansing the city. That being thoroughly done and the capital being set in order against the expected calamity, the Bengal Government has calmly awaited the event." It will, we think, be news to the residents of Calcutta to learn that the city has been thoroughly cleansed; the statements from time to time in the public papers give an absolute denial to this, and we think it right to draw attention to the fact that Calcutta is very far from cleansed and owes little or nothing to Sir Alexander Mackenzie in respect of the plague. That doughty knight took the first opportunity of running to Darjeeling, whence he proceeded on six months' leave; he returned in the cold weather for a few months and then retired on pension. The result of his conduct was that nothing was done during his absence, and that several important matters, to use his own words, were "hung up." This we presume is how history is made.—*Capital*.

CHASED BY AN ELEPHANT.—A Burmese had lately a unique experience which falls to the lot of few and which fewer still would care to envy. One Maung Aye of Pongda Wadon village went to an adjoining jheel to the east of the Yadagaon hill to collect some succulent vegetables which the Burmese prize very much, and which grow wild about the fields in that locality. As fate would have it he fell in with wild elephant which was roaming in the

neighbourhood and fortunately made an immediate dash for him. The Burmese beat a precipitate retreat and there ensued a race for life, one which has scarcely a parallel for its interest. The man was endowed with superhuman effort by the almost sure prospect of a horrible death and nerved by desperation flew like wind for his life with the infuriated monster rushing after him in his mad career, with up-lifted trunk and frantic howlings. Such an unequal race could not have lasted long for the man would have surely dropped down from sheer exhaustion; but Providence in its mercy guided his steps towards the rising hills where the elephant was naturally placed at a heavy disadvantage, and the man was thus able to keep the beast at a distance. While in such desperate straits, some articles of clothing fortunately dropped on the way and the wrath of elephant was appeased by its trampling down on the clothing. This providential interposition saved the man who must regard himself lucky in having had such a hair-breadth escape.

A LEOPARD HUNT.—A correspondent sends us an interesting account of a leopard-hunt from the far east. A couple of leopards lately made their appearance at the village of Kashipur near Dacca and the havoc that they committed soon made them a terror to the inoffensive villagers. Scarcely a day passed without a victim and they gradually grew so bold as to be frequently seen by the roadside even in broad daylight. The whole village was searched for a gun, but thanks to the Arms Act not even an apology for a gun was to be found. The poor villagers thus adopted various means and tried their best to get rid of such unwelcome visitors but all to no avail. As a last resource they appealed to their Zemindar, Babu Ambika Prosad Roy Chaudhuri, who is a noted shikari, for delivering them from the scourge. On Saturday last, as Babu Ambika Prosad Roy Chaudhuri was riding out on an elephant at about dusk, one leopard was seen close by, but he was not unfortunately provided with a gun just then and so, much to his chagrin he had to let go that opportunity of accounting for the brute. However, not to be bulked of his prey he set out the very next day before sunset, fully prepared for the encounter and was fortunate in tracking the beast to a field close to the road. Perceiving himself to be outmatched and caught unawares the brute discreetly attempted to sneak into the jungle; but it had evidently counted without its host, for in attempting to get into the jungle, it presented its side, an opportunity which Babu Ambika Prosad was too wary to miss this time. In an instant the gun poured out its deadly volley of buck shot fired with unerring aim, and the brute fell flat on the spot to the unbounded joy and relief of the villagers. The prize was carried home in triumph and was found to measure 6ft. 3 inches.

ABOUT ALLIGATORS.—A correspondent writes it is not generally known that alligators some times would be bold enough to attack men even on dry land at a distance from the river or pool, the following extraordinary cases will show. A khalasi was sleeping at a distance of about 30 yards from the bank of the Orissa canal near the Kendrapara lock. The sight of the man quietly sleeping attracted the notice of an alligator which could not resist the temptation of making a fine meal of him, the alligator rose out of the water, slowly crawled to the sleeping man and after catching him by the leg began to drag him towards the water. The khalasi woke with a start and his cries soon drew a crowd so that the alligator had at last to return to his abode disappointed. We are further told that such cases are not rare. As the river Ichhamati is infested with alligators, the bathing ghats are generally fenced round to protect the bathers, but the alligators are sometimes cunning enough to outwit even man. When the ghat is empty and no one is near, by they sometimes creep into the ghat by laid and lie in wait for any child or woman that may come to the ghat unattended. The unfortunate victim is immediately seized, killed and then again dragged into the river by the land side. We are even told that when surprised on the way from the ghat to the river the alligator defends itself by pelting stones at the attacking party. It is generally the practice to tether cows and calves by the riverside and alligators go to the length of pulling up the stakes and carrying them to the river. But an instance of even more surprising audacity, in which two English sportsmen had to experience the superior prowess of the Indian alligator, comes from Sahebgunge. On the 2nd June as they were riding with their greyhounds, an alligator came out of the Ganges and coolly caught one of the Greyhounds and disappeared in the twinkling of an eye and all that was left to the valiant Shikaris was to soothe their outraged feelings by killing a young one, which was certainly not so cunning as the dame herself.

ADDITIONAL plant for gas installations for trains on the Delhi-Peshawar line at a cost of Rs. 16,000 has just been sanctioned.

HEAVY rain fell on Thursday at Bombay, flooding the roads in the Fort to the level of gharry foot boards, and impeding tram traffic in the native town.

His Highness the Maharao of Sirohi (Rajputana) K. C. S. I. will shortly pay a visit to Simla.

IT is an unprecedented occurrence in Arakan to note that dacoities in Arakan are sometimes led by females. The late Reinbow dacoity in Minya township was after all brought to light, and the desperadoes concerned in it were eventually convicted by a District Magistrate of Akyab. The case was called for revision by the Judicial Commissioner, who again directed the District Magistrate of Akyab to re-examine the witnesses. In the course of the judicial enquiry, it evidently came to pass that the alleged dacoity was headed by a daring woman, named Me Ulla U., who was disguised as a man on the occasion. Since then she was absconding; but fortunately she could not escape the lynx-eyed vigilance of the Minya police, ("on dit"), who have brought her within the clutches of the law. She is said to be the wife of the notorious dacoity named Naga Wah Yai, who is reaping the fruit of his crimes in the Andaman Islands for having been implicated in a series of dacoities in Minya township. It may be said that she was once in league with those ruffians who are connected with the memorable events of Paaleung dacoity some years ago.

## TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

## PAYMENT OF TRANSFER LOANS.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

SIMLA, JUNE 14.

A Gazette of India Extraordinary has been issued this evening announcing that on the 15th September, 1899, all notes and loan certificates of the seven-shilling sterling per cent. portion of the Transfer Loan of 1879, will be paid off at Calcutta, in the Public Debt Office, at the rate of Rs. 131-4-0 only for each hundred rupees of their amount; and that from that day interest on the said promissory notes will cease. Promissory notes and certificates for discharge will be received after the 11th September up to the 14th September, 1899.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, JUNE 13.

Baron Christiani, who struck President Loubet with a cane on the occasion of the Patriotic League demonstration at Autenil, has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment.

LONDON, JUNE 13.

Colonel Picquart has been finally absolved from further prosecution in connection with the Dreyfus case.

LONDON, JUNE 13.

The German Delegates to the Peace Conference have refused to assent to the proposal for a permanent tribunal of arbitration without a guarantee of the tribunal's impartiality.

LONDON, JUNE 14.

The Transvaal Volksraad has approved of President Kruger's Franchise proposals, subject to reference to the Burgers.

President Kruger, in thanking the Raad for its approval, said he did not know what was going to happen; for Great Britain had conceded nothing.

He did not want war, but he was unable to give more than he had already offered.

LONDON, JUNE 14.

The reply of Mr. Chamberlain to the Uitlanders' petition has been published. It constitutes a long and exhaustive indictment of the political, financial and judicial administration of the Transvaal.

LONDON, JUNE 14.

A *modus vivendi* regarding the Alaskan boundary has been concluded, pending the re-assembling of the Anglo-American Commission in August.

LONDON, JUNE 14.

The cricket match between Lancashire and Derbyshire resulted to-day in the defeat of Derbyshire by eight wickets, and Middlesex won the match with Kent at Lords by 118 runs. All the following matches were drawn: Australians vs. Yorkshire, Gloucester vs. Warwick, Sussex vs. Nottingham and Somerset vs. Hampshire.

LONDON, JUNE 15.

In the House of Commons to-night Lord George Hamilton, in opposing Sir Henry Fowler's motion to disallow the Indian Sugar Act, declared that the bounty system justified strong measures, as sugar was the backbone of agriculture in Northern India. His Lordship added that he had a strong impression that the Currency Commission would submit a report establishing stable exchange, and giving India for the first time for many years the due advantage of her financial connection with England. The debate is proceeding.

LONDON, JUNE 15.

The Venezuela Tribunal has assembled in Paris.

LONDON, JUNE 15.

M. Poincare has been entrusted with the task of forming a new French Ministry.

LONDON, JUNE 16.

Sir H. Fowler's motion to disallow the Indian Sugar Act was rejected by the House of Commons by two hundred and ninety three against one hundred and fifty-two votes.

LONDON, JUNE 16.

The Transvaal Volksraad has adjourned to enable the members to consult their constituents regarding President Kruger's proposals for the extension of the franchise and for increasing the representation of the Gold Fields.

FORE cases and one death from cholera is reported from Karachi on Tuesday.

ANOTHER thunderstorm passed over Cawnpore on Monday night last with slight rain.

In order of the Amir, the walls round the various British graveyards at Kandahar are being thoroughly rebuilt, and the graveyards themselves are being put into repair.

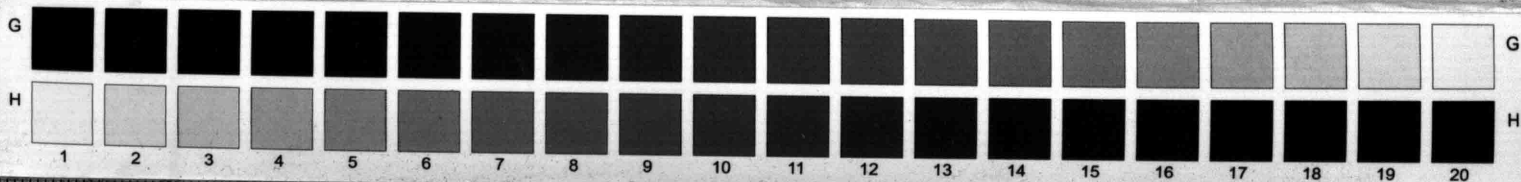
THE Government of India have sanctioned the opening for public carriage of passengers of the Nilgiri Railway from Metterpalaiyam Station, on the Madras Railway, to Coonoor, a distance of 16½ miles.

NOTHING is known in Simla regarding the wire from Reuter that General Kitchener comes out to India. It is an open secret, however, that he has expressed a wish to get an Indian appointment.

## WOULD NOT SUFFER SO AGAIN FOR FIFTY TIMES ITS PRICE.

I awoke last night with severe pains in my stomach. I never felt so badly in all my life. When I came down to work this morning I left so weak I could hardly work. I went to Miller & McCurdy's drug store and they recommended Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It worked like magic and one dose fixed me all right. It certainly is the finest thing I ever used for stomach trouble. I shall not be without it in my home hereafter, for I should not care to endure the sufferings of last night again for fifty times its price.—G. H. Wilson Liverman, Burgetstown, Washington Co., Pa. This remedy is for sale by

SMITH STANISTREET &amp; CO., and B. K. PAUL &amp; CO.





## COUNTERFEITING QUEEN'S COIN.

In a case of counterfeiting, Mr. Douglas, Sessions Judge of Dacca, delivered the following judgment, which tells a romantic tale:—

## JUDGMENT.

In this matter Shaik Rajjab is charged with having counterfeited the Queen's coin on 12th March last at Rahamatgunge, in Dacca. He is also charged with having been then in dishonest possession of instruments &c for the purpose of counterfeiting the Queen's coin.

The evidence on the record is the simplest and most direct, as showing the guilt of this accused. It rests on the statements of Sub-inspector Sarat Chandra Basu, of Keranigunge, Baber Ali, Purna Chandra Basu, Sub-inspector Surendra Kumar Bhattacharjee, and others. Sub-inspector Sarat Chandra Basu says that about a year ago he received information that accused Shaik Rajjab was a man who used to counterfeit Queen's coin. In the month of Kartik last, he took Baber Ali, whom he knew, to go and make the acquaintance of Shaik Rajjab and induce him to counterfeit coins, so that when all arrangements for such counterfeiting had been made, he, the Sub-inspector, might step in and so arrest him in the act of manufacturing such rupees. Accordingly Baber Ali made the acquaintance of accused Rajjab, on the ground that he had a son whose name was the same as Shaik Rajjab accused. After this friendship had gone on for sometime, Baber Ali asked him if he ever counterfeited Rupees, as, if so, they could do business together, and he, Baber Ali, would pass the counterfeit Rupees. At first Shaik Rajjab denied having ever done so.

Baber Ali, however, pressed him again, and accused admitted that he used at one time to do so, but had given it up now almost, because he had no funds. Baber Ali said he would supply funds if Rajjab would do so, and Rajjab assented. Baber Ali then went off to Sub-inspector Sarat Bose and told him what he had arranged with Rajjab, and the Sub-inspector sent his cousin Purna Chandra Bose to personate a rich Gomashita who would supply the necessary funds and circulate the counterfeit Rupees. Subsequently Baber Ali introduced this Purna Chandra to Shaik Rajjab as the rich Gomashita, and it was arranged that he would buy counterfeit Rupees from Rajjab at Rs. 75 per hundred. Accused Rajjab was rather dilatory in making his arrangements, so Baber Ali pressed him saying that he would lose his opportunities with Purna Chandra who had soon to go away. Accused said that this was a dangerous matter to be done when he had full opportunity; but in order to inspire the Gomashita with confidence, he would show him his instruments.

Accordingly one day soon after, Baber Ali and Purna Chandra went to see accused Rajjab, and he took them to a place near his house in Becha Ram's Dewri in Dacca. He then went to see his house and fetched out a dug mould, bound round with iron (No 1), which he used for manufacturing Rupees. Purna Chandra expressed himself satisfied. Baber Ali then kept on pressing him to fix a day for making these Rupees. Rajjab always saying that on account of the Police this was a difficult matter. At last it was arranged by Rajjab that he would manufacture these Rupees on the night of Saturday, 12th March last, at the house of his sister Kalfut, who lives at Rahmatgung, in Dacca. That same day about midday, accused took Baber Ali and Purna Chandra and showed them the house where this was to take place. Later on that same day Baber Ali informed the Sub-inspector, who sent Surendra Kumar Bhattacharjee to go and inspect the premises, and it was arranged that Purna Chandra and Baber Ali should go that night to this woman's house about 11 P.M. The Police were also to go in force and when accused Rajjab was manufacturing Rupees, Purna Chandra and Baber Ali were to open the door and so let in the Police. Everything happened in accordance with the arrangements. Made between Baber Ali and Sarat Chandra Bose, Sub-inspector. Later on that evening Rajjab carrying a bundle under his arm, met Baber and Purna Chandra and they went to Kalfut's house. Having gone inside, Rajjab opened out the contents of his bundle, and in the presence of Baber Ali and Purna Chandra commenced to blow up a charcoal fire in an earthen fire-place. He melted some metal in one crucible and let it cool, with this composition some part was melted down in another crucible and the contents of the same were then poured into the same mould which Rajjab had shown them before, and thus one after the other three rough counterfeit Rupees were made. By this time Sarat Chandra Bose, Sub-inspector, and other Police officers had surrounded the house. Purna Chandra got up saying he wished to make water, went outside. Immediately after, Baber Ali got up and on the same excuse went outside. This was the signal for Sarat Chandra Sub-inspector to enter into this room and catch accused Rajjab in the very act of counterfeiting a Rupee, one of the false coins being found in the mould which was with him and two other Rupees being close alongside.

The two Assessors have both accepted such evidence to be true and have believed the same, the evidence against the accused Rajjab is overwhelming and commands credence. It has been urged on behalf of the accused Rajjab that no offence of counterfeiting has been committed by him, no one has been deceived by these Rupees as manufactured and they are so badly made that no one could be deceived into believing them to be genuine. But it is seen from the note to be found to Sec. 28 in O'Keefe's Penal Code, third edition, this contention has no force. The accused clearly made these Rupees intending that they should be put into circulation as Queen's coin (Rupees) and be accepted of genuine coin. The offence of counterfeiting was then complete, this contention moreover does not apply to the charge of dishonest possession of instruments for manufacturing counterfeit Queen's coin. It is clear that he had in his possession such instruments and the evidence on the record amply shows his dishonest intention.

## A CARD OF THANKS.

I wish to say that I feel under lasting obligations to what Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as done for our family. We have used it in many cases of coughs, lung troubles and whooping cough, and it has always given it the most perfect satisfaction; we feel greatly indebted to the manufacturers of this remedy and wish them to please accept our hearty thanks.—Respectfully, Mrs. S. DOTY, Des Moines, Iowa. Sale by

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

## FINDING AND SENTENCE.

The Court agreeing with both Assessors, finds accused Rajjab guilty as charged on the first count, that he counterfeited Queen's coin, an offence punishable under Sec. 232 I. P. C. The Court also agreeing with the Assessors finds accused Rajjab guilty as charged on the second count, that he was in possession of instruments, &c., for the purpose of using the same for counterfeiting Queen's coin, an offence punishable under Sec. 235 I. P. C. As for the sentence to be inflicted, the evidence clearly shows that this matter was planned and pre-arranged by Sub-inspector Sarat Bose against Rajjab accused. He sent Baber Ali and told him to get accused to commit this offence. Baber Ali feigned friendship with the accused, and with the assistance of Purna Chandra Bose, instigated Rajjab accused to counterfeit the Queen's coin, so that in accordance with previous arrangement the Police might come in and arrest him in the act. No doubt Rajjab did a very wrong thing in counterfeiting the Queen's coin, but it is an open question whether he would have done so except for the instigation of the Sub-inspector and Baber Ali. For this reason I do not consider that Rajjab accused should receive the full punishment.

The Court accordingly sentences Rajjab accused to four years' rigorous imprisonment, under Sec. 232 I. P. C., and four years' rigorous imprisonment, under Sec. 235 I. P. C. Such two periods of four years' rigorous imprisonment to run concurrently from to-day.

(Sd.) S. J. DOUGLAS,  
Sessions Judge.

8th May, 1899.

## THE RAILWAY ASSAULT CASE.

The adjourned hearing of the above case was resumed at the Saharanpur Sessions Court on the 9th instant before Mr. E. O. Legatt, C. S., Sessions Judge. Mr. Anand Sarup, Government Pleader, appeared for the Crown; Mr. B. B. Chatterji, and S. Mahomed Husan and Mr. Daud Ali conducted the defence.

The evidence of the Civil Surgeon was read and admitted. The statement of the accused was recorded. He denied having committed the offence, and said on the 9th March he was learning work with his father (a pleader) at Deoband. He did not know why the complainant accused him. She must have done it out of enmity. A young Pathan of Deoband really committed the offence, and was arrested. He named the accused, and the Deputy Inspector of the Railway Police let him off and arrested accused. Miss Ally identified him in the Kotwali at Delhi after being tutored by the Deputy Inspector, Railway Police. Abdul Wahid did not get a ticket for accused. He said he had done so because he was a *badmashi*. Razi gave evidence against him because he (Razi) was an old convict, and he was under police pressure. Karimuddin gave evidence against him because the Deputy Inspector, Railway Police, and Abdulla Jan, who was Karimuddin's master, were friends. Surja gave evidence at Razi's instigation, and the police beat him. The Pathan referred to was at enmity with him, because Nur Ahmad, Sub-inspector, at present at Mozaffarnagar, when stationed at Deoband reported him for *badmashi*; and got him convicted. The Pathan fled to Saharanpur and Nur Mahomed informed Sajjad Hosan, Sub-inspector, Saharanpur, who got him punished. Accused was a nephew of Nur Ahmad. The Pathan had a relation in the Railway Police, who was a constable at Saharanpur.

Miss C. Ally, the complainant, was cross-examined at great length, by Mr. Chatterjee. The other witnesses for the prosecution were also cross examined, and the Court adjourned.

## THE TINNEVELLY RIOTS.

A CORRESPONDENT telegraphs from Satur to-day that an admirable plan of campaign has been adopted in the Tinnevely district to quell the riots, and that the troops and police have been disposed in numerous places, where their services may promptly be called into requisition to the best repressive effect. Alarming reports have been received of the doings of the rioters in the Tenkasi side. They appear to have committed havoc between Shornadai and Uthumalai. Shencottah, near Teakosi, in the Travancore limits, has been plundered, and the Resident in Travancore with a detachment of the Nair Brigade is moving there. A riotous movement is now reported near Tuticorin, and Kallugumalai has been threatened, as the punitive police, who were there, have been withdrawn, and a large number of Christian Shanars are to be found there, against whom the rioters may pay off old scores. It is also reported that an attack on Elarampanai is threatened, and the situation is still critical, for if the riots spread to the south of Taniparapani, into Ambasamudram, Nanguneri, and Tenkari, there is no knowing when they will be suppressed. On the southern side there are some fierce Maravars, who are hereditary robbers, and who are not wont to stick at trifles, such as murders. Over 50 people were arrested yesterday at Oppathur, including the local village magistrates. Numberless cases of extortion, looting, etc., not reported at the time, are coming to light. Not only do all the Hindu castes except Shanars come between the authorities and the rioters, but there is the greatest obstruction from village officials themselves. The Inspector-General of Police has arrived at Satur, and it is hoped the plan of campaign will have the desired result, but the troops and police experience great difficulty in suppressing the riots, as no sooner is their approach to a village threatened known to the rioters than the latter hurriedly depart on depredation intent to another village.—*Englishman*.

## HOW TO CURE A SPRAIN.

Last fall I sprained my left hip while handling some heavy boxes. The doctor I called on said at first it was a slight strain and would soon be well, but it grew worse and the doctor then said I had rheumatism. It continued to grow worse and I could hardly get around to work. I went to a drug store and the druggist recommended me to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm. I tried it and one-half of a 50-cent bottle cured me entirely. I now recommend it to all my friends.—F. A. BABCOCK, Erie, Pa. It is for sale by

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

## RIOTS IN SOUTHERN INDIA.

## LATEST NEWS.

FOUR companies of the 27th Madras Infantry have proceeded to date to Virudupatti and two companies of the 4th Pioneers to Madura in connection with the riots.

Telegraphing from Satur on Wednesday a correspondent says the situation at Tenkasi and other places is very serious. The country round Satur is being harassed by plundering gangs. Serious outbreaks and murders are reported at Oppathur attended with murder. The police being attacked fired on the mob, killing one. More than 100 arrests have been made in connection with Sivakasi riots. Investigations at Chinnipuram reveal that village officials are hostile to the Shanars occurrence, reports not being sent of the burning of the villages.

The following particulars have been received by Government about the riots. The Shanars arrogated to themselves the title of Kshatriyas and demanded to enter temples, putting a demand in force in the case of a temple at Sivakasi, where the trustees closed the temple. This led to a litigation, and the case is still pending in the Madura Court. Meanwhile, no body knows, how it happened that the Maravars and Shanars came to blows at Tenkasi. It is supposed that the Maravars incited by other castes, took retribution on the Shanars for their presumptuous claim to caste rights. The result of the raw was that ten men on each side were killed. The rioting gradually spread but not in an organised form, in the districts of Tinnevely and Madura. The Collector of Madura wire that the district is quieting down, and hopes with the help of troop and police soon to put matters right. He has had seven companies of the 27th Madras Infantry, the 4th Pioneers, and a company of the 19th Madras Infantry now employed to quell the riots. A great deal of excitement has been caused, but little of an organised disturbance, most being of the nature of a jacotry. Government is alive to the necessity of the case, and feels certain that the steps already taken will have the desired effect in quelling the disturbances.

News has just been received of a serious riot in Shencottah in Travancore, where many acts of lawlessness have been committed, embracing murder, arson, rape and outrages of all descriptions. Several of the police are reported to have been killed and wounded. One company of the Nair Brigade has been sent for the assistance of the local authorities and reinforcements have been telegraphed for.

## FURTHER DETAILS.

INFORMATION, writes a contemporary, has reached us of a most serious outbreak of rioting between Maravars and Kullars on the one hand and Shanars on the other at a place called Sivakasi, in the Tinnevely District, about twelve miles from Satur, on the South-Indian Railway, which is 46 miles north of Tinnevely station on the same railway. We are informed that for some time past members of the Shanar community in the neighbourhood have been at logger-heads with members of the Maravar and Kullar communities over some temple disputes, and doctory and acts of violence have consequently been very rife in those parts. While the feeling in the villages has for many weeks been one of great unrest and uneasiness, traffic on the roads has been at times completely stopped by threats of violence from organised bands of the two factions. A trustworthy correspondent at Virudupatti, a railway station sixteen miles north of Satur, reports that Sivakasi is overrun with Maravar *badmashes*, who have for some time been threatening to sack the town, and that Virudupatti has been threatened the same way. He adds that on the 3rd instant some Shanars murdered seven Maravars, and the Maravars in retaliation killed and maimed a large number of the Shanars. At the present moment, he adds, Satur hospital is occupied mainly by men who have been wounded at Sivakasi. Writing two days later, on the 7th instant, the same correspondent gives some further startling news. He says that the town of Sivakasi had been sacked and burnt down the previous day by the Maravars, a good many women and more men. Bands of Maravars have been marching about the District and have been burning down two or three villages every night. The rising is now pretty general and all castes are against the Shanars. Half a Company of Native Infantry, under the charge of Captain Burton, arrived at Virudupatti the day before yesterday for the protection of the town, as it was rumoured that the Maravars would destroy it next, as there are a large number of rich and influential Shanars in it. Writing on the follow-day, the 8th instant, he reports that two villages had been destroyed the previous evening. It appears the District Magistrate, Mr. E. Scott, and the Superintendent of Police, Mr. J. A. Dene, lost no time in going out to Sivakasi, and a large force of Police was hastily sent there, while a requisition for a body of Native troops was at once sent to Trichinopoly when the seriousness of the situation became apparent. But, seemingly, the numbers of Maravars, Kullars and Shanars involved in these disputes is very large, while the area of disturbance is very considerable, so that the task of putting down the rioting, preventing further violence, and arresting offenders is one of great magnitude and difficulty.

These unfortunate faction disputes between the castes named are nothing new, as most of our readers must know, but there has been no outbreak of violence so serious as the present one for a long time, the last occurrence of the kind being that at Kallugumalai, in 1866, during which a Deputy Collector, Mr. V. Venkata Roy, was foully assassinated.

We learn from Ootacamund that Government is in possession of no detailed particulars of the riots beyond those contained in a brief telegram from the Collector which goes to show that the riot is a caste-riot between Maravars and Shanars in which the Maravars appear to have been the aggressors. The Collector reports that about ten people have been killed and some houses burnt. The Collector also wires that he is taking all steps to quell the disturbance. The riots have nothing to do with the executive administration of the District, but are entirely due to caste disputes.

A Palamcottah correspondent, writing on the 9th, says:—Further particulars disclose a shocking tragedy at Sivakasi. Dacoities and murders were committed at 12 noon on the 6th. Nadars had been petitioning constantly about the unlawful assemblies and apprehended riots.

The Deputy Magistrate sent a long report to the District Magistrate detailing facts and recommending that prompt measures should be taken. The District Magistrate, Mr. Scott, started on May 31, made a brief inquiry and returned by the next train. Written placards were issued that Sivakasi would be looted on the 6th instant. The District Magistrate again went on the 5th June but went to Karisalcolam and Srivilliputhoor and returned soon after. Two telegrams were sent by the Sub-Magistrate and he arrived two hours late. He made some arrests, and returned to Palamcottah on the 7th and sent Mr. Waller. Thirty-four dead bodies were taken from burnt premises, of which several bodies could be identified. Some women were also murdered. Property worth Rs. 50,000 was looted and streets were ransacked and burnt. The village is panic-stricken. A Missionary, Mr. Scott Price, wires to Mr. Carr, Superintending Missionary that Sivakasi was sacked, that Christians were safe, and that Government should lose no time.

The following is from the pen of Mr. J. H. Nelson, author of "The Madura Country Manual":—"The Shanars are a very low caste, whose proper occupation is extracting juice from the fruit-stalk of the cocopalms. Those of them who are so employed climb with marvellous rapidity and dexterity, and do their work with a neatness well worthy of observation. But they are far too numerous to find all of them employment as toddy-drawers, and they are usually pretty traders."

These people have, as a rule, never been allowed to enter the Hindu temples from time immemorial. But for some years past they claim to belong to the superior caste of Kshatriyas, and that they are equal and even superior to Brahmins, and endeavoured to enter by force into the Hindu temples. A couple of years ago the Shanars of Kamudi, in the Ramnad Zemindari, forcibly entered into the Hindu shrine there, which led to some disturbance and criminal complaints. The criminal courts having referred the parties to an adjudication in the Civil Courts, the Rajah of Ramand, the hereditary trustee to the temple, instituted a suit in the East Sub-Court at Madura for a decree, for declaring that the Shanars are not entitled to enter into any part of the Kamudi temple and for damages, etc. The trial of this suit lasted over two months, and the decision of the Court will be pronounced, it is said, on the 30th of this month. Recently there was a disturbance at Vallur, a village in the south of this district, resulting in the burning of houses and taking away the property of the Shanars. Now a disturbance goes on at Sivakasi, in the Tinnevely District. It is said that many houses have been burnt and lives lost. Here the Shanars attempted to enter the Hindu temple at Sivakasi, a disturbance ensued, and the Deputy Magistrate, a Mahomedan, now on leave, decided in favour of the Shanars, probably holding that places of worship are common to all who wish to worship therein. This followed in the closing of the temple, and the Shanars attempted to break in open, the result being the present riots. It must be here noted that the Shanars have temples of their own in Kamudi and other places.

The special correspondent of the *Madras Mail* telegraphs from Madras:—I have started for Sivakasi. Conditions similar to those in Tinnevely District prevail in the Madura District. Military assistance has been requisitioned for Tirumangalam and Arupukotai, where gangs of fanatics are committing depredations. Disturbances are apprehended at every big centre of the Shanar community. The situation, judging from authentic reports, appears exceptionally grave.

A correspondent at Virudupatti telegraphs:—The Nadar (Shanar) villages in Madura and Tinnevely Districts are being looted by other caste Hindus (except Brahmins). The Maravars are taking the leading part. Gangs composed of thousands of people are looting and burning villages and outraging women. About fifty Shanar villages have shared this fate. About fifty men have been killed. Sivakasi has been looted and burned and the rioters killed many. Several villages are being looted daily. The want of sufficient precaution by the local authorities has aggravated the evil. Great excitement and a feeling of insecurity prevail everywhere. Nothing but prompt action by Government and a proclamation that Government will deal very severely with the peace-breakers will stop this state of affairs.

A correspondent at Arupukotai writes under date the 7th instant:—In this town of 20,000 souls, where the Shanars form the rich trading class and have always excited the envy and Cupidity of all the other castes, they are said to be secreting their property for better protection and to have sent their females to such distant stations as Madura and Madras. Friday is talked of as the day fixed for looting the bazaar, and to-day the Kallars have gone towards the Shanars' settlements in Manthor and Mallanginar. The European agents of Messrs. Dymally and Co. have wired to their sub-agency in this town to stop purchasing cotton through Shanar thargans, and yesterday are said to have taken the extraordinary precaution of sending their cash remittance in currency notes entrusted to seven men who were all armed with lathies. One other European sub-agency that sells its yarn productions in this town has had to stop forwarding cash by road.

A Tinnevely correspondent, telegraphing to the *Madras Mail*, gives the following particulars of the circumstances connected with the faction disturbances at Sivakasi, Tinnevely District, and in the neighbourhood:—It appears that on the 26th April there was contention amongst the Shanars and Maravars owing to the former entering the Maravar quarters; forty-five Maravar huts were burnt. Since then the Shanars were attacked and certain parties were bound over to keep the peace. Various reports of looting grain, etc., at the Shanars' instigation, have lately been made, out of revenge. On information received, the Collector and the Police Superintendent, with 35 Police, 2 Inspectors and the Sub-Magistrate, advanced on Karisekilam, where large crowds were reported, but nothing happened. About the 2nd instant more looting took place and several villages were burnt. A Shanar was killed and also two Maravars. A body of 1,000 Maravars collected. The Collector and Police Superintendent again, on receipt of a telegram which was delayed one day in transmission, went to the scene of the disturbance and made an advance on Srivilliputhoor, beyond Sivakasi, where rioting had been reported. On the arrival of the Deputy Sub-Magistrate at Sivakasi he wired to Srivilliputhoor for help. One thousand rioters attacked

Sivakasi and burnt the greater part of the town. The Police, it is said, refused to fire. The Collector and Police Superintendent galloped in from Srivilliputhoor, when the crowd dispersed, some down the wells, other across country. The Collector found fifteen dead bodies and several wounded. The Collector then wired for troops from Trichinopoly, and thirty Sepoys are now at Sivakasi under the Police Superintendent; and the Assistant Collector, with twenty sepoy, is at Virudupatti where an attack is rumoured.

## PUNJAB PINJRAPOLES.

THEY seem to have a way in the Punjab which is sometime called providing for "dowry." Thus in 1897 it was apparently considered desirable by Sir Mackworth Young to supplement the handsome pension of Colonel L. G. H. Grey, C. S. I. Consequently Colonel Robertson, who had been the President of the Simla Municipality for some years with marked success and satisfaction to the public, was informed that his services were no longer required and Colonel Grey was jobbed into the appointment. Now the gallant Colonel was not what would be called a chicken. He entered the army in 1856 and joined civil employment in 1859, retiring after 39 years' service. His appointment to the subordinate position of President of the Simla Municipality on Rs. 500 per month excited some comment at the time, because he was Commissioner when he retired of the very division in which he then accepted subordinate employment. The Allahabad journal, in commenting on the transaction, remarked that perhaps some day a strong Viceroy would arise who would put an end to such appointments.

After ruralising at Simla for about eighteen months the Nawab of Bahawalpur died, and Colonel Grey's friend, Sir Mackworth Young, promptly jobbed him into the appointment of Superintendent of the State and Tutor to the young Nawab on Rs. 3,000 per mensem.

Colonel Grey no doubt desired to justify his selection, and with a view perhaps of meeting the expenses of his salary, he seems to have suggested that the creditors of the late Nawab should be allowed to whistle for their money unless they made a very substantial reduction in their claims. This will be an exceedingly nice precept to the young Nawab, who, we presume, will be taught that one of the characteristics of a gentleman is to balk his creditors.

We think that Lord Curzon might turn his attention to this State with great advantage. It will hardly be conducive to its prosperity to entrust its affairs to an antiquated old gentleman with these curious notions of honesty.—*Capital*.

## A BIT OF THE TRUTH.

The most pertinent and startling question ever asked is this:—"What is truth?"

A Roman Governor propounded it once, under circumstances which greatly worried and perplexed his official mind. And he was not the first man or the last—not by myriads. So far as I know there has been no satisfactory answer. Some people (radicals and come-outers of various sorts) fancy that in this tail end of a rather braggart and conceited century, they have flushed a fair-sized covey of truths by firing speculæve shotguns into eve y way-f side: bush and bog.

But have they done it? No, gentle reader, no. They have put up crows and sparrows, the same crows that picked the bones of the cave dwellers, and the same sparrows that sold two for a farthing in the time of Plate. There were plenty of fools of all, and there are plenty now. The ancient doctors, indeed, prescribed some horrible stuffs as medicine—they used electuaries of viper's flesh and recommended pomegranate seeds for toothache because those seeds resemble human teeth. Very shallow and silly, to be sure, this sounds to us. But if you wanted to find things that come very near matching them in modern practice, I could show you where to look. On my table I have a list of about 300 new "remedies" introduced to a suffering world within the past twelvemonth. "Must be some good ones among them," do you say? Possibly. I will tell. Meanwhile let us stick to whatever we are sure of. "We learn how to cure diseases," said Celsus, "by experience, not by reasoning."

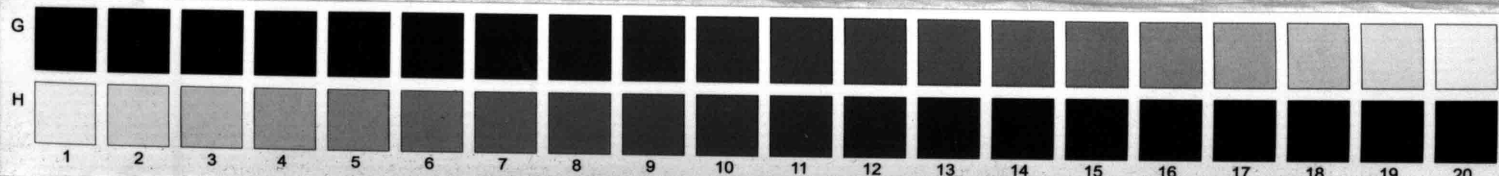
"Some of the greatest truths in medicine," said a learned Scotch doctor, "came by the humblest means; not by synthesis or veneration, but by the observations of peasants and the experiments of motherly women."

Concerning a medicine discovered by one such woman, thousands of stories have been told and letters written. Here is an example:—"For many years I have suffered from indigestion and weakness. I seemed to have no energy for anything. I had a poor appetite, and what little food I ate caused me violent pains at the chest and between the shoulders. Frequently I had attacks of giddiness, and when I stopped I suffered from an unnatural rush of blood to the head. The pain which I was called upon to bear was often very severe; it affected all parts of my body, and at night I got little proper and refreshing sleep on account of it."

"As time went on and the complaint grew fixed upon me, I came to be exceedingly weak, and now and again was obliged to take to my bed. I lost flesh and became quite thin, living, as I did, only on milk, beef tea, and other kinds of liquid food. It will be understood, of course, that I had medical care, besides attending the South London Dispensary. Yet I received no benefit from what was done for me."

"It happened that in January 1889, a friend, Mr. Pullen, told me he had suffered in a similar manner, and been cured by a remedy called Mother Seigel's Syrup. Acting on my suggestion I got a bottle and after having taken it I found great relief. Presently my appetite returned and food no longer distressed me. Convinced that Mother Seigel's Syrup was adapted to my ailment I continued the use of it until it was no longer needed. My health and strength were re-established, and I have since been well. This medicine had done what no other had been able to do. My husband, who suffered from biliousness, used it with the same result. You have my free consent to publish this brief statement if you desire to do so."—(Signed) Mr. Julia Massey, 133, Lorrimer Road, Kennington, London, S.E., January 20th, 1898.

There is no royal road to the discovery of truth or knowledge. Anybody may find it anywhere. It is not always he who seeks that finds. Valuable discoveries are usually made by what, for lack of a better word, we call accident. The medicine that is old as the earth or was picked up yesterday in the fields by a child. That Mother Seigel's Syrup cures is proved by a cloud of witnesses. It is a bit of the truth. Therefore it will not die out, and nothing can take its place.





## THE ACCIDENT ON THE NIZAM'S RAILWAY.

The Secunderabad correspondent of the *Pioneer* writes:—

It was not possible in the space of telegrams to relate the full details of the terrible accident which happened on the Nizam's State Railway on Friday morning, nor was it possible to convey an adequate conception of the sight which presented itself near Bhongir Station. Although the monsoon made its first appearance only a few hours previously, the rain descended in torrents all along the railway line from Ghanapur to Bhongir, causing slight breaches here and there, which, however, were quickly patched up.

About the Bhongir tract 3.75 inches fell in three hours—from 11 P. M. to 2 A. M. and the water in the tank lying a mile or so from Bhongir Station rose rapidly till it reached to within a few inches of the railway line. Up to 3 A. M. the railway gang men patrolling between Bibinagar and Bhongir reported the line to be clear and safe, and when the ill-fated goods train, which arrived at Bibinagar at 4 A. M. was prepared to make for Bhongir about seven miles distant—there was no apprehension of any sort of danger. The train was made up of more empty than loaded wagons, yet a load of 42 wagons involved a speed of 15 or 20 miles an hour. But a quarter of a mile before reaching the Bibinagar tank, there is an incline of one in 100 with a curve from the cutting, where the drivers generally "shut off" steam. It is supposed that the driver of the goods train in question must have forgotten to "shut off," and so the train must have gone down the incline to climb the rise on the other side of the water at 30 or 40 miles an hour at the very least. In the storm which prevailed at 4 A. M. the driver could not, of course, have noticed the dangerous swelling of the Bibinagar tank, particularly as it was reported to be almost dry the previous day. The guards, who are providentially safe, state that the train went down the incline at a swing, and all they knew of the accident, when it did occur, was a sudden stoppage. The second guard was in the brake eight vehicles behind the sixteenth, or last wagon which was whirled into destruction and the head-guard was at the end of the train.

When the train stopped, the guards naturally got out—in the binding rain—to ascertain the cause. They were then confronted with the realities of the dreadful catastrophe. So far as can be surmised, the embankment had been washed away for a few feet, leaving the rails and sleepers suspended a couple of inches above the swollen stream. The culvert of two spans was presumably intact, but it manifestly suffered from the crash, for the sides of it were somewhat mutilated. The rails must have broken under the weight of the engine, which instantly sank side-ways and dug itself into the earth-work in front. There was apparently no time to reverse the regulator before the crash came, and the steam appliances must have burst, for the guards state that when they alighted from their brakes they saw clouds of steam rising in the dark, and their statement is confirmed by the fact that the dead bodies found were scalded, and the water in which the engine lay steeped was warm for several hours after the accident. The engine pulled sixteen vehicles into complete destruction along with it. These were composed of three loaded and two empties belonging to the G. I. R. Railway, two loaded (covered) belonging to B.B. and C. I., one empty belonging to the East Coast and eight empties belonging to the Nizam's Railway. The B. B. and C. I. wagons were bound with salt from Bhayandar to Warangal, the three G.I.P. wagons with grain from War Bundar to Yellandu, and two empties to Yellandu for coal.

Intimation of the disaster reached the railway authorities in Secunderabad by telegraph at 7.30 A.M. and Mr. C.P. George, Locomotive Superintendent, with Mr. Hoskin, Assistant Locomotive Superintendent, left at once for the scene of the accident, taking with them a pilot truck and a ten-ton crane. Another "special" left at 9.30 A.M. conveying Mr. C. B. Dunlop, Chief Engineer, and Mr. W. Gaye, Officiating Agent and General Manager in the absence of Mr. W. Pendlebury, who is away at Bombay. By the courtesy of these officials I was permitted a trip in the "special." We reached Bibinagar at 11.03 A.M. and after a brief halt made for the scene of the accident, but when we got half-a-mile from the spot we had to back the train for three miles or more in order to allow the relief engine to return to Bibinagar over the single line to bring up the pilot and crane trucks. This involved a delay to Mr. Dunlop and Mr. Gaye of an hour. Reaching the place of disaster at 1 P. M., a shocking sight presented itself—a sight that cannot possibly be realised. There was one great heap of wagons, or what was left of sixteen wagons. They were all smashed to pieces, and formed a monstrous upheaval of timber and iron. The third wagon was on the top of the second, which was broken upon the engine, and it stood 18 feet high, with its corrugated roof torn to resemble a flag unfurled in the air. The fourth vehicle heeled clean over, and all that could be seen of it was a pair of wheels attached to plates of iron. This one belonged to the B. B. and C. I. Railway. The fifth and remaining vehicles with the exception of the last one were scarcely discernible as railway wagons. The whole wreck provided a fearfully rugged and unique bridge for twenty yards over ten feet of water. Climbing stealthily and cautiously across, dreading that at any moment that the shattered timber or a dislocated piece of iron would crumble away, we got on to the side where the engine was lying a pitiable wreck. The water in the tank stood half way up the boiler, which seemed to be all right, but the tender was smashed, and covered over with the debris of three or four vehicles which were heaped anywhere on top of the other. In one place the broken wagons formed a cavern over the water and over a part of the engine. It was from this big dark hole that the native fireman was heard groaning by guard Middleton. He was between the plates of the tender and partially in the water which was boiling. He was dragged out and found to be frightfully scalded about the hands, back and face, and his mouth was knocked in. He died without saying a word, a few seconds after being brought out. After searching for a couple of hours about the wrecked engine, fireman Gordon noticed a piece of cloth floating in the imprisoned cavern. With the assistance of driver Adams and driver Jones, who crypt into the hole at imminent

risk of being crushed to death, the dead body of the native oilman was dragged out from the water, and from under the debris, with much difficulty.

A search was then made for the body of driver S. Vaughan. He was lying under eight feet of water. All the efforts of the three men failed to dislodge it from under the engine—which held him down, apparently by the neck. They gave up the task in despair after an hour's labour. The next morning a second effort was made. Meanwhile the water in the tank had gone two feet, the sluices having been opened by direction of Mr. F. C. Crawford, Superintendent of Railway Police, who came upon the spot. The mutilated tender was shifted and driver Vaughan's body was brought up. The unfortunate man had apparently been drowned, not a bone of his body was broken, nor was any part scalded as in the case of the other two men. The corpse was conveyed into Lalaguda and buried last evening with Volunteer honors. From a closer examination of the conditions which caused this terrible accident, it is clear that the embankment at the approach to the culvert spanning the Bibinagar tank had been washed away by the swollen stream half-an-hour or so before the ill-fated train came up, leaving the rails and sleepers suspended above the water for about three or four feet. The rails, of course, broke under the weight of the engine which dashed into the earth-work in front and sank lop-sided into the water. The speed at which she was going down the incline drove the sixteen wagons one on top of another, in consequence of the dead halt.

The railway engineering staff were hard at work all day clearing the debris, and the great credit is due to Messrs. C. B. Dunlop and C. B. George and F. Hoskin for what has already been done to restore the line to its normal state. These officials are still on the spot, and it is expected that things will be all right once again by the middle of the week. The estimated loss to the Railway Company is about two lakhs, which includes the cost of restoring the permanent way, and the value of the engines and vehicles destroyed. *Pioneer's Correspondent.*

## THE TREATMENT OF HYDROPHOBIA.

At a recent meeting of the Berlin Society of Public Health, Professor Pfeiffer made a statement relative to the treatment of hydrophobia as conducted in the Hospital for Infectious Diseases. He said that rabies was not so rare in Germany as it was generally believed to be. In the interior of the empire it has nearly disappeared, in consequence of the strict enforcement of the muzzling order, but in eastern districts, especially in those near to the Austrian and Russian frontiers, a number of persons have been bitten by mad dogs. Persons have also been bitten by other animals which had previously been bitten by mad dogs. One or two months generally elapse between the bite and the first appearance of the symptoms, so that ample time is available for the giving of preventive injections. The earlier the injection, the better are the results. When the virus has reached the brain and the medulla, a fatal issue is certain. The method of injection adopted in Berlin is similar to that of the Pasteur Institute at Paris. The injections have hitherto been successful in every instance. From July when the rabies department was opened, to the end of 1898, there were 137 patients treated, 94 men and 43 women. In 92 cases the wounds were inflicted on the hands and the head, where the bites are more dangerous than on parts protected by clothing. In 107 cases the heads of the animals by which the patients were bitten were sent to the Institution and on being there submitted to examination, it was found that 95 of the animals showed evidence of hydrophobia.

## WHY NICE GIRLS DON'T MARRY.

STATISTICS show that there are more women than men in Great Britain, and therefore it is apparent that some women must remain unmarried.

But statistics do not show why so many well-brought-up girls, who are quite willing to make a good man happy, and have every qualification necessary to make them good wives and mothers, wait for the "good man" in vain, while so many vastly inferior girls make good marriages. If it were the unsatisfactory women who were left—the women who do not know how to make their homes comfortable and their children happy—then they might blame themselves and the statistics for their failure to find a husband.

But everybody's experience will tell him that as often as not it is the unsatisfactory women who marry, and the nice girls who are left. Run over the list of your friends and acquaintances, and you will be able to call to mind at once half-a-dozen wives who do not seem to you good enough for the men they have married, and double the number of unmarried girls who, in all probability, would make those same men twice as comfortable and happy. At the same time, you may notice that the good husbands have bad wives, the good wives very often have bad husbands. Indeed, one is sometimes tempted to question whether it is not a rule of Nature, intended to keep things level.

But the phenomenon is capable of explanation, and it is true that a woman enjoys her greatest chance of happiness in the married state, then it would be well for girls and their mothers to consider it.

We have mentioned the mothers because they do so much to encourage false ideas in their daughters' minds with regard to marriage—ideas which do much to throw eligible young men into the hands of women less well-brought-up. Having found husbands themselves, mothers are apt to forget the fate of their maiden sisters, and to encourage the sweet superstition which finds a place in the mind of every young girl that marriage comes in its right time by a sort of order of Nature, and that their only duty is to make themselves worthy of the ideal husband who is bound to come and be recognised.

It is a pretty species of fatalism; but its truth is disproved by the number of nice girls we see around us who deserve husbands, and have never had the chance of marrying. It is unfortunately true that the husband does not always come. It is more true that he is not always

recognised when he comes, and may be lost for the want of a smile which the girl-dreamer is reserving for the ideal of her vision. Far it is impressed upon her that to waste a single sentimental thought or encouragement upon any man before she arrives at the marriageable age, when, according to the superstition, "Mr. Right" will arrive, will be to lessen her worthiness for the ideal husband. Just so far as she is a well-brought-up girl, and anxious to do her duty, will she meet the advances of her boy suitors with coolness and freeze their sentiment.

And this is where the nice girl loses her great chance of marriage, and gives the pull to her less conscientious sister.

For though men do not marry before they are twenty-one they generally fall in love before. It is customary to smile at these boyish love-affairs, but if you look round and inquire among your acquaintances you will find that more than half the married couples chose each other before either the man or the woman was twenty-one. And girls who get their husbands in this way obtain the very pick of the men—men who marry simply because they love, without a single consideration of self-interest, and who have proved their constancy while earning the where withal to marry.

Thanks to the superstition held by girls and encouraged by parents they are generally snapped up by girls who have not been well brought up, and do not care a toss whether it is right or wrong to encourage boy lovers.

These boy lovers fall in love naturally with girls as young or younger than themselves; and thus the nice girl who has arrived at the age of twenty-one checking their advances coldly, and thinking it wrong to give them the least encouragement, has already bereft herself of the best chance she will enjoy in her lifetime of obtaining a good husband.

By the time that she admits to herself that she has reached a marriageable age, and may think of love, she has narrowed down her chances, and may expect to find a husband only among men who have been inconstant to their girl sweethearts, or have lost them, or who are calculating, fastidious, and hard to please, or boys younger than themselves.

Among the aristocracy and in the higher circles of society a fortunate custom saves the nice girl from avoiding, under a sense of duty, the thought of love during her years of greatest opportunity. Before she is twenty-one she is brought out, and the ceremony serves to separate for her the years of girlhood, when the thought of marriage seems part of an unpleasing precocity, from the womanhood when she has a right to think of and expect it. But in the middle classes there is no such acknowledged dividing line, and there is a tendency on the part of all careful mothers, in their desire to prolong for their daughters the happy, careless days of girlhood, and to save them from the hardships of a long engagement, to raise more and more the limit of age at which it may be considered right for a girl to think of love and marriage.

It is only right to point out to them that by doing so they are making their girls indifferent to the chief chance of marrying that they will enjoy in a long lifetime and, helping to explain why so many well-brought-up young ladies are left without husbands and so many of the best men are appropriated by women who have thought least of parental control, and having shown themselves unsatisfactory daughters, make correspondingly bad wives.

## A MAN WHO HUNTS GHOSTS.

FROM a flood of correspondence, which a short time since inundated the *Times* on the subject of ghosts, it would seem that in the minds of many people ghosts have still a tangible existence. That in these days of common sense and scientific experiment, such beliefs should still survive, at first sight seems incredible, but for the fact that many circumstances natural in themselves appear mysterious because they are not examined.

That being so, and the belief in ghosts being still very great, a Home paper instituted a few inquiries with the result that they lighted on still another new calling in the person of a gentleman who calls himself "a ghost detector."

To the representative he spoke as follows:—"A few years ago some friends of mine went to live in a grand old house in an out-of-the-way part of the country in order that the children who were ailing should have the full benefit of the bracing air. They presently discovered that the house was haunted by a spectre, who, clothed in appropriate white, had an unpleasant habit, at night, of perambulating the corridors and knocking at one of the bedroom doors. None of the family had ever seen the ghost, but all had heard the knocking. The family being all more or less possessed of morbid, excitable natures, the ghost story soon came to be so implicitly believed in, that they fell ill, and I was sent for."

"You notice how grim, gruesome, and grey the house looks," said the eldest daughter, on my arrival.

"Just the house where I should expect to hear the clanking of chains and hollow groans," said I, "but whether it is clanking or tapping, I mean, to stop the noise, I can promise you."

"When the knocking came that night, I crept silently out of bed, to ascertain that part of the door the knocking came from. Having located it at the lowest panel I opened the door—there was no one there, of course—and took up my station outside. Presently in the dim light I saw the knuckle-bone of a leg of lamb, about the size of a walnut, jerked against the skirting alongside the door. On looking closer I found that a mouse, having found its way in the hollow space behind the wainscot, had dragged the tough bit of sinew which is attached to the end of the bone through the hole it had bored, each jerk it gave to get the bone through as well, giving out the knocks which had so alarmed my friends."

"Another case of tapping I sifted led to an artful couple, who for years had been the care takers of a grand old house standing in its own grounds of ten acres, having to look for a fresh home. They received me with a very ill grace, but seemed greatly relieved when I remarked, after searching the house, without finding anything suspicious, that I supposed the place must be haunted after all. Thus encouraged I had not long to wait for 'ghostly warnings.'"

"Tap, tap, tap, on the window-pane of the room they put me in. I got up softly and went into the garden. The snow was on the ground,

and there were no footprints. I returned and took up my position so close to the window that when the tapping came again I could hear that the noise came from the top panes. On lowering the upper sash of the window the tapping recommenced, but this time on my forehead.

"It was quite a simple trick—a piece of wood fastened to the ivy, which ran all round building, and concealed by the leaves."

"Before I descended to breakfast in the morning I examined all the other rooms. There was a piece of wood outside the window of each, ready to be used in the event, of the chamber being occupied."

"There's a ghost in our village I know," wrote a gentleman—who should have known better—last year to a lawyer. My footman has given notice to leave, as he is afraid to pass the churchyard at night when he goes to the station to get me the evening papers."

"The tombstones stood around in such close and venerable array that I was able to creep into the churchyard unseen. The moon shone so clearly that, after waiting half-an-hour, I distinctly saw a tall figure clothed in white, glide from the shadow of the church, and make for the wall which skirted a deep ditch on the other side. Presently, the breeze fluttering the white robes, I noticed, as I crept after in pursuit a pair of boots. A ghost with boots! I nearly laughed outright."

"The 'ghost,' not suspecting my presence, looked at its watch, then mounted the wall, and at the moment the superstitious footman came along, waved its arms to and fro, to the accompaniment of some most unearthly groaning. By this time I had got underneath the apparition, and, just as the footman disappeared, I gave the ghostly figure a tilt, and down it went splash into the muddy ditch."

"Before the rogue could scramble out and take to flight I was on him. It turned out that he was the coachman's son, who had devised this plan of frightening the footman into giving notice, in order that he might secure his place."

"In unveiling ghosts I keep my own counsel. My reason for doing this is not to surround my amateur calling with an atmosphere of mystery, but simply because the agency which gives rise to a belief in the supernatural seems so simple, not to say ridiculous, when revealed, that many people, afraid of being laughed at, are anything but grateful when explanations are given."

"I journeyed all the way to Cornwall to unmask a horrid apparition who had flown at a lady, who a few nights before had gone to a room in a distant part of the house, which was a very old one, and in a bad state of repair, to get some lotion for a face-ache. There was some old legend about a child being murdered by its guardian and relative, and the lady was certain that the object which rushed at her screaming horribly and extinguishing the light was the ghost of the murdered child. When I told her, the morning after my arrival, that the hideous screech and extinguishing of the light was due to a screech owl which had got into the room through a broken pane of glass she quite lost her temper."

"Did I think 'she didn't know a screech owl from a child? If I were a gentleman I should return to London without saying a word on the subject."

"As I did not wish to deprive the lady of a story which no doubt enabled her to chill the veins of her auditors with horror I complied with her request."

"Hardened disbeliever as I am, I remember one occasion on which for a moment even my incredulity was shaken. The ingredients of the story furnished me were very familiar."

"The house, with its large cellars and long corridors, had, of course, a very evil reputation."

"Many, many years before, a very beautiful lady had been murdered by her husband who, returning suddenly, had, by entering a window opening on to one of the landings, discovered the presence of an old rival, who fled with great precipitation."

"For years I was told it had been a common thing for servants to rush into the family room, with stony eyes and livid cheeks, declaring that a tall, dark figure in a long cloak was standing on the landing in an attitude of listening."

"A couple of evening after my arrival, the only servant in the place—they could seldom prevail on more than one to stay—knocked at the door, and in a gurgling whisper informed us that the ghost was there."

"Sure enough, she was right. After gazing at the apparition I boldly ascended the stairs to the horror of the family, who, evidently expecting that some dreadful tragedy was about being enacted, remained covering below."

"I made a grasp at the figure, but failed to hold it, for the simple reason that there was nothing there. The mysterious figure proved to be nothing more than the shadow cast on the clear white painted wall, of the landing by a chimney pot and cowl outside."

"The sloping sides of the chimney gave the appearance of a cloaked figure, and, as the cowl happened to be something like the hat worn by the murderer of the legend, all the family were firmly convinced that it was a ghost which had so frightened them. What deepened this impression was that when on one or two occasions some of the family had mustered courage to ascend the staircase, the figure had always melted away as they approached. Their astonishment when I pointed out that this was due to the light of the candle they carried was something to see."

"My most interesting adventure this year was to lay bare the mystery which enabled a fisherman and his family to live rent free as care-takers of a fine old mansion."

"As the agent pointed out, who would take a house in the passages of which the inmates were likely to be confronted with a horrid creature all eyes and mouth? Yet the trick, for such I soon discovered it to be, was simple enough. A stale ling, two feet long, suspended a few feet from the ground, would soon get phosphorescent, and, of course, highly luminous. Then a dodged-up story about a demon dog, and what with the glare of the eyes and the open mouth you have sufficient to curdle the blood of a hundred nervous highly-strung people."

"Loose tiles, slamming doors, shabby rain-pipes, creaking hinges form, with the assistance of rats and ghost stories, the material which give so many houses even to-day the reputation of being haunted."

OVER Rs. 36,000 is to be spent in metalling 8 miles or so of the worst parts of the road from Bannu to Miran Shah.

## SHE MUST BE MARRIED.

MR. M. VENKATRAMIAH CHETTY, Vakill, on behalf of his client, Rathnasabapathi Chetty, a merchant, of Trivellore, moved before His Lordship Mr. Justice O. Farrell (of the Madras High Court) for an *ad interim* injunction order to postpone the marriage of a girl named Akilandammal, aged 13 years, which is likely to take place in a day or two. The facts of the case were that his client was the brother of one Samarapuri Chetty who was living in Madras about 10 years ago, and whose whereabouts were not known since then. Samarapuri has an only daughter named Akilandammal, and she had been under the protection and guardianship of her mother till December 1897. The mother, at the time of her death in 1897, left her daughter to the care of her sister, under a will executed by her. The mother owned a big estate worth about Rs. 30,000. During the lifetime of the mother she promised to give her daughter in marriage to Govindaswamy Chetty, aged about 38 years, as his second wife. The minor girl, the Vakill submitted, was in the protection of Thoyammal, sister of the deceased mother since 1897 and the said Thoyammal now proposed to give her in marriage to Somasundara Chetty, a student, aged about 20 years. His client, as the paternal uncle of the minor girl, was the sole guardian and agent of her, and as such, he had every right to give her in marriage to whosoever he chose. The Vakill moved the Hon'ble Court to appoint his client as the agent of the property consisting of houses, lands, jewels, etc., and prayed for an *inter alia* order restraining and prohibiting the said Thoyammal from carrying out any marriage between Akilandammal and Somasundara Chetty.

Mr. T. Venkatasubba Iyer, Vakill, on behalf of Akilandammal, and her guardian Thoyammal opposed the application on the ground that the proposed guardian had renounced all his rights over the said minor girl by a registered document, and never took care of the girl till now. The said Govindaswamy attempted to ravish the minor girl sometime ago, and criminal proceedings were launched in the Presidency Magistrate's Court, with the result that he was strictly warned and let off. He had already married a wife and had two daughters by her. And further, he had no ostensible means of livelihood to protect two wives. The Vakill submitted, the boy to whom the girl was now proposed to be given in marriage, had been chosen by Thoyammal, the legal guardian of the minor girl, and she was appointed as executor of the estate belonging to the girl, by a will, dated 6th April 1896. Under the circumstances, the proposed marriage was justifiable and his client had the power to bestow the girl in marriage to any educated boy well connected as she thought fit. The girl herself was willing to marry the boy Somasundara and not Govindaswamy Chetty.

His Lordship, ordered the minor girl to be produced before him in his chambers at 2 P. M., in order to take her consent as to whom she was willing to marry, and then said he would pass his orders on the petition.

His Lordship, without examining the minor girl who was produced in Chambers, therefore, held that the present application was not *bona fide*, and it was simply intended to prevent the marriage which was to take place on following Sunday His Lordship observed that the girl was under a proper guardian and the match selected was equally a respectable one; and under the Guardian and Wards Act the Court could only interfere when it was for the welfare of the minor girl. In the present case His Lordship said, he saw no reason to interfere and give an *ad interim* injunction order to postpone the marriage, and dismissed the petition with costs.—*Hindu.*

THE Poona cheque forgery case comes off at the Sessions here on the 20th instant.

THE Political Resident of the Persian Gulf report the occurrence in Bushire of two cases of plague and two suspicious deaths.

THE monsoon has broken generally throughout the Punjab Hill stations report severe hail and thunder-storms.

PETTY cases of theft have become common in Assam. The thieves are known here as *kantia chores*, i. e., opium-eaters who take to stealing, *kantia* being the Assamese word for opium-eaters.

REPORTS state that in consequence of the prisoners being removed to Dera Ismail Khan, the Gumatti outlaws are inciting the Madda Khel and Lakki Khel *budmashes* to join them in raiding and in otherwise harassing the Government.

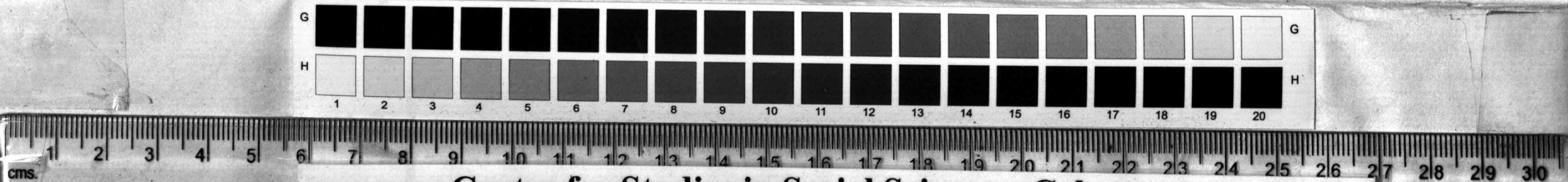
A EUROPEAN telegraph signaller, named McQueen, in the Government Telegraph Office, Delhi, has been arrested for fraud and false impersonation and has confessed to the charge. The accused attempted to obtain Rs. 600 by means of a bogus telegraphic money-order.

OWING to the recent raid of camels at Saidgai and to other minor outrages on the frontier, the composition of the garrison of the Khulhoi Outpost has been altered from eighteen rifles to twelve rifles and six sabres. The latter will be employed in patrolling the country between the Kurram Post and Latammar.

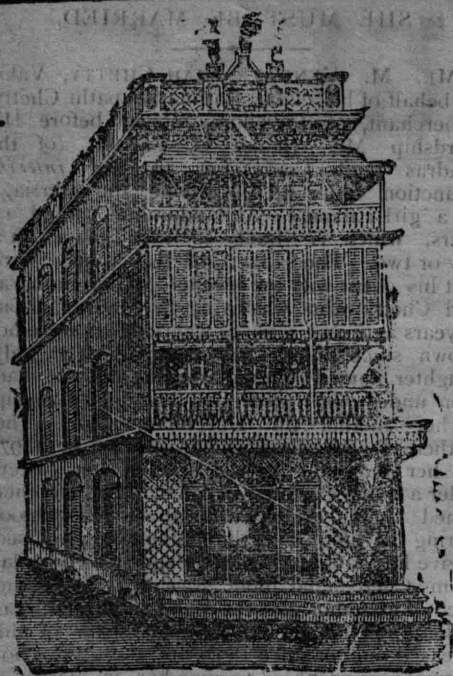
At the request of the King of Siam Mr. C. Rivett-Carnac's term of service under the Siam Government has been extended from three to five years. Mr. Rivett-Carnac went to Siam in November, 1898, as Comptroller-General, and the King has now appointed him Financial Adviser in addition.

WORK in connection with the new Punjab Civil Secretariat, at present to be confined to excavations on the site selected in Chota Simla, is to commence forthwith. The building will, it is expected, be fully completed for occupation by the time the Punjab Government returns here again in May, 1900.

A VERY stormy meeting of the share-holders of the Oriental Spinning and Weaving Company, Bombay, was held on Wednesday. The meeting was postponed for a month owing to Mr. Jeejeebhoy Framjee Petit not being in the chair. Several share-holders made most serious allegations regarding the Petit family, generally attributing ruin to several of their number owing to their conduct of the mill affairs.







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This medicine not only allays all local irritation  
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Chest.

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the organs strong. It sharpens the memory and intelligence  
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bloom of early youth and supplies physical strength  
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of the right side of the abdomen, sour taste in  
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