

# Amrita Bazar Patrika

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

VOL. XXXI.

CALCUTTA, THURSDAY AUGUST 10, 1899.

NO. 61.

## পদক-পতক।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট বহু।

অবতারণার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্য।

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মূল্য ১০ টাকা। ডাক মাংস ১০ টাকা।

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## THE LUMSDEN-AUGIER CASE.

## TRIAL OF THE ACCUSED.

## THE COMPLAINANT'S EVIDENCE.

The further hearing of the Lumsden-Augier case, in which the accused is charged with making indecent gestures to Mrs. Lumsden and otherwise annoying her while she was a passenger in a train from Dinapore to Calcutta, was resumed before Mr. Elmslie, Sub-divisional Officer of Raniganj, on Saturday. As on the former occasion, there was a very large attendance of sympathisers and others, but on the application of Mr. Temple, who was instructed by Inspector Dossa, on behalf of the prosecution, portion of the evidence was recorded *in camera*. Before the case was taken up, Mr. Cranenburgh, who with two local pleaders represented the accused, and that Mr. Allen, Barrister of the High Court, who had appeared for the accused on the last occasion, was unable to come down that day, and he, therefore, asked that another day be fixed for the examination of the complainant and principal witnesses. The Magistrate, in refusing the application, observed that on the last occasion when they fixed that particular day, it was principally to suit Mr. Allen's convenience. He regretted that he could not adjourn the matter especially since he could not keep the witnesses running up and down much longer, while one of them, Mr. Neville, was leaving India in a day or two. Mr. Cranenburgh then filed a written application, in which he took the following objections:—(1) That as the alleged offence was said to have been committed beyond the jurisdiction of this Court, this court could not try it; (2) that an offence under section 509, I. P. C., which was a non-cognisable section, had been added to the charge, this section should be expunged; (3) that under section 120 of the Railway Act, the Railway authorities were the proper persons to prosecute, and that he understood the Agent's permission had not been taken, the case could not proceed.

The Magistrate overruled all these objections, and the hearing then proceeded.

Mrs. Lumsden, examined, said: I remember the 21st of June. I travelled from Dinapur to Calcutta by the Punjab mail—my husband travelled with me and at Dinapur I got into a 1st-class ladies' compartment. I was obliged to get into ladies' compartment at Dinapur for want of room in the 2nd-class. Shortly after we left Bankipur, I was alone in the carriage. I was preparing to retire for the night. I observed a man looking into my compartment. He was making indecent gestures at me. He got into the compartment. About 10 minutes after the train started, I saw the man on the footboard at the 1st-class window. I screamed, "my husband" came out immediately, and the man went back it was a bright moon-light night, my husband sat on the bench with me. I observed the man looking again, and I nudged my husband's arm. When the train came to the next station, my husband and I left the compartment, and we went to a 2nd-class carriage. There were three gentlemen in that carriage. I did not know their names at the time, but learnt this afterwards. One was a clergyman, one a military officer, and one a soldier. My husband asked the soldier to accompany him to search for the man who had insulted me—they went; they said that they had found the man in the bath-room. At the next stop the man (Augier) came in to my carriage, and in the presence of all, the gentleman asked for mercy (identifies Augier as the man who insulted her). I remained with my husband up to the Asansol. Mr. Augier said that he had thirteen years' service, and he pleaded for mercy.

Cross-examination reserved.

Mr. David Lumsden, examined, said: I am the Registrar of the Legislative Department, and live at No. 62, Wellesley Street. I remember the night of the 21st June. I travelled that day with my wife from Benares to Calcutta. My wife and I occupied the same compartment up to Dinapur. I then asked a guard to put her into a ladies' reserved compartment, and asked to travel with her, but not at Dinapur. Later on I went to see her, it was the station before we got to Jhaja. My wife there complained to me that, while she was undressing herself, she saw a man looking at her from the next compartment and making most indecent gestures to her. I got into my wife's compartment, but before doing so, I went and searched for the man in the next compartment. I could not find anyone in it. The green shades over the lights were drawn. I went back and told my wife that I could find no one. She asked me to stop with her as she was nervous. I remained with her up to Nawadi. After the train started, I hid myself in the water closet; this was before I got to Nawadi. A few minutes after my wife tapped at the door and said that she had seen that man on the footboard, and that he had asked to come into the carriage. I took my seat with her. My wife saw the man, and drew my attention by nudging my right elbow, I saw a face, but I could not distinguish the man. I did not see him again before I got to Nawadi. When I got to the place I took my wife out and went to my own compartment. There was one George Neville with two other gentlemen in the compartment—one was a clergyman and one was a Captain of the 4th Rajput. I asked Neville to assist me to look for the man. We both went, he (Neville) entered the compartment, and not finding any one in the carriage, he knocked at the bath-room door, and no one answered the call. I stood on the platform when the bell sounded the door was opened, and Mr. Augier came out. I then reported the case to the guard, who asked where the man was. Just then Mr. Augier came out. Mr. Neville and I then went back to our carriage. At the next halt I went to the guard's van and informed him that I wished to make a report to the police. He said that this could be done at the next station. I saw Mr. Augier in a 2nd-class carriage. He heard me making the complaint and followed me into my carriage. At the time I reported the case to the guard, Captain Tweddell and Mr. Neville were with me. Mr. Augier said that he was innocent of the charge. I had brought against him—he asked for forgiveness, and begged me to have justice done in the matter. He said he had a wife and a large family and thirteen years' service. At Asansol I charged Augier. It was a moon-light night.

Written statement showed and acknowledged to be the witness.

Cross-examination reserved.

Mr. George Neville, examined, said: I remember the 21st June. I travelled from Mogulserai. I was in a 2nd-class compartment. My

fellow-passengers were three in number, *viz.*, Mr. Lumsden, Mrs. Lumsden, Captain Tweddell, and a clergyman at Dinapur; only Mr. Lumsden and the clergyman came back to the compartment. The lady had gone to the ladies' compartment. Mr. Lumsden got out of my carriage after the train had travelled two or three stations for Dinapur, and he went to see his wife. I am sure of this, Captain Tweddell came into the carriage at Bankipur. I think Mr. Lumsden came back and spoke to me. He said that some person had annoyed his wife by looking into her carriage and asked me to search the adjoining carriage. I do not remember the name of the station. There was no one in the compartment nor any luggage. I had to open the bath-room door; it was fastened from the inside, and after two or three attempts to open it, it was opened from inside. I found a man in the bath-room (points to Mr. Augier), he said, "What are you looking I said, "I am looking to see who is travelling in this carriage." He said "I am," I asked him where his baggage was. He said he was only going a short journey. I asked him where his hat and stick were, just then the guard said that the train was on the move. I got out and heard the guard say that he could travel with his wife. When I got back I told Mrs. Lumsden that she was quite right there was a man in the next compartment. At the next station the Captain asked what was the matter. I told him. We then went out to look for Augier. We did not find him in the 1st class carriage. Mr. Lumsden was complaining to the guard. I saw Augier put his head out of a 2nd-class carriage. I pointed to him, and said "That's the man." The station-master said that he would telegraph to the police at the next place. We then got into our carriage. Augier ran to it, dressed in the same way as I had seen him in the bath-room and asked Mr. Lumsden not to press the charge as he had a wife and children and thirteen years' service. When Mrs. Lumsden came into my compartment, she was much agitated and upset, and refused to ride in her own carriage. When I searched for Mr. Augier in the 1st-class, the gas was turned down, but there was bright moon-light, and I could distinguish faces. (Identifies Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden, Rev. J. Scrimgeour, and Mr. Augier.)

Cross-examination reserved.

Thomas Mathews Cassels, guard, E. I. R., examined, said: I remember the 21st June. I was guard of the Punjab mail. When the train was at Dinapur, just before it started, a request was made by a gentleman and lady to me. (Identifies Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden.) The lady asked to be put in to a ladies' reserved carriage. As there was none, I put her into the 1st-class. The gentleman also said that his seat was wet. I told him I could do nothing for him as the train was about starting. I saw Mr. Lumsden again in the 1st-class carriage—in his wife's carriage—and told him that he should not travel in a ladies' carriage, but that he could travel in that carriage till Jhaja. The train started at Jhaja. Guard Robertson took over the train from me. I told him that a lady was travelling in 1st class for want of room in the 2nd, and that her husband got in with her at Lukhisera, I was going to see that he gets out here. I saw Mr. Lumsden at Jhaja. He tapped me on the back and said "I am going to take my wife back to the 2nd-class as a gentleman was hiding in a bath-room." Mr. Lumsden and I went back to the carriage, and I stood three or four paces from the gentlemen's compartment (bogie carriage), and Mr. Augier was standing with his back towards a 1st-class carriage. He was on the platform at the time. There were two gentlemen in the compartment of the bogie. I asked them if it was empty; the gentlemen were inside the carriage. (Identifies Augier.) Mr. Lumsden then went on to Augier looked into his face and said "Is that you." I did not take notice of the gentlemen who were in the carriage. I did not see Mrs. Lumsden then. I do not remember having seen Neville before. (Witness described a bogie carriage and when asked to draw one said he has a very bad hand at drawing and begged to be excused.) (Laughter.)

The partition between the two carriages is 3 inches. There are windows on each side of the partition. A person can easily remove a pillow from one compartment to another—if a gentleman or person put his head or hand out of one compartment, he can be seen and can see into the other compartment. The witness here described the carriages and the number of carriages there were on this train. The ladies' reserved 2nd-class compartment was nearest the brake.

Rev. J. Scrimgeour, examined, said: I am a Professor of Duff College.

(Identifies Mrs. Lumsden, and Mr. Lumsden.) I travelled in the same carriage with them as far as Dinapur. When the train left Dinapur, Mrs. Lumsden was not in. Mr. Lumsden was also absent for I don't know how long, during the first part of the night. I was as good as asleep, *i. e.*, I was trying to sleep. I saw Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden again about midnight. They referred to a matter which had taken place in another part of the train. I came down from the upper berth, and understood all that was going on. The next thing I remember was the entrance of the accused (identifies him), he spoke in a very vehement manner to Mr. Lumsden and begged of him to let the matter drop. He said that if this matter were taken up, his career would be blighted, or words to that effect. He said that the matter could be explained, and that his wife was travelling in the train with him, and he based his innocence on the fact that he had been travelling backwards and forwards to his wife. Mr. Lumsden was calm and collected and quiet.

Cross-examination reserved.

Guard, Robinson, E. I. Railway, examined, said:—I remember I took over the Punjab mail on the morning of 22nd June at Jhaja, and was in charge up to Asansol or Simlatala, A complaint was made to me by Mr. Lumsden (identifies Mr. Lumsden): it was to the effect that some passenger was annoying his wife. I told Mr. Lumsden that I could do nothing then as there were no police at that station, but that I could wire Bijanath on the subject (identifies Augier) and said that he was then in a 2nd-class bogie compartment. A police-man was present at Bijanath. I made the case over to him. He got Mr. Augier out, and then decided to take him in to Mudipur, and then he decided to take them on the Asansol.

Head Constable R. M. Chatterjee, G. R. Police, examined, said: I remember the night of 21st June. I was on duty at Bijanath station on that night. Mr. Lumsden re-

presented to me that a gentleman entered his wife's carriage with the object of outraging his wife's modesty. Mr. Lumsden wrote something. I attached that paper to the station diary, and sent to it my Inspector, thinking the case to be a non-cognisable one. I took no action. I went with Mrs. Lumsden in the train to enable me to ascertain the names of parties concerned. At Mudipur, I asked the station-master to wire to the Police at Asansol to meet me. At that station the Sub-Inspector of Police took the complainant's statement.

Mr. Crimgeour, cross-examined by Mr. Cranenburgh, said: At night I saw Mrs. Lumsden for the first time (*i. e.*, that night). Prior to I had seen her husband. I do not know the hour. I saw Mr. Lumsden before Mrs. Lumsden. I cannot say how long. Mr. Lumsden was with me in the carriage. I missed Mr. Lumsden during the forepart of the night—it was from evening up to midnight. He was absent for an hour or two during the forepart of the night. Mr. Lumsden was in one of the bunks in the compartment with me. I was on the near side bunk. I shifted my place. I did not see Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden coming, but they were in the compartment together the two military gentlemen were either in the carriage or one of them may have come with Mr. Lumsden. I cannot say which one came in. I saw Neville from my upper berth for the first time after dinner. Had he been in my compartment before dinner, I would not have necessarily known of it.

Neville was perfectly sober, so was Lumsden; None of them had been drinking anything so far as I could judge. I cannot say what part of the carriage Neville occupied when he came in. I was sleepy.

I can say that Neville had not been out. My face was in the direction of Neville and I can, therefore, say that till he was called he did not leave the carriage. I did not notice that Mr. Lumsden had gone in and out of the carriage. Mr. Augier had on a black jacket when he came into the carriage. I do not remember his *topie*. Mr. Augier knelt when he got in the carriage, all were then down on lower bunks. Very likely he said that "as God is my Judge, I am innocent." I remember that he said that "my wife is in the same train, can I be guilty of such an offence." I think he said, "For God's sake do me justice as man to man." Augier was in an excited state, but he appeared to be sober. He seemed to be very much affected, and said that he had been going backwards and forwards to see his wife. I heard all he said, but did not hear him say that he had made a mistake in getting into the wrong carriage. He had on a black coat and nothing else. (Loud laughter.) He had an opportunity of explaining his conduct, but did not do it. He remained silent for about 5 minutes to 15 minutes. We said nothing to him during that time—*i. e.*, we did not interrogate him during the whole of this time. Mrs. Lumsden was very silent. She may have made a remark or two, but I did not hear her. I did not hear Lumsden say that that poor fellow seems to be innocent" *i. e.*, after Augier had left the carriage. I got down to put on my clothes, *i. e.*, from the upper bunk, also my sleep was off. I was down when Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden came into carriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden spoke about the guilt of Augier. I did not hear any remarks re his innocence, but some remarks re his guilt. We remarked that women were not safe if such things were to happen, starting on the basis that what was believed to have occurred. Mr. Lumsden reported what had occurred, and Mrs. Lumsden corroborated her husband. Mrs. Lumsden said that a certain man had made indecent gestures to his wife, and he suspected the man. He put himself in a position to verify his suspicions, and they were amply verified. He said that he would have stopped longer, but he found his wife was very nervous. This was said after Augier left the carriage. Lumsden did not say that he suspected Augier. I do not remember what Mrs. Lumsden said. Mrs. Lumsden corroborated her husband by words and gestures. I did not hear anything about the utterance of indecent words, but I heard about indecent gestures. This was said by Mr. Lumsden. Nothing was said to indicate what the indecent gestures were. I did not hear Mr. Augier say that two respectable Government officials could prove his innocence. I saw afterwards Mrs. Augier. She was with her husband. She was in a compartment with her husband and a police officer. I alighted at the same station. I do not know the name. I alighted after Augier left my compartment. I witnessed an enquiry by the police. It was the station where I had some refreshment. The enquiry was held on the platform. I did not hear the details of the enquiry.

Head Constable R. M. Chatterjee, cross-examined by Mr. Cranenburgh, said: I did not take down in writing, but Mr. Lumsden said that a gentleman had attempted to enter his wife's carriage. Mr. Augier told me about the case, but what he said I cannot remember. After Mr. Lumsden wrote a statement, I read it. I was satisfied that what he wrote and what he said were alike. I remember Mr. Augier drew my attention to two gentlemen who were in his compartment. One was the Assistant Superintendent of Port Blair. I took down the names of the two gentlemen, and they said that Mr. Augier travelled with and occasionally he went to see his wife.

The North West Frontier has now been brought into direct telegraphic communication with the head-quarters of the Imperial and Punjab Governments; and the Punjab Command by the recent completion of special wire from Simla to Peshawar *viz.* Rawalpindi and Murree.

A Mother Tells How She Saved Her Little Daughter's Life.

I am the mother of eight children and have had a great deal of experience with medicines. Last summer my little daughter had the dysentery in its worst form. We thought she would die. I tried everything I could think of, but nothing seemed to do her any good. I saw by an advertisement in our paper that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy was highly recommended and sent and got a bottle at once. It proved to be one of the very best medicines we ever had in the house. It saved my little daughter's life. I am anxious for every mother to know what an excellent medicine it is. Had I known it at first it would have saved me a great deal of anxiety and my little daughter much suffering. Yours truly, Mrs. Geo. F. Burdick, Liberty, R. I. For sale by SMITH STANISTREET & CO. AND B. K. PAUL & CO.

## THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

HERE is the full text of the speech of His Honour the President at the Council meeting on Monday last, in connection with the amendments of Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee:—

It will be expected of me that on an occasion of so much importance I shall close the debate myself. I think it is hardly necessary after the excellent speech the Council has heard from the honourable member in charge of the Bill. And at this stage of the afternoon, what I have to say should be said as shortly as I can. I should like to speak to the honourable members who are opposed to the Bill, in the frank and simple words that come from sympathy in their disappointments. When I first spoke upon this Bill last November, I remember saying that I realized their pain and vexation. It was not possible that a measure of this kind could have been introduced without rousing their feelings. Every member of a body, which is alleged to have disappointed expectation, is certain to resent the imputation with warmth. But it is against human nature to be sorry for the man whose means well, and nevertheless does not succeed. And it has been in that attitude that I stand to this Bill today. My regret is sincere that it should be necessary to wound the feelings of a body whose intentions have been excellent.

But, as I said last year, tenderness of feeling cannot be allowed to stand in the way of changes that are essential to the good Government of the capital city of India, and the judgment which I expressed last year, and which I ventured to think was impartial, was that the changes of constitution proposed in the Bill were essential. I have listened with interest to-day to the eloquent, and in many points practical, speeches which have been delivered in opposition. I listened with respect to the assurances of the honourable members who are themselves Municipal Commissioners, that the administration of Calcutta is all that it should be, and that, if there are defects, it is not the Corporation that are to blame. I am not, as they are, an expert, but nevertheless in a matter of this sort I must trust my own eyes and my own experiences, and with whatever regret I say it, I am compelled to say that in my judgment there is imperative need of improvement in the methods of administration in our city.

The opinions of the majority of this Council, the opinions which I expressed last year, and which I have now been compelled to reiterate, and the dissents from those opinions which were recorded by the honourable members, have now been before another tribunal I want you to consider what that tribunal is. It is a Government of India so completely changed within the last two years, that the Military member of Council is the only representative left of the body which accepted the proposals of Sir A. Mackenzie in 1897. It is a body of the highest and most experienced officials in India, and it is presided over by a Governor-General who has engaged himself, as you all know, with the most lively interest in inquiring for himself into the merits of this controversy. It was to this body that our controversy was submitted. I can conceive nobody whose impartiality and whose judgment were more to be trusted.

The judgment has been that for efficient administration a change in the constitution of the Corporation must be made, and that we must go still further than we proposed in the amendment of the constitution. That conclusion is, of course, a disappointment; but I think all reasonable men will admit that it is a conclusion which we must now accept without further demur. A dissatisfied party appeals from the High Court to the Privy Council. But if the Privy Council decides against him, he may personally consider the decision wrong, but there is no more to be said or done. That is the case here. There has been an appeal to a tribunal whose impartiality none can impugn, and that tribunal, with a courtesy and consideration which only illustrate the strength of its opinion, has given its judgment. To that judgment we must conform.

Of course, it is a disappointment to the losing side. In that disappointment I can myself participate, for the judgment is, in a measure against myself. The conclusion is not that Sir A. Mackenzie's Bill went too far, but that it did not go far enough, and that the number of elected members on the Corporation must be reduced from fifty to twenty-five. Sir A. Mackenzie was of opinion that this reduction was unnecessary so long as the executive was strengthened and strong. The Select Committee gave the Local Government clear and definite powers of intervention in case of any miscarriage. With this safeguard I myself was prepared to be responsible for the good government of the city without further change of the constitution. That is not the opinion of the Government of India. They have balanced, as I did, advantages and disadvantages. They give greater weight than I did to the danger of friction and call upon us to make an adjustment which shall avoid it. This is the deliberate conclusion of an impartial tribunal. I may, and do regret it, just as some other members of this Council have done to-day, but the arguments they use have never been absent from the minds of my predecessor or myself, and I cannot deny that in their serene atmosphere the Government of India are better judges than we in the stress of contest as to the exact weight that should be attached to them. I have, therefore, on the part of my Government accepted their conclusion. I cannot expect the honourable members who oppose the Bill to accept it without objection, but I am sure that they and the community of Calcutta will, in their further attitude in this discussion, remember the character of the tribunal which has given this decision and the sympathetic assurance with which that decision has been conveyed. It is final; it has to be accepted. What has now to be done, let us, for the reasons given by Mr. Baker, do as quickly as a just consideration of details will permit. I indulge the hope that the Council will join in this resolve, firstly, because of the notable moderation of the speeches that have been made in opposition, and, secondly, because of the assurance that my honourable friend, Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee gave us in his opening speech, if he thought the Government of India had finally made up their mind he would not waste time. That the Government of India has made up its mind he may take it from their letter to be absolutely certain. In conclusion the Local Government has finally concurred.

In the reasons the member in charge has given, there will be no difficulty in complet-

ing the revision of the simple details that will be committed to them within a fortnight and I trust the Council will accept the motion of Mr. Baker. There are two matters to which Mr. Baker has not referred, and about which I would like to say a few words to the Council. The first is, that it was with much reluctance that I was compelled to intervene and call to order two honourable members who addressed us this afternoon. One of the points on which the expression of views was about to be made was that of the allegation of corruption among the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta. That is a matter on which the Corporation, I see, are about to address me, and upon which the Corporation will have an immediate reply from myself. It is unnecessary to go further into it now. It is not a matter to discuss here and it is not a matter put before us by the Government of India. The second matter was as to the character of the administration of Calcutta in the past. I also ruled that this was out of order and beyond discussion for the reason that the Government of India had come to their conclusion upon that point and had confirmed the opinion of Sir Alexander Mackenzie. As I said before, it is unnecessary now to discuss that question further. The other question to which I want to refer is that to which my honourable friend Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee referred at the end of his first speech. He said this was a measure which was a death-blow to the prospects of local self-Government in Calcutta. I venture to remind him and all the members of this Council of what I said on this subject last November. I said then that local self-Government was confined to no single and solitary system. Local self-Government may be carried out and carried forward in many different forms and fashions, and the man who should refuse to amend the system of local self-Government which was not fulfilling his expectations, would be the most deadly enemy of the whole system of local self-Government. The friend of local self-Government is the man who accepts experience and makes modifications accordingly. Therefore, I must take the liberty to differ from my honourable friend, and I can assure him, that so far from this measure being a death blow to local self-Government, it is the greatest help that local self-Government can possibly receive. Whatever disappointment it may bring to one particular class, the result will be continued success and improvement in the administration of Calcutta.

## HYSLOP ENCOURAGED.

NEW YORK, June 24.—It is a tribute of which Professor Hyslop of Columbia University may feel proud that his associate instructors, some of whom are hard-headed, and, intellectually speaking, cold-blooded men, have confidence not more in his sincerity than in his ability to solve the problem, if it is solvable, for which he proposes to find the answer in the next twelve months. He expects to be able to show by scientific demonstration the truth of immortality and prove that only a narrow line divides us from conscious communication with those who have passed over it into the great unknown. Edison, some years ago, not publicly or in self-advertisement, but privately to intimate friends, stated that he had in the course of his scientific researches come, as he believed very near to a demonstration of immortality, and believed that if he devoted his time to investigation along the line accidentally revealed to him, he could make a scientific demonstration of the fundamental truth that is in the Christian faith. Edison, however, did not go as far as the Columbia professor, who believes that he will be able to show not only that there is immortality, but that conscious existence and communicability between those who are in the other world and this way be established by scientific demonstration.

The Columbia professor has been fortified in his determination in directions where such encouragement was least expected to be found. It does not come so much from the clergy, who, as a class, are, rather curiously, disposed to disprove or resent the employment of scientific methods for the solution of this great problem of existence. Some of them even go so far as to say that no scientific demonstration is necessary, since faith is all that is required, and science can do no more than prove that faith in immortality has ever been reasonable and justified.

## ENCOURAGED BY MEN OF DISTINCTION.

It is from men of learning, some of them eminent upon the bench, some of them of distinction as lawyers and especially from several physicians—physicians generally being presumed to be skeptical and materialistic—that the professor has received communications encouraging him to go on in his investigation. Yet one of the most impressive of experiences was that through which a clergyman, the late Dr. Nathaniel Burton of Hartford, father of Richard Burton, the poet, passed. Dr. Burton had been very ill with pneumonia. He lay for a time between life and death, apparently unconscious of all that was going on around him.

When he recovered he asserted that he was not unconscious, that he had full possessions, apparently, of his mental faculties, but that he had also had an impressive realization of how narrow the line is that separates the other world from this, that he had some glimpses over that line, but by reason of the inability of speech of mortals to express any but mortal thoughts it would be impossible for him to say more than that. Not a spiritualist in the ordinary meaning of that term, Dr. Burton after that experience found his faith in immortality fortified by his personal experience, and he would, were he now living, be among the first to encourage professor Hyslop in his investigation. There are some members of the bar here who believe that the experiences the professor met with in Boston may be scientifically demonstrated to be of the same nature as those lapses of individual consciousness of which the German town case well authenticated—is perhaps, the most striking. Professor Hyslop's attention will be called to what is deemed a well authenticated case that has for a year or two been earnestly discussed by the more prominent members of the bar of this city and state to whom the facts are known.

RAIN commenced to fall in Poona, also good showers fell in Miraj, Wather and other districts.



# THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA AUGUST 10, 1899.

## THE SEPARATION OF THE JUDICIAL FROM THE EXECUTIVE.

THE question of the separation of the Judicial and Executive functions has been exercising the minds of the liberal-minded Englishmen, both official and non-official, since a long time. It was the *Englishman* which, some five or six years ago, first drew the attention of the public to the administration of criminal justice in this country, by the percentage of convictions, and which we followed by a series of articles under the heading of "No conviction, no promotion," and brought to light a mass of literature on the subject which startled both the people and the Government. In 1896, the late Mr. Manmohan Ghose published two pamphlets on the subject, containing twenty cases in which Magistrates, vested with Judicial and Executive powers, had abused their position in a most unwarrantable manner. He was the fittest person to deal with this important matter, as no other Barrister, Indian or English, had such opportunities of coming across the vagaries of Magisterial officers in the Muffussil than this distinguished member of the Calcutta Bar. When disposing of this question, we trust, Lord Curzon will be pleased to go through these two publications, as they will help him a good deal in arriving at a correct decision on the subject.

Mr. Ghose wrote the pamphlets at the special request of a number of distinguished English Barristers and retired Anglo-Indians, official and non-official, who had made up their minds to wait in deputation upon Lord George Hamilton in connection with this reform. Somehow or other, they could not carry out this resolution; but, we are glad, it has at last been given effect to. The memorial, on the subject just submitted to the Secretary of State for India, is signed and supported by such influential parties at home that it has not been possible for Lord George to ignore it, and, as the reader is aware, his Lordship has sent a despatch to India, calling for the opinion of the Government of India. It is fortunate that not only the Government of India but all the Provincial Government are just now under enlightened rulers, who are quite willing to be guided by educated public opinion in a matter which affects the interests of the millions of Indians. It may, therefore, be expected that the reform will not be opposed, but every facility will be offered in its way, so that it may be carried out as soon as possible and a great wrong removed from this country.

The only parties from whom opposition is apprehended are the officials, who are in the possession of the two-fold power. They are bound to go against such a reform. They are men, and therefore they love power. They are rulers in a foreign country, and in the opinion of most of them, despotism is as necessary to them as water is to the fish. The officials in India have been trained from the very beginning of their official career to think that the only way to secure the cause of good government is to strengthen their hands, and to protect them, even when they commit a wrong. The cause of good government in India, according to them, can only be served if they are permitted to do whatever they like, and if they are not meddled with even when they are found wanting.

In short, the subordinate officials in India claimed the last mentioned two privileges, and they got them, because the administration of the country being practically in their hands, they were the masters of the situation. But, have they been able to shew any good result? They say, it is all right; but, are they quite sure that the other party—the ruled—say the same thing? We maintain that the officials, made despotic by law and practice, have not been able to give satisfaction. And this can be shown by the fact that the several hundreds of newspapers in India live mainly by exposing official shortcomings.

Of course, it is urged that the officials are good and the native papers are bad. But to say that this universal complaint, namely, that Government should save the people from the high-handedness of a large number of officials is a got-up or an interested one, is to advance an impossible theory. Then, again, the cases which are published in Indian newspapers are not the creations of imagination. They are supported by documents of unimpeachable character. Let it also be borne in mind that hundreds of cases involving official oppression do not see the light of the day. It is only those which create sensation or in which influential parties are interested that find their way to the press.

That the officials should be despotic in India is but natural. It is the training that makes them so. This is proved from the fact that, many Indian Deputy Magistrates are now-a-days committing vagaries like their European superiors. The training is so bad that it is a wonder that the officials are yet so good.

Needless to say that it is good neither for the officials nor for the people, that the former should be trained as despots and encouraged in acts of despotism. The separation of Judicial and Executive functions will enable an official to feel like an Englishman, and the people to feel immense relief, being freed from the high-handed acts to which they have the likelihood of being subjected by the officials being made both their prosecutors and judges. We do not mean any offence when we say that the officials, generally speaking, are now regarded by the people not as *ma baps*, but the reverse of them. And as for the officials, they can very well compare what they were before they left their free country, with what an Indian training has made them.

It is the duty of the Anglo-Indian press to advocate the cause of justice and progress and not to go against it. It is the duty of the European Associations to take up this reform in right earnest and urge the Government to effect it as soon as possible. It is they who should lead; and it is for the Indians to follow them. As both the non-official Europeans and Indians are vitally interested in this question, the leaders of the European community should not fail to do their duty at this opportune moment. Lord Curzon, we need hardly say, will confer a great boon upon the ruled and the rulers alike, by introducing the reform during his administration.

## THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF COUNCILS.

THOSE who are elected as members of Councils have a duty to perform to their country. We have to remind the Hon'ble members of this truism, because there are some who shew, by their action, that, in their opinion, the Councils were expanded simply with a view to enable them to put the "Hon'ble" before their names. Such men we cannot excuse, and we are bound to expose them. The number of members allowed to be elected is very small, and, therefore, every one of them has to exert himself very hard to be able to do the full amount of work that is expected of him.

They possess the privilege of interpellating the Government under certain conditions. This is a privilege which, if properly utilized, can be of immense service, both to the ruled and the rulers. This right, which the members enjoy, gives the Government an excellent opportunity of explaining its motives, and removing misconceptions. The most important work in connection with this right of interpellation consists in bringing the vagaries of officials to the notice of the Government, for this affords some protection to the people, who are, under the constitution, too feeble to be able to protect themselves from officials who are over-zealous.

Unfortunately, any question in reference to the vagaries of officials, it is believed and felt, is resented by the authorities. Such a question means not only the exposure of its servants, but of the Government itself. When it has a very satisfactory explanation to give, the Government will welcome such a question. Unfortunately, the vagaries of the officials are sometimes so gross that the Government, with all its efforts, cannot utter one word in their defence. The chief authorities are thus bound to frown at the disagreeable interpellation, when he places them in an awkward position.

Three of the most prominent members of the Congress had been in the Local Council during the last two years. None of them, as far as we remember, had a single question regarding official vagaries, though there were many cases in which the officials behaved in a most unwarrantable manner. Babu S. N. Banerjee had always championed the cause of those who suffered from Magisterial vagaries. We regret, too, that he was not as vigilant during the last two years as he had been before. Indeed, we had to find fault with him when he was led to withdraw certain questions he had put in Council in regard to the high-handed proceedings of Mr. Egerton, Magistrate of Berhampore. Why he withdrew the questions we know not. We were, however, told by some of his friends that he had taken the step, because he had been assured that Mr. Egerton, who was then about to go to England, would not be sent back to Berhampore after his return from home. But as he has been posted there again, the information referred to can not be true. Mr. Egerton has been sent back to Berhampore not that he had no other place to be sent to, but because the inhabitants of that district did not like his return there as their *ma bap*. This is one of the features of the administration which can never be liked by the people. The policy, *viz.*, to keep an official, at all hazards, in a district, when he has made himself unpopular there, was inaugurated by Sir Charles Elliott, but condemned by his successor, Sir A. P. Macdonnell.

To return, however, to the main question. The elected members are doing very well in Madras and Bombay. Their interpellations fill many columns of newspapers. But here, the members are, day by day, shewing an amount of apathy which is very disheartening. We are, however, very much pleased to see the activity displayed by Rajah Ranjit Singh Bahadur. As a nominated member and Mofussil zemindar, we did not expect so much zealous work from him. In Mr. Apar we have got a strong member, and we hope he and Babu Surendra Nath will utilize the excellent opportunity they enjoy of affording any protection they can, to those people who have incurred the displeasure of the local authorities. How is it that Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee has, as yet, taken no notice of the Moonshigum case? As for Babu Baikanta Nath, he is one in whom the country has great confidence not only on account of his patriotism, but high intelligence, culture and experience of the country. Let us here repeat what we said before, namely, that the most important work of the members is to afford, as far as that is possible, protection to the victims of over-zealous officials.

## THE MUNICIPAL BILL IN THE COUNCIL.

THE proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council, which met on Monday, proved unusually lively. Every one of the three new members, Dr. Ashutosh, Babu Baikanta Nath and Mr. Apar, made his presence felt. Dr. Ashutosh's observation, that the Municipal Despatch of the India Government was a document remarkable for the fact that the conclusions in it were not deducible from the premises, was worthy of the mathematician that he is. He can understand that if  $2x$  is equal to  $y$ , the former is double of the latter. If he is, however, told, that because  $2x$  is equal to  $y$ , therefore  $y$  is half of  $x$ , he has a right to object. Indeed, one who reads the Despatch finds that the Government of India was pleading throughout on behalf of the rate-payers.

Thus the mistake was originally committed by this journal. It was midnight when the Despatch reached this office. The Editor in charge read it and, before he had gone to the end, arrived at the conclusion that the Government of India had vetoed the proposals of the Government of Bengal, and so he was led to make the cheering announcement that the rate-payers had won. The mistake was discovered early in the morning when the concluding portion of the Despatch was read.

His Honor, the President of the Council, now throws the entire responsibility on Lord Curzon. His Honor was seeking such an opportunity ever since he took upon himself the disagreeable task of carrying out the idea of Sir A. Mackenzie. His Honor abhors war as nature abhors vacuum. He had not the slightest wish, when taking office, of speaking an unkind word or hearing one in return. But fate ruled it otherwise. While Sir A. Mackenzie was courting sleep in a cold climate, his successor was made the subject of all attacks. But now Sir John Woodburn has got in Lord

Curzon a hiding place. His Honor will conceal himself behind the Viceroy, and let His Excellency deal with the attacks.

But where was Lord Curzon when Sir A. Mackenzie was leaving this country? No one had then the remotest idea that he would be the Viceroy of India. Lord G. Hamilton, the Secretary of State, had kept an unbiased mind; Lord Elgin had, in the same manner, left the question open; what business had Sir J. Woodburn and his ministers to accept the idea of Sir A. Mackenzie, who was only for two years in Bengal, and to throw the country topsy turvy?

We owe the measure mainly to the exertions of Sir J. Woodburn and his ministers. Would His Excellency have thus "deduced wrong principles from right premises" if His Honor had not presented to him a full-fledged Bill? But why this anxiety to shift responsibility? Are not the people going to have a reform? Are not they expected to thank their benefactors for it? And if they, the Indians, ever take upon themselves to shew their gratitude and vote permanent memorials to those who had voted their (Indians') permanent incapacity of managing their own municipal affairs, they will never forget that they owe it not to the Government of India, but that they are primarily indebted for it, to the Government of Sir J. Woodburn!

Of course, those who have voted the incapacity of the Indians may not care but this unjust confiscation of rights will rankle in the minds of the people. For they feel that though voted incompetent, they are in fact not so. It will be an impossible task to persuade them to believe that they deserve this confiscation. For what says the *Morning Leader*? It says, and it only echoes the sentiments of the *Times* that the country which could give a Chatterji to beat all competitors in the Civil Service Examination; a Paranjpye to beat Englishmen in mathematics; a Kanjit to maintain the honor of England in the cricket field; and a *savant* in the person of Bose, can never possibly be so worthless as to be unable to manage even their municipal affairs. No, it will be impossible to persuade the Indians to believe that they had been punished justly; neither will it be possible to persuade any unprejudiced man in that way.

The Hon'ble Mr. Mackenzie, who represents the "influential" classes in Calcutta, is impatient of the delay and cannot brook it. He wants the reform to be introduced as speedily as possible. As the *Morning Leader* says, this measure makes the Indians "out-landers" in their own country. In the Boer land the out-lander (Englishman) complains that he has no status. In India the Indians complain that the out-landers have expelled them even from the municipal government of their own country. In short, they feel they are perfect strangers even in their municipalities which they maintain with their own money.

According to His Excellency Lord Curzon, our beloved Viceroy, the fight is between Influence and Numbers, the Europeans representing the former and the Indians the latter. Let us see how they fought and how the fight ended.

Influence.—We must have the control, for the Government cannot disoblige us.

Numbers.—We must have the control, for justice is on our side.

Influence.—And are we not stronger despite our small numbers?

Numbers.—Yes, you are stronger. But the happiness of the greatest number ought to be sought. That is true philosophy and true statesmanship.

Influence.—Let us then appeal to Lord Curzon. He knows we are strong, and not to be trifled with.

Numbers.—We agree; let us go to Lord Curzon. Yes, you are not to be trifled with, neither is Lord Curzon to be trifled with. If you are strong, he is stronger yet; he is the strongest Viceroy that ever came to India. He is not to be influenced by Influence.

And thus the matter was submitted to the Viceroy, each party hoping for victory, with what result we all know.

As for Mr. Apar's eloquent speech, those who have secured his election will be glad to see that they have no reason to be ashamed of their choice.

The reason why Lord Curzon has proposed to reduce the number of the elected members of the Corporation, is that it looks odd for the elected fifty to elect only four, and for the nominated twenty-five to elect eight, in the General Committee. This arrangement, which is unjust, ought to have been removed by giving the fifty the power of electing eight, and the twenty-five, of electing four. That is the rational remedy for the disease, but the Government of India adopts an unlooked for means of removing this anomaly. For the purpose of concealing this sore, the Government adopts an expedient which keeps the sore as virulent as ever, but only conceals it from the public view. The Government of India can reduce the number of the elected Commissioners from fifty to twenty-five by a stroke of the pen; but it cannot, in the same manner, reduce the number of rate-payers. The fight is between a few thousands of Europeans and a few lakhs of Indians. If there are one thousand Europeans and fifty thousand Indians, the latter ought to have fifty representatives if the former gets one. That is the only just arrangement possible. The rate-payers have, however, very little to say to this change, for the members of the Corporation will have no work, no responsibility and no influence. If the Government of India had reduced the elected fifty to twelve, even that would not have mattered much. But the Municipality will be, under the proposed change, controlled by the twelve members of the General Committee. The fight is for the constitution of this General Committee. What the Government has practically provided is that it has given the few thousand strangers the privilege of electing two-thirds and the few lakhs of permanent residents, of electing one-third of the members of the General Committee! Can this be fair and just? Is this not confiscation of rights already given? It is quite apparent that the few thousands exercise very great influence over the Government. But the Government ought to be strong enough to be able to resist this influence, for the sake of maintaining justice.

We find in the newspapers that the *Champion* of Bombay is going to bring an action of defamation against the *Rast Gofar*, claiming Rs. 10,000 as damages. It is alleged by

the complainant, we are told, that the *Rast Gofar* had insinuated that the object of the *Champion* in noticing the *Kal* case was to propagate sedition! When Mr. Bhayam Iyengar brought a charge of defamation against the *Madras Standard*, we blamed him for having gone to that extreme length. Indeed, he found that he had need to give an explanation to the public for his conduct, and the explanation that he gave silenced all those who had first blamed him. He said that if one found himself the object of attack in a newspaper, he would not willingly go to take action. It is not a pleasant thing to stand before a *hakim*, even as a complainant. But, if the libel is repeated, what has one to do? In this view of Mr. Iyengar we fully agree, though we must say that the libel of which the *Madras Standard* was convicted, was not a gross one. If you do not take notice of a libel as beneath contempt, the libeller is encouraged to proceed in his nefarious course. Eventually the forbearing man sees that he had committed a great mistake in ignoring the first libel. Journalism is everywhere a sacred institution; it is more so here, for it is our only means of coming in contact with our alien rulers. The functions of a journalist here are, to instruct, to protect, and to interpret. But if a journalist, forgetting his high responsibility, takes upon himself to prostitute his profession, society is interested in stamping him out of existence. He demoralizes society and he becomes a nuisance. And how easy is it for a journalist to injure a man or a woman! A hint, a suppressed sentence, a star or a dash is sometimes enough to ruin the character of a man or a woman. We, in Calcutta know very well that even a Hindu lady is not safe from the poisonous shafts of these unscrupulous scribblers who live upon vilification. And after ruining the character of that innocent lady and making her life and the life of her husband and relatives miserable, the journalist sought to escape by declaring that he had not meant the lady at all! It is such journalism were allowed to work mischief with impunity, the reputation of no honest man or woman would be safe. We ourselves have some accounts to settle, and we hope the public will forgive us, for being obliged to take a work in hand which, though disagreeable, has, at last, become a necessity and a public duty.

WHETHER Sir John Woodburn actually prayed to God for the cessation of the rains or not, we do not know; but, as a matter of fact, the rains have ceased. The country is just now experiencing so much heat that even the Indians can scarcely bear it; it is therefore making the lives of the Europeans miserable. One thought, however, should console them. This cessation of rains and the intolerable heat mean blessings to the crops. The *aus* or early paddy is recovering where it had not been completely destroyed; and the *sheko* insect, in spite of its hard shell, is a tender creature, for it cannot bear heat. We welcome back Sir J. Woodburn to the capital. Wherever His Honour pays a visit he earns golden opinions of the people. He has an honest look, and a pleasing address which fascinates those who come in contact with him, even when he cannot oblige them. He is always ready to oblige whenever he can do so. Even the disfranchisement of the Dacca Division, for which we had to find fault with him, was due to a desire to please. His Honour's acceptance of Babu Baikanta Nath Sen as a member of Council is a proof of a sincere desire to accede to the wishes of the people. Our only complaint against His Honour is that Magisterial vagaries are not decreasing under his rule. His Honour ought to teach his subordinates to treat the people in the way he himself does. Is it not a little anomalous that, while the Chief should be all courtesy and kindness, his subordinates should be less sympathetic? His people do not get adequate protection from the vagaries of those Magistrates who are wild, and that is the general complaint against his administration.

The following from the *Morning Leader*, commenting on the action of the Government, in regard to the Calcutta Municipal Bill, explains the situation fully:

"Thus the Indian ratepayers of Calcutta will be deprived of all effective control over their own local affairs. Yet (if we may borrow a passage from the article in which a few days ago the *Times* shed crocodile tears over the hard lot of British Indians in the Transvaal), these men are 'the fellow-countrymen of the young cricketer who held the wicket at Nottingham, England, of the young scholar bracketed Senior Wrangler at Cambridge this summer, of the young administrator who the other year headed the Indian Civil Service list, of the young savant who lately received an ovation from English men of science, and of the young Indian artist who has just arrived with good will from Paris, Munich, and Rome.' We await with some curiosity the indignant comments of the *Times* upon Lord Curzon's scheme for 'robbing' Indians already 'out-landers in their own country' of such power as they have hitherto been permitted to enjoy in municipal government."

His Excellency the Viceroy is of opinion that, in this contention, about the Municipal Bill, there are wealth and influence on the side of the European, and numbers on the side of the Indian. We cannot consider this view to be quite correct; for, it would not be correct to say that the Europeans are more wealthy in Calcutta than the Indians. The former being birds-of-passage, never make, as a rule, any permanent property here, and thus all the house-owners are Indians. The fight is, therefore, between influence on one side and wealth and numbers on the other. Or, the fight is between those who maintain the Municipality and those who do not; or between the permanent residents of the city and those who are only strangers. It is quite true that influence is on the side of the few aliens, and this is proved by the very great consideration shewn to them by the Government. Though without any property here and though numerically insignificant in number, yet they have been able to throw the Government itself in a state of confusion. But it is for the Government to explain whence proceeds this influence. Naturally, they do not deserve it, for, it can never be natural that a few thousand strangers should carry greater influence than as many lakhs of the permanent residents of the country. So unnatural

is the position of a few strangers acquiring leading position amongst the many permanent inhabitants, that the British Government is going to co-erce the Boer State with forty thousand troops to shew some consideration to Englishmen residing in Transvaal. We do not think it is creditable to the Government that the few strangers, alluded to by Lord Curzon, should enjoy greater influence than the many permanent residents of the country.

THE Mail to hand brings the full text of the memorial on the proposed separation of Judicial and Executive duties in India. It contains the signatures of three ex-Chief Justices, namely, Sir Richard Garth, of Bengal, Sir Richard Couch, of Bengal, and Sir Charles Sargeant, of Bombay, of four Puisne Judges, namely, Sir William Markby, Sir John Budd Phear, Sir John Scott, and Sir W. Wedderburn; and of Lord Hobhouse, late Legal Member of the Viceroy's Council, Sir Roland K. Windsor, late Reader in Indian law at the University of Cambridge, and Mr. H. J. Reynolds, late member of the Bengal Council. The memorial consists of three sections, (a) historical retrospect; (b) the existing grievance and the remedy; and (c) answers to possible objections. No less than fourteen important letters and articles, printed in very recent years in India or in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, partly for and partly against the proposed reform, are set forth in an appendix; and, in another appendix are reprinted the late Mr. Manmohan Ghose's pamphlets referred to in our article yesterday. Such a weighty document will, we hope, lead Lord Curzon to consider the subject with that seriousness which it deserves, and at last to introduce the reform for the benefit of the millions in India.

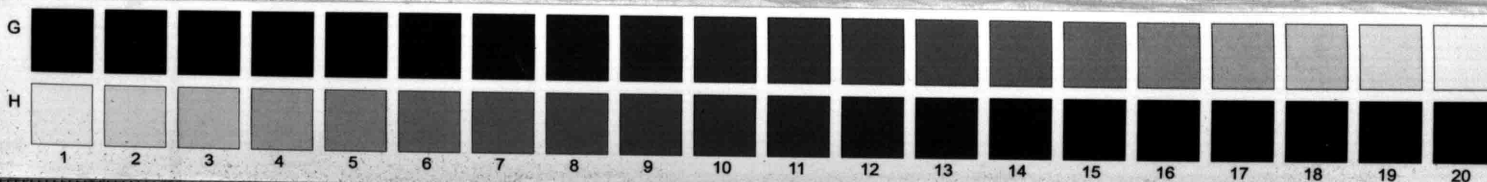
A CASE of considerable local interest has just been disposed of by the Sub-divisional Officer of Kushtea. About three or four months ago, the wife of Babu Basanta Kumar Sirkar, of Osmanpur, near Kumarkhali, died. It was reported to the Kumarkhali Thana that she had died of cholera, and the death was entered as such in the Death Register. Some time ago the Sub-Inspector of Police, Kumarkhali, sent for Basanta Babu and asked him if his wife had really died of cholera or of opium poisoning. The cause of this action of the Sub-Inspector is not known. In reply, Basanta Babu said that cholera had been the cause of his wife's death. Then the Sub-Inspector made enquiries from the doctors attending the lady during her last illness. Of the three doctors who had treated her, two reported that she had died of cholera, while the third reported that she had died of opium poisoning. Thereupon the Sub-Inspector of Police reported the matter to the Sub-divisional Officer of Kushtea. Orders were passed on this report and Babu Basanta Kumar Sirkar and the first two doctors were prosecuted. The Sub-divisional Officer himself tried the case. On behalf of the prosecution, the third doctor, the village Panchayet, the Sub-Inspector of Police, Kumarkhali, and a chowkidar were examined. Of these, the third doctor supported the prosecution, while the Panchayet and the chowkidar deposed that the lady had died of cholera and not of opium poisoning. The accused also deposed that there was opium poisoning at all and maintained that it was a case of cholera. On Monday before last the Sub-divisional Officer delivered judgment, convicting all the accused and sentencing the bereaved husband to pay a fine of Rs. 100 and the two medical men to a fine of Rs. 51 each.

MR. FRASER, the officiating Home Secretary, who is well known for his friendly feelings towards the people of country, has been appointed to officiate as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. His elevation, we need hardly say, will give universal joy. During his short stay in Calcutta last cold season, he made many friends among Bengali gentlemen of the town and created a deep impression upon their minds by his culture, high-mindedness and sympathetic attitude.

THE questions of Mr. Davitt and the answers that Mr. Roderick, on behalf of Lord George Hamilton, gave, will vividly illustrate the fact that, it is only two or three dozen Englishmen who wield the destinies of the three hundred millions of India. Mr. Davitt asked, whether there was any Indian in the Executive Council of the Government of India. Mr. Roderick said that there was not one; all the seven members of the Executive Council were British-born subjects. These seven members sit in secret conclave, never consult Indian opinion, and have the privilege of doing whatever they like without being held responsible to anybody for their acts. They start large measures of policy in which the millions of India are vitally interested; but they never mix with the latter or their representatives, and are thus utterly ignorant of the wishes, thoughts and sentiments of those for whose welfare they ostensibly work. There is not a country in the whole world which can present such a unique spectacle as India does, namely, that its destinies are in the sole keeping of seven human beings, endowed with all human frailties, who take upon themselves the awful responsibility of governing fellow-beings without consulting them, though millions of them are as intelligent as ordinary people in Europe and America, and many of them, if not their peers, are fully competent to advise them as to the best way of securing the happiness of the Indians entrusted to their care. The other question of Mr. Davitt relates to the constitution of the Legislative Councils of the Supreme and the Local Governments, to which Mr. Roderick replies:—

In the Legislative Council of India there are 21 members, of whom 7 are natives of India. In the Madras Legislative Council 10 out of 23 members are natives of India. In Bombay, 12 out of 23. In Bengal, 10 out of 19. In the N.-W. Provinces, 6 out of 15. In the Punjab, 4 out of 9. In Burma, 2 out of 9.

Mr. Roderick then says that all the members of these Councils are nominated by the Government of India, though, in every case, except those of Burma and the Punjab, a proportion of the seats is filled, as a matter of practice, on the recommendation of certain public bodies. Practically, as every body knows, there is no difference between the Executive Council of





the India Government and the various Legislative Councils that exist here. For, it is all the same to the Indians if they are absolutely unrepresented in the former, and one-fourth or one-third only is represented in the latter. How they carry on legislation in this country will be evidenced from the result of the voting at the last meeting of the Bengal Council. The six representatives of the people only wanted a few weeks' time to study the Government Despatch on the Municipal Bill and express their views upon it. Eleven official members, however, came to swamp the six, who made this prayer on behalf of the people! The English nation are under the impression that the Indian Empire is theirs and that it is they who govern India. This is a delusion. The Indian Empire belongs to only a few Englishmen, who govern it at their sweet will, and not in accordance with the wishes of the English people.

WE had a notion that the Bill for the protection of press messages was introduced at the instance of the Anglo-Indian newspapers; but they are, one by one, showing their disapproval of the measure. The letter of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce proves the fact incontestably that the Anglo-Indian community are not interested in having such a measure introduced. As for the Indians, they can have no possible interest in the protection of press messages. Why was then the measure introduced at all? Who wanted it, if not the Europeans and the Indians? Or, was it introduced at a moment of thoughtlessness; and the Government, as its nature, does not wish to withdraw it? The last supposition is perhaps the only solution. The Government, when it has once taken a step, does not choose to back out even when it comes to know that it has made a false move. The difficulty lies in introducing a measure. If it can be once done, the measure is allowed to proceed in its course without molestation.

MR. W. S. CAINE never loses an opportunity of obliging the people of India. From the letter of our London correspondent, it will be seen that on the 19th July he gave a grand party to meet Mr. Paranjpye. Mr. Caine privately writes to us: "I send you an invitation to an evening party I am giving the Indian Senior Wrangler. I hope you will send your astral body if you cannot come yourself." The mischief, however, is that we got his letter only day before yesterday, more than a fortnight after the party had met. If Mr. Caine really wanted our astral body, he should have sent his invitation to us by an astral letter, so that we might have got it in time to do his bidding astrally.

If Mr. Paranjpye has done well, almost equally has Mr. Harinath Dey, of Christ College, distinguished himself. He is at the head of the list in Classics and obtains a scholarship of 60%. He has performed the remarkable feat of scoring 148 marks out of 150 in one paper, and the examiner said that one of his answer sheets was missing. He scores about 1400 marks out of a maximum total of 1600; and leaves the second man behind by 200 marks.

THE Tehsildar and pleaders of Bhakkar do not appear to be pulling well with one another. At a meeting of the pleaders held on the 25th ultimo the following resolution was adopted:— "All the members present of the Bhakkar Bar hereby resolve unanimously not to appear in the Court of the Tehsildar, Bhakkar, in future for the following reasons: 1. That the Tehsildar has forbidden the agents of the Legal Practitioners when they have to appear in his court from entering his court-room. 2. That his behaviour towards the Bar is discourteous and uncivil. (3). That the appearance of pleaders in cases generally is not liked by the Tehsildar for reasons best known to himself."

IT is interesting to find that the question of the Indian fruit export trade is engaging some attention in England. The *Home and Colonial Mail* says that Londoners are waking up to the fact that developments are taking place as regards the fruit-supply. Mangoes are arriving in London from India. This is the result of "cold storage." Once upon a time an occasional present of mangoes used to be sent over to Her Majesty by some distinguished persons here who deputed a special person to take them, packing them in fresh ice from time to time en voyage. "Cold storage" does things better than this, and mangoes can now be sent to Europe in fairly large quantities. A fruit-trade can now be advantageously started here. This should not be difficult, for Australia has already established a not inconsiderable fruit-export trade to London, and the voyage is almost as long again as from India. As for mangoes in particular, cold storage, we fancy, will be necessary until the time when travelling between India and England hurries up. Meanwhile the Sudan is being exploited for the fruit trade, and it is said to be highly favourable for mangoes, so that India will have a competitor nearer Home. North Australia already grows good mangoes, but North Australia is too far away to be a serious competitor with India—if Indian fruit-growers were to exert themselves for export trade.

A CORRESPONDENT sends to the *Times of India* the following notification published by the Cantonment Magistrate of Belgum:— "Extract from Station Orders dated 25th July, 1799:— "Sanitary Uidemics.—S. O. 360. With reference to resolutions by Plague Committee, dated 17th July, 1899, notice is hereby given that, except those exempted by the Medical Officers, no non-inoculated natives will be permitted to reside within Cantonment limits, except in the Sudder Bazar, after the 15th August. Further, Belgum Cantonment is declared a plague-infected area, and after the 31st August, except those exempted by the Medical Officers, no non-inoculated natives will be allowed to reside in the Sudder Bazar. Any person neglecting to obey these orders will be proceeded against before the District Magistrate under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code. Circulated by order of the General Officer commanding Belgum District." Of course, in issuing the above notice, the Magistrate was actuated by the very best of motives. But has he any right to issue such orders? Does the law provide it? Inoculation

has not been, we believe, made compulsory in any part of India. Under the Indian Cantonments Act, the Magistrate has the power to send out of the Cantonment limits any person who is suffering from an infectious disease and who refuses to be treated in the Cantonment hospital. But whether compulsory inoculation—for the order virtually comes to that,—comes within the purview of that provision is more than we know.

#### THE MONSOON AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK.

GREAT concern has been caused at Agra owing to the sudden rise in the prices of food grains.

DARJEELING is having glorious weather, the days being remarkably fine, and the views simply magnificent.

CEYLON is having almost as dry a time as parts of India. A Colombo paper states there has not been a drop of rain in Colombo since the 17th ultimo, and not only 1.11 inch since the 29th June.

A BOMBAY telegram of the 8th instant, says:—The weather prospects are a little less favourable, the wind currents have diminished in force and the sky is less cloudy. Up-country telegrams received this morning give the following rainfall: Khamgaun 35 cents, Bhusawal 43 cents, Kujgan 1.55; Julgaun 33 cents, cloudy everywhere and more rain is expected.

A TELEGRAM from Simla dated the 8th August, says:—Information received this morning shows that the monsoon winds are increasing in strength up the west coast. The storm that has developed in the Bay has not yet moved and is still in the east of the Bay. So far as can be judged from the present conditions, its course should be through the Circars, the Central Provinces and Rajputana.

REPORTS have been received at Bangalore from the interior, of continued drought throughout the province. Water and fodder are running short, causing much anxiety. Villagers' crops sown during the early rains are withering, and if no rain falls in the next two or three weeks a serious state of affairs is apprehended. Prices are already rising in several districts, and famine rates are being quoted in some places; but it is believed large stocks of grain exist.

THE Meteorological Reporter says the rainfall of the past 24 hours was chiefly confined to the west and Malabar coast stations, Mangalore reporting 12.9, Calicut 0.70, Cochin and Goa 0.53, Karwar 0.48, Belgum 0.33, Bombay 0.30, Ratnagiri 0.03, Poona, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Akola, Secunderabad, Colombo and Masulipatam report having received rain in light or moderate showers. The monsoon gradient on the west and Malabar coasts has somewhat decreased and is now less than normal. Conditions are, however, favourable for rain in light or moderate showers along the coast from Cochin to Bombay and a few scattered showers at inland stations in the Bombay Presidency, and at more northerly stations in the Madras Presidency. The abnormal chart indicates the existence of depression far to the eastwards of Madras. In the Bay basic gradients are less steep than yesterday and winds will slacken in force, the belt of comparatively high pressure lies over Sind, Cutch, Gujarat, Kathiawar, Central India, Rajputana and a portion of the Central Provinces where the weather is inclined to become clear.

THE hearing of the case against the seven members of the West Kent Regiment will be taken at the next Criminal Sessions early in September.

THE proposals which went home some time ago for an increase in the Army Veterinary Department will be held in abeyance for the present.

MR. RAM SARAN DAS, M.A., F.A.U., Honorary Magistrate of Fyzabad, has been elected a Member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

THE Mysore Durbar has decided not to send a delegate from here to the Oriental Congress at Rome, but as Mr. Rice, Director of Archaeological Researches, Mysore, is now in England it may be possible for him to attend the Congress with the sanction of Government.

A PROJECT is also under consideration for the lighting by electricity of the Government Printing Press at Simla, but this is undetermined, as a firm of gas engineers have applied to the municipality for a concession for lighting Simla by gas, undertaking simultaneously to supply gas and power to work the electric light of the press.

THE Government of India have laid down that Armenian officers, even when appointed in England, are not eligible for exchange compensation allowance. This applies to certain officers who had been drawing the allowance in virtue of having been appointed from Coopers Hill, though they had no European domicile or origin.

CAPTAIN LEMESURIER, Political Officer, Sikkim, has lately proceeded to the Lachen Valley, to inspect the last section of the new road to the northern Tibet border. In spite of difficulties due to the extraordinarily heavy rainfall and consequent landslides, the work has been steadily pushed forward, and is now within a mile or two of completion.

THE ravages of cattle disease in Burma are a more serious matter, writes the *Rangoon Gazette*, even than the periodical scarcity which visits portions of Upper Burma. No district is free in any year from rinderpest, anthrax, and foot and mouth disease, and the total loss annually to cultivators must be represented by a very heavy sum indeed, quite apart from the indirect losses, such as delays to cultivation through the loss of plough-cattle. The losses of the past year were, happily, not nearly equal to those of the disastrous year of 1895-96, when nearly sixty thousand cattle were known to have died in Lower Burma from rinderpest alone; still twenty thousand deaths from contagious diseases means serious tax on the cultivators. It is satisfactory to find it recorded that the people are gradually learning to appreciate the efforts that are being made to put skilled assistance at their disposal, and to instruct them in the advantages of segregation.

#### Calcutta and Mot ss I.

### LORD GAURANGA OR SALVATION.

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LEGISLATIVE.—The Lieutenant-Governor has accepted the resignation tendered by the Hon'ble Mr. Michael Finucane, C. S. I., Secretary to the Government of Bengal of his seat in the Bengal Council, his place being taken by Mr. Slack, who officiates for him. The Lieutenant-Governor appoints Khan Bahadur Moulvi Delawar Hossain Ahmed, Inspector-General of Registration, Bengal, to be a member of the Council.

TEZPUR-BALIPARA (TRAMWAY) RAILWAY, CO., LD.—Approximate earnings for the week ending 29th July, 1899, Rs. 2,078-14-9; corresponding period of 1898, Rs. 2,039-4-6; increase, Rs. 39-10-3. Receipts per mile for the week ending 29th July, 1899, Rs. 103-14-6; corresponding period of 1898, Rs. 101-15-6 increase, Rs. 1-15-0. Receipts from 1st July to 29th July, 1899, Rs. 8,169-11-6; corresponding period of 1898, Rs. 8,264-2-0 decrease, Rs. 94-6-6.

TEA EXPORT FROM CALCUTTA.—In the month of July last, according to Messrs. Watson, Sibthorp and Co's statistics, 14,992,255 lbs. of tea were shipped from Calcutta to London, as compared with 13,536,154 lbs. last year and 15,991,071 lbs. in the same month of the previous year. The shipments from Calcutta to "all other places" showed a falling off, compared with last year, being only 1,066,092 lbs. in July last, as against 1,181,018 lbs. in July, 1898-99.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAY.—The approximate earnings of this Railway for the week ending 29th July 1899 were:—Coaching, Rs. 942; Goods, Rs. 183; Miscellaneous, Rs. 41. Total Rs. 1,166 or Rs. 36 per open mile. In the corresponding week of the previous year the total earnings were Rs. 1,408 or Rs. 44 per open mile. Total for 4 weeks from 1st July 1899, Rs. 5,860 as compared with Rs. 8,242, total for corresponding 4 weeks of 1898.

COMING BORE IN THE HOOGLY.—All the Mills in Garden Reach are embarking against the high tides and bores expected on the 20th instant and succeeding days. The bores, it is said, will be three feet higher than those of last month, and the last ones were two feet six inches above the predicted height. The coal depot at Brace Bridge Hall and the Garden Reach Cotton Mills are building walls three feet high, and the River Steam Navigation Company are also protecting themselves in a similar manner.

DARJILING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY Co. LD.—Approximate earnings for the week ending 29th July, 1899, 12,56; approximate earnings for the corresponding period of 1898, Rs. 14,450; decrease, Rs. 1,894. Receipts per mile for the week ending 29th July, 1899, Rs. 246-6-0; receipts per mile for the corresponding period of 1898, Rs. 283-8-2; decrease, Rs. 37-2-2. Receipts from 1st July to 29th July, 1899, Rs. 50,123. Receipts for the corresponding period of 1898, Rs. 54,074, decrease, Rs. 3,951.

A HEROIC END.—A widowed sister of one Bansi Pramanic of Dhamrai near Dacca was recently carried off by a crocodile. While she was being dragged by the brute, several persons went to her rescue. The woman, instead of crying for help, or in any other way expressing her fear, asked those who had already come to assist, for she said, she was around her to utter loudly the name of Hari. And thus she disappeared under the water.

UMBRELLA-PHOBIA.—If the *Eastern Herald* of Debraugh is to be credited, Mr. Carroll, Asst. Conservator of Forest, seems to be suffering from what may be properly termed umbrella-phobia. The other day one young man was passing with an open umbrella along the tank side. Seeing him approaching near his Bungalow, Mr. Carroll began to shout. A chaprasi came and the young man was required to shut his umbrella. Then again Babu Naranath Swarna, head clerk, Police office, was passing with his umbrella open towards the D. S. P.'s quarters. No sooner he approached the forest Bungalow, than Mr. Carroll turned tupsy turvy. A chaprasi came running out and required the shutting up of the umbrella. Babu Naranath made of together stuff, refused; whereupon came Mr. Carroll disabille. Out of respect to him, the bugbear umbrella contracted its dimension. "Don't you know Babu, that Mr. Barnes has issued an order that natives passing by the tankside must shut their umbrellas?" "I am not aware of any such order," rejoined Babu Naranath. "Oh! the Deputy Commissioner has requested me to see to this."

INVENTIONS AND DESIGNS.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed:—Benjamin Garver Lamme, electrical engineer, of 230, Stratford Avenue, Pittsburgh, Alleghany, Pennsylvania, U. S. A., improvement in systems of electrical distribution and regulation; August Philip Bjerregaard, chemist, 12, St. Andrews Place, Brooklyn, New York, an improved process for the manufacture of varnishes which consists chiefly of linseed oil or other fatty oils and copal gums; John Francis Pope, civil engineer and architect, residing at 1, 647, West Harrison Street, Chicago, Illinois, U. S. A., improvements in wheel bearings; Alexander Bruce Stewart, mechanic, of Upper Hooghly Mills, 9, Garden Reach, Calcutta, a new or improved bicycle stand; John Bruce King Macbeth, merchant, 18, Sirdar Palace, Apollo Street, Bombay, improvements in punkhas; Sri Krishna Joshi, special clerk, in the Settlement Department of the Board of Revenue for the North-West Provinces and Oudh, 85, Jallital, Naini Tal, method and apparatus for the utilization of solar heat for culinary, industrial and other purposes, to be called the "Bhanu-tap" in Oriental languages and the "Heliotherm" in Occidental languages.

A RE ORGANISATION SCHEME.—Scheme for the re-organisation of the Executive Branch of the Bengal Provincial Service has received the approval of the Secretary of State for India. The number of permanent Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors will be increased from 266 to 364. This will be effected by the creation of an eighth grade, on Rs. 200 a month, and the absorption of sub *pro. tem.* and officiating officers in the permanent grades.

RIVER LEVELS.—On the 4th of August the height of the River Ganges at various points was as follows:—Benares, 4th, 12-45 P. M., 20'00 fall 2 feet, cloudy, very warm, (196'80); Buxar, 4th, 8-30 A. M., 20'17 fall 1 foot 6 inches, (169'05); Monghyr, 4th, 7 A. M., 22'9, fall 10 inches, (101'85); Sahibganj, 4th, 9 A. M., 25'8, fall 92 inches, (68'00); Goalundo, 4th, 9 A. M., 21'75, steady, (118'00); Brahmaputra—Gowhatti, 4th, 6-30 A. M., 27'00, rise 1 3/4 inches, (148'76).

AN OLD BIOGRAPHY.—We learn from a reliable source that a copy of a biography written in Bengalee, of Maharajah Krishna Chandra Ray of Nadia, printed and published in England in the year 1811, is now in the hands of Pandit Hara Prasad Shastri, the well-known Sanscrit scholar. The book will undoubtedly throw a good deal of light on the History of Bengal. The author of the book was Babu Rajib Lochan Mukherji. We do not quite understand how it was possible for the people of England to print that book in Bengalee character so far back as 1811. We hope the learned Pandit will enlighten the public on the matter.

ISIS UNVEILED.—The case in which a young woman by the name of Lakhia Mallahin, aged 17 years, a resident of Benares, who goes about the streets distributing pices, silver bits and rupees which she takes out from her mouth, and whose miraculous power of producing money, has been seen by thousands of gentlemen, was charged by Inspector Nripendra Nath Ghose, with bad livelihood and cheating a man named Kessub Lal Subadhiary, living in Upper Chitpur Road, Kumartuli, in respect of Rs. 100 belonging to the complainant. The case was first put up before the Northern Division Magistrate. While in the dock she showed signs of insanity and she was remanded to jail for medical observation. Yesterday the case was transferred to the Honorary Bench, presided over by Mr. G. C. Ghose. Medical evidence disclosed that she was not insane. The Inspector in charge of the case, then gave particulars which were to the effect that on the 26th ultimo, complainant picked up her acquaintance, and took her home, believing that she possessed the supernatural power of making any amount of money she liked. Complainant produced a box containing Rs. 100 in cash and opened it too, when it was promised that the amount would be doubled. The woman now asked complainant to get some pebbles, and when he was away, she abstracted the sum and locked the box. On his return complainant was told that he would get Rs. 200 after seven hours. The complainant opened the box in due time and to his utter surprise he found that it was empty. He lodged a complaint at the thana and when, in the evening, she came to the complainant's house, he was made over to the police. Babu Kali Churn Palit and others appeared for the defence. Moulvi Budderuddin Hyder Khan Bahadour, Registrar of the Bench Courts, asked her to produce some pice. She at first refused saying that she had no pice with her. On her person being searched by a woman some pices were found and subsequently she admitted before the Court that she had no supernatural power at all. The case was partly gone into and was adjourned to this day for further evidence.

NEW POSTAL REGULATION.—The following note has been issued by the Post Office regarding last Saturday's *Gazette* Notification: In March last the Indian Post Office in allowing the use of private postcards by Inland post adopted the liberal rules of the Postal Union as to certain information being written or otherwise impressed on the address side of the postcard. The addition now been made to the rules is to make it clear that the concession as regards advertisements on the address side of the postcard is restricted to printed advertisements. Large cards can be sent open through post as packets and some firms have been in the habit of having the heading a "Post card" printed on the address side of large advertisement cards which they distribute by packet post, to their advertisements. This is inconvenient and opposed to the rules of the Postal Union. It has, therefore, been expressly provided in the rules relating to book packets that no card bearing the heading "post card" shall in future be allowed to be transmitted open by post as a book packet. The rules relating to pattern or sample packets have been modified so as to permit articles of glass, liquids, oils, fatty substances, dry powders and live bees being sent by pattern post if packed in a special manner; and certain other articles, namely, objects of natural history, dried or preserved animals and plants. Geological specimens and other similar objects have now been admitted to transmission by post at rates of postage for patterns or samples, provided they are not sent for a commercial purpose and they are packed in the manner prescribed for samples. Generally the object of these changes is to bring the rules of the inland post relating to samples into line with the Regulations of the Postal Union on this subject. As regards parcels, several changes have been introduced, the main object of which is to provide for liquids, substances which liquify easily and also live subjects to certain conditions as to packing. The provision as regards liquid places the inland rules on the same footing as the regulations of the Parcel Post Convention at Washington, to which India became a party from the 1st January last; and the concession as regards live bees has been granted in consequence of the British Post Office having agreed to admit live bees into the United Kingdom by parcel post from places abroad.

TRAITS OF THE TIGER.—An old shikari writes to a local paper:—Referring to a letter in your issue of the 23rd instant regarding "traits of the tiger," I send you a story which will also prove that tigers are "always liable to panic when confronted suddenly by anything which they do not understand." Your correspondents spoke of a Christian missionary, seeing whom kneeling, the tiger bolted. My story, too, relates

to a missionary, but he was a Hindoo, a Gosain. These Gosains, as a class, are generally very tall, bulky people, and to show their religious distinction they paint their bodies from head to waist with white, red and yellow. Eighteen years ago a true specimen of these Gosains, in the person of Sreegopal Gossainjee, was coming to this place from the Chok Fera Bodi of holy Santipur. Railway on this side of the Padma in those days was only a subject of agitation in the newspapers. So our Gossainjee had to travel on foot from Goalundo. One day on his journey the traveller rose up a little late from his nap after tiffin but resumed his journey. Seeing the sun rapidly going down he quickened his pace, as he was to pass through the forest of Madhupud One-fourth of the jungle remained to be passed when the last ray of the December sun disappeared in the western sky. Gossainjee, made his big red shawl of cloth into a turban, and placed it on his head, and with his head bag in his right hand and the "Geeta" (religious book) in his left, he almost began to run, being followed by his Bairagi attendant. He had not gone far when the Bairagi whispered "Probu (my lord), the uncle is there." And about twenty cubits from Gossainjee, a full-grown Bengal tiger was sitting waving his tail. Gossainjee was struck with horror. But an idea flashed into his mind. He forbade his Bairagi to run, and stretching both his hands, holding the "Geeta" and bead-bag, and stooping a little to the front, he began to cry "Haribol" and to advance toward the tiger, jumping in the air. The brute at first stood up with his ears erect, but seeing something in front not less monstrous than himself, stripes gave a loud yell and shot through the jungle like an arrow. Our holy traveller safely passed the remaining portion of the forest without further adventure, and three days later, when he met me he spoke to me of his adventure, and argued that even tigers obey to the holy sound of "Haribol." Though some of us could not agree with the holy father, yet we were unanimous that a bulky black man, painted in different colours, wearing a high red turban on his head, and holding something unusual in stretched hands, jumping in the air, with loud unearthly yells, was quite sufficient to terrify the brute.

#### BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE Council met in the morning of Saturday last at eleven o'clock at the Council Chamber in Writers' Buildings. There were present: The Hon'ble Sir John Woodburn, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (presiding), the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur Syed Amir Hossein, the Hon'ble Mr. W. B. Oldham, the Hon'ble Mr. R. B. Buckley, the Hon'ble Mr. C. W. Bolton, the Hon'ble Mr. E. N. Baker, the Hon'ble Rai Durga Gai Banerjee, Bahadur, the Hon'ble Mr. C. E. Buckland, the Hon'ble Mr. F. F. Handley, the Hon'ble Mr. F. A. Slack, the Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen the Hon'ble Mr. T. W. Spink, the Hon'ble Rajah Shashibhakeshwar Roy Bahadur of Tahipur, the Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Sinha Bahadur of Nashipur, the Hon'ble Shahebadza Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah, the Hon'ble Mr. D. F. Mackenzie, the Hon'ble Mr. J. G. Apar, the Hon'ble Dr. Ashutosh Mukhopadhyaya, the Hon'ble Babu Boykuntha Nath Sen, and the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee.

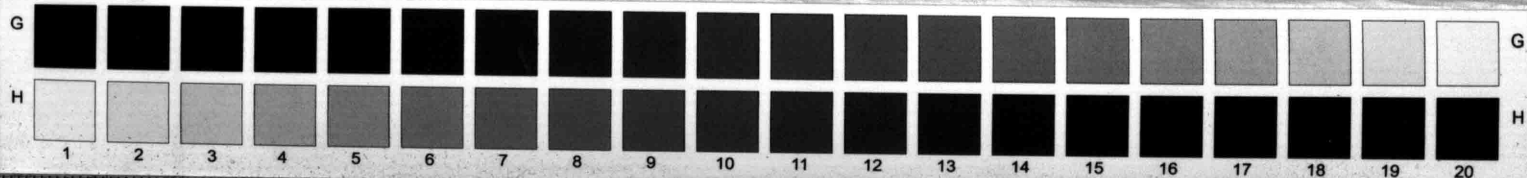
THE Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Sinha Bahadur of Nashipore asked:—Has the attention of the Government been drawn to inconveniences felt by the people residing within the jurisdiction of the old Sub-Division of Lalbag in the District of Murshidabad owing to the abolition of the said Sub-Division and to the transfer of the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Thannahs of Kalyanguni, now called Nabagram, and Sagardighi, to the Kandi and Jangipur Sub-Divisions respectively, and to the orders recently passed by the District Magistrate withdrawing the powers hitherto been exercised without interruption for over four years by the Honorary Magistrates of Lalbag authorized to sit singly to take cognizance of offences on complaints and Police reports? Has the Government any intention to restore the Lalbag Sub-Division and, if not, will the Government be pleased to retransfer the jurisdiction over the Thannahs of Nabagram and Sagardighi to the Lalbag Civil and Criminal Courts and to appoint a City Magistrate at Lalbag or to order the Magistrate of Murshidabad to cancel the orders above referred to? The Hon'ble Mr. Bolton replied as follows:—The Lieutenant-Governor took the opportunity of enquiring locally into the matter referred to by the Hon'ble Member during his recent visit to Murshidabad, and has come to the conclusion that the restoration of Lalbag Sub-Division is the most suitable arrangement. Steps will accordingly be taken to re-establish the Sub-Division, with jurisdiction over the area formerly attached to it.

ROAD-CESS INCOME. The Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Sinha of Nashipore asked:—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the income derived from Road Cess and the expenditure incurred from that fund, item by item, in respect of the several Districts of Bengal for every year from 1892-93 to 1897-98?

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker replied as follows:—I lay on the table a statement showing the income from Road Cess in each District for each of the years 1892-93, 1896-1897. As regards expenditure "incurred from that fund the question is not clearly understood. Under Section 109 of the Cess Act of 1880, the receipts from Road Cess after payment of the costs of assessment and collection, are payable to the District Fund and there is no expenditure incurred specifically against them. If the Hon'ble Member requires details of expenditure on public works incurred by District Boards the figures will be corrected but the operation may take some time.

ROAD-CESS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE. The Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Sinha of Nashipore, asked:—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing the joint collection charges of the Road and Public Works Cesses, for every year, from 1877-78 to 1898-99 and the amount of costs borne by the District Boards and the Provincial Revenues, respectively?

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker, replied as follows:—I lay on the table a statement giving the information asked for, so far as it is available. For the first two years, 1877-78, and 1878-79 the amount debited to Local Funds was not shown separately and the figures cannot now be fur-





nished. The figures for 1898-99 are not yet fully available. (Here followed the statement.)

#### OUTRAGES AND ASSAULTS ON WOMEN IN MYMENSINGH.

In reply to a question on the above subject put by the Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Singh, the Hon'ble Mr. Bolton replied as follows:—The statements which appeared in the newspapers attracted the notice of the Government, and reports were called for from the Magistrate of the District and the Commissioner. There has been no marked increase in offences against women during the present year, but many cases have occurred in recent years, the crime having been prevalent in the District for a very long period. During both Sir Charles Elliott's and Sir Alexander Mackenzie's administration orders were issued to ensure more effective investigation of cases and prosecution of offenders. The Police have not since been remiss, and many convictions accompanied by heavy sentences, have been secured. These punishments have presumably not been without effect on the bad characters, but further special action appears necessary. The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly sanctioned the deputation of special Police Inspectors to the District to assist the ordinary Police. These officers will take up all serious cases reported, and the detection of crime will, it is hoped, be more prompt and effectual. They will be also utilised for enquiries as to the propriety of proceedings against desperate and dangerous characters under Section 110 (f) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

#### WATER-SUPPLY IN THE MUFUSSIL.

The Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Sinha Bahadur of Nashpore asked:—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, District by District, showing the amount spent on account of the water-supply in the Mufussil and the number of wells and tanks excavated and re-excavated for the last five years?

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker replied as follows:—I will place on the table a statement showing the amount spent on water-supply by District Boards and Municipalities during the past five years. The other figures asked for by the Hon'ble Member are not available. (Here followed the statement.)

#### INCREMENTS TO MINISTERIAL OFFICERS OF GOVERNMENT.

The Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen asked:—Having regard to the sympathetic views entertained towards the ministerial officers by the Government, may I be permitted to ask whether the Government may be disposed to grant annual increment to the salaries of the ministerial officers, who are allowed under the present rules biennial increments? This arrangement, I venture to suggest, will not probably effect any appreciable alteration in the budget statement.

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker replied as follows:—The views of this Government regarding the salaries of ministerial officers have been expressed on several occasions in this Council, and were stated again during the last budget debate. It has already been explained that the sanction of the Government of India is required under the rules before any general measure of the kind contemplated can be undertaken. Subject to such sanction it is the Lieutenant-Governor's desire to take up the question when financial conditions permit; but His Honor does not consider that the conversion of biennial into annual increment would be an appropriate or economical method of dealing with it.

The Council met in the morning of Monday last at eleven o'clock at the Council Chamber in Writers' Buildings. The Hon'ble President called upon the Hon. Babu Surendranath Banerjee to move the amendments that stood against his name, in Mr. Baker's motion to refer the Municipal Bill again to the Select Committee for further consideration with reference to the despatch of the Government of India and report on it within two weeks.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee's amendments were to the effect that public opinion be invited on the despatch of the Government of India with reference to the Calcutta Municipal Bill and that six weeks be allowed to the Select Committee to which the Bill had been referred back for further consideration, with reference to that correspondence. In moving the amendments the Hon'ble member observed that the despatch of the Government of India was disappointing beyond description. Then he went on to describe the character of the change proposed therein.

On his making a reference to the charges against the Commissioners of the Corporation the Hon'ble member was called to order. Referring to the number of Commissioners, instances were cited where Municipalities had a large number of Commissioners. The reduction in the number of the Commissioners would, the Hon'ble member observed, lay the axe at the root of local self-government. The grounds on which such a reduction was recommended by the Government of India, namely, that the Commissioners were devoted more to criticism than to action, were based upon very insufficient data as could be proved from the opinions of persons who could speak with authority on the subject. If, however, a reduction in the number of Commissioners was thought so imperative, he could not find any reason why the elected Commissioners were alone to suffer, why a reduction was not made in the number of nominated Commissioners. The changes proposed in the Government of India's despatch were of a very important nature, affecting as they did the very principle of self-government and in order to do justice to them more time was necessary than what had been proposed to be allowed to the Select Committee, namely, two weeks. The despatch opened up several new questions and the public should be given an opportunity of expressing their opinion on them.

The Hon'ble Mr. D. F. Mackenzie opposed the amendment on the ground that the mercantile community was anxious to have the measure passed as soon as possible. Referring to the agitation against the measure, he observed, that it had been set up by professional agitators and was not the voice of the mass.

The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, in a long and eloquent speech which lasted over an hour and a half pointed out that there was no necessity for a Bill like the one proposed. He quoted chapter and verse for his contention.

The Hon'ble Dr. Ashutosh Mukerji in supporting the amendments of Babu Surendranath Banerjee observed that the despatch of the Government of India was a document remarkable for the fact that the conclusions it was not deducible from the premises.

The Hon'ble Mr. Oldham then spoke and in the course of his remarks said that personally he

never join in the indictment against the Commissioners.

The Hon'ble Rajah Ranjit Singh of Nashpur also supported the amendments and quoted from the Administration Reports showing that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality had ever done their work well.

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker opposed the amendments. He said that the measure had already been before the public too long. It was imperatively necessary to put a stop to the controversy which the Bill had given rise to, by passing it as soon as possible. The Government of India proposition was very simple as he had already explained it on Saturday last. The elective system was a means to an end; its object being to secure adequate representation of all interests. But, in fact, the present constitution secure a major representation to the Bengalis, who had, as a class, no aptitude for trade. The present state of the city was due to two facts: namely, (1) its being the seat of the Government, and (2) its being the centre of foreign trade. Devoid of these, Calcutta would be a desolated city. And in order that there might be true representation, these interests should be duly represented. This was the object of the measure. The Government of India had been misunderstood with regard to the introduction of the Bombay system. It was never proposed to introduce that system in its entirety. Only those provisions in it which had been found by experience to have worked well, were sought to be utilised in the new Calcutta Municipal Bill.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee then again spoke.

Next the Hon'ble President in summing up said that as their case had already been decided by the Privy Council, meaning the Government of India—there was no help for it. And as the measure was to be passed, the sooner it was done, the better.

The amendments were then put to the vote and declared lost 6 voting for and 11 against them.

The original motion was then put to the vote and carried. The Council then adjourned till the 21st instant.

#### PLAGUE NEWS.

##### PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

PLAGUE figures are steadily on the increase. On the 7th instant there were reported so many as 11 cases and 11 deaths distributed as follows over the various wards:—1 and 1 in Ward No. 1; 1 and 1 in No. 4; 3 and 3 in No. 5; 2 and 2 in No. 6; 2 and 2 in No. 9; 1 and 1 in No. 10; 1 and 1 in No. 14. The total mortality was 51 as against 51 the mean of the last five years.

##### BOMBAY RETURNS.

SUNDAY'S plague attacks number 15 and plague deaths 11, the total mortality being 114. To-day's attacks number five and deaths 11, the total mortality being 82. Last year it was 84 and in 1897, 140.

##### POONA FIGURES.

THERE were 162 cases and 129 deaths in City on Monday. The total mortality being 150. In the Cantonment there were 35 cases and 32 deaths, and in the districts 40 cases and 35 deaths. Owing to the exodus from Poona plague has broken out seriously in the Poona District, after an absence of more than a month.

#### WEEKLY SUMMARY.

PLAGUE returns for the week ending 5th of August shows the position to be very unsatisfactory. In Bombay city the total mortality rose from 640 to 667, and the reported plague deaths from 58 to 84. In the Bombay Presidency the total reported plague deaths rose from 2,437 to 3,380. In Poona city the deaths rose from 868 to 1,103. Seven districts and states show a considerable rise in plague mortality. In Calcutta the number of reported plague deaths rose from 5 to 56, five deaths being reported in Howrah. In Mysore State the reported deaths were 120 against a previous 63. The Hyderabad State showed some improvement.

It is reported that the Burma-Yunnan Railway survey is now under consideration by a London syndicate.

The Viceroy's tour will include the following centres; dates and details will not, however, be settled till the middle of the month:—Delhi, Bikaner, Jeypur, Jodhpur, Oodeypur, Ajmere, Deoli, Kotah, Bhopal and Agra.

THE muzzling order is now in full enforcement at Delhi, owing to several persons having been bitten by suspected dogs. Among the victims in Sergeant McGarth, of the Connaught Rangers, who has been sent to Paris for treatment at the Pasteur Institute.

MR. HAMMICK, on return to Otacumund from Tinnevely, will occupy his former position of Secretary to Government of Madras in the Local and Municipal Department, while Mr. Tremeneere will continue to fill Mr. Forbes's Place as Revenue Secretary.

TWO sowars conveying the dak of the 2nd Punjab Cavalry from the Kurum post to Baran six miles from Bannu, were fired upon on Thursday last, one sowar being killed. The cavalry and infantry from the Kurum post searched the country, but found no trace of the offenders.

A TELEGRAM has been received in Simla from Mr. James Walker, C. I. E., late of the Alliance Bank, now in England, making a free gift of the fine residence known as Gorton Castle near the Public Works Secretariat to the station for the proposed European Sanatorium. The site is perhaps the finest in Simla, and the house was purchased about two years ago by Mr. Walker for Rs. 80,000.

NEW Cotton was four rupees a candy cheaper to-day in consequence of reports of rain in Broach and Barars. Fairly good rain has fallen in Broach, but in Barars it has been very light. There are signs, however, of more rain. The prices of food grains in Bombay city remain at high level, to which they were forced last week.

A SILCHAR telegram, dated August 6, states: The trial of the five coolies who were sent up by the police for rioting and assaulting Mr. Marshall, of Majagram, was concluded on Saturday before Mr. Anley. One man was acquitted and three convicted under section 323, *vis.*, causing hurt, and sentenced to three months imprisonment each. The fifth man was convicted of simple assault and sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

## TELEGRAMS.

### [INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

(From our own Correspondents.)

#### MR. RIVAZ'S LEAVE AND CONSEQUENT CHANGES.

SIMLA, AUG. 5. It is announced that the Hon. Mr. Rivaz member of the Viceroy's Council, goes on six months' leave and that the Viceroy has appointed Mr. Ibbetson, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, to officiate for Mr. Rivaz, and Mr. Fraser, Officiating Secretary in the Home Department, to officiate for Mr. Ibbetson as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. Mr. Hewett will probably resume his appointment as Secretary in the Home Department on his return from leave.

#### CURRENCY LEGISLATION.

SIMLA, AUG. 5. It is intended to introduce in the Supreme Legislative Council, on Friday the 26th instant, a Bill to make sovereign legal tender in India. It is also proposed to throw open the mint to the unrestricted coining of gold bullion in this country. This Bill will be passed during the Simla Session.

#### AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK UNIMPROVED IN INDIA.

SIMLA, AUG. 5. To-day's weather telegrams report no improvement in the position in the threatened areas. The skies are now clear right up into the North-West Provinces, while a Seychelles cable records feeble winds than usual in the Indian Ocean, and the incoming mail steamer reports fine weather off the West Coast, and further out in the Arabian Sea an abnormal set of monsoon wind towards Africa instead of toward India.

#### AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK IN BOMBAY.

BOMBAY, AUG. 5. The continued failure of the rains causes unabated anxiety about the rabi crops. The fate of the kharif crops is considered almost hopeless. The bazaar bunniahs frequently consult among themselves regarding the raising of prices. A fear of possible competition from European firms, who are in a position to command stores of grain in up-country markets, as well as the possible reconstitution of a limited liability grain trading company on a large scale, have acted as deterrents to the adoption of proposals. It is expected that the present prices will continue until a clear indication of drought or rainfall is ascertained. Nearly all sources of business have been affected. Meetings are being organised to pray for rain. Fodder is likely to be dear. Much uneasiness for the future is felt.

#### MONSOON PROSPECTS UNFAVOURABLE.

BOMBAY, AUG. 5. A sharp shower fell this afternoon, lasting about ten minutes. The Meteorological Reporter for Western India says humidity changes generally are small and unimportant, and the skies cloudy in Mysore, over the Madras presidency and at Cochin, Mangalore, Karwar, Goa, Belgaum, Malegaon, Surat, Nagpore, Indore, Neemuch, Veraval, Rajkot, and Carachi. Practically there has been no rain over the whole of the reporting area, the few drops which fell at Colombo, Goa, Ratnagiri, and Veraval being of no importance. A slight monsoon gradient exists on the West Coast, and a few scattered showers are likely. Conditions generally continue unfavourable for rain.

#### TWO APPOINTMENTS.

SIMLA, AUG. 9. Her Majesty the Queen has approved of the appointment of Mr. Arnold White, the Advocate-General of Madras, as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, and of Sir James Westland as a Member of the Secretary of State's Council.

#### LORD G. HAMILTON ON THE INDIAN BUDGET.

SIMLA, AUG. 9. In connection with to-day's summary by Reuter of the Secretary of State's speech on the Indian Budget the following is an authentic version. Lord George Hamilton's remarks on the subject of the Currency Committee do not recommend the raising of a great loan for the purpose of buying gold and thus accelerating the period at which the convertibility would be commenced. "I admit," said Lord George, "the strength of some of the objections urged against the policy of borrowing for the acquisition and accumulation of gold; and we are ready to forego for the present any intention of that kind, but subject to this understanding that we intend to utilise all our powers and opportunities to push the currency changes proposed by the Committee. Through the procedure suggested by the Committee we hoped and still hope not to borrow this year. But if the failure of crops in the central and western portions of India becomes serious and exchange with India in consequence is upset, either as regards rate or amount of Bills tendered, we may find difficulty in providing the ways and means that we anticipated; in which case we shall be compelled, as on former occasions, to fall back upon the existing borrowing powers. After the fullest consideration and after an examination extending now over many years into the currency system of India, we have deliberately arrived at the conclusion that the attainment of a gold standard is desirable in the interest of the Indian people; and we shall not in any way be deterred from rigorously prosecuting that policy by all means in our power, merely because the next phase through which it has to advance may be coincident abnormal and temporary failure of crops."

#### THE VICEROY'S AUTUMN TOUR.

SIMLA, AUG. 9. So far as has, at present, been arranged His Excellency the Viceroy will visit, during his autumn tour, Delhi, Jeypur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Ajmere, Bundi, Kotah, Bhopal, Gwalior and Agra. Dates have not yet been fixed. It has, however, been announced that His Excellency leaves Simla on the 23rd October.

## OBITUARY.

(From a Correspondent.)

KRISHNAGAR, AUG. 9. Tara Sundari Devi, a pious and charitable lady of the well-known Mullick Zemindar family of Meherpur, died yesterday at Navadwip, in the fullness of years and in the full enjoyment of her senses. She was 86 years of age.

### [FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, AUG. 4. The British naval manoeuvres were concluded to-day, and prove to have been both successful and instructive. The Home fleet, composed mostly of ironclads, succeeded in preventing the hostile fleet, chiefly fast cruisers, from intercepting a trans-Atlantic convoy of food-stuffs. Wireless telegraphy was largely used during the manoeuvres, at distances ranging from twenty to forty-five miles, in all states of the weather.

LONDON, AUG. 4. The latest news from the Transvaal states that communications are passing between Pretoria and Cape Town regarding the scope of the proposed joint-inquiry. Mr. Fischer, the official from the Orange Free State, has arrived at Pretoria.

LONDON, AUG. 4. The French Minister in Siam sails by the next mail for Saigon to confer with M. Paul Doumer, the Governor-General.

LONDON, AUG. 4. Canada has decided not to increase the poll tax on Chinese immigrants this year.

LONDON, AUG. 5. France has decided to grant the maximum bounty on sugar in the coming years.

LONDON, AUG. 5. The *Times*' correspondent in Paris states that the Czar is desirous of abdicating the throne in favour of his brother, the Grand Duke Michael, the reason assigned being the many bitter disappointments His Majesty has experienced. The same authority states that M. Delcasse, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, now in St. Petersburg, was sent by the French Government to attempt to dissuade His Majesty from abdicating and to convince that his abdication would be the desertion of France, the Grand Duke Michael's opinion being unknown.

LONDON, AUG. 5. The statement regarding the intended abdication of the Czar is regarded as possible but rather improbable.

LONDON, AUG. 5. The First Battalion, Manchester Regiment, stationed at Gibraltar, is ordered to the Cape, and embarks in a fortnight.

LONDON, AUG. 5. The trial of Dreyfus opens on Monday and will be held in the great Hall of the Public School at Rennes. Two hundred French and foreign journalists will be present reporting the case.

LONDON, AUG. 6. The Volksraad will consider Mr. Chamberlain's despatch to-morrow. Meanwhile President Kruger has informed Sir A. Milner that he is willing to accept any friendly suggestion likely to lead to a settlement.

LONDON, AUG. 6. A terrible collision has occurred between two consecutive Paris to Nantes express trains at Juvisy Station. Seventeen passengers were killed and seventy-three injured.

LONDON, AUG. 7. The interrogation of Dreyfus lasted the whole sitting to-day. The prisoner steadily denied all charges.

LONDON, AUG. 7. Mr. St. John Brodrick, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said that though he was unable to report the progress of the abolition of Sugar Bounties he thought it possible, in view of the extension of the system of countervailing duties that France might modify her views.

LONDON, AUG. 7. Replying to a further question Mr. Brodrick said that no violation of the treaty between Great Britain and Siam had occurred in connection with the Khorat Railway.

LONDON, AUG. 7. Mr. Chamberlain in his Transvaal despatch intimates his willingness, after the settlement of the franchise question to confer with Mr. Kruger on other matters, including arbitration.

LONDON, AUG. 8. In the House of Commons this evening Lord George Hamilton brought forward the Indian Budget. He dwelt upon the fact of there being the largest surplus since India came under British rule, as disproving the theories that Britain was bleeding India to death. From whatever standpoint, the results are far more satisfactory than the most sanguine anticipated. If normal weather occurred next year he believed a period of exceptional prosperity would dawn. The enormous increase of population under British rule was a grave problem. England could not after her past human policy, and the only solution was to open up the country by railways and irrigation and develop its resources, especially the mineral, which had scarcely been tapped yet, and also make education more technical. He paid a warm tribute to Sir James Westland, whose term of office were ending, but said his services would not be lost, as he will fill a vacancy on the Secretary of State's Council. Lord George then said a uniform currency would be the most effective encouragement for British capital to go to India, and the Government would not be deterred from establishing a gold standard because of the coincident abnormal or temporary failure of rain. A Bank on the lines of the Bank of England would, he said, materially aid the establishment of a gold standard. The Government was determined to bring the new financial policy to a consummation in the most rapid manner possible.

Mr. Caldwell moved a series of proposals for more effective Parliamentary control, including the referring of the Budget annually to a Select Committee, which being put to the vote was rejected by 95 to 36 votes.

LONDON, AUG. 9. Scarcely twenty members were present in the House of Commons during the debate of the Indian Budget. Sir H. Fowler made a notable speech in which he strongly repelled the idea of Parliament exercising daily supervision over the affairs of India, and declared he would never consent to treat Indian questions from a party stand point. Lord George Hamilton replying to questions on various topics raised, promised to do his best to

settle satisfactorily the question of the use of churches in India. With regard to the Calcutta Municipality, he could offer no hope of modifying the same. The currency proposals, he said, would enable a debtor to tender gold instead of rupees. He concluded by strongly attacking Sir William Wedderburn and his coadjutors, who did everything possible to stir up bad feeling against the Indian Government, and he held Sir William Wedderburn responsible for the gross falsehoods which had been circulated in the newspaper *India* and reproduced in the native press of India.

LONDON, AUG. 9. Lord Kitchener bade farewell to the Queen at Osborne to-day.

LONDON, AUG. 9. Parliament was prorogued to-day. He Majesty, in her speech from the Throne said: "My relations with foreign Powers are friendly. The position of British subjects in the Transvaal is inconsistent with promises made of equal treatment, whereon my granting internal independence was founded, and the unrest caused thereby is a constant source of danger to the peace and prosperity of my dominions in South Africa. Negotiations with the Transvaal are still proceeding. The conference at the Hague has met with a considerable measure of success, and the institution of a permanent tribunal of arbitration cannot fail to diminish the frequency of war, while the extension of the Geneva Convention will mitigate its horrors." Her Majesty then announces the conclusion of the Nile Convention and the agreement with Russia regarding the development of railways in China. Her Majesty then says:—"I have received satisfactory reports of the rapid recovery of agriculture and trade in India from the depression caused by famine, but the last few weeks show that the rainfall has been insufficient in portions of the Western and Central Provinces, and fears are entertained regarding prospects of harvests in those regions. My officers are carefully watching the situation, and timely precautions will be adopted to meet any scarcity." Her Majesty, in conclusion, expresses her great regret that the plague in India remains unabated.

#### MONEY MARKET AND TRADE.

CALCUTTA, 9th August 1899.

##### GOVERNMENT LOANS.

3 Per Cent ... 94 nominal  
3½ per cent. Loans ... 100 5 to 100 6  
" One month's sight ... 100 5 to 100 6  
" Small sums ... 100 7 to 100 8

##### CALCUTTA PORT TRUST DEBENTURES

4½ Per cent of 1881-1911 ... Rs. 106  
4 Per cent of 1895-1925 ... " 106  
4 " of 1895 ... " 106

##### INTEREST AND DISCOUNT.

Bank of England from 3½ Per cent.  
Bank of Bengal from 4 "  
Bank of Bombay from 4 "  
Bank of Madras from 4 "

##### EXCHANGE OF LONDON.

Bank Wire ... ½ 31-32  
Demand ... ½ 4  
" 3 Month's sight ... ½ 1-3  
" 4 Month's sight ... ½ 1-16  
" 6 Month's sight ... ½ 5-16 Steady  
" 3 Month's sight ... ½ 7-32  
" 6 Month's sight DP ... ½ 11-32  
" 3 Month's sight ... ½ 9-32

The following transactions were reported to-day:—

Howrah Mills (Ord) 122 123  
Kankarah mills " 105  
Bengal Nagpore coal " 8-12  
Alliance Jute mills " 96, 97  
Hoogly Mills " 98, 99, 100

Tools Das Roy & Brothers,  
China Bazar.

#### BULLION MARKET.

CALCUTTA, AUG. 9.

GOLD.—  
English Bar—(100 touch) per tollah Rs. 24 1 2  
Do Small portion " " 24 3 0  
Australian Bar (100 touch) " " 24 1 1  
China Leaf 3 Brand " " 24 7 0  
Do 2 do " " 24 6 0  
China Bar " Nominal  
Calcutta Bar (100 touch) " " 24 0 0  
Mint Assay " " 24 0 0  
Sovereign Victoria " " 24 0 0  
Do Jubilee per piece " 15 2 0  
Do " " 15 0 9  
SILVER.—  
English (Silver Bar of 17½ dwt. better per 100 tollah " 74 8 0  
Do Small portion " 74 10 0  
RUSSICK LAL CHUNDER.

#### শ্রী শ্রী বিশ্বপ্রিয়।

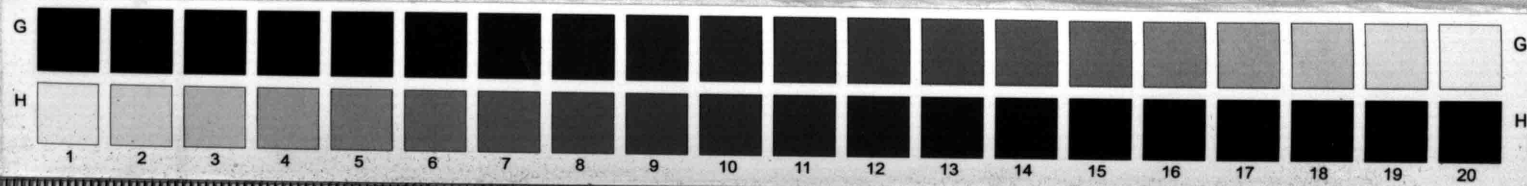
### আনন্দ বাজার পত্রিকা।

নূতন সাপ্তাহিক পত্র।

বঙ্গদেব বাঙ্গলার প্রধান উদ্দেশ্য সাধন  
ইহাতেই না বর্ণনা আগামী এই আগষ্ট বৃষবার  
ইহাতেই শ্রী শ্রী বিশ্বপ্রিয় পত্রিকা সাপ্তাহিক রূপে  
প্রকাশিত হইবে। ইহার নাম ইহা—  
"শ্রী শ্রী বিশ্বপ্রিয় ও আনন্দবাজার পত্রিকা।"  
ইহাতে ধর্মোত্তীর্ণ, সমাজনীতি, রাজনীতি, বিজ্ঞান  
প্রভৃতি সকল প্রকার প্রস্তাব থাকিবে। বঙ্গ  
বাহ্য্য এখানি আমরা উচ্চ-শ্রেণীর পত্রিকা  
করিতে চেষ্টা করিব। আর ইহাতে লোকের  
কুংসা গালাগালি থাকিবেক না। মুখ্য সহর ও  
মধ্য-দেশে বার্ষিক দুই টাকা, এবং প্রতি মধ্য  
অর্দ্ধ আনা।

শ্রী সিকিমোহন চক্রবর্তী গোহাটী।

৩৭নং হরলাল মিত্রের পেন,  
বাগবাজার, কলিকাতা।





## THE BONGONG OUTRAGE CASE

(From our own Correspondent.)

BONGONG, AUG. 7.  
The case was taken by the Sub-Divisional Officer at about 2 p. m. after the arrival of Babu Hem Chandra Ray, pleader for the prosecution. The accused were defended by Babus Prasanno Kumar Banerjee, Dhoronidhar Bhattacharjee and Kalipado Mookerjee. Mooktears of the local Bar. The complainant Kalimati was not present on account of her being laid up with fever. The accused Nagendra Nath Bannerji and Matil Lal Bhattacharjee were then put in the dock and the proceedings began. The court was very much crowded.

The Station-master of Bongong was then put into the witness-box and being examined by the pleader for the prosecution said:—My name is Bani Madhob Mookerjee, son of Krishna Chandra Mookerjee. I the Station-master of the Bongong Railway station. I was present at the Railway station at about 6-15 A. M. (Railway time) on the 9th July last. When I came to the station I saw Shiddeswar (identifies him). He complained to me that he and his sister, whom he was taking along with him, were insulted by some men of the Railway staff. I, on hearing his complaint, called to me some of those who were on duty that night. Jogendra Nath Singha, Mowla Bux, Assistant Station-Master, Nogendra Nath Banerjee, Assistant Booking Clerk, and Jivan Krishna Ghose were then present. I then asked Shiddeswar to identify those who had insulted him and his sister. Shiddeswar could not identify any one of them. Accused Moti was not present there. I reported this matter to my departmental superior. The report was written by my own handwriting. As the No. 8 down train was about to start by which Shiddeswar and his sister were to go to Gerdanga, it was not possible for me to bring together all the station staff for identification. I asked Shiddeswar to remain at the station till the next train, so that those who had insulted them might be identified, but he did not consent to stay and went away by that train.

Witness Jivan Krishna Ghose was next called, but as he was absent his examination was reserved.

Then the Mooktears for the defence argued that the statement or confession made by Moti before Babu Apurba Krishna Gangooly was defective in form and therefore not valid according to sections 354 and 154 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The pleader for the prosecution after citing cases showed that although the statement was not all right in form yet it was not invalid.

Babu Hem Chandra Roy then asked the Court to frame charges against the accused. The Mooktears for the defendants objected on the ground that the accused Nagendra had engaged a barrister who would have come that day had they not telegraphed to him to stay away believing that the case would not be taken up that day on account of Kalimati's illness and her necessary absence from Court and requested the Court to frame charges on the next hearing day as the Barrister would then be present.

The Court then asked the accused Mati if he had anything to say to his statement made before the Hon. Magistrate. He said that he was innocent and that the statement was not correct as had been made under Police persuasion. The Court then asked Nagendra if he had anything to say. He said he knew nothing about the event of the night and that he was innocent.

The Deputy Magistrate then charged both the accused under section 354 I. P. C. for outraging the modesty of a woman in the waiting-room for the females at the Bongong Railway Station. The accused said that they were innocent and that they would produce witnesses to prove their innocence.

The case was then adjourned till the 16th and 17th instants next.

MR. COTTON'S Report on Education in India has reached the Government of India, and the Resolution and the Report will soon be issued to the public.

THE Annual October Vacation of the Bombay High Court, Appellate Side, will commence on Sunday, the 15th October and end on Sunday, the 5th November. The Court will sit for the disposal of ordinary Criminal business on Thursday, the 26th October.

WITH reference to the matter of the entry of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway into the Jheriah coalfields, the broad question is already regarded as settled in favour of the Bengal-Nagpur Company. The only points pending settlement are of a local character, in which the Government of India do not desire to interfere.

PRIVATE HORROCKS, West Kent Regiment, who was acquitted in the first trial in connection with the Rangoon outrage case, was seriously assaulted by a number of Burmans and is laid up in the Military Hospital, Rangoon. The assault was committed evidently out of the bad feeling which exists amongst a certain class of Burmans against the regiment.

THE District and Sessions Judge of Aligarh has sent to jail for sixteen years' rigorous imprisonment a notorious forger Ram Lal, who was the terror of the District. The forgery in the civil and revenue records was a thing of daily occurrence, and it was generally believed that Ram Lal was at the bottom of all of them. But he always managed so cleverly that, in spite of every effort made by the police to bring the charge home, he had escaped the clutches of the law for the past ten years. He was arrested in his own house while forging a Civil Court record.

FOLLOWING the fighting in June between the Khan of Nawagai on one side and Mamunds and Mohmands on the other, the position in Bajaur was somewhat critical during July, at one time the Khan's forces being faced by upwards of 12,000 Mohmands. A settlement was fortunately arrived at without further conflict, and Captain McMahon has now succeeded in bringing about a meeting at Chakdara between the Khan of Nawagai and the Nawab of Dir, the latter having previously lent his influence, if not active aid to Khan's enemies. The meeting resulted in a satisfactory reconciliation, which, it is hoped, will ensure prolonged peace between Dir and Bajaur.

## INDIA AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JULY 21.

## INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

IN all political circles the impression universally prevails, that all danger of war with the Transvaal Republic has passed away. I have never myself had the smallest apprehension about it, and cannot understand the scare which has been got up over it. President Kruger has made, as has all along been certain, fresh concessions with regard to the Uitlanders, which now furnish a sufficient basis for a permanent settlement. I hope that in the final settlement the interests of the ill-treated and long enduring Indian Uitlanders will also be settled with some sense of justice. Unhappily, the case of these quiet and law-abiding Indian Uitlanders is gravely prejudiced by the infamous treatment given to them by their own fellow-subjects in Natal and Rhodesia, whose Governments have not only tried to exclude new-comers from India, but have curtailed the liberties of those already settled in the colony. It is very difficult for Mr. Chamberlain to fight the battle of the Indians in the Transvaal when he has handed the same class over, bound hand and foot, to similar persecution in those Colonies over whom he is the supreme authority, next to the Queen herself. President Kruger is not likely to forget to remind Mr. Chamberlain that he refused to veto the anti-Indian laws of the Natal Parliament, on the score of its being a self-governing Colony. If he could not check a Colony, neither can he check a free Republic.

It is high time the condition of Indians in Natal was taken up vigorously in Parliament by some strong and capable member, who will make the question his own, and push it among the electorate as well as in his place in Parliament. In Natal there are now quite fifty thousand Indians, considerably more than the European population, who although taxed proportionately higher than the Europeans, have no political or Municipal rights of any kind. The great bulk of these Indians are permanently settled in the country, and have no intention of returning to India. It is no floating population of hired coolies; they are there permanently and their children will never know any other country. They are refused education for themselves, and if they send their children to Government schools their lives are rendered miserable by the fierce colour prejudices which prevail. These Indians might, with a little care and consideration, be made most valuable citizens; but, if their condition is not ameliorated, it will cause little surprise if their discontent becomes sedition.

In the meantime Germany is following the example of Britain in the Transvaal. The Governor of German South West Africa has recently issued very stringent edicts directed against immigrants from British India, alleging that Indian traders have reduced the natives on the coast to a state of dependence by means of usurious dealings. Taxes are laid upon them, with the object of driving them out of the country, and some of the leading firms of Indian merchants have removed their business to Mombasa, in British East Africa. I think it is doubtful enough whether they will improve their lot by doing so. As a matter of fact, these Indian immigrants, sober, thrifty, industrious and intellectual are just the men to make the best settlers in semi-tropical Africa, as the various Governments will find out, when they are driven away for good and all.

Yesterday Mr. Dillon asked the Secretary for the Colonies whether he was aware that there were 50,000 British subjects from India in the colony of Natal who were denied the franchise and had no share in the government of the colony; whether the children of these people were, to a large extent, excluded from the Government schools; and whether he had taken or proposed to take any steps to insist on the franchise being granted in Natal to these British subjects?

Mr. Chamberlain.—By the law of Natal (No. 8 of 1896), natives of countries which have not possessed elective, representative institutions founded on the Parliamentary franchise, are not entitled to the franchise unless they obtain an order from the Governor in Council exempting them from the operation of the Act, and British Indians are embraced in this category. There is no rule, I understand, excluding Indians from Government schools. The Government supports special schools for Indians in centres where there is any considerable population. The answer to the last question is in the negative, and I may remind the hon. member that I have no power to insist in the case of a self-governing colony.

Mr. Davitt asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether British subjects from India settling in Natal were as such entitled to the franchise and were allowed to exercise it; if he could state approximately the proportion of the 50,000 Indian British subjects in the colony who were thus privileged; whether any provision was made by the laws of the colony for the education of these subjects in their own language; and if he could state how much of the taxes to which these people contribute was devoted to this purpose.

Mr. Chamberlain.—I have already given the answer to the first paragraph in reply to the question put to me by the hon. member for East Mayo. As to the second paragraph, I am not aware of the exact number, but it is small. In answer to the third paragraph, I believe not, and I am not aware of any demand for such instruction of Indians, but in the special schools for Indian children, numbering about 30, which receive grants from the Government, a number of Indian teachers are employed. The Government grant-in-aid of Indian schools for the last financial year was £2,200.

It is quite true that there is no law excluding Indians from Government schools. There is no law saying that rent is not to be paid in Ireland, but that does not prevent a boycott being put on the landlord, which is just as efficient in some cases as the law of the land. One of the chief grievances of Indians in Natal is that, although there is no law excluding them from Government schools, any Indian child taking advantage of these schools has such a time of it from the other children that life is not worth living to those who go there. The special schools for Indians are mostly in large towns. When Mr. Chamberlain says that he has no power to insist in the case of a self-governing colony, he talks sheer nonsense. The Colonial Office could make it so unpleasant for Natal in a variety of ways that Mr. Chamberlain might, if he liked, speedily put an end to the grievances of Indians now resident in that colony. If some Radical member of Parliament would go out to Natal this winter and make careful enquiry into the condition of the Indians resident there, and throughout the Cape Colonies generally, he would render deep and lasting service to the people of India.

## ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY IN AFRICA.

On Wednesday afternoon, without a division, without a debate beyond a few questions of detail, and with hardly a comment in the press, the House of Commons practically annexed 500,000 square miles of territory and 30 millions of additional subjects to the British Empire, by passing the second reading of the Royal Niger Company Bill. No such annexation of equal magnitude and importance has been made since 1858, when the Act for the Better Government of India finally transferred the entire administration of that vast country from the East India Company to the Crown. Britain has pursued her ancient policy in Africa, first pushing forward a mere commercial speculation in the shape of a chartered trading Company, and then when the pioneer work has been done, buying out the Company and taking over its territories. The charter was granted in 1882 to the National African Company, which, in 1886, expanded into the Royal Niger Company with a fully subscribed capital of a million sterling with indefinite powers of increase. The Company proceeded on the good old African lines of treaties with the savage tribes and small native states in the basin of the great Niger river, and by means of these over 300 of these have been gathered under the suzerainty of the Company and are now taken over in a block by the Imperial Government. The biggest of these native states is the Fulah Empire of Sokoto, whose Sultan rules over 220,000 square miles of territory and some 15 millions of subjects. The reigning Sultan has irrevocably conferred on the Royal Niger Company full sovereign power, which is now transferred by it to the British Crown. As the religion of the dominant classes is the Mussalman faith, the Queen-Empress now rules over fully one half of the Mahomedans of the entire world. This new territory is equal in area to Bengal, Madras and Bombay Presidencies; it is three times the area and four times the population of the whole of British Burma; it is a solid block of land about seven hundred miles square, containing almost the entire navigable course of the great river Niger and its tributaries. The price paid to the Company for its sovereign rights is less than a million sterling, but their trading rights still remain, and promise to be very valuable, though, of course, they are not exclusive. The ports and trade of the new country come under the free-trade system of the empire.

Three separate governments will be formed with a common fiscal policy. In two of these the present Governors will be re-appointed under the Crown, and Colonel Leegard, a well-known and very experienced African administrator will be appointed to the third. There has been much domestic slavery existing under the rule of the Company, though slave raiding, that nameless horror of dark Africa, has been partially suppressed. No doubt, domestic slavery will disappear as quickly as possible under the new state of things, consistent with some recognition of the fact that it is a settled condition of African social organisation.

There are vast areas of the new territory over which the foot of a white man has never trodden, and I doubt if there are one per cent of the entire population who have the smallest conception of the fact that they have been transferred, *homo homini*, to the subjection of an European power. There will be plenty of trouble with the savage inhabitants of this *terra incognita* in the future, but no doubt we shall digest and assimilate them into the empire like the rest, greatly to their advantage, if the African's curse—strong drink—is firmly suppressed. The dominant section of the population are the Hansas, Negroes pre-eminent among Africans for their physical, appearance and mental capacity, skilled in native arts and industries, and noted for their commercial enterprise. They are Mahomedans and make brave and notable soldiers. Some of the larger towns are said to contain as many as 150,000 souls, and are all protected by walls and moats. If the Hansas happen to disapprove of their new rulers, they are capable of giving infinite trouble.

The Niger territory is bounded entirely by European powers, France almost surrounding it with a frontier of some 1500 miles. Portuguese Africa lies to the south. There has been considerable trouble with regard to the delimitation of the French boundaries during recent years, almost resulting in war so recently as March 1898. They are settled for the present, but these frontier troubles are easily enough re-opened, as India knows to her cost. I have very little doubt that the civilization of the Niger territories will speedily develop that first element of "civilization," a standing Army, accompanied by the usual rivalry across the French border. The annexation is full of nasty possibilities, but is quite inevitable.

## ENTERTAINMENT TO MR. PARANJPE.

ON Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Caine entertained a large number of friends interested in Indian affairs at the International Art Gallery, to meet and congratulate Mr. Raghunath Purushottam Paranjpe, the senior wrangler of the year. The beautiful galleries were filled with an unusually large company, including Sir William Wedderburn and the fifty Members of Parliament composing the Indian Parliamentary Committee, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and the members of the London Indian Society of which he is president, Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., president, and the members of the Council of the Anglo-Indian Temperance Association, Lord Kinnaird, Sir John and Lady Leng, Sir Samuel and Lady Montagu, Sir John Jardine, Sir M. M. Bhowmuggie, M.P., Sir John and Lady Farran, Sir George Birdwood, Miss Manning, Professor Ray Lankester, Dr. Murison, Mr. and Mrs. Rutten Tata of Bombay, Mr. J. Fletcher Moulton, Q. C., M.P., himself a former senior wrangler, and some hundreds of other ladies and gentlemen with knowledge of and sympathy with the people of India.

After two hours spent in looking at the fine collection of modern paintings in the walls of the Gallery, and listening to a programme of music by the Blue Hungarian band, Mr. Caine gathered the company together in the central hall, and in a brief speech formally congratulated

Mr. Paranjpe on his brilliant success, in the name of the entire company. He then called successively upon Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji to speak in behalf of all Indians resident in this country, Sir William Wedderburn on behalf of all the Members of Parliament present, Mr. Samuel Smith on behalf of the Anglo-Indian Temperance Association, Sir John Jardine on behalf of Educated India, and Sir M. M. Bhowmuggie, M.P., Mr. Paranjpe made a very charming and modest acknowledgment in which he ascribed his success mainly to his cousin and the other professors of Fergusson College, and by his simple unaffected eloquence won the hearts of all present. Lord Kinnaird then spoke, and the company broke up. Mr. Paranjpe and some of the leading persons present were entertained to dinner previous to the reception by Mr. J. Herbert Roberts, M.P., I understand that Mr. Paranjpe intends to remain at Cambridge for another two years competing for the Smith's prize and doing post-graduate work; he is certain to receive the next vacant fellowship at his college St. Johns. Eventually, however, he will return to Poona, join the staff of the Fergusson College and with those single-hearted and self-sacrificing men devote his life entirely to the education of the youth of the Bombay Presidency. Mr. Caine's guests were visibly affected by Mr. Paranjpe's touching reference to his old parents in the Konkani and to the fact that the Viceroy with that kindly prethought that characterises him, had sent his personal congratulations to these humble folks on their little farm on the brilliant successes of their talented son.

## SIR W. WEDDERBURN'S MOTION.

When Sir William Wedderburn submits his motion on going into Committee on the East India Revenue accounts—"That under the existing procedure the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is not effectively exercised; that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates; that the debate on the Indian Budget should be appointed for an earlier day in the Session; and that, with a view to the more effectual discharge by this House of its existing duty to the unrepresented Indian taxpayer, the East India accounts should each year be referred to a Select Committee, with instructions to report on any special features deserving the attention of the House"—Mr. Wylie intends to move an amendment declaring that the House of Commons approves of the administration of Indian affairs and of the present system of administration.

Mr. Wylie is a director of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, and a Turkey red-dyer and Calico printer in that city. He sits for Dumbartonshire by the very slender majority of 33 votes, and it will be well if the British Congress Committee were to treat that constituency to a series of educational meetings on Indian politics. Mr. Wylie has developed a strong hostility to the Congress movement; but he is not very formidable, taking a mere "British merchant's" interest in Indian questions of which he has only the most superficial knowledge. An amendment, however, always gives zest to a parliamentary debate, if there is only an audience to listen to it.

The unusual heat of the weather combined with the extreme dullness of Parliamentary business, has sent most of the members home, and if a quorum can be obtained for the Indian Budget, it is as much as any one has a right to expect.

Sir William Wedderburn's resolution is framed for debating purpose rather than for division, to draw the opinion of the two front benches on the three important reforms which it advocates. From all I can gather, the first two proposals would get the general consent of both front benches. I believe a large majority of the Indian Council including the Secretary of State, feel that the additional opportunity for debating Indian affairs which would be presented by placing the salary of the Secretary of State on the estimates would be a very desirable reform, and I expect with some confidence a sympathetic statement on the subject from Lord George Hamilton. I look upon this single reform as one of such first-rate importance, that I would have been better pleased if Sir William had confined himself to it alone. If a division takes place, as is certain, it will be on the entire resolution, and I do not think either the India Office or the House of Commons will be prepared to grant the reference of the India accounts to a Select Committee. The result will be that on a division, the smaller but not less important proposal which is popular, will be swamped in the vote upon the larger. If, however, Sir William's object is discussion and elucidation this will not matter seriously, and with the report of the Royal Expenditure Commission maturing, this public declaration and discussion by Parliament of one of the most valuable methods of control of expenditure advocated by Indian reformers will be opportune and valuable. Public opinion generally approves of the Report of the Indian Currency Committee, and you may take it for granted, that before very long the main recommendations of the Report will become law. The British sovereign will become current in India at a fixed ratio to the rupee. Whether that will be 1/4s or 1/5s remains to be seen; but having reached already a certain amount of stability at 1/4s it will be wise to be content and to bring about as quickly as possible the time when gold and silver will be interchangeable throughout India at this fixed ratio. Of course, this can only be carried out by restriction in silver coinage and by coining sovereigns in India in the same way as they are now coined at the Australian and London mints.

As I have often said I am no expert on currency questions but the recommendations as a whole commend themselves to my common-sense and commercial experience. If these proposals can be carried successfully into effect, the exchange difficulty with India will be solved, and a very great stimulus will be given to the employment of British capital in India, and I hope also to the still greater employment of Indian savings and capital, in native enterprises. The resources of India are infinite and only wait a settled currency basis for prompt development. It has always appeared to me that one of the great social needs of India is the development of native industries. By the way, the question which I quoted in my last letter as being set down by Mr. Harwood relative to iron and steel manufactures in Bengal has been postponed at the request of the Secretary of State; from which I infer that he is looking carefully into it and will give some definite reply at an early date.

## THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

We are all much interested in a telegram which came from the *Times* Calcutta correspondent a few days ago with regard to the changed views of the Viceroy, and the Bengal Legislative Council on the Calcutta Municipal Bill. The telegram is rather meagre, and one would like to see fuller details before expressing any definite opinion on the change which has been made. As far as I can gather, the agitation which has been so ably carried on by leading Indian members of the Bengal Legislative Council has been successful, and Lord Curzon has been compelled to yield on the most important point of the Bill—that of the constitution of the Executive Committee. The Bill, I take it, will now be amended so as to continue to the Corporation the power which it has hitherto possessed of appointing two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee. This, if I am accurate in my interpretation of the telegram, is surely a great victory for the advanced Liberal party in Bengal and makes the Bill a very different thing indeed, to what it was before. I don't know how the reformers in Calcutta will view the reduction of the numbers from 75 to 50. This may not matter very much if proportions are preserved, as the smaller a representative body is in numbers, consistent with absolutely fair representation, the better for the conduct of business. But if in future the members of the Corporation elected by the ratepayers are to be only one-half of the total number of members, instead of two-thirds, this is a very retrograde step and ought to be strongly, and I hope, successfully, resisted by the Indian members of the Bengal Legislative Council.

## RANJITSINGJI'S CLAIM.

You will notice that Sir Seymour King put down an important question this week pressing Prince Ranjitsingji's claim to the chieftainship of the Nowanagar State. By a private arrangement with Lord George Hamilton, this question has been postponed until next week. The question was rather severely criticised by Mr. Maclean and Sir Henry Fowler, but Sir Seymour King strongly repudiates the idea that there was anything improper in the wording of it. He says that he only set out certain well-known facts which he knows have been presented to the Government of India. He also declares that they are really only part of the case which the Prince has to make in support of his claims. Behind them are other still more extraordinary circumstances which he will make public in due course if, after further consideration, Lord George Hamilton declines to reopen the question of the Prince's claim. Sir Seymour King is very mysterious and portentous with regard to this matter and seems determined to press Ranjitsingji's claim as hard as he can. The Prince's immense popularity in this country will help him if his claim can really be made out with any strength and justice.

## SILK-PRODUCING FISH.

A MEDITERRANEAN shell-fish known as the pianna has the curious power of spinning a viscid silk, which is made in Italy into a regular fabric. The silk is spun by the shell-fish in the first place for the purpose of attaching itself to the rocks. It is able to guide the delicate filaments to the proper place and then glue them fast, and if they are cut away it can reproduce them.

The material when gathered—which is done at low tide—is washed in soap and water, dried and straightened, one pound of the coarse filament yielding three ounces of the fine thread, which, when spun, is of a lovely burnished golden-brown colour.

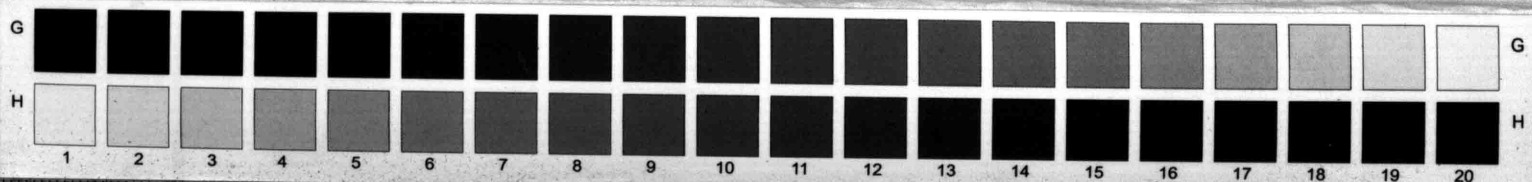
## A WISE RAT.

THE *Field* tells the following story: A rat was caught alive on board a British naval ship, and the beast was thrown from the trap into the water without being killed. A large gull that was following in the wake of the ship to pick up scraps of food thrown overboard by the steward swooped several times, endeavouring to pick the rat up. Once the bird got too close to the rat's jaws, and the beast grabbed it by the neck. After a short fight the rat succeeded in killing the bird. When the gull was dead, the rat scrambled upon the bird's body, and, hoisting one wing as a sail and using the other as a rudder, succeeded in steering for the shore.

## GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Captain Bawa Jiwan Singh, I. M. S., Bengal, is permanently posted to Burma.  
Captain H. H. Gray, I. M. S., Bengal, is temporarily posted for employment in the North-West Provinces Jail Department.  
Mr. E. Lawrence, Accountant-General, N. W. P. and Oudh, has been granted three months' leave, Mr. M. J. Gauntlett officiating, and Mr. Scott-O'Connor acting for Mr. Gauntlett.  
The Secretary of State has sanctioned the estimates, amounting to 37 lakhs, for the construction of the Wazirabad-Lyallpur railway now approaching completion.  
Mr. L. M. Jacob is confirmed as Superintending Engineer, 3rd class.  
Mr. R. Douglas, Examiner of Accounts, has been granted an extension of leave to the 16th November.

HEAVY rain fell in Bombay on Saturday afternoon and during the night. On Sunday there was a high wind, and the whole aspect of the weather was far more monsoonic than it has been during the past month. Rain fell heavily in the late afternoon and evening and also on Monday morning. The Meteorological Reporter says that the rainfall has been chiefly confined to the west coast stations, Bombay reporting 0.91 cents, Ratnagiri 0.83, Belgaum 0.26, Goa 0.15, Surat 0.12, Aurangabad 0.10, Calicut 0.05, Poona 0.02, and Mangalore 0.01. The monsoon gradient both on the Malabar and west coasts is normal, and the baric gradients being steep strong winds are blowing over the greater part of the country. The weather is favourable for rain in light or moderate showers all along the coast from Cochin to Bombay or Surat during the next 24 hours. The isobars indicate slightly disturbed weather conditions far to eastwards of the Coromandel Coast, in the Bay.





## MENTAL FATIGUE.

DR. EDWARD THORNDIKE, of the Western Reserve University, U. S., has made some interesting experiments on mental fatigue. We are used to think of the mind as a machine, and our inability to work as a sign of its loss of energy. Sleep is supposed to restore the energy as an accumulator is recharged with electricity. The incorrectness of this view might be questioned by the fact that mental action is too complex for such simplicity and that some minds do not tire with large amounts of work. Dr. Thorndike's experiments show that certain persons are as fit for hard mental work after a day of it as in the morning and seem to have no analogy with a charged accumulator. They indicate that desire of rest is due not from the running down of one factor, such as mental energy or whatever we may call it, but rather because ideas of taking it easy, or feelings of boredom, sleepiness, or physical strain and discomfort, cause us to desist from what has produced them. This tired feeling does not, however, correspond to loss of mental energy and capacity of work, because many have it who are quite able to work well. One is not a measure of the other; but nature warns us by the feeling not to work more some time before we are really unable.

## A BODY TURNED TO STONE IN THE GRAVE.

SOME eleven years ago an Irish woman committed suicide at the Niagara Falls, and was interred in an unconsecrated portion of St. Mary's Cemetery there. A few weeks ago her son decided that the body should be removed to Fairview Cemetery on the other side of the Falls, and, with the assistance of several friends, he set about the work of disinterment. The coffin was found to be lying in water, and in the course efforts to remove it, the gruesome receptacles fell to pieces, disclosing the body which, to the amazement of all, presented the same appearance, except as regards colour, as it did on the day that the woman died. The clothes and even the shoes had been destroyed, but the corpse from its appearance might have been carved out of blackish-brown marble. All attempts to lift it were unavailing, for the body had turned to stone. It was viewed by numbers of persons who recognised the features of the suicide without the smallest difficulty. The wound she made in her throat plainly showed the stitches that had been put in it, and the hair remained fixed on the head. In its petrified state the body was estimated to weigh between five and six hundred weights, and an extra heavy wagon had to be procured to convey it to its new resting-place. In the process one of the feet was broken off, the break being as clean and even as if the foot formed part of a statue. It is assumed the petrification was due to the water, which gathers from the lime-stone of the district over which it passes a large amount of calcareous matter. Possibly the body will be again disinterred for examination by medical experts in the interests of science.

## THE BUSY BEE UP TO DATE.

HONEY is now in greater favour than ever and vendors of the toothsome sweet are rising to the occasion.

Genuine honeys of different flavours are now procurable. The bees kept for honey-making are no longer allowed to roam about at their own sweet will and sip of the nectar of flowers wherever they choose. They have to keep within a certain prescribed area.

This is enclosed and roofed by a fine wire netting. If the proprietor wishes to supply the clover flavour of honey, he plants the ground with clover. The same plan is pursued in the case of other varieties of honey.

## LORD CURZON'S SECRETARIAT REFORM.

THE London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes: I hear from an authoritative quarter that Lord Curzon has much more radical reform in his mind than cutting down long-winded reports, and the like. For many years past the officials in the Secretariats or Chief Public Departments in Simla and Calcutta have been a sort of caste in themselves. They have entered the service like many others, but good fortune, relationship, favour, and so on, have led to their being placed at the seat of Government, and retained there until some fat appointment has fallen vacant in the districts, and they have been transferred to it. They are the little tin gods of Simla to whom Mr. Kipling frequently refers in his Anglo-Indian stories, in which the great importance of getting into the Secretariat also appears. Meanwhile their colleagues in the districts, whom they rule as toiling in the ordinary work of the administration, acquiring a practical knowledge of the people, their customs and languages, remaining year in year out in the plains, while the happy Secretariat officials spend their winters in Calcutta and the hot weather in the cool air of Simla. Now, it is said, Lord Curzon proposes to enforce the existing rules, which have been more honoured hitherto in their breach than in their observance, as to limiting the tenure of Secretariat offices. I believe these rules limit the appointments five years. Lord Curzon wishes to reduce the term to three years, and to enforce it rigidly, so that the stream of provincial officials, with local experience, will pass through the Secretariats every three years and back again to their own provinces and districts. He has given an earnest of his desire to stop this growth of particular caste and encourage local officers, who do the real work of the administration, by the last honours list on the Queen's Birthday. Hitherto when a district official reached a certain grade, he retired just when his knowledge and experience were of the most value, because never having had the fortune to be numbered among the favoured few, who oscillate in the train of the Viceroy and his Council between Simla and Calcutta, he found all future promotion barred, and the lists of honours closed to him. Supported by one or two strong men around him, Lord Curzon proposes to alter all this, and make honest, meritorious work in the districts a path to promotion.

A CONSIDERABLE number of cases of cholera and several deaths having occurred among the 17th Bengal Lancers at Mian Mir, the Regiment has moved out into camp.

## SPIRITUALISM IS NORMAL.

THE growing recognition of the interblending of the two worlds of the seen and the unseen will do much to enlarge and elevate life. Some one has well written:

"The mission of spiritualism in the world is, primarily, to establish a rational religion in the minds of men founded upon the operation of nature's laws, to wage an educational warfare upon ignorance, superstition, and all forms of supernaturalism; and in consonance with the universal brotherhood to establish the solidarity of the human race through the dissemination of a knowledge of man's relation to his fellow-men—to this end being in active sympathy with all genuine reforms looking to the betterment of the social conditions of humanity, including the elevation of woman."

There is nothing abnormal in a true recognition of this relation. Emerson has well said:—

From thy worth and weight the stars gravitate,  
And the equipoise of heaven is thy house's equipoise.

These lines hold in solution a great philosophy of life. In the latter day interest in all matters pertaining to religion, to psychic development and phenomena, and to occult science, it is all important to keep this equipoise. The growth of the man or woman into recognition of higher things, into a perception of the invisible world, is just as normal as is the growth of the infant into the child or the child into youth and manhood.

"Do you think I could have a satisfactory sitting with Mrs. Piper?" asks the novice. As well might he ask, "Do you think I can have a satisfactory talk with Dr. Edward Everett Hale?" Whether he could depends not wholly on Dr. Hale, by any means, but depends upon himself, his degree of understanding, his mental and moral quality—in short, whether he is, or is not, fitted to enter into a sympathetic atmosphere with this great and good man. And to have satisfactory meeting with even one's nearest and dearest who have gone on into the spiritual world and life pre-supposed some degree, at least, of understanding sympathy with the conditions of that life. Judge Edmonds, a distinguished jurist of New York city, became deeply interested in the phenomena of communication as initiated in 1867 by the Fox sisters, and in 1850-51 and afterwards wrote much on the subject of absolute affirmation, and giving a most intelligent presentation of the entire subject. Epes Saigent, in the decade of the '70s, contributed materially to the literature of this theme.

LIGHTS OF PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.  
Sir William Crookes has, for more than twenty years, freely and widely asserted his absolute conviction of the reality of intercourse between the seen and the unseen. That Professor Hyslop has given valuable and influential testimony is another hopeful and helpful sign of the times, yet it must still be realized that he is but one—and the latest recruit, so to speak—of a group of the modern scientific men, each of whose names carries great weight; and as every one of these men, with a single exception are inevitably engaged in other important work it follows that the single exception, Dr. Hodgson, is prepared to offer the most complete data of the whole matter. Dr. William James is a busy professor in Harvard, as is Professor Sidgwick in Cambridge (England), and Professor Oliver Lodge in Liverpool. Sir William Crookes is a professional scientist, Mr. F. W. H. Myers is an instructor and a literary man. Professor Hyslop holds an important chair in Columbia college; the Rev. Dr. Minot J. Savage is the pastor of a great church, and so, in one way or another, all the more prominent psychical researchers are inevitably engaged, for the most part, with other work, except Dr. Hodgson, who refuses whatever brilliant prospects would otherwise be his to devote his time and energy to this work, which Mr. Gladstone well characterized as "the most important before the world at the present time." When Dr. Hodgson's report comes out, in 1900, there will be a document of most remarkable and epoch-making power.

It must be remembered that all psychic phenomena is normal, and is under a spiritual law in orderly sequence. Unquestionably the "medium" is but a temporary bridge, so to speak. The cruder physical demonstrations first aroused the world; this have given place almost entirely to the forms of using the vocal organs of the medium to speak or the hand to write. At first only an appeal to the physical senses would have aroused the world; but this form was only a temporary means, and when the world was aroused then the end was served, and a finer and more subtle form, appealing to the mind rather than to the ear and eye, was instituted.

The next phase will be the development of man's psychic faculties, enabling each individual to enter directly, without benefit of mediums, into communication with those in the unseen.

Just now a large number of letters, to each of which I shall have the pleasure of replying personally as fast as possible, reach me with various inquiries as to Dr. Hodgson's "book." The present form in which the Secretary of the Society for Psychical Research is giving his data is in the regular annual reports of the Society, which all persons may receive by becoming members, and to this end it is necessary only to address Dr. Richard Hodgson at No. 5 Boylston place, Boston (the office of the Society), and pay the annual fee of \$5 the checks payable to Dr. Hodgson. The monthly journal and the annual reports are regularly sent to all members of the S.P.R. These annual reports contain Dr. Hodgson's mass of experience with Mrs. Piper and all that he deduces from the experiences of all the sitters. These are to be issued in the spring of 1900 and will be a very remarkable document, that can hardly fail to be epoch-making. For, however, impressive are the experiences and the ideas of other notable sitters with Mrs. Piper, it must be remembered that it is Dr. Hodgson whose exclusive time and thought are given to this problem and that his judgment would always be recognized as the authoritative one.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by Mr. Wilkinson, District Superintendent of Police, Cochín, inviting men for enlistment in the new Punitive Police Force to be organised in Tinnevely. The concessions proposed for those who may be willing to join the Force are (1) a gratuity according to the Pension Rules if the Force is to be disbanded after five years; and (2) an allowance of Rs. 3 to head constables and Rs. 2 to constables in addition of their pay.

## THE "HINDU" DEFAMATION SUIT.

(Before Mr. Justice Moore.)

1ST AUGUST, 1899.  
PLAINTIFF.—B. G. Krishna Iyengar, late Deputy Commissioner of Hassan, by Mr. R. F. Grant, instructed by Mr. S. Bilgiri Iyengar, Attorney-at-law.

1st Defendant.—Mr. G. Subramania Iyer, late of the *Hindu*, by Mr. P. S. Sivaswami Iyer, High Court Vakil.

2nd Defendant.—Mr. M. Viraraghava Chariar, Manager of the *Hindu* by Rao Bahadur Mr. P. Ananda Charlu, and Mr. T. V. Seshagiri Iyer.

The suit preferred by the plaintiff against the defendants for the recovery of Rs. 50,000 as damages for having defamed the plaintiff in the columns of the *Hindu* attributing despicable and criminal conduct as a public servant came on for the settlement of issues to-day. Mr. P. S. Sivaswami Iyer on behalf of the first defendant, requested his Lordship to file the following statement:—

I. This defendant admits that the extract quoted in paragraph 2 of the plaint was published in the *Hindu* on the 27th June, 1898, but denies that such publication was false or malicious or was a libel on one.

II. This defendant states that in so far as the words complained of by the plaintiff consist of allegations of fact, they are true in substance and in fact, and in so far as they consist of expressions of opinion, they are fair comments made in good faith and without malice upon the said facts which are matters of public interest.

III. The comments upon the plaintiff's conduct as a public official were founded upon the following well-known facts.

IV. The date of the plaintiff's birth as declared by him and entered in the Service Register of the Mysore Government in or about the year 1863 at the commencement of his service, was April 1843, and the said entry has continued without any correction ever since.

V. According to the entry of his age in the Service Register the plaintiff was under the rules of the Mysore Government liable to be retired from the Public Service in 1898.

VI. A few months before the 27th June, 1898, the plaintiff applied to the Mysore Government to correct the entry as to his age in the Service Register on the ground that it was erroneous, and he adduced certain documents in support of his allegation; but the Government discredited the said documents and, rejecting his application for correction of his age, called upon him to retire, and the plaintiff has accordingly retired.

VII. The plaintiff had also declared when effecting an insurance upon his life that he was born in April 1843.

VIII. If the new date of birth suggested by the plaintiff had been accepted by the Mysore Government, the period of the plaintiff's service would have been extended and the plaintiff would have continued to draw the salary attached to his office for such extended period.

IX. This defendant submits that upon the facts mentioned above and the decision of the Mysore Government which was the duly constituted authority in the matter, this defendant was entitled to publish fair and bona fide comments upon the conduct of the plaintiff as a public official and his character as disclosed in such conduct.

X. This defendant states that the plaintiff complained of the article in question only after the lapse of 8 months after the publication, and that though the 2nd defendant who was then in sole charge of the paper offered to publish any contradiction he might choose to send, the plaintiff did not avail himself of such offer.

XI. This defendant states that he is not acquainted with the plaintiff and is not, and has not been actuated by any malice towards him.

XII. This defendant denies that the plaintiff has suffered any damage by reason of the said article and states that the plaintiff is not entitled to any damage and that the damages claimed are excessive.

XIII. The plaintiff's suit should be dismissed with costs.

Mr. Bilgiri Iyengar, informed the Court that he had instructions from his client to consent to the filing of the statement.

Mr. Sivaswami Iyer then read the statement on behalf of the first defendant.

Mr. Ananda Charlu said that his defence was virtually the same.

Mr. Sivaswami Iyer.—The defence here is not a defence of privilege but the statements are fair, honest and bona fide criticism. He quoted Odgers on Libel, page 32, in support of his contention. He observed that if it was a fair and bona fide criticism on well-known facts it was not defamatory at all.

Mr. Justice Moore.—Are the statements true?

Mr. Sivaswami Iyer.—The burden of proof lies upon the plaintiff. Plaintiff says they are false therefore it is his duty to prove them as such.

Mr. Grant.—The words are defamatory per se.

Mr. Ananda Charlu.—Under the Procedure Code, it was quite open to the plaintiff to put in an additional statement in reply to the objections raised in the written statements put in by the defence.

Mr. Grant.—Whatever that is defamatory is untrue.

Mr. Ananda Charlu.—That is practically begging if he is prepared, the question. The plaintiff can now put in an additional statement.

Mr. Grant.—The defence cannot at this stage ask the plaintiff to do so. The defence ought to have at the time they took the Judge's summons asked the plaintiff to amend his plaint.

The following issues were then framed:

(1) Whether the allegations made in the plaint article are true or not?  
(2) Whether or not the allegations in the plaint article are bona fide, and fair criticism in the interests of the public?  
(3) What are the damages, if any, to be awarded.—*Hindu*.

Troublesome to the Army.  
During the civil war, as well as in our late war with Spain, diarrhoea was one of the most troublesome diseases the army had to contend with. In many instances it became chronic and the old soldiers still suffer from it. Mr. David Taylor of Wind Ridge, Greene Co., Pa., is one of these. He uses Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and says he never found anything that would give him such quick relief as this.

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

## MY FIRST BEAR.

THE Kumara Rajah of Bobbili writes to the *Madras Mail*:—At about 9 a. m. on the 23rd July, a man came running up from a place some eight miles north of Bobbili with khubber that a bear had seen near his village, and that it had taken shelter in a bush in the mango grove close by, and also that it had slightly mauled a dholby while carrying his baskets along the foot-path that ran through the grove. Thereupon, thinking that it would be better to know the same definitely before starting, my father sent out a sowar with instructions to find out the actual state of things, and by half-past twelve or so the man returned with the good news that the bear had hidden itself in a bush, which could be easily approached, and furthermore that the animal could also be seen. So within half an hour we were ready and off. We drove fast as far as the Seefagaram river, about six and-a-half miles away, and from there rode on elephants to the grove. Having there taken our rifles in hand, we proceeded to the place, which was only about a hundred yards away. First of all my father ordered two shikaries to take their places to the right, and two more to the left. We were in the middle and on the other side ran the river. So the unfortunate bear was hemmed in on all sides. By now we were only about twenty five yards from the cover, and there was a ditch between it and ourselves. From the top of the bund we could just make out through the bushes a black spot, which my father told me was the bear. Then, to have a better view of the bear we came down the bank and a few yards further to the right went up it again. From here we were able to see it a little plainer as it was now only about fifteen yards off. My father then told me to fire right into the centre of the black spot, and left me to take up his position a little further up the bank to my left, from where we had first seen the beast. From there he beckoned me to fire, and I loosed off my right barrel. The bear, which had been lying down, immediately rose up and roared, turning round and round. The very instant it roared bang went my father's gun. Then I fired my left barrel. Now it came down, and the fourth shot, from my father's gun, silenced it. But yet it was unapproachable, and as it was now plainly visible I aimed and fired at its skull, my third and last shot, which killed it.

Though it has taken me so long to describe, only in a few seconds all these five shots went off in quick succession. Then the crowd which had been very anxiously waiting behind to see the result, rushed up to the dead beast, some jumping over the ditch, some tumbling into it in attempting to clear it, and some going through it. After a little delay it was brought to this side of the ditch, where we examined the shots. The first hit it in the stomach and pierced to its back, and all the other shots were on its head. It was not at all a bad specimen, being a medium sized one with fine skin. On the hills in the vicinity Mr. Willock, I. C. S. (retired) shot many a bear when he was at Parvatipore, and my father killed several some years ago. Since then they have become scarce and this was the first opportunity which I could avail myself of though I have been shooting other game for several years. After ordering the shikaries to take the bear home, we proceeded to the open fields about a mile away to try our luck with the black buck. After finding out the whereabouts of the game, my father set off in one direction to take his position by the other end of the tank bund. As they were in the bed of the tank myself and a shikary went in the opposite direction to fire if I could get near enough, or to drive them towards my father. At first they seemed to make away quite in the wrong direction, but after about half an hour's dodging, I was able to fire at a distance of about a hundred yards and a fine black buck was brought down. Then the rest ran off towards my father but they passed quite out of shot. This terminated a good day's outing.

THE Simla correspondent of the *Englishman* wires under date Aug. 6:—Lord Curzon's proposed frontier policy has now received the sanction of the Secretary of State. Briefly it will restore to the regular army a large number of troops hitherto posted at fortified posts in tribal country, and should result in annually saving many lakhs of rupees to the exchequer. The enlistment of tribes in defence of their own country, by enrolling them in local militia crops under British officers according to the requirement of the locality, is proposed, while movable columns and camps, connected with military bases in India by light railways, will support positions where necessary. On the Samana range a Border Police Corps of 450 men will replace the present garrison, and in Kurram the strength of the present militia will be doubled. A movable column will be posted in the new cantonment of the Miranzai Valley, and railway connection will probably be carried to Kohat. In the north of Waziristan militia will hold all the posts now guarded by regulars. Levies in the Tochi Valley and the South Waziri militia will occupy the Shanar and Gomal Valleys, with Wana as headquarters, movable columns supporting at Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan. The Khyber policy has already been published. It is proposed to strengthen fort Landi Kotal and establish a movable column at Peshawar; a standard gauge railway to Jamrud is also probable. An early reduction of the Chitral garrison in the autumn has also been decided on. An escort with a Political Officer remains at Chitral, but the Upper Drosht forts will be expanded and a levy service organised through the Mehtar of Chitral to guard the posts and bridges from the Lowari pass to Chitral, the Government paying for the same through the Mehtar. An improved road between Chitral and Gilgit has also been decided on. The building of the Nowshera-Dargai Railway commences directly, and a movable column remains meanwhile at Khar. It is hoped these measures will not only conciliate the tribes by persuading them to accept well paid service in defence of their own territory, but also result in the general quietude of the frontier. Modest structures instead of extensive forts are generally advised, and the question of the Khyber Pass railway is meanwhile dropped.

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## GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS.

Babu Ashutosh Bagchi, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Chittagong, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days.

Mr. W. J. Stark, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Rajmahal, is appointed to have charge of the Godda sub-div.

Babu Sashi Mohan Talukdar, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Chittagong, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Jamini Mohan Dass, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-two days.

Mr. H. Walmsley, Asst Magte and Collr, on leave, is appointed to act in the first grade of Jt-Magtes and Dy Collrs.

Mr. H. F. Samman, Offg Magte and Collr, Bogra, is allowed leave for three months.

Mr. R. A. Stephen, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, in charge of the Bohmong's Circle, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Kedar Nath Mukerjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Monghyr, is transferred to Berhampur.

Mr. F. H. Tucker, Dist Supdt. of Police, Champaran, is allowed leave for three months, Mr. R. B. Hyde, Asst Supdt. of Police, holding charge of the district police during his absence.

Babu Ras Behari Biswas, Offg Dist Supdt of Police, Dinajpur, is allowed leave for three weeks.

The following confirmations are made in the grades of Sub-Dy Collrs:—

Confirmed in the first grade.

Babus Akhay Kumar Chaudhuri, Doorga Das Mookerjee and Hem Chunder Mitter.

Confirmed in the second grade.

Babus Ras Bihary Dutt, Juddam Sahoy and Hara Chandra Ghose.

Confirmed in the third grade.

Babus Opendro Chunder Mozumdar, Kali Kumar Roy and Sarat Chander Basu.

Confirmed in the fourth grade.

Babus Mohendra Chunder Sircar, Omesh Chunder Gossein, and Kali Kisor Talukdar.

Babu Har Sahay Lal, sub protem Sub-Dy Collr, Rajshahi, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Sarat Chandra Basu, Sub-Dy Collr and Supdt of the Distillery at Patna, under order of transfer to Monghyr, is allowed leave for one month and twenty-three days.

Babu Bhaban Mohun Gupta, Sub-Dy Collr, Sathkura, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Debendra Nath Bose, sub pro tem Sub-Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to the Govindpur sub-div.

Babu Janendra Mohan Ghosh, Sub-Dy Collr, Govindpur, is allowed leave for three months.

Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Momen, sub pro tem Sub-Dy Collr, is posted to the Presidency Div.

Moulvi Mohammad Choinuddin, sub pro tem Sub-Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to Jalpaiguri.

On being relieved of his appointment at Backergunge, retired Asst Surg bullye Chandra Sen is appointed temporarily to have medical charge of the civil station of Birbhum.

First grade Asst Surge Ram Kally Gupta is dismissed from the service of Government.

Mr. H. S. Johnstone, Senior Supdt, Calcutta Police, is appointed to be Supdt Port Police, on Rs. 600 per mensem.

Mr. J. E. Millard, Supdt, Calcutta Police, is appointed to be Senior Supdt on Rs. 500 per mensem.

Mr. E. Robertson, Supdt, Calcutta Police, is promoted to be Supdt on Rs. 500 per mensem.

Mr. R. Davies, Supdt, Calcutta Police, is promoted to be Supdt on Rs. 450 per mensem.

Rai Jogendra Chandra Mitra Bahadur, Supdt, Calcutta Police, is promoted to be Supdt on Rs. 400 per mensem.

Mr. A. Forsyth, Inspector, is promoted to be Supdt on Rs. 300 per mensem.

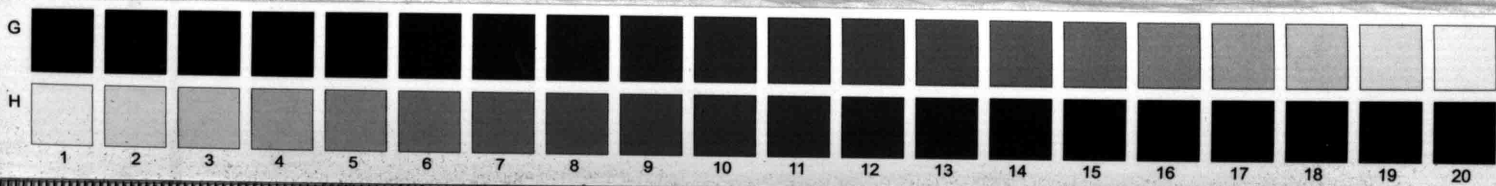
Mr. Iradatulla, Bar-at-Law, is appointed to act, as a Munsif of Satkania.

## HOW FAR ANIMALS CAN COUNT.

EXPERIMENTS have often been made to find out how far animals can count, and some curious and interesting results have occasionally been obtained, says *National Stockman*. A Russian doctor has been among the latest to study the question, and according to his statement there are animals which are superior in arithmetic to certain tribes of men in Polynesia, who cannot count beyond five or six. The Doctor found a horse in a village which was able to count the mile-posts along the road, and which had been trained by its master to stop for feed whenever it had covered twenty-five miles. One day the Doctor and the owner of the horse tried the animal over a road on which three false posts had been put up between the real ones. The horse was deceived by the trick, and he stopped for his oats at the end of twenty-two miles, instead of travelling the usual twenty-five. The same horse was accustomed to being fed at the hour of noon, and the Doctor noticed that whenever the clock struck any hour the horse would prick up his ears, as if counting. If there were twelve strokes he would trot off to be fed, but if he heard fewer strokes than twelve he would keep on working. The experiment was made of striking twelve strokes at one o'clock, whereupon the horse started for his oats, in spite of the fact that he had been fed only an hour before.

A cat, it would seem, cannot count as far as a horse—at least, the Doctor's cat could not. Before giving his cat a piece of meat, the Doctor would put it under the animal's nose, and then drew it away five times. It was only the sixth time that he would give the cat the morsel. This was repeated every day, until the cat always waited patiently five times, but would jump forward of its own accord at the sixth presentation of the meat. As this showed that puss was able to remember up to six, the Doctor tried seven, but failed. When he attempted to experiment with that number the cat became confused, and would jump for the meat that the wrong time. The number six, therefore, would seem to be the limit of a cat's power of counting.

ON THURSDAY last Mr. Snow, Commissioner of the Central Division, on behalf of the Government, presented gold and silver watches to the members of the police who gave assistance in capturing the murderers in the recent Pooná tragedy. Afterwards Mr. Snow presented a sword to the Chief Constable of Rheema Shunker for breaking up a troublesome and dangerous gang of Holi dacoits.





## INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.

THE REGISTRATION OF INDIAN SECURITIES IN ENGLAND.—Sir Seymour King asked the Secretary of State for India whether he had yet come to any decision as to initiating legislation for enabling Indian companies to open offices for the transfer and registration of shares in this country.

Lord G. Hamilton: I addressed the Government of India on the subject of my hon. friend's question on March 16 last, and I observe from the newspapers received by the last homeward mail that a Bill to enable Indian companies to establish branch registers in this country was introduced by Mr. Dawkins in the Viceroy's Legislative Council on June 23.

EXCHANGE COMPENSATION ALLOWANCE.—Sir Seymour King asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether, in admitting the rights of certain of their civil officers to the exchange compensation allowance which was granted generally in 1893 to Anglo-Indian employees of the Indian Government subject to reservations with regard to certain services and to special circumstances or questions of domicile, the Indian Government, in cases where it has been proved that the recipient's claim to the compensation was good from the first, has nevertheless brought such recipient under regulations which only admit his claim to the compensation as having effect from April 1, 1897.

Whether he is aware of the case of Mr. Charles Edmondstone Ross, of the Public Works Department, who was refused the compensation allowance in 1893 on some interpretation of the law of domicile, but has since been admitted to the privilege, but only with effect from April 1, 1897?

Whether Mr. Ross has applied to the Government of India to grant him the full arrears of allowance having effect from the date when it was granted in 1893, on the ground that he was entitled to it at that date, citing in proof thereof the fact that it was then granted to his brother, and sister both in the Government service, whereas it was refused to him, and that as regards questions of parentage, service, domicile, &c., there was no substantial distinction between the conditions of his case and those of his brother and sister.

And whether he will explain on what ground while recognising that Mr. Ross had a claim to the allowance, the Government of India has declined to grant him the full arrears of compensation conceded in other and similar cases.

Lord G. Hamilton: Exchange compensation was granted in 1893 under certain regulations in which the question of domicile was an important element. In 1897 the rules were altered and the allowance was granted under other conditions, one of which was that the allowance must not be given to a native of India as defined by statute. It is clear that many officers may have been eligible under the later regulations who were not so under the earlier orders.

Mr. Ross is one of a large number of officers from whom memorials were received in 1894 and 1895, as to which the Secretary of State in Council decided that he could not entertain appeals from the decisions of the Government of India based on his general instructions.

THE INDIAN VICEROY AND THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.—Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will state whether any recommendations have been made by the Viceroy to the Legislative Council of Bengal in regard to the composition of the corporation and of the general committee under the Calcutta Municipal Bill at present under consideration; and, if so, whether he is in a position to state their nature.

Mr. Brodrick, who answered the question: The Government of India, after receiving the Calcutta Municipal Bill as amended by the Select Committee of the local legislature, is consulting the Bengal Government as to the attitude of the Government on the further stage of the Bill. At the present time, while discussion between the two Governments is proceeding, it would not be convenient for me to make any statement regarding the views of the Government of India on the subject.

PRINCE RANJITSINGH.—Sir Seymour King had upon the paper a long question (the text of which is given on p. 15) with reference to the legal status and rights of Kumar Shri Ranjitsingh Vibhaji, commonly known as Prince Ranjitsingh.

The Speaker called upon the hon. gentleman to ask the question, but he was not in his place. Mr. Maclean, addressing the Speaker, said: I desire to ask you, sir, whether it is in order for an hon. member of this House to suggest, as is done in this question, that a native prince who has been fully recognised by the Government of India may not be the son of his supposed father, and that his mother was one of a family of four sisters, who were all concubines of the late Raja?

The Speaker: The question, I understand, is not asked at present. The hon. member had better wait until it is asked.

Sir H. Fowler: May I call your attention to the question, sir, and ask you whether it is in order to put into a question a great many disputed questions as statements of fact? It is a very serious mode of making accusations both against the Government of India and certain native Princes which, I think, when the question comes to be answered, will be found to be without basis in fact.

The Speaker: My attention has not been particularly called to the exact framing of the question, but I will look at it carefully; and if I think it is irregular I will take care that it is put down in an amended shape or not at all. (hear, hear.)

Thursday, July 20.

AN INDIAN IRON CONTRACT.—Mr. Harwood asked the Secretary of State for India: If his attention has been called to the paragraph on page 126 of "East India (progress and condition)," published June 7, 1899, in which it is stated that the Barrakur Iron Company had agreed to supply the Indian Government with 10,000 tons of castings and pig iron yearly for ten years; that the company is in a condition to increase their output from 30,000 to 50,000 tons a year when they see an outlet; and that the quality is uniform and equal to Middlesbrough iron; has his attention been called to a statement by the chairman of the company at its annual meeting in London to the effect that, whatever may be the movements of markets and exchange, this iron has to be supplied under a reduction in price below the average of English prices, which practically amounts to a protective duty in favour of English or Continental iron; and it is the invariable practice of the Indian Govern-

ment to treat all Indian manufacturer's on absolutely equal terms with British or Continental manufacturers, as ordered by paragraph 28 of Resolution 185, January 1883; and, if not, will he explain on what grounds.

Mr. Brodrick (for Lord G. Hamilton) said: In 1896 the Government of India, being desirous of assisting the Barrakur Iron Company offered to place with them a contract for the supply of 10,000 tons of iron annually at a price five per cent. below that at which materials of similar quality could then be obtained from England, the contract to be in force for ten years. This offer was gratefully accepted by the company as the terms were such as to give them at that time a fair margin of profit and the certainty of steady employment for the next ten years. The Secretary of State is not aware whether the agreement has so far turned out advantageously for the company or not but he considers that it was a reasonable and proper agreement for the Government of India to make at the time when they made it, and, as I have said, it was then regarded by the company as a very acceptable arrangement.

THE DISARMAMENT OF THE PATHANS.—Mr. Hedderwick asked the Secretary of State for India: When the order for the partial disarmament of the Pathans on the Punjab Frontier came into operation; what is the area to which it applies; and, whether any robberies of arms from and murderous assaults upon Her Majesty's troops within the area affected have taken place since the order became operative.

Mr. Brodrick, who replied, said: On May 6, 1899, the Government of the Punjab, by the sanction of the Government of India, extended section 15 of the Arms Act XI, 1878, to the Hazara, Peshawar, and Kohat districts. By this extension no person can have in his possession arms except under a license. The area of the three districts is 8,206 square miles. No information has been received on the subject of the third paragraph.

THE CONSTITUTION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS IN INDIA.—Mr. Davitt asked the Under-Secretary of State for India: Whether he can state the relative number of native-born and British-born subjects holding seats upon the Governor-General's Executive Council of India, the Viceroy's Council when it meets for purposes of legislation, but the various Legislative Councils in Provinces which meet under the Presidency of Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, whether these native-born members are elected direct by the people or are nominated by the Government; if he can see his way to introduce legislation with the object of making all the Legislative Councils of India elective, and of extending a franchise for that purpose to all British subjects, native or foreign-born, who are taxed for the necessities of Indian Government.

Mr. Brodrick on behalf of Lord G. Hamilton said: All the seven members of the Governor-General's Executive Council are British-born subjects. Of the Legislative Council, which at present numbers 21 members, 7 are natives of India; in the Madras Legislative Council 10 out of 23 members are natives of India; in Bombay 12 out of 23; in Bengal 10 out of 19; the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Council 6 out of 15; in the Punjab 4 out of 9; and in Burma 2 out of 9. All the members of these Councils are nominated by the Government; but in every case, except those of Burma and the Punjab, a proportion of the seats is filled as a matter of practice, on the recommendation of certain public bodies. The Secretary of State is not prepared to introduce legislation for the purpose of having all the various Indian Councils elected by universal suffrage.

## IN A RUNAWAY BALLOON.

A STRANGE experience befell two Bradford gentlemen. A balloon ascent was announced from Bradford Moor Park. The aeronaut was Mr. Reuben Bramhall, who has made a large number of successful aerial voyages, and he was using a comparatively new balloon, called "The Lord Masham," of 28,000 cubic feet capacity. Two gentlemen had arranged to accompany him, Mr. J. J. Schmidt, of the Empress Hotel, Bradford, and Mr. T. Croft, a member of the Bradford City Council. Everything was in readiness for a start a few minutes before seven o'clock. Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Croft were in the car, and Mr. Bramhall stood on the edge of the car as the word "Let go" was given. Just then a strong gust carried the balloon almost level with the ground against some laurel bushes in the park, and Mr. Bramhall was dragged violently from the balloon but alighted unhurt amongst the bushes. Mr. Bramhall weighs sixteen stone, and relieved of his weight the balloon rose with great rapidity.

About 10,000 people were in the park, and as soon as the danger of the situation was realised, the crowd behaved as if panic-stricken. A rust was made for the gates, especially by the women and children, and at each of the entrances to the park there was for several minutes a very ugly block. Some expected the two passengers to throw themselves out, others thought they would take some means of bringing down the balloon at once. The balloon soon attained an altitude of 6,000 ft., and appeared to be travelling fast in the direction of Leeds. Ultimately a safe descent was made.

I have interviewed both the passengers, says a correspondent, and their impressions are very similar. As soon as they realised that they were adrift and alone in the balloon they agreed that their state was critical in the extreme. Mr. Schmidt said that there was no occasion to do anything at once. They must look into the matter, and the best thing to do would be to take a restorative if they could find one. They examined the car and in Mr. Bramhall's coat found a flask of brandy. Of this they partook, and then began to practically consider what to do. Neither had been in a balloon before, and had only the knowledge of the ordinary reader. They set themselves, as they say, to carefully study the rigging, and came to the conclusion as to what course to take to reach the earth, but the balloon as afterwards shown, had been going at the rate of thirty miles an hour, and by the time they were over Kirtall, between Bradford and Leeds, they felt it would be impossible to attempt to alight for some time in this populous district, and as the balloon appeared to be slightly descending, Mr. Schmidt threw out some ballast. The balloon rose again, and both gentlemen now are strong in their appreciation of the beautiful views they had. The danger of the voyage has intensified their impressions, and they will never forget either the beauties of the gigantic landscape, with its wealth of microscopic details, or the stress of their own feelings. After the balloon

has passed a considerable distance from Leeds they saw an extensive agricultural district ahead, and here they resolved to drop. Mr. Schmidt took charge of the valve rope and Mr. Croft of the grapnel.

In amoment or so the balloon appeared to descend with alarming rapidity. Fortunately it came down upon a wheat field. Almost before they knew it the grapnel caught, and the balloon, which Mr. Bramhall says, must have come down almost like a parachute, lay apparently half emptied of gas and only bumping slightly upon the wheat crop, and the two thankful passengers were standing on terra firma. They had come down at Bramham, near Boston Spa. It was a quarter to eight, or fifty minutes from the time the balloon left Bradford, and the distance travelled was twenty seven miles.

GREAT Britain has been compelled to look abroad for the larger part of her electrical apparatus, as generators and motors. It is a well-known fact that the Americans have been taking the cream of the business. It seems that there are no electrical works in this country capable of competing with those on the other side of the Atlantic. But now all this is to be changed. The foremost electrical engineers of the United States—the celebrated Westinghouse Company—will immediately build a manufacturing establishment in Manchester, capable of employing five thousand men. Lord Kelvin will be the technical adviser of the enterprise, and Mr. George Westinghouse himself, the inventor of the air-brake, will be closely associated with it. Interesting details have been published of the arrangements made in Berlin for the forthcoming seventh International Geographical Congress. The sixth International Congress was held in London in 1895, and the coming September will, all being well, see the opening of the seventh in Berlin in the splendid new buildings of the Prussian House of Representatives, which has been generously placed at the disposal of the Congress for the whole meeting. Amongst those who have promised to take part in the proceedings of the Congress may be mentioned Dr. Nansen, Sir John Murray, the Prince of Monaco, Professor Chum (the scientific leader of the Valdivia Expedition), Professors Pettersson and Thoutlet, and many others. The papers to be read have been grouped into seven main divisions, and a strict time limit of twenty minutes is to be enforced. The plans of German Antarctic expedition referred to above will be explained by Dr. Von Drygalski, while Sir Clements Markham and Sir John Murray will give an account of the progress of the arrangements of the British expedition.

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Mr. S. Sinha, Bar-at-law, Allahabad.

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Mr. Manohar Lal, Lahore.

Your Kuntaline has been recommended to me by my friends here as the best hair oil in existence.

Mr. Justice P. C. Chatterji, of Lahore.

I have used the perfumed oil Kuntaline manufactured by Mr. H. Bose, as well as his Essence Chanel, and consider both exceedingly good. At the same time they are cheaper than articles of similar quality prepared by European manufacturers. I hope the public generally and native community in particular will largely patronize

Mr. Madan Gopal, Barrister-at-law, Lahore.

I have much pleasure in saying that Kuntaline is an excellent hair oil and the ladies of my family consider it to be an excellent preparation. The "Delkhosh" Essence I consider to be very superior to English perfumes.

Lala Lajpat Rai, Pleader, Chief Court Lahore.

I have used Mr. H. Bose's Kuntaline oil and Scents and found them really good. They are in no way inferior to similar articles prepared by European manufacturers.

Mr. Kali Prassonn Roy, Government Pleader and leader of the Lahore Bar.

I have pleasure in stating that the oils and perfumery manufactured by Mr. H. Bose, are excellent and no wise inferior to articles of English manufacture.

Dewan Krishna Kishore, Rais, Grandson of Dewan Bhagwan Das, Lahore.

Your Kuntaline and Essences have given me entire satisfaction. The oil has a very sweet fragrance and does not make the hair sticky. The Essences are simply nice.

Mar Jai Jag dindra Nath Bahadur, of Lahore.

I have much pleasure in certifying that I have had occasion to introduce the use of Kuntaline in my family. I was satisfied with its superior fragrance, and its tendency to promote the growth of hair. It is the best of its kind, and its wider circulation is desirable.

The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerji, President of the Eleventh Indian National Congress.

I tried Mr. H. Bose's Essences, and have no hesitation in recommending them both on account of their excellence, and also because home-made articles of this kind should be encouraged.

Raj I-Rajman Maharaj Asaf Nawzawant Murl Manohur Bahadur, Hyderabad, Deccan.

I have pleasure to say that your Essences or Flower Extracts have given me entire satisfaction. Please send another box of the finest quality Essences which I want to present to HIS HIGHNESS THE NIZAM.

Mr. N. Vinkata Rao, Assistant Commissioner M. galohe.

I am very much pleased with your Essences "Delkhosh" and "White Rose."

Sreejukt Shanka Rao Holkar, Bhyr Sahib, Karkhondar Shy gresha Indore State. I am glad to inform you that your Milk of Roses and Kuntaline have given me entire satisfaction.

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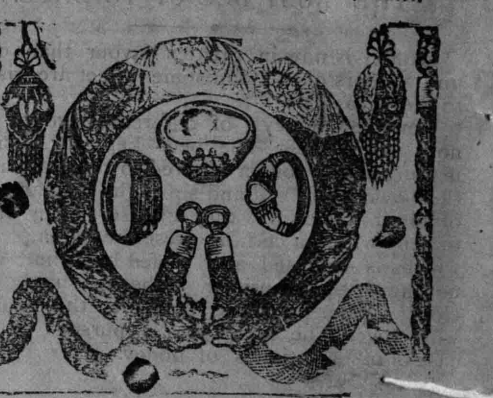
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Printed and published by Hari Mohan Biswas at the PATRIKA PRESS 2, Anand Chatterjee's Lane and issued by the PATRIK POST OFFICE, Calcutta.

