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CALCUTTA, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1899.

NO 67

পদক-পতক।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

কলা ৩০ টাকা।

পরিশিষ্ট বস্তু।

অন্তরাজ্যের পত্রিকা আকির্ষে প্রাপ্তব্য।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈতপ্রকাশ।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত প্রভুর প্রিয় অচ্যুত ও শিষ্য

শ্রীশ্রীনাগর কৃত।

শ্রীশ্রীনাগর কৃত।
কথা আছে এবং শ্রীঅদ্বৈতপ্রভুর সমুদ্র নীলা
বিশদরূপে বর্ণিত হইয়াছে।

মূল্য ১০ আনা। ডাকমাণ্ডল ১০ আনা।

অমৃত বাজার, পত্রিকা আকির্ষে প্রাপ্তব্য।

অন্তরাজ্যের।

শ্রীমদেবপ্রসাদ প্রণীত।

এই বানি উপদেশের বৈকুণ্ঠ গ্রন্থ হইতে
প্ৰথম পুর্বে লিখিত।

মূল্য ১০ আনা। ডাকমাণ্ডল ১০ আনা।

অমৃত বাজার, পত্রিকা আকির্ষে প্রাপ্তব্য।

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এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অনুসারে চিকিৎসা
করিলে সর্পাঘাত ব্যক্তি কখনই মরিবে না। ইহার
চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের
ভাষা এত সরল, যে জীলাকেরা পর্যন্তও এই
পাঠ পুস্তক করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে
পারে। গ্রন্থকার বিশ বৎসর বাত এই প্রণালী
অনুসারে অনেক সর্পাঘাত ব্যক্তিকে নিরুদ্বে
চিকিৎসা করিয়া আশ্রয় করিয়াছেন, এবং অস-
ংকে আরাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।

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অন্যান্য নৃপের সহিত ইহা পাঠ করান
বিশেষ কৃত্য।

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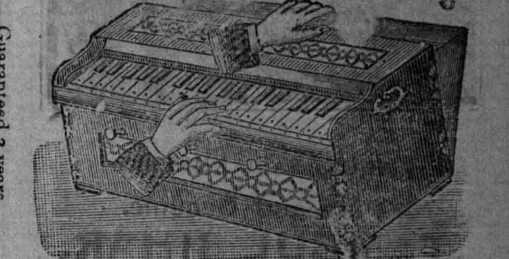
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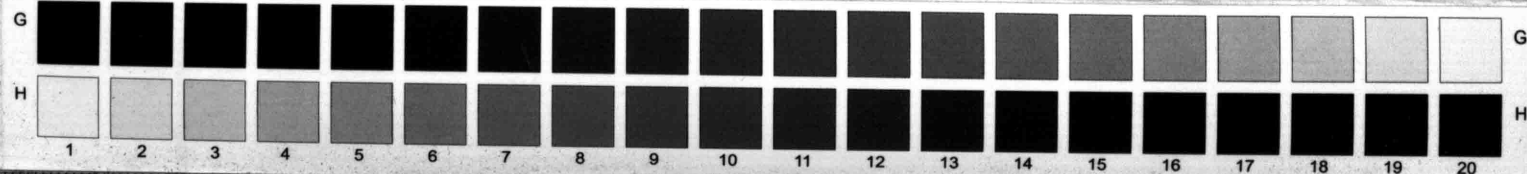
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MONSOON AND AGRICULTURE.

THE Bombay crop reports for the week ended August 29th are very unsatisfactory. No rain has fallen in Sind with the exception of a slight shower in Karachi. The water in the river at Kotri is very low and the scarcity in Sukkur and Ghar Canals causes anxiety. Prospects continue gloomy, and in Thar and Parkar relief is being doled out. At Guzerat the outlook is growing rapidly worse, no rain having fallen; sowings are retarded in Ahmedabad and newly-grown standing crops are withering. Grain-shops have been opened to sell grain at specially cheap rates to the poor. The district is being overrun with refugees from Kathiawar. Kharif crops are almost withered in Panch Mahal, and bajri and maize are in urgent want of rain. Standing crops in Kaira are totally withered and are in most places being cut down. The transplantation of rice is stopped. Animals are being fed on leaves. In Broach all agricultural operations are at a standstill, but in Surat the position is better. Standing crops are fair and the fodder supply sufficient for the present. Thana is moderately well off transplantation has been completed in some talukas and the fodder supply is good. Standing crops, however, are bad. In the southern portions of the Presidency the position is better; fair rain has fallen in Ratnagiri and Kolaba, but more is urgently needed. In Satara and Bijapur the rainfall has been slight and more is urgently needed. Standing crops are withering and there will be a scarcity if rain does not fall within a few days. Heavy showers are wanted at Dharwar to benefit standing crops and more is wanted above the Ghats in Kanara. Throughout the Deccan districts, Khandeish, Nassik, Ahmednagar and Sholapur, rain is urgently wanted. The cotton crops in Khandeish are so unsatisfactory that a shortage in supply for home consumption is anticipated. Merchants are already making preparations to import Americans. In the whole of Kathiawar the position is most serious, and relief works are being started in all the leading States. Scarcity is also inevitable in Baroda territory.

The rainfall for the past 24 hours has been scanty and local and scattered in character; the largest amounts reported being 0.33 at Allahabad 0.32 at Bombay, 0.22 at Karwar, and 0.21 at Goa. Ratnagiri, Surat, Veralval, Bhuj, Agra and Jhansi report having received from 0.1 to 0.14 cents. There is no monsoon on the Malabar coast, while between Bombay and Karwar it is about half its normal. Weather conditions are therefore very weak; and rain in local scattered showers only is likely on the West Coast. Pressure is abnormally high in Cutch, Kathiawar, Guzerat, Central India, Berar, Bombay Presidency, and at Bellary and Khandwa, where conditions are unfavourable for rain; elsewhere also little or no rain is likely.

A correspondent, writing of the great distress prevailing in the Ahmedabad and Kaira districts, says:—Only four days ago a Rajput of Vadod, who had had no food for three days, came to Ahmedabad in the hope of getting it. He asked for it at two or three places, but failed to excite sympathy. He became greatly vexed at his distress and cut his throat. He stated that he regarded suicide as a much less painful way of putting an end to his distress than the slow torture of starvation. It has become unsafe to convey grain from one town or village to another, and if some carts venture out, people lie down across the road and refuse to move unless something is given them to eat. Others more daring help themselves, dividing the grain, and wait to be sent to the lock up. In both districts labouring classes try to subsist on the small proceeds of the bundles of wood they cut for fuel. The country is being shorn of its trees and yet grain being dear and fuel cheap at present poor people get little even for a scanty meal. If famine relief works are delayed the fruit trees, which are the subsistence of poor people even in good years, will be devastated.

THE RANGOON OUTRAGE CASE.

RANGOON, 30TH AUGUST.

At to-day's sitting of the Rangoon Criminal Sessions it was arranged that the jury in the Rangoon outrage case need not attend on Friday, which would be devoted to arguments as to the admissibility of certain statements made by the accused soldiers, first to their regimental officers and secondly to the military court of enquiry. Saturday and Monday will be devoted to the trial of other cases, and the hearing of the charge against Private Thorpe will be resumed on Tuesday.

The following evidence was taken to-day:—T. A. Abraham, a clerk in the Burma Secretariat, said he was going towards the tram-cars at the Pagoda when he met a number of Burmans running away, apparently scared. They told him a woman had been taken away by soldiers. He went up the hill over the nullah and

saw two soldiers with the woman, one holding her down while the others were looking on. One soldier had a rusty *dah*. He could not recognize any of the soldiers. Some had coats and some not. Some were in white and some in khaki. No stones were thrown while he was there, but he saw loose bricks on the road. He heard that the police had been sent for, and he went towards the tramway a few hundred yards away. There he saw a soldier whom he identified as Private Sullivan. He saw Horricks being arrested.

Maung Shwe Min, a clerk, deposed to being told by Mah Doung of the occurrence. He and his companions, about fifteen, ran up the slope to the top of the hill and saw a soldier with a *dah*. Three soldiers came out of the nullah and threw stones at the witness and his companions. The higher ground was covered with soldiers. Witness and the others ran away. Later on the police arrived and both the police and Burmans were stoned by soldiers. Eventually a Corporal arrived, the soldiers dispersed and Private Horricks was arrested. Mah Goon had to be assisted to a gharry.

Further evidence of the same character was given.

Corporal William Nurse, C. Company, West Kent Regiment, deposed that all the prisoners belonged to his company. On the day in question he was late for dinner, and while taking dinner his attention was drawn to a number of men over the nullah, some with coats, some without. He shouted to them to go back to barracks. He repeated the order and the men dispersed. He went to the crest of the hill till he could see into the nullah. Before he got below the crest Private Horricks was arrested. He saw the woman, who did not move. She did not appear dazed. She did not speak or cry. He formed the impression that a large number of men, from twenty to forty, had been concerned in the affair. He was ordered to make enquiries. He recognised Private Goff as on the scene, and got the names of others—Sullivan, now a witness for the prosecution; Thorpe, the present accused; also the names of all the other accused except Martin. All these men had been summoned to give evidence for the defence of Private Horricks, but were not called. He never saw women soliciting men in barracks. He heard from two privates shortly before Private Horricks' trial that a woman had danced in barracks on a mistake in swearing to the Cantonment Magistrate on April 28th that he made no enquiries into the case.

Twenty-three witnesses have now been examined, and twenty-one more remain.—*Pioneer.*

VARIETIES.

INTERESTING PRESENT FOR THE QUEEN.

Her Majesty will shortly receive an interesting present from Abyssinia. It consists of a very fine pair of zebras, which were sent to Egypt for shipment, and are expected to be delivered at the Royal Albert Docks about the middle of this month. The Buckingham Palace news will furnish at least a temporary home for the animals.

ROUND THE WORLD AT 82.

Alderman J. Foulkes Roberts who was Lord Mayor of Manchester in 1896-7, has just returned to that city after his tour round the world. He left England two days before Christmas and arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday night. In spite of his 82 years he is looking well and active, and declares that his travels have made him feel young again.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CANNIBALISM.

Appropos of the fighting on the French Coast, which resulted in the French losing to Senegalese killed and a much larger number wounded, Reuter mentions the extraordinary precautions taken against cannibalism. The bodies of the Senegalese were collected by the French authorities, placed in a hut, and the hut set on fire. This was done to prevent cannibalism, as the Tepas always eat the bodies of their slain foes. Even when they are buried they dig up the bodies and eat them.

RAILWAYS IN NIGERIA.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* hears from Paris that the French Minister for the Colonies has submitted to his colleagues in the Government of M. Waldeck-Rousseau plans, which have been prepared by three engineers, for the construction of about 560 miles of railway in Nigeria. The first section, about 300 miles is proposed to be commenced immediately, and votes are to be asked for from the Chamber, amounting to a million and a quarter francs, to cover the preliminary expenses.

REVIVAL OF FALCONRY.

It is said that falconry is being taken up by many people of wealth and distinction in this country. It is, however, a very costly hobby. Science Stiffings pointing out that even the most ordinary hawks used for falconry cost as much as £100 a piece. They require most careful attention, and it is difficult to get men qualified to take charge of them under a salary of £200 a year. It is the most scientific and difficult of all sports, and differs in this from the others that it can be followed in one form or another all the year round.

A NEW MOTOR.

A Berlin engineer claims to have invented a new motor, which may be used for carriages, water-works of all kinds, and especially as a ship's propeller. One advantage claimed for the invention is that the apparatus is enclosed in a cylinder and is not liable to external injury. A trial made with a small model has, the *Standard*'s Berlin correspondent says, proved, to some extent, the accuracy of the inventor's calculations, and a large model is now being made in order to test the value of the new system.

THE VINE AT HAMPTON COURT.

In spite of the alarmist rumours circulated about its health a few months ago, the celebrated old vine at Hampton Court appears to be as vigorous as ever. Considering its great age—it was planted just about 130 years ago—and the climate, it must have as robust a constitution as any vine ever known. At the present moment it is bearing some 1,200 clusters, about the average number for many years past. Time was when it produced as many as 2,200 bunches, weighing in the aggregate about 18 cwt.

A REMARKABLE OLD LADY.

Mrs. Blowers, an inmate of the Wandsworth Union Infirmary, is, on her own evidence, aged 109 years six months and a fortnight. She is still full of vitality, though it would appear from an interview which she accorded to a newspaper representative, that her knowledge of historical events is not to be relied upon. For instance, when the inevitable recollection of Waterloo was suggested Mrs. Blowers said, "Why, bless you, yes, I remember it perfectly I saw it." "What?" interposed the doctor, "saw it?" Where did the battle take place, then? "Why, on Wandsworth Common, to be sure," said the old lady, pointing with a withered finger through a window of the ward.

A HOARY ADMINISTRATIVE WRONG.

THERE has been just presented to Lord George Hamilton an influentially signed memorial, urging for the hundredth time the separation of Judicial and Executive Functions in the administration of India. Will it be believed in this country that the opposition to the unhallowed union has been going on for more than a hundred years? Red Regulation II. of 1793, and you will find it laid down in section 1 that "the revenue officers must be deprived of their judicial powers." And why? For various reasons, and particularly because "it is obvious that, if the regulations for assessing and collecting the public revenue are infringed, the revenue officers themselves must be the aggressors, and that individuals who have been wronged by them in one capacity cannot hope to obtain redress from them in another." Obvious enough; and yet the system has bloomed for a round century! "The union of Magistrate with Collector has been stigmatised as incompatible," wrote Mr. (afterwards Sir) Frederick J. Halliday in 1838, "but the junction of thief-catcher with Judge is surely more anomalous in theory and more mischievous in practice. So long as it lasts the public confidence in our criminal tribunals must always be liable to injury, and the authority of justice itself must often be abused and misapplied." Of course. When your Magistrate acts first as head constable, then as prosecutor, and finally as criminal Judge, all in the same case, the interests of justice run triple risks of being overborne. This is far worse than the case where a Magistrate gives absolute credence to the police, and that is bad enough in all conscience. Yet sixty years have passed since 1838, and the land is groaning still it under the odious infliction. During those sixty years, ever so many experienced officials have unanimously reported against the system, and still it flourishes. Can it be that the authorities who talk so largely about the glories of English justice and English administration really have a sneaking fondness for "this shameful abuse," this scandalous system, as an ex-Chief Justice of Bengal has openly designated it? Sir Richard Garth does not hesitate to say so. "The real truth is, as Mr. Ghosh tells us, and as Sir Charles Elliot and some other high officials in India are honest enough openly to avow, that the Government of India approves this scandalous system, and whatever the Secretary of State may say to the contrary would be very sorry to see it altered." A century's experience seem to confirm Sir Richard's grave censure. Else how could the abominable system stand in the face of official reports, public denunciation, judicial condemnation, and even the publicly expressed opinions of Lords Cross, and Kimberley, Secretaries of State for India? The only argument left in favour of the incubus is this—that Government cannot afford to carry out the reform. Yes, millions are flung away beyond the Frontier every year, quite uselessly, and, therefore, this urgent reform must wait for that most indefinite period when the Calcutta Treasury can spare the money! But Mr. Romesh Dutt, ex-Commissioner of Orissa, has cut away this last miserable refuge of incompetent statesmanship and administration. He has shown clearly that even in Bengal, where the money difficulty is supposed to press most severely, the reform can be accomplished by a simple re-arrangement of the existing staff, without involving the cost of single depreciated rupee. Sir Richard Garth has approved of Mr. Dutt's scheme, which, he says, "is substantially in accordance with the plan which I had myself roughly suggested, and with that which was submitted by Mr. Mono Mohan Ghose to Lord Ripon in 1884." But for our experience of the fertility of official invention, we should anticipate that Lord George Hamilton has no alternative but to accede to the prayer of the present Memorial. It is signed by a number of men of large experience and high position in Indian, judicial and administrative work, and the appendices (including Mr. Ghose's cogent 'Notes of Cases Illustrating the Evils of the Present System') leave no argument in favour of the continuance of a rotten system that has harassed India for a century past.—*The New Age.*

LUMSDEN-AUGIER CASE.

RANIGUNJ, 31ST AUGUST.

THE case was taken up at 12 P. M. to-day. Mr. Allen, instructed by Mr. Cranenburgh, appeared for the defence. Mr. Temple, instructed by Inspector Dessa, for the prosecution. The Court as usual was filled with Europeans from adjacent collieries. Mr. Allen said that he proposed to call only six defence witnesses and re-cross-examine the prosecution witnesses. He understood that Mrs. Lumsden was in Ranigunj and he intended asking her a few questions. Inspector Dessa then produced a certificate from Dr. Joubert in which it is stated that Mrs. Lumsden is not in a fit state to give evidence. The certificate was produced and made an exhibit.

Mr. Allen said that after re-cross-examination of prosecution witnesses he would show that there was actually no case against his client, and he would then produce if necessary defence witnesses, and if the Magistrate after hearing arguments considered it necessary, then counsel would ask that the Assistant Superintendent of Port Blair be examined on commission.

Mr. Lumsden was then re-cross-examined: "I married on the 14th November 1898. My wife was then 23 years of age. She is at present pregnant. She has been and is of a nervous disposition. She is six months pregnant and this is her first pregnancy. After my wife called me from the bathroom, I came out and did not see any one on the footboard. I sat

near her after that. I believe it was at Jhaj that I noticed that the seat was wet. I can give no explanation as to why I did not call the guard and tell him that the man who annoyed my wife was in the next compartment. The guard did not threaten to prosecute me because I travelled in the ladies' compartment—he gave me leave to travel in that carriage. I was not aware that one guard had told another that I had travelled in a ladies' compartment. Because my wife was nervous, therefore she left her compartment and went with me to mine." A report from the Station Master of Madhupur was read out by Mr. Allen and Mr. Lumsden said the report was incorrect; he did not state all that was entered in that report. "It was" at a station after Jhaj that I reported the case to the police. I did not make a charge that the accused entered my wife's compartment, but that there was an attempt to enter it."

Mr. Allen said that he understood that this case was taken up without the permission of the railway authorities, and that this court had no jurisdiction in the matter. This objection was overruled by the Court. Then Mr. Augier's written defence was read out by Mr. Allen. Mr. Augier totally denied the charge and gave a full statement about his turning from Dinapur to Assansole. Mr. Allen then addressed the Court for 2 hours.

Mr. Ashton was then called and stated: I know Mr. Augier the accused in this case very well. I am connected with the firm of Kilburn and Co. I am an Assistant and sign the name of the firm. I have had everything to do with the Ranigunj Coal Association for the last nine years. I know Augier intimately. We put very great trust in him, he has been in the Company for about 12 years. He came to me with a good character. He has worked himself up from a very subordinate position. He receives Rs. 450 per mensem. Thousands past through his hands. I have stayed in his house, he is a married man and has a family. He appears to be a very kind husband and father, and I have many opportunities of judging his character. I have known him both in business and privately, he is a very nervous man and very diffident in giving his opinion, and very timid. As far as I know of his disposition, he is not the sort of a man to have committed an offence like the one with which he is charged. (This question was objected to by Mr. Temple, it being an opinion, but was allowed by the Court.) Mr. Augier had gone to Bankipur under my orders in June last. He is absolutely sober.

Cross-examination: I see Mr. Augier three or four times a year and stop with him as often as that. I can give no reasons for my estimation I have of Mr. Augier's courage.

J. J. Turnbull: I am a Mining Engineer. I am the General Manager of the East Indian Coal Co. I have known Augier for nine years. I was connected with the Ranigunj Coal Association. I know Augier's character, he is sober, honest, modest, nervous, always wishing to do right, very sensitive. I have never noticed at any time that he has been forward, just the other way, very shy with ladies. He was under me for 4 years. I can give him the highest character, and it is impossible for him to have been guilty of this charge.

Cross-examination: From my own observations I have come to the conclusion that Augier is modest and shy.

Carl Lazarus Phillips: I live at Tharia, I am the Proprietor of Kosunda Mines. I know Mr. Augier. I have known him for 4 years. I have known him privately. I have had opportunities of forming an opinion of his character. I have very often had opportunities of observing his temperament. I think he is very quiet unassuming, and his general disposition is very modest and anything but forward. I have the highest opinion of him.

Cross-examination: Mr. Augier is not a teatotaler. He drinks whisky. I have never seen him take more than two peps. He is a temperate man—or I would not have invited him to my place.

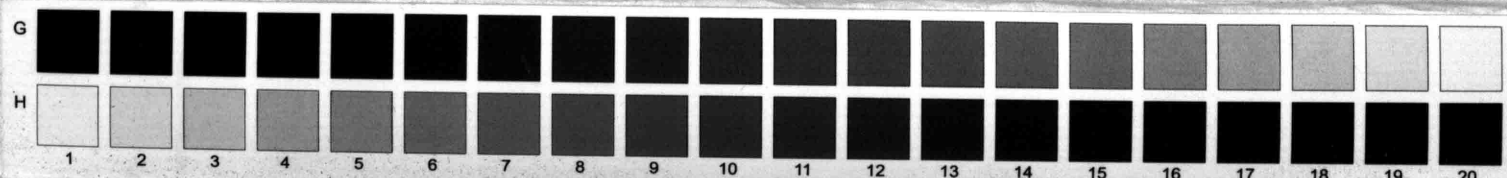
Mrs. F. M. Augier: Mr. Augier is my husband. I travelled with him on the 21st of June. We travelled by the Punjab mail. We got in at Bankipur. We had no children with us, but we have two. We have been married for 13 years, and have been always on good terms. We went to Bankipur on the 19th; my husband went up on business and I accompanied him. We stayed with some friends. My husband has never been anything but a good husband to me, he is very nervous, shy and homely man, never cares to go out of the house. I have never seen him pay attentions to any ladies, he is very shy. I travelled by a 2nd class ladies' compartment. This carriage was at about the middle of the train. I was suffering from a bad headache. My husband did not travel in my compartment, he was in a carriage ahead of mine. I saw him at the next station (Patna) Barh and Mokameh. He gave me some medicine for my headache at these three stations. The compartment in which I got in was a dirty one. There was a Miss Hatchet, a missionary, in the carriage with me. My husband at Mokameh brought me a glass of iced water. I was lying down at the time when he came to my carriage. I had snatches of sleep. My husband took me out of my compartment at Madhupur and took me into his. We travelled together up to Assansol. A constable and a Mahomedan gentleman were also in the compartment. At Assansol my husband went to the Police office and I waited for him at the waiting room. I spoke to Mrs. Lumsden for the first time at the Police station, and I told her that my husband was not a bad character, and that I was the best judge of his character and that if she had any womanly feeling she would not press a false charge like this against him. Mrs. Lumsden then said nothing but afterwards in the waiting room she said she would see what she could do with her husband.

Mr. Temple did not cross-examine Mrs. Augier. Mr. Allen then said that as Mrs. Augier had not been cross-examined, he would not call the missionary lady and other witnesses. He then again addressed the Court, on the reliable evidence of the witnesses produce for the defence, and he believed that they had proved the respectability of the accused, and also his good character.

Mr. Temple then addressed the Court for one hour. The Magistrate said he would give judgment on Saturday as he had to go through a large record.—*J. D. News.*

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CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 3, 1899.

INCREASE OF LITIGATION AS BAD AS INCREASE OF DRINK.

Those who cannot tolerate the criticisms of British Administration in India by the Indian press, have only to remember that India does not enjoy the privilege of trial by jury. Not that the system is unsuited to the country. It is a stern fact that trial by jury is a system which was introduced in this country when Europe was a barbarous continent. The system prevailed here thousands of years ago; it succeeded so well that the verdict of the *punch* or five jurors was considered as binding as a *shastri* command. But a new and complicated system of administration of justice, was introduced by the present rulers, and these village tribunals were destroyed. And the result is the increase of litigation, which is proving ruinous. In pre-British days villagers settled their own disputes. The *punch* or the five were selected by both the contending parties. And as the merits of the case were usually known to these village judges, and even when not so known could easily be ascertained, they rarely erred in their verdict which, as a rule, gave universal satisfaction. The chances, which have now been increased a hundred-fold, of a guilty man escaping while an innocent man suffered in his place, did not exist then. Nor was it possible under the old system to deprive a rightful owner of his just rights by perjury or forgery.

In our earlier days we saw the remnants of the system. Fifty years ago the villagers knew not the Police, nor the Magistrate, nor the Munsiff. Still they managed to live in security as they do now, perhaps in greater security. For, then they had not felt the power of intricate laws introduced by their rulers, of the Police and of the Magistrates. But the western system was introduced, and our social fabric was dismembered in many ways. The Indians now live to litigate and ruin one another.

We said the other day that the great Western vice, drink, had not been able to obtain a footing in the country, but litigation had. And this is mainly due to the introduction of the Western system of administration of justice. This can be proved from the fact that litigation did not exist before, but it is now flooding the country.

We said before that the decisions of the *punch* were accepted without a protest, and this because from their position they could not possibly make a mistake. Their decision always meant substantial justice. The *punch* decided both civil and criminal cases. Now to recover a piece of property worth a rupee people have to spend a hundred rupees; in the days of the *punch*, however, people had not to spend a pice. Now the scientific system of the west, in going to be exact has made everything uncertain, and the result is that the courts of justice have been reduced to something like gambling-houses. The uncertainty makes litigation as fierce a passion as gambling. The uncertainty of the ways of law have made litigation, a devouring passion. And thus litigation has increased and has now become the curse of the country.

The mischief is, the middle classes live upon litigation, and, therefore, they are interested in its increase. The other mischief is that the Government derives a handsome revenue from this vice of the people. The Government derives other advantages. This passion of the people enables the officials to interfere with their affairs. We appeal to Lord Curzon to do what his Lordship can, to save the Indians from ruin to which they are running with railway speed. His Lordship can remove this uncertainty which has made litigation a passion, by introducing the system of trial by jury and separating the two functions, judicial and executive, of the officials who administer districts and sub-districts.

In an article in the *Pioneer*, on the separation of judicial and executive functions, evidently written by a Magistrate and Collector or in the interests of such officials, there are many passages which are amazing in their audacity and, we beg pardon for saying it, in their impudence also. Here is one:

"Admitting the excellence and unimpeachable wisdom of this axiom in theory, it may yet be questioned whether in practice there is any pressing need to put it in force. It can scarcely be alleged of the Indian system, even by its greatest enemies that any substantial injustice is occasioned by it in individual cases. It may be said that the District Magistrate is head of the police, and that the subordinate Magistrates are under his influence as such; but probably few, even among the reformers, would be prepared to charge District Magistrates with having abused their power over their subordinates."

The *Pioneer's* first proposition is: "It can scarcely be alleged of the Indian system, even by its greatest enemies that any substantial injustice is occasioned by it in individual cases."

Well, we can't be worse than the greatest enemy of the Indian system and we do allege that substantial injustice has been occasioned by it, in a very large number of individual cases.

And again: "Probably few among the reformers would be prepared to charge District Magistrates with having abused their power over their subordinates."

Let us see who these few reformers are. They are the Indian people, supported by almost all the distinguished judges of the Indian High Courts. Indeed, under the present system a Magistrate is tempted to interfere and we cannot blame him for it. He is responsible for the peace of the district. If he feels that any one of his subordinates, who is vested with judicial powers, is going wrong why should he not interfere when he knows that he has the power? The system, and his very position tempt him to interfere. The *Pioneer* says that if a Magistrate is found to have abused his power, an application for transfer would remove the difficulty. "Don't remove the cholera germs," says the proprietor of Rubini's Camphor, "and stop the sale of my medicine. If cholera breaks out you have my remedy." But the proprietor can be told, that his medicine is not absolutely sure, and secondly, that the more reasonable way would be to remove the germs than to keep them for the purpose of spreading cholera, so that his re-

medy might be sold. In the same manner, does the *Pioneer* say: "Why deprive the Magistrates of the advantage they enjoy? If they abuse their opportunities, a prayer for transfer would remove the difficulty. To this we say that it would be more reasonable to deprive the Magistrates of the power, which they should not enjoy, than to take the risk of relying upon an unreliable and costly remedy. Is the transfer of a case an easy affair? If Magistrates only take a little care in their dealings, they can make transfer impossible. That applicants sometimes succeed in their prayers for transfer, is due to the carelessness and thoughtlessness of the Magistrates themselves. The law has made their position so secure that Magistrates trained under it, are led sometimes to act in a reckless manner. And it is thus that prayers for transfer sometimes succeed."

WHY WORK IS SO HEAVY IN INDIA.

REUTERS telegraphs: Speaking at Deal, said he feared that the threatened drought in India would require all the skill and attention of Government to counteract it. He remarked that he began to feel the strain of thirty-one years of public life, and would be glad to rest.

Yes, the strain is great, but it is the same everywhere. Lord Lytton complained that the work he had to go through was too heavy for one single man. Precisely the same complaint was made by Lord Dufferin, and in a more pronounced manner by Lord Lansdowne and Lord Elgin. But it is not the Viceroy alone who complain, in this manner, of heavy work. What are the local governors, but as hard-worked officials as the Viceroy himself? And if you ask the District Magistrate he will tell you that heavy work is killing him.

But have the administrators ever taken the trouble to inquire why official work is so heavy here? It is because they have undertaken to accomplish a feat which is impossible. This is the first time in the annals of the world when aliens have undertaken to rule a vast country without the help of the natives of the soil. When Lord Ripon sowed the germ of local self-government in India, his Lordship held out the hope to officials here that one of the objects of his policy was to give some relief to those District officials whose work was getting too heavy. And it is quite true, that if the authorities here had accepted his policy with good grace, they might have secured some relief for themselves.

Take the case of the District Magistrate. He must appoint the village chowkidar, he must do everything. Previously the department of education was in the hands of a separate Board. But the Magistrates clamoured and secured its control for themselves. The aided dispensaries were first under the control of the Divisional Commissioners, and non-official Secretaries. But the Magistrates objected and secured the control, displacing the non-official Secretaries. The dispensaries are, no doubt, now under the District Boards; but the District Boards are practically under the control of the Magistrates. And as regards the benevolent wishes of Lord Ripon to procure some relief for hard-worked officials they did not, thank his Lordship for it. On the other hand they grumbled and, step by step made local self-government a farce, so that the natives of the soil have lost all heart in such work.

As they sowed, so must they reap. They wanted power and they have got it. And the result is, they are more miserable than the Carolina slaves, who had not a minute which they could call their own. "To my shame I confess," said a distinguished Magistrate to the writer, "I have not had time to open a book within the last year and a-half." No doubt there is work for every official, and it is work every minute of the day for him.

The other reason why work is so heavy here is, that the officials have to produce the biggest results from insufficient means. They can't afford to pay more than a pound of rice to the famine-stricken, for the Government is poor. And what a vast amount of energy is required to carry out the principle of one pound for one man! They have thus to see that not one pice of the Government is mispent, not one grain is thrown away. And this needs ceaseless energy and the closest supervision. And why is the Government so poor? Because its poor resources are applied to the purpose of maintaining a most efficient standing army, and a costly body of public servants.

Thus a Magistrate here has to rule two millions of people. He has to supervise every public and semi-public office. He has to keep the peace, check crime and administer justice. He has to keep the roads clear and the canals in proper order. He has to control schools and supervise distilleries. All these he has to do though he is only an alien. And all these he must do with but insufficient means at his disposal. And it is for this that an official here feels the strain of his work and hankers after rest.

Lord George Hamilton is sick of office. For he is thirty-one years in harness. He would perhaps not have been so disgusted with his work, if he had any hopes of promotion. It is the hope of promotion that sustains the Magistrates, and it is some such hope that keeps up the spirit of the higher administrators. But Lord George Hamilton knows that he has arrived at the end of his official journey, and naturally he hankers after rest. The instincts of the Indians, in many respects differ from those of the Europeans, as the poles asunder. It is considered glorious in Europe to die in harness. In India the notion is quite the contrary. Here a man, who has passed a certain age is bound to devote the remainder of his life to spiritual culture. To our thinking the Indian notion is better. Perhaps the Indians have some natural bias for their own notions. But the fact is, when in India an old man is seen toiling for wealth and honor, he becomes an object of ridicule. But in Europe, if Gladstone had died while delivering a speech in Parliament, he would have been considered the most lucky of individuals. The Earl of Chatham met with such a glorious death. What the Indians think is that that celebrated English statesman must have found himself in a very awkward position, when opening his eyes in the other world, he saw that there was no Parliament in that region, and no audience to listen to his speeches!

So we are going to have war! And this when the Peace Conference has scarcely closed its deliberations! And why should England go to war when it means indescribable misery to fellow-beings for a mere idea? And why should Oom Paul go to fight when he knows

that there can be but one end to the war? We do not know to whom the threatened war is due, but God's curse must be upon those who have, by their pride and passion, succeeded in bringing about this dreaded curse. Will this war benefit England in any way? Of course the Boers, in spite of their good-shooting, are no match for the giant Islanders whose resources are inexhaustible. It is quite certain that the Dutch Republic will have to cry for mercy in the end. But how will England gain by the transaction? Of course, the Outlanders would be forced upon the Boers, and the result would be that they would yet find themselves in a minority. But such high politics concern us not and are, indeed, beyond our jurisdiction. We can only pray to God that war may be averted and the shedding of blood prevented.

THE total number of persons employed in the standard and metre gauge systems of railways in India at the close of 1898 was 4,967 Europeans, 6,936 East Indians, and 296,700 natives of India—a total of 308,603. The figures indicate extraordinary generosity on the part of the Railway authorities. For, are not over three lacs of Indians employed by the department? The fact, however, is that these three lacs are mainly composed of coolies drawing Rs. 7 a month. Posts worth having are all in the enjoyment of Europeans and Eurasians. The above figures show that all available Europeans and Eurasians, considering the number of the two communities in the country, have got employment in the railway department; and that the natives get only those which were not worth having and could not be held by the "Poor Whites."

RECENTLY Mr. Stevens, the Deputy Plague Commissioner in the Nizam's Dominions, had some heated controversy with Mulla Abdul Kayyoom, the Taluqdar of Gangawati regarding the plague administration of that locality. As a result Mr. Stevens reported the Taluqdar to the Government making some serious complaints against him. He stated that, in consequence of the hostile attitude assumed by the Taluqdar (Mulla Abdul Kayyoom) it was impossible to carry out the necessary plague operations; that the suppression of information regarding deaths caused additional drain on the Government Treasury; that the riots were dying of plague; that plague had spread in the district because the latter was not evacuated at the very outset. He (Mr. Stevens), therefore, urged, that the Taluqdar be severely punished and transferred. The Taluqdar in his memorial to the Secretary to the Nizam's Government has conclusively shown that the charges brought against him have no foundation at all; and more than this, he, in his turn, becomes the accuser and accuses Mr. Stevens of having broken the plague regulations. In reference to the mode of procedure generally adopted by the plague officials, the Taluqdar says that with the object of concealing their unscrupulous deeds and of procuring the enforcement of their illegal orders, they continue, beforehand, to bring to the notice of the higher authorities false complaints against the officers of the district. In due course the matter came up before the Nizam's Government and its decision was all in favour of the Taluqdar. It has been decided that (1) corpses are not to be examined; (2) women are not to be examined; (3) the evacuation of the town is not to be insisted upon until the erection of segregation camps; and (4) that the diagnosis of diseases are to be conducted in the presence of the *punchayet*. But we are left in the dark as to what came of the allegations made against the Plague Deputy Commissioner.

WITH reference to the Press Messages, Bill the *Pioneer* holds out a threat to the opponents of the measure. Our contemporary says that in the English Copyright Bill, as it originally stood, it was proposed to recognize an exclusive property in newspaper foreign telegrams for twelve hours only. But "when the Bill was in the Select Committee, a Mr. Whorlow, Secretary to the Newspaper Society, represented the case of the Provincial papers, who of course, as a whole are for retaining their present liberty to get the news of the big London dailies." "It is interesting then to observe," proceeds our contemporary, "that the effect of Mr. Whorlow's efforts upon the mind of the Select Committee has been that it has induced them to raise the period of protection in the amended Bill just published from 12 hours to 18." The inference which the Allahabad paper would press upon the opponents of the Bill, is that if they go on protesting against the measure they stand the chance of having the period of protection extended to more than 36 hours.

THIS IS what Events of Ottawa and Toronto says:

They have a great idea of the Canadian Government over in India. "The Patrika," of Calcutta, which has just reached me, contains the following interesting paragraph:

"In any other country if a Judge had behaved in the way that Aston of the Prato case fame did, he would long ago have retired from service, and perhaps from the active world also. Fancy Mr. Aston, sending a man to life-long imprisonment, simply because he believed in the superiority of the Canada Government over the one which prevails in this country! Even Lord George Hamilton could not defend his action and appease the indignant English public by the assurance that the sentence would be revised by the High Court. And revised it was and reduced to one year and a half. Mr. Aston, however, is not only yet in the service, but, as agent for the Sardars in the Deccan, presided at the last annual Durbar held at Poona on the Queen's birthday. He might have quietly said a few words and sat down. But, no, he read a long address which he sought to enliven by abusing the Maharatta press. In his opinion the Poona papers were making the Maharatta youths loyal by their vicious and seditious writings. And Mr. Aston himself no doubt created feelings of deep contempt in the minds of the Indian public by transcribing an editor for life for saying 'some foolish things in his paper.'"

And has not the writer, who is presumed to be a Canadian, a great idea of his Government? The happiest people on earth are the Canadians. They pay nothing to the ruling country; but England, at her own cost, protects them. Canada is not only a child, but a pet child of England. They want a slice of territory near Alaska which is supposed to contain gold, and England is negotiating with the United States for it. The other day the Prime

Minister of Canada indirectly threatened the United States with war. Said the Minister, we must have the territory either by arbitration or war. He, of course, did not exactly say so, but his words undoubtedly carried a threat. The object of some Canadian papers is to drag England into a war with the United States. Such a war will mean nothing but blessing to Canada. For the battle will have to be fought by England and not Canada in the interests of the latter. But England is too shrewd to be drawn into such a business. And, therefore, when the bellicose tone of the Minister created an angry feeling in America, England had to soothe the latter country by kind words. England never made a bad bargain during the whole course of its existence, except in the case of Canada. And because an Indian paper eulogised the Canadian Government, when comparing it with the Government prevailing in India, he was sentenced to be transported for life, for writing sedition by an Anglo-Indian Judge!

THE critics of the Government hold that India is getting poorer under British rule. The rulers themselves, however, tell a different tale—they say that it is getting richer. Of course, they cannot admit the growing poverty of the country without admitting their own inefficiency. On one side, it is urged that the income per head in India is Rs. 27. On the other hand, it is urged that this calculation is unreliable. But Lord George Hamilton himself once admitted that about 20 millions of pounds were taken from this country to England for which the people got no return. The question thus arises: Can any country possibly grow in wealth which has such a heavy annual drain upon it? To this question, none has yet ventured a reply. The earning of an Indian may be less than 27 Rs. and yet he may not suffer. His earnings may be ten times more than that amount, yet he may grow poorer. That is to say, it is the drain—the annual and heavy drain without any adequate return—which makes India poor and must make her poorer day by day. The frequent famines are a protest against the growing poverty of India. India with her rich soil, industrious and sober population cannot afford to store sufficient grain as a reserve for times of emergency. And what does this mean? Every one in Europe has one holiday in a week. On these days, in a neat dress he amuses himself. He has then, his bottle of grog. But the Indian has no holiday, no neat dress and no grog. And why does he yet starve? As for the other and higher classes, their indigenous manufactures have been destroyed, their land over-assessed and all the public offices worth having monopolized by the Europeans.

THERE is not a paper in England which upholds the rights of the Indians with so much sincerity and warmth as the *New Age*. Of course, we have our *India*, but *India* is a paper which is maintained by the Indians. And, then again, *India* from its position as representing the Congress and the subject-races, has to write in such a way as not to offend. But the *New Age* has no such consideration to restrain him. Elsewhere will be found an article from that paper in which the wrong done to the Indians, by practically making the prosecutor the judge in this country, has been discussed. Such a union of functions might have been excused in the beginning of British rule, but now it has become a crying shame. We have every hope that Lord Curzon will not allow the wrong to continue, to pollute the source of justice. Talking of the *New Age* how is it that the Indians do not patronize this paper? Thousands of copies of such a high-toned paper should be sold in this country.

A KORRESPONDENT writes: "I have great pleasure to inform the public, through the medium of your well-known paper, that Pandit Sunder Lal Pathak, late Conservator of Forests, has lately been experimenting the extraction of sugar from the Indian-corn (*makkar*) plant, growing throughout the Himalayan range. The output of sugar was 1/5th of the juice. But as the stems used were not perfectly mature it is expected that mature stems will give a comparatively better output. I think the discovery of a vast store of sugar in a plant growing so abundantly in India, both in the plains and the hills, will be a matter of great interest to the public and to the Government. It is now expected that the bounty-fed sugar imported into our country shall have no more chance of getting ahead of this cheaply prepared sugar."

THE Government of Japan annually sends about 26 students to England and America for superior education. Here is a point which can be very advantageously followed by the Government of India. At present the India Government's scholarships for education in England do not number four or five every year.

AN Indian student, from the Bombay Presidency, by name Krishnaji Dadaji Kulkarni, who proceeded to Japan some time ago, has been admitted into the Tokyo Imperial University. He is now studying mining and geology, two subjects which cannot fail to be of great importance to India, considering the mineral wealth she possesses. As attempts are oftentimes made by Indian students to procure the names and addresses of fellow-countrymen in Japan, we give here Mr. Kulkarni's address:—No. 6, Ichibancho, Kojimachi-Ku, Tokyo.

LATELY some appeals came to be heard before the Madras High Court. They were, of course, for the reversal or the reduction of sentences passed by Lower Courts. But what was the result? The officiating Chief Justice and Mr. Justice O'Farrel, who heard the cases, did not only not revoke or reduce the sentences, but at a single sitting they enhanced, in two instances, the sentences passed by lower Courts. This has caused considerable surprise in Madras as is shown by the heading, "Beware of appeals," under which a local contemporary gives the result of these trials.

WHEN asked in Parliament why the Natu brothers, against whom no definite charges were brought, continued to be imprisoned, Lord George Hamilton replied, that "the Bombay Government was not yet satisfied that the public tranquillity and order would not be endangered by their withdrawal." In their reply to the questions of Mr. Mehta, the Bombay Government, however, came down from their high ground and admitted that the Natu brothers were not in a position to stir up

such internal commotion, as could not be dealt with by the Police and the army and the constituted judicial tribunals.

THE Hon'ble Mr. Garud has extorted some admissions from the Bombay Government, which show how heartless was their treatment of the signallers of the G. I. P. Railway. The Government admitted that it had lent the services of one hundred and thirty-nine Government signallers to the Company for a period of from ten to twenty days; that it was aware that there was no political significance to be attached to the strike; nay, they knew that the signallers were addressing memorials to the Company about certain grievances. The Government, however, with child-like simplicity, sought to come out of its disagreeable position by stating that it was not actuated by political motives. But it matters little whether the Bombay Government was or was not influenced by such motives. But there is no doubt of it that its action has deprived some hundreds of poor signallers of their means of livelihood.

A CASE of considerable importance to the journalistic world was recently disposed of by the Sessions Judge of Ahmedabad. It is known as the *Katra Vartman* defamation case; and the following extract from the judgment of the Sessions Judge gives the facts: "The appellant Khandas is the editor and proprietor of a newspaper in which was admittedly published an article written and contributed by the appellant, Bhupatral. The article contained serious allegations against the complainant who is the Karkun of Matar. The article is to the effect that the paper had received reliable information that the complainant had used force in order to recover arrears of Government revenue and had gone so far as to compel certain villagers to stoop down in the falling rain and grasp their toes while pieces of wood were placed on their backs." The accused admitted having written the article but pleaded that it was written and published for public good. In support of these pleas they cited a large number of witnesses of whom twenty-four swore that they had been subjected to the ill-treatment complained of in the article. The Magistrate before whom the case was tried disbelieving the story of the witnesses, convicted the accused. Thereupon an appeal was made with the result that the appellants were acquitted. The Sessions Judge remarks: "After a careful consideration of the evidence I am perfectly satisfied that the appellants had very good grounds for believing the statements made in the article to be true and that the article was written and published in good faith. I am also of opinion that the appellants were acting for the public good. They were told that the villagers were unable to get relief or redress and the article was written and published with a view to attract the notice of the higher authorities." It was, of course, for the public good that credible allegations of the high-handedness or illegality on the part of a public servant should be brought to light. I am of opinion that the appellants are protected by the ninth exception to Section 449 I. P. C. I therefore set aside the conviction and direct that the fines if paid be refunded."

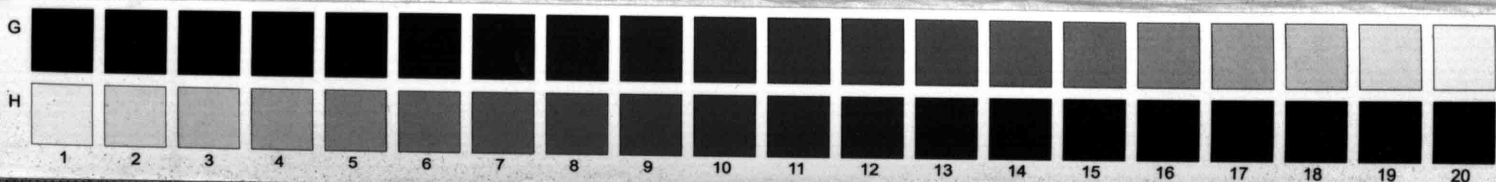
THE reader is, aware of the facts of the case in which Babu Tanini Prasad Dhar, of Jungipore (Berhampore), a very respectable man, and four of his sons, were hauled up and charged before the District Magistrate, with firing guns, for which no license had been taken. Babu Tanini Prasad was convicted and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. He appealed against the finding before the District Judge who, we hear, has set aside the conviction and sentence of the lower Court. We are further informed that the official has made some strong remarks, on the conduct of the Police in connection with the case.

GUNNER Love, the accused in that notorious case—notorious, because, in it, the accused, though not charged with murder, was acquitted on the plea that it was proved that he had committed the rape, was tried by a court-martial on the 26th ultimo, on a charge of disobedience of General Orders. He was found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for 84 days, but was recommended to mercy on the ground that his character had always been very good, and that he had already suffered from detention in custody on a serious charge for a period of over four months. The General commanding the Madras District confirmed the sentence, but remitted 70 days of the imprisonment awarded.

THOUGH nothing fresh has been announced, it seems as if war with the Transvaal is a settled affair. As far as India is concerned nothing new has transpired. But much speculation is rife as to the arrangements that are being made for sending out troops in case of hostilities. In some quarters it is stated that none of the troops serving in the Bombay Command will go to South Africa. European regiments serving in the Bengal Command will probably be chosen, and in case native regiments are wanted, those from Northern India will be taken for garrison purposes. It is understood that plague is, in a great measure, responsible for this very one-sided mode of selection. Regiments to be sent have already been warned to hold themselves in readiness. Bombay will, in all likelihood, be called upon to furnish a transport train. In this connection the *Pioneer* says: "The details of the Indian contingent intended for South Africa in case of war have been fully completed by the Government of India, but, of course, no orders on the subject can issue until instructions to that effect arrive from the Secretary of State. The contingent will include three batteries of artillery in addition to the cavalry and infantry already mentioned."

MR. THEODORE BECK, Principal of the Aligarh College, still lies dangerously ill in Simla.

A RANGOON telegram dated the 30th ultimo says:—The outrage case is proceeding. The Burmese witnesses of the outrage failed to identify any soldier concerned. Corporal Nurse was examined. He said he identified one man only of those present, Private Goff. He was ordered to make enquiries, and got the names of all the present accused. His impression from what he saw was that from twenty to forty men were directly concerned.



INDIA IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

(FROM A LONDON CORRESPONDENT.)

The great meeting of the British Medical Association, the most important medical body in England, with branches all over the Empire, held its annual Congress in Portsmouth and discussed matters of medical reform of great interest to Indians.

In the absence of Dr. Nair, of Madras, Dr. Sarat Mullick moved "that the present constitution of the Civil Medical Service of India, whereby all important educational, scientific and sanitary appointments are exclusively reserved for members of a Military Medical Service, viz., the Indian Medical Service, who are only lent for civil work till required for war purposes, is wrong in principle, prejudicial to the interests of medical education, science and sanitation, unsuited to existing conditions and requirements; and that in the interest of medical education and sanitation in India and for the general advancement of medical science, the Civil Medical Department should cease to be an appendage of, or a close reserve for, a military service, and all educational, scientific and sanitary appointments in the Department should be thrown open to the best talent available from the open profession of medicine." At the very outset, Dr. Mullick fully acknowledged the work done by the Indian Medical Service. They were the pioneers of sanitation in India. But while fully crediting them with their past services and many virtues, the time had come, in the opinion of the most moderate reformers, when some changes were necessary in the way medical appointments were made in India. The Indian Medical Service primarily was a purely Military Service. When the Government was confronted, in the early days of the organization, with the difficulty of filling the civil posts, it determined to cut the Gordian knot by lending the military doctors for civil employment, reserving to itself the right of calling them back to active service in time of need. That was the genesis of the present arrangement, brought about by the exigencies of dire circumstances. It was, indeed, a case of "needs must when the Devil drives." What was the position, to-day? There was no dearth of trained Indian talent, there being a large and increasing number of locally trained doctors, many of them serving in the subordinate service with marked distinction and ability. They were, men of the finest intellect who, for powers of keen perception and accurate observation, could afford to give points to any set of medical men wherever chosen. *Tempora mutantur, nos ad illis mutantur.* The times had changed, and a new order of things had risen. India no longer stood in splendid isolation, appealing to the accident simply through the halo of mystic philosophy. She was no longer, at any rate, to the same degree, a country which was uncomfortable enough to make it just sufficiently interesting for a picnic excursion. The increasing comforts and rapid means of transit had brought India much nearer England and revealed to her wondering gaze the infinite resources of the country and the unbounded genius of her people (cheers). Therefore he contended that if all but the purely military appointments were thrown open to the profession at large, they would attract the best English and Indian talents. Each post would attract men who had made that branch a speciality. No hardship would be inflicted on the service, for they would have the same right to compete as others. It was no argument to say that the present system was "open competition." The choice was unnecessarily restricted, because men who disliked military service would not compete. Nor was there any advantage of military training for civil employment. The age for the service was limited to 28. It was impossible to acquire, unless in exceptional cases of precocious genius, the proper knowledge required at that early age. Then again, it did not follow that because certain physical defects disqualified for military posts they should equally be prejudicial for civil duties. Dr. Mullick quoted the protest of Surgeon-Captain Clarence Smith, late of the Indian Medical Service, who wrote that "when men enter the Indian Medical Service they are necessarily mostly very young and lacking in experience and are not then specially qualified for holding appointments in the more important civil posts." In conclusion the speaker confidently looked forward to the day when the interests of a Service would give place to the welfare of a nation, when medicine under skilled supervision would find as prolific a nidus for its development in India as it did in Europe, and shower upon suffering humanity the blessings of experimental and practical science, for there was "no higher aim which man could attain than conquest over human pain."

Dr. Potter, in seconding the resolution, said that he had considerable experience of private practice in India. He fully supported Dr. Mullick in all that he said. He dwelt upon the unnecessary exclusion of eminent specialists from posts which were but ill-filled by present incumbents. He gave instances of incompetency of Indian Medical Service doctors who, at short notice, were appointed to posts which required long special training to fill properly (cheers).

Surgeon-General Harvey next took up the cudgels on behalf of the I. M. S. of which he is the head. He vehemently repudiated the charges of incompetency in his Service. He said that the resolution was inaccurate, and gave instances, where civil and sanitary posts had been filled by men outside the Service. As instances of impartiality of the Government, he said that there were natives in high posts, there was an eminent bacteriologist who did not belong to the Service; who was not a medical man; who was not even a British subject (cheers). He congratulated Dr. Mullick on the temperate and courteous manner in which he had moved such a controversial and, in his opinion, an impossible resolution. His judicious remarks would do more to open wider the gates of appointment for his countrymen than the resolution even if carried. The speaker had taken and would take every opportunity of finding suitable men for the posts. He fully sympathised with Dr. Mullick for his natural desire to promote the interests of his countrymen (cheers), and referred to an iconoclastic memorial sent to the Government of India, by a Bombay Native Association. This memorial was inaccurate and so could not merit serious attention. The appointments at present were by "open competition." Let anybody who chose enter the I. M. S.

and, if deserving, could get any appointment which existed in India. He twitted the Association for taking up this subject. He said that the Government of India supported and supervised medical institutions in India and so ought to have the right of filling these appointments in the best way possible (cheers).

Colonel Macleod M.D. (retired Indian Medical Service) agreed with Surgeon-General Harvey in all he had said. The Indian Medical Service had done good work in the past. All the existing medical organisation was the work of the Indian Medical Service. The success of such men as the late Brigadier-General Rajendra Chandra Chandra, Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, the mover of the resolution and others, was all contributed to by the Indian Medical Service. He supported Surgeon-General Harvey about the courtesy displayed by Dr. Mullick in moving the resolution and sympathised with native practitioners, many of them his old students, in their natural desire to improve their opportunities. Let Dr. Mullick's countrymen use their hoarded wealth in establishing hospitals and dispensaries, which were the glory of England, and there would be plenty of scope for their energies (cheers).

In response to loud calls of "reply," Dr. Mullick said that he had no hesitation in joining issue both with the Surgeon-General and Colonel Macleod. He had no desire to benefit his countrymen to the detriment of the profession. All he contended for was the root principle underlying the whole question of public appointments. Let them be open to all comers, and, if after a rigid and fair test, his countrymen went to the wall, they were quite willing to take the consequences. He for one, would not, by one jot or tittle, favour nepotism even in favour of his own countrymen (cheers). He knew very well that, given equal opportunities, Indians would make as good a fight as any (cheers). The Surgeon-General made a great deal of capital with reference to some of the posts which were filled by true "open competition," and made out that that disposed of the whole question. Dr. Mullick contended that as a matter of fact that only supported his resolution. If such means of competition were satisfactory for these posts, they were equally necessary for others and on a larger scale, for it could not be denied that "what was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander" (laughter). In reply to Colonel Macleod he said, that the present so-called "open competition" was not open competition in the wide sense of the term. Besides the restrictions he had quoted in his opening remarks, he said that it was an unfair hardship for the average Indian to risk the perils of the deep, not to say the enormous and speculative, outlay, necessary for such competitions. In this his English stay-at-home rival had the better of the bargain. The age restriction would limit the choice for the high professional chairs which in Europe could only be held by rising from what was profanely known as a "bottle washer." It required years of specialised study to do justice either to the teaching or science of medicine. By the very nature of the Indian Medical Service rules the doctors were pitchedfork from one post to another not by virtue of special knowledge, but by flight of time and grades of seniority. The defence on behalf of the I. M. S. was inadequate, because no satisfactory answer had yet been made to the charge that no principle was sound which favoured a particular Service to the exclusion of the rest of the profession (cheers).

The resolution on being put to the vote was lost by the narrow majority of two votes. Considering that Portsmouth is a military and naval town which swarms with service doctors, this insignificant majority affords great encouragement for future action.

After some other business had been disposed of, the President called upon Dr. Mullick to move his next resolution, which ran—"That having regard to the fact that persons possessing no knowledge of medicine are by law allowed the same right to practise in India as fully qualified practitioners, this Association considers it advisable that there should be a system of registration in India to protect the public from the mischievous machinations of charlatans; it further undertakes to do all in its power to carry this resolution into effect." In supporting this motion Dr. Mullick said that there was no intention to include the penal clause which prevailed in England. At present that was beyond practical politics and could only be the property of visionary enthusiasts. The Indian public, required to be prepared for that. What was intended, at present, was that an official record should be kept of those who, after careful training, were fit to be entrusted with people's lives. At present the Indian public was in no way protected from charlatanism. Not long ago Sir Walter Foster Bart., M.D. was good enough to put a question, drafted by Dr. Mullick, to the Secretary of State for India on this matter. The reply was "that it was impossible to prevent natives of India from resorting to unqualified native practitioners." *Mulatis Mulandis* the English Registration Act was powerless, to apply in a modified way Lord George Hamilton's words to the English people, "to prevent the people from resorting to practitioners even though they may be regarded by fair judges as not fully qualified for the work they undertake." But with all its defects the Act had saved many a life in England. "One touch of nature made the whole world kin," and it was valued for its lives just as much of as little as the people did in England. The age of *latissae fave* as regards Indian questions had, he hoped, passed away like the mastodon never to return. Englishmen should realise their duty towards their fellow-practitioners in India, who were struggling to fulfill one of the highest missions that God's children could pursue. (cheers).

Dr. Brindley James seconded the motion and said that the British Medical Association was meant to look after the Empire as a whole. At this moment they must not therefore forget to support their brethren in India (cheers).

Surgeon-General Dodds deprecated any interference on the part of the British Medical Association. India was a vast country unknown to most people there as regards its internal condition and required careful handling. They should leave such matters to the Government.

The President of the Council then supported the resolution strongly, saying that the Executive Council had taken up the matter and would do nothing rash.

On being put to the vote it was unanimously agreed to.

Calcutta and Mohit.

REMOVAL.—The Maharajah of Nator has removed to 11-4 Belvedere Road, Alipor.

AN OIL PAINTING.—Messrs. Grindlay and Co., have recently landed from the steamer *Malta* a life-size oil-painting of Baba Romesh Chunder Dutt, C. I. E. The portrait will be hung in the Town Hall.

HIGH COURT.—Mr. Robert Belchambers, Registrar of the Original Jurisdiction of the High Court, Calcutta, retires at the end of October. There is considerable speculation as to who will be appointed in his place. The talk in the Court itself is that Mr. W. K. Fink, Assistant Registrar, who has often officiated in the post, will be appointed Registrar, and that Mr. J. H. Hechle, Third Assistant Registrar, will succeed Mr. Fink.

A CONFERENCE.—A conference will be held in the office of the Zemindary Panchayat on Monday, the 4th September, at 5 P. M., to appoint a Committee for preparing a scheme for the establishment of an institution for the education of the sons of the Zemindars of Bengal in consonance with the views of His Excellency the Viceroy and to consider what further action may be taken in this connection. His Highness the Hon'ble Maharaja Rameswar Sinha Bahadur of Durbhanga will take part in the proceedings.

THE BALED-JUTE ASSOCIATION.—The only important business at the annual meeting of the above Association, was the increase in the entrance fee together with the annual subscription, and the confirmation of the rule affecting the sale of baled jute for delivery within three months from date. The speech of the Chairman, Mr. H. M. Ross, showed that the present position of the Committee is "one of observation." The Chairman also paid a graceful tribute to the retiring Chairman, Mr. W. B. Mactavish, in which all who know Mr. Mactavish will heartily join.

PENNY WISE AND POUND FOOLISH.—"The purchase of dictionaries at the public expense is prohibited by rule" is the reply to a formal request by the Intelligence Department to the Government of India for permission to invest in an Ogilvie. Surely the expenditure of a few rupees in the interests of correct spelling is a matter which might be left to the head of a Department. If the case given to saving tens of rupees had always been devoted to preventing the useless expenditure of lakhs it would be easier now-a-days to finance the Empire.

TEA PROSPECTS.—The prospects of tea are still good in Cachar, but red spider and mosquito blight are prevalent in places. In Sylhet the weather is too cold for tea, and the floods are again high and have caused damage to the late rice crop. In the Darang district the floods of the Bhoreli and Gabru rivers have damaged the late rice crop of the neighbouring villages. In the Sibsagar district the Brahmaputra and Disang rivers are in high flood again and have caused damage to the late rice crop. Forty inches of rain fell during the week in Cherapunji, where the rainfall up to date has been 477.99 inches.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—Between 5 and 6 P. M. on Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, a serious accident took place at Sealdah yard. A local special goods train for Budge-Budge was crossing the line when it was derailed just in front of point cabin No. B. Two mineral oil tank vans and the brake were overturned and seriously damaged. The Guard saved his life by jumping from the brake. Southern section trains Nos. 116 and 114, down could not come to Baliahatta from Sealdah because both the lines were blocked. The 119 up mail from Diamond Harbour reached Baliahatta at about 8 P. M. Calcutta time and transhipped the passengers of the above two trains to Diamond Harbour, which was reached about four hours later.

ALLIGATORS.—A correspondent writes from Kendrapara:—I had often heard of depredations caused by alligators in the river Gobra, at Gandakia, a village some 5 miles off. An eye-witness has just been relating to me a recent case which is simply an awful tale. An old woman was seated on the edge of the river bank, at an appreciable distance from the bed of the river, when immediately there came a dash of waters against her, and in the twinkling of an eye she was carried precipitately into the depth of the river never to rise again. The next case reported to me is from an adjacent village, Patkora, Sooknai, where an alligator has recently appeared and is committing great havoc. It is said to be about 6 or 7 cubits long. Its first victim was a washer-woman, whom after seizing it carried for miles together before the gaze of ten spectators who, in spite of keeping up an incessant shout, could not induce the animal to let go its grasp.

VITAL STATISTICS.—The total number of deaths registered in Urban Calcutta during the week ending 19th August was 224, against 263 and 287 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 24. There were three deaths from cholera, against nine and 23 in the two preceding weeks; the number is equal to the average of the past quinquennium. There were 27 deaths from plague, against 32 and 36 in the two preceding weeks. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There were four deaths from tetanus, against three in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 34 and 30 respectively, against 60 and 37 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 25.0 per mille per annum, against 25.1, the mean of the last five years. The total number of deaths registered in Suburban Calcutta during the same week was 158, against 137 and 164 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 38. There was one death from cholera, against two and four in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by one. There were 16 deaths from plague, against 12 and 16 in the two preceding weeks. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There were four deaths from tetanus, against nil in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 29 and 31, respectively, against 38 and 20 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 38.3 per mille per annum, against 33.1, the mean of the last five years. The general death-rate of the combined area is equal to 29.2.

THE L.G.'S MOVEMENTS.—The Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by Mr. Adami, C. S., and Hon. Mr. Croft, Chief Secretary, will leave Darjeeling on the 4th of September and arrive in Calcutta on the 5th. Lady and Miss Woodburn, and Major Strachey, Private Secretary, will remain at Darjeeling.

DEPARTURES.—Sir Francis Maclean, Chief Justice of Bengal, will leave Calcutta for England, where his lordship will spend the long vacation on the evening of the 7th instant. Mr. Justice Rampini will also leave for England on the same day.

MAN VS. CROCODILE.—A Basirhat correspondent sends to a contemporary a short account of a tough tug-of-war between man and monster in that crocodile-infested river Ichhamati. A man was bathing in the river one day recently, without taking the ordinary precaution of doing so behind a bamboo paling. A big crocodile, which had perhaps been lying in wait for some unwary victim, came upon him in all its native fierceness. While resisting its attempts to drag him into the middle of the stream, the man cried for help. A peasant, who was ploughing in a field close by, rushed to his rescue and threw a cloth to the victim who clutched one end of it with all his might, the other being in the hands of the peasant. There was now a regular tug-of-war between man and monster, in which the latter fortunately came off second best. The wounded man still lives but is in rather precarious condition.

RAMNAGAR RAJA'S CASE.—On the 29th ultimo before the Joint-Magistrate of Bettiah, Babu Ganendra Nath Bose, Public Prosecutor, Motihari, closed the prosecution in the case in which the Raja of Ramnagar, with five of his servants, is charged with having kidnapped and committed rape on a minor girl. Charges were framed against the Raja under Sections 363, 366, and 368, read with sections 109 and 376 of the Penal Code, and under sections 363, 366, and 368 against his servants. Baboo Petumbar Chatterjee, of Muzafferpur, and other pleaders for the Raja asked the Joint-Magistrate to postpone the passing of the final commitment order till this morning to enable them to arrange for moving the Judge, now here, for bail to avoid the Raja going to jail. The Joint-Magistrate agreed. The Raja's pleaders came to Motihari by special train on Wednesday and moved the Judge. The Raja has been released on bail for Rs. 50,000. Bail for his men was refused.

RESIGNATION OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

PATHETIC FAREWELL: AN IMPOSING SCENE.

The elected Hindu Commissioners of the Calcutta Corporation, almost in a body with only a few exceptions resigned their seats on the Corporation on Friday evening after the Chairman had formally submitted a letter from the Government of Bengal relating to the speech of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, late Lieutenant-Governor, on the Municipal Bill. There was one Mahomedan gentleman, Moulvi Shamsul Huda, Vakil, Calcutta High Court, and an elected Commissioner, who joined his Hindu brother-Commissioners to tender his resignation. For some time past the Commissioners had been considering what steps they should take in vindicating their character from the aspersions cast upon it by Sir Alexander Mackenzie in his speech delivered on the 4th of April last year, on the occasion of the introduction into Council of the present Municipal Bill. Since then, however, no serious steps had been taken till the re-iteration of those aspersions in the letter of the Government of India. The Commissioners then thought it was time that they should call upon the Government either to disclose the sources of their information or to substantiate the charges brought against them. The matter was then brought before a meeting of the Commissioners and it was resolved to address the Government on the subject. The question of resignation was then not on the tapis for it was hoped that the Government would condescend to give a proper reply to the representation of the Commissioners. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's remarks at the Council meeting held on the 7th August last on the subject, also assured the Commissioners that their representation would receive due consideration at the hands of the Government. His Honour then observed: "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. The Commissioners had never any idea that by the expression 'immediate reply' His Honour had meant a curt denial or, according to a prominent European Commissioner who openly declared his views, a 'detestable reply.'"

It was on the 10th of August that the resolution of the Commissioners alluded to above was forwarded to Government. On the 10th the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, addressed the following letter in reply to the Chairman of the Corporation:—"In reply to your letter No. 3549, dated 10th August, 1898, forwarding a copy of a resolution adopted by the Commissioners at a special meeting held on the 2nd instant, I am directed to say that Sir Alexander Mackenzie's views were publicly stated in his speech in the Bengal Council on the 4th April, 1898, an extract from which is annexed. The Lieutenant-Governor declines to enter into any correspondence with the Corporation on the subject." On receipt of this letter the Chairman immediately circulated it among the Commissioners and gave notice of formally putting it before the Commissioners at the special meeting to be held yesterday. The reply of the Government led the Commissioners to come to a decision which they were so long hesitating to arrive at.

An informal meeting of the elected Commissioners was accordingly held on Thursday evening in the office of Babu Kali Nath Mitter to consider what steps should be taken in view of the reply given by the Government. An overwhelming majority of those present at the meeting had no hesitation to come to the conclusion that the Commissioners should in a body resign and decided that a formal application for resignation would be submitted to the Chairman after the Government letter in reply had been formally submitted before them. The matter had got noised that something serious was going to happen at the meeting and a large number of people crowded the Strangers' Gallery at each end of meeting room which on other occasions remain vacant.

The day's business, and there was a long list, was gone through with the usual attention from the Commissioners, but indications were not wanting of the coming event. Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose, in strongly condemning the municipal administration of the canal area where there has been no improvement worth the name since the amalgamation in 1889, where the drains and streets abounded in filth and where in consequence the death-rate was almost double to that of the town area, more than once observed that that would be his last speech at a meeting of the Corporation and he regretted that he had not been able, notwithstanding his utmost efforts, all along, to induce the Corporation to do anything for the unfortunate ratepayers of the canal area.

After the formal submission of the Government reply Babu Kali Nath Mitter rose and addressing the chair said that he begged to tender a letter of resignation on his own behalf and on behalf of his friends who had signed it. There were altogether 29 Commissioners who had signed it and he read out the names given below. The speaker observed that after the reply of the Government, the Commissioners had no other alternative than the course they were adopting. It was, however, not necessary for him to give any reason for the step they were about to take. On occasions like that silence was golden. Before, however, they laid down their office, the speaker hoped the Chairman would permit him to say a few words as that was the last occasion they would have any opportunity to refer to the matter. Babu Kali Nath then expressed his sincere thanks on his own behalf and on behalf of his friends to Mr. Bright for the uniform courtesy, patient hearing, kind consideration and evenhanded justice they had always received at his hands.

Dr. Rammoji Ray here stood up and said: "I signed my name it is true, but on subsequent consideration withdrew it (cries of 'shame,' 'shame' specially from the European Commissioners, some of whom loudly hissed.) Dr. Rammoji resumed his seat.

Babu S. N. Banerjee: I appeal to the Commissioners to allow Dr. Rammoji have his say.

Dr. Rammoji again rising slowly, "On a subsequent consideration I withdrew my name. I wrote a letter to that effect to Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose requesting him to omit my name. Babu Bhupendranath: I did not receive any letter from you (laughter).

Dr. Rammoji: Well, the letter was seen by several men. I have several witnesses (renewed laughter).

Mr. Braunfield, Barrister-at-law, then rose and in a very eloquent and oft-applauded speech, feelingly referred to the services that the elected Hindu Commissioners had rendered to the Corporation. He wanted to know how it was that men who had devoted their energies, and their lives, to the service of the Corporation, whose services would have been fittingly recognised by any Government in Europe, had suddenly become discontented and was giving up their work of love. There must be some reason for it. And that reason was not far to seek. It was the Government of the land that was to blame. Representation was made to the Government, but how did the Government treat the representation? Defamatory allegations of a serious nature had been brought against them and when they asked for an enquiry the answer the Lieutenant-Governor gave was that he declined to enter into any communication on the subject. Was that fair? If he had any objection to give the information asked for the Lieutenant-Governor might have said that rules of State forbade him to supply the information asked for, but no. He must give reply of a nature that no man with any sense of self-respect in him could put up with at all. As honourable men, the speaker thought, that Commissioners had no other alternative than the course they had adopted.

The Chairman, who seemed to have been considerably affected by the step taken by the elected Commissioners then in a feeling speech which greatly impressed every one present, bade the Commissioners adieu. He had already tried hard to induce the Commissioners not to adopt the step, they had taken and he had now only to express his regret for the step taken by the Commissioners, which they were compelled to take. He then expressed his thankfulness to Babu Kali Nath and others from whom he had always received considerable assistance in the transaction of his onerous duties.

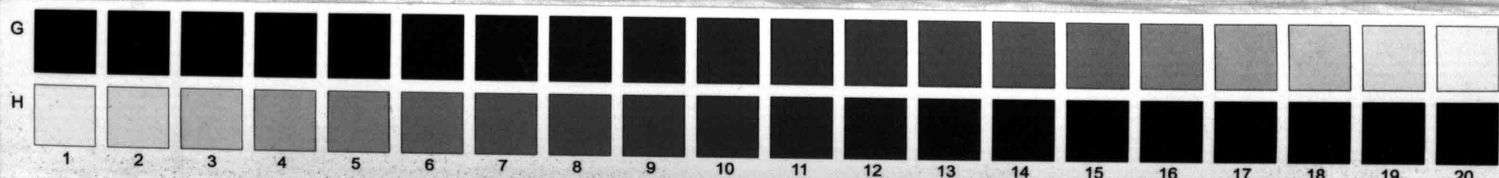
The meeting then terminated.

Out of the 50 elected Commissioners of the Calcutta Corporation, the following resigned their seats on the Corporation on Friday:—

Ward No. 1.—Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, Babu Pashupati Nath Bose; Ward No. 2.—N. N. Ghose, Esqr., Babu Chundilal Sinha; Ward No. 3.—Babu Kali Nath Mitter, A. C. Bose, Esqr.; Ward No. 4.—Kumar Monmotho Nath Mitter, Babu Nalin Bihari Sircar; Ward No. 5.—Babu Lalbehary Bysack; Ward No. 6.—Babu Amarendra Nath Chatterjee, Babu Radha Churn Pal; Ward No. 8.—Babu Sreenath Dutt; Ward No. 9.—Babu Norendra Nath Sen; Ward No. 10.—Babu Surendra Nath Dass, Babu Raj Chunder Chunder; Ward No. 11.—Babu Devaprasad Sarvadhikary; Ward No. 13.—Babu Mohini Mohan Chatterji, Babu Benode, Behary Banerji; Ward No. 14.—The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerji; Ward No. 15.—Moulvie Syed Shams-ul Huda; Ward No. 17.—J. Ghosal, Esqr.; Ward No. 19.—Babu Amrita Lal Ghose; Ward No. 20.—Babu Jyoti Prakash Ganguly; Ward No. 21.—Babu Kanti Chatter Banerji, Dr. Rammoji Roy (since withdrawn); Ward No. 22.—Babu Jogendra Chander Ghose; Ward No. 23.—Babu Ramtaran Banerji; Ward No. 24.—Babu Surendra Nath Roy; Ward No. 25.—Rai Mone Lal Banerjee Bahadur.

The following elected Commissioners did not resign:—

Ward No. 7.—Kumar Dinendro Narain Roy; Ward No. 5.—Babu Harayram Goenka, Babu Naraindas Khanna, Ward No. 8.—Moulvie Baduruddin Haider, Khan Bahadur; Ward No. 9.—Dr. Zahiruddin Ahmed; Ward No. 11.—Dr. Jogendra Nath Ghose; Ward No. 12.—H. A. Ballin, Esqr., E. M. D. Cohen; Ward No. 14.—Moulvie Ahmed Khan Bahadur; Ward No. 15.—Moulvie Aga, Mahomed Musa; Ward No. 16.—Dr. Wallace, the Hon'ble J. G. Apar; Ward No. 17.—Babu Satis Chunder Ghose; Ward No. 18.—C. F. Deefholts, Esqr., A. J. Wilson, Esqr.; Ward No. 19.—Rev Charles Jordan; Ward No. 20.—Moulvie Abdul Jawad; Ward No. 23.—Babu Priya Nath Malik; Ward No. 24.—K. Braunfield, Esqr.; Ward No. 25.—Babu Satis Chandra Ghose.



THE JESSORE-KHULNA UNION.

A LARGE and enthusiastic meeting of the students and youngmen of Jessore and Khulna, residing in town, was held on the 28th ultimo, at 4-30 P.M., in the City College Hall, to consider what steps should be taken to revive the Jessore-Khulna Union.

The meeting was convened by Dr. P. C. Ray and Babu Debendra Chandra Ghosh M. A., B. L., Senior Government Pleader of Alipur. The Union was founded in the year 1879. And though for want of able and energetic men to take up its charge after the absence of Babu Hari Charan Sen L. M. S. from town and owing to the growth of faction in the body of the Union, it was discontinued in the year 1893, yet since its foundation, it had done inestimable service to the two districts for the welfare of which it was started. The main object of the Union was to remedy the evils that were prevalent in, and to promote the welfare of, the two districts by all possible means. The Union at first took up the cause of the education of females and the moral and physical training of boys. On this plan, the Union was doing its useful work till the year 1893, when it suddenly collapsed. And it was to revive this institution that the present meeting was held. It had the sympathy and co-operation of men of light and leading in the town.

Amidst cheers and acclamations, Babu Jogendra Nath Sen M. A., B. L. took the chair. But as he was not thoroughly conversant with the objects of that day's meeting, he asked Dr. Ray, as the prime-mover of the meeting, to explain to the audience the necessity of the revival of the Jessore-Khulna Union. In response to the chairman's call, Dr. Ray explained the objects with which the Union had been started, viz., the education of females and the moral and physical training of boys. He said these three elements were very necessary for the improvement of our society and for the perfection of our education. He said, though the Union had been defunct, yet its object had not been fully realised. Hence the necessity of the revival was obvious.

The chairman then called upon Babu Rajendra Nath Ghose, the devoted worker of the Union for sixteen long years, and Babu Hemendra Prasad Ghose, to speak. Babu Rajendra Nath having delegated that duty to Babu Hemendra Prasad the latter spoke in lucid Bengali to explain the objects for which they had assembled. A few others also—among whom were many students—rose and spoke to show their sympathy with the revival of the Union, and these speeches were highly acceptable to those present.

Three resolutions were then moved and two of them were unanimously carried. Babu Jogendra Nath Mitter, B. L., of the Jessore Bar, in the course of making some practical suggestions with regard to the Union, expressed the desirability of changing its name because of the bad repute it had earned in its later days. Accordingly a resolution was framed to the effect that an association be formed for the welfare of the districts of Khulna and Jessore. It was moved by Babu Rajendra Nath Ghosh and seconded by Babu Nepal Chandra Ray B. A. In supporting the resolution Babu Rajani Kanto Mitra B. A. made a short but eloquent speech.

Here some uneasiness was felt by the audience which proved that they would like to have the question of baptising the Union, settled then and there. Accordingly, at the instance of the chairman, Babu Nagendra Nath Sen B. A. moved the second resolution which ran as follows:—"That in the opinion of the meeting it is desirable to revive the Jessore-Khulna Union." It was seconded by Babu Debendra Nath Sinha and carried unanimously. The third resolution was as follows:—"That a provisional committee consisting of the following members (here the names were read) with powers to add to their number be formed to define the objects and to revise the rules of the Union. The resolution was carried unanimously.

At this meeting about one hundred names were enrolled as members and the leading office-bearers were elected. Babu Jogendra Nath Mitter, in a very brilliant speech, requested Dr. P. C. Ray, on behalf of all present, to be the president of the Union in the first year of its revival and he was supported by loud and prolonged cheers from the audience. Dr. Ray though very reluctant at first for some reasons, could not reject that request. Babu Jogendra Nath Sen, who was proposed by Babu Rajani Kanto Mitter in a nice little speech, took the office of the Vice-president in the midst of universal applause; and Babu Hemendra Prasad Ghose, proposed by Babu Nepal Chandra Ray, was elected Secretary in the midst of great enthusiasm and to the delight of all. A vote of thanks was then proposed to the chair and carried with acclamations. After the singing of "Banday Mataram" the meeting was dissolved.

The regulations under the Venice Sanitary Convention imposed against arrivals from Penang have been withdrawn by the Madras Government.

MR. W. D. BARROW, Executive Engineer, on relief of his duties on the Burma Railways, is appointed Deputy Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Railways, Calcutta.

SURGEON-GENERAL HARVEY returned to India yesterday and Surgeon-General Spencer then reverts to the Punjab. Surgeon-General Harvey spends a few days in Bombay before reaching Simla.

A SHORT time ago H. R. H. Prince Chow Sze (of Siam) proceeded to Samkok, a place about two or three hours' steam up the river, from Bangkok, with the object of experimenting with a steam-plough on one of his paddy fields. The *Siam Weekly Mail* learns that the results have been very satisfactory, and it may not be vain to expect that in a few years' time there will be a complete revolution in the present methods of ploughing, and that the steam-plough will be used extensively.

THE Sub-Judge of Madura has just dismissed the claim of an astrologer and palmist for remuneration against two wealthy Nattukottai Chetties as per terms alleged to have been agreed upon for examining horoscopes and recording daily events of future years, and performing purificatory ceremonies. The Judge held that pretension to tell fortunes was calculated to deceive the public, and that an agreement founded on supposed benefit to be derived therefrom was fraudulent and accordingly null and void.

BENGAL CROP REPORT.

(For the week ending the 28th August.)

BURDWAN.—Transplantation of *aman* paddy completed. Standing crops doing well. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease in Katwa slightly increased. Common rice selling from 14½ to 18 seers per rupee.

Birbhum.—More rain wanted. Rice sells at Sadar and Rampur Hat 15 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—More rain wanted. Weeding operations going on. Fodder and water sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Rice is selling at Bankura 17½ seers and at Bishnupur 17 seers per rupee.

Midnapore.—*Aus* paddy is being reaped. Prospects good. *Aman* paddy is being still transplanted. Prospects very good except in parts, which were inundated. Cattle-disease and grass-hoppers reported from some places in the Sadar sub-division. Common rice sells from 14 to 18 seers per rupee.

Hooghly.—Transplantation of *Aman* paddy continues. State of jute and sugarcane not favourable. Cattle-disease in Sadar sub-division. Common rice selling at 14½ seers per rupee.

Howrah.—Transplantation of *Aman* still going on. Prospects hopeful. Condition of jute and sugarcane good. Harvesting of *aus* commenced. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 13 seers 14½ chittaks per rupee.

24 Parganas.—Weather hot and cloudy. Prospects of winter rice crop is fair everywhere except in low lands in Basirhat and Diamond Harbour which are still under water. Prospect of *aus* and jute is not good in Diamond Harbour. Transplantation going on briskly. *Aus* being harvested. Cattle-disease reported in Basirhat. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 12 to 16 seers per rupee.

Nadia.—Harvesting of *aus* and steeping of jute going on. Prospects of standing crops good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 14½ to 16 seers per rupee.

Murshidabad.—Harvesting of *bhadai* and cutting of jute continue. Transplantation of *aman* finished. Mulberry doing well. Fodder insufficient, and cattle-pox appears in Daulatabad police station. Water sufficient. Common rice sells at Sadar 14 seers, Jungipur 15 seers, and Kandali 17 seers per rupee.

Jessore.—Harvesting of *aus* paddy is going on. Prospect is good. Insects disappeared. River are rising. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 15 to 17 seers per rupee.

Khulna.—Transplantation of *aman* and harvesting of *aus* going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Insects have disappeared. Common rice sells from 14 to 16½ seers per rupee.

Rajshahi.—Harvesting of *aus*, steeping of jute, and transplantation of *aman* going on. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice sells at 17½ seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Standing crops good. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Rice selling at 17 seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—Transplantation of *haimanti* paddy and steeping of jute progressing. *Bhadai* paddy still being harvested. Fodder and water ample. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Darjeeling.—*Hills*—*Kalai* and *phaphay* being sown; *Bhutia* being reaped; *Bhadai*, *haimanti* *dhan*, *chota* and *bara marua* doing well. *Tera*—jute and *bhadai* being cut; *haimanti* paddy being transplanted; sugarcane doing well. Coarse rice sells at 10 to 16 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—Health of cattle good. Fodder and water sufficient. Transplantation of winter rice and steeping of jute going on. Common rice selling at 17 seers 1 chittak per rupee.

Bogra.—*Aus* being harvested. Cutting of jute and transplantation of *aman* still going on. Prospects good. Fodder and water ample. Common rice sell at 17 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells and 15 seers 11 chittaks per rupee.

Dacca.—Prospects of standing crops good. Fodder available. No cattle disease. Common rice 17 seers per rupee.

Myemensingh.—Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Common rice sells from 17½ to 24½ seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—State and prospects of crops generally fair. Common rice sells at 16½ seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Prospects of crops fair, but pamar insects in places. Common rice sells at 15 seers (*aman*) and 18 seers (*aus*) per rupee.

Tippura.—Weather seasonable. Jute cutting in progress. Prospects of *aman* continue favourable. Average price of common rice 18 seers per rupee.

Noachali.—Prospects of crops fair. Transplantation of *aman* and harvesting of *aus* continue. Cattle-disease reported from Chagalayya. Water sufficient. Fodder-supply less good than usual. Common rice—*aman* 16 seers and *aus* 19 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—Reaping of *aus* continues. Transplantation of *aman* progressing. Prospects good. Common rice 15 seers per rupee. Water and fodder sufficient.

Patna.—Weeding of *bhadai* crops going on in some places. Transplantation of paddy still continues. Condition of cattle fair. Green fodder and water-supply for cattle plentiful. Common rice in Patna sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Gaya.—Transplantation of paddy going on. Common rice selling at 13 seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Transplantation of paddy progressing. Fodder and water abundant.

Saran.—Transplantation of paddy continues. Prospects of *bhadai* bad. Rain has much injured prospects of paddy. Average price of common rice 13½ seers and of *makai* 18½ seers per rupee.

Champaran.—Prospect of *bhadai* crop not good. Transplantation of *aghani* paddy progressing. *Makai* ripening. Kodo and sauan millets and early paddy being harvested. Common rice sells at 13½ seers per rupee.

Muzaffarpur.—Transplantation of rice still continues. Prices are—Common rice 11½ seers, wheat 15 seers, barley 20 seers, *makai* 18 seers, gram 19 seers, *rahar* 19 seers per rupee.

Darbhanga.—Transplantation of paddy is still in progress. Weeding of *bhadai* crops going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Sporadic cases of cattle-disease reported from the Sadar subdivision. Common rice sell from 11 to 13 seers per rupee.

Purnea.—*Bhadai* paddy being harvested. Jute being steeped and *aghani* being transplanted. Prospects good. Cattle-disease, called *dhoodhapa*, prevails in thana Kaliaganj. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 14 to 16 seers per rupee.

Makda.—Harvesting of *bhadai* paddy going on. Prospects of winter rice good. Price of coarse rice (*bhadai*) 17 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Southern Parganas.—Prospects of paddy good. Indian-corn poor. Cattle-disease reported from Godda. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice 13 seers 9 chittaks and of Indian-corn 17 seers 8 chittaks per rupee.

Cuttack.—Sard jute, *haldia* cotton, and sugarcane are growing. Beali being harvested in places. Sard being damaged by insects in places. Rain not sufficient. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells from 15½ to 19½ seers per rupee.

Balasore.—Weeding, puddling and transplanting of *sard* continue. Beali is being reaped at places. Sugarcane thriving well. Rice sells at 18½ seers per rupee in the interior, and at 17 and 18 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Cattle-disease reported from places. Fodder and water sufficient. Prospects of winter rice crop good.

Angul.—In some places transplantation and second ploughing, which were suspended, recommenced. In some places highland winter paddy, which was growing yellow for want of rain, is now improving. Unfavourable reports received from the interior. More rain urgently needed to complete agricultural operations. *Aus* paddy withering in some places. If there be sufficient rain within 10 days, prospects of crops will not be bad. The Sub-divisional Officer, Khondmals, reports the same as in last week. Rice sells at Angul 22 seers and at Bispura 12 seers per rupee.

Puri.—Beali and *mandia* being cut in places. Sard being weeded and transplanted. Insect pests, locally called *jhintika*, have appeared in some parts. More rain wanted in several places. Sugarcane and other miscellaneous crops doing well. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells from 15½ to 17½ seers per rupee.

Hazaribagh.—Transplantation nearly finished. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Ranchi.—Transplantation still continues. Gondli is being harvested. Prices stationary. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water plentiful.

Palamau.—Standing crops generally doing well. No cattle-disease. Rice sells at 15 seers per rupee.

Manbhum.—Prospects of crops on ground generally good. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Tundi, Nirsha, and Topchanchi. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice at Sadar 15 seers 6 chittaks and at Gobindpur 14 seers per rupee. Supply sufficient.

Singbhum.—Common rice sells at 16 seers 6 chittaks per rupee.

THE HUMOURS OF ELOPEMENTS.

LOVE, which laughs at bolts and bars, has done many daring and ingenious feats in pursuit of its object, but it has never until lately snatched one of the ladies of the Sultan's harem from under the very nose of that monarch and run away with her. The story reads like a bold flight of fiction, but it is a fact; as none know better than the Sultan and the happy pair who eluded the vigilance of his satellites.

A young Englishman (it is so often an Englishman who does this kind of thing) made the acquaintance of Zulfahra, one of the Sultan's wives, at one of the mosques where she was guarded by a eunuch, she had gone to pray, during the festival of the Lailat-el-Kadrat. To see Zulfahra was to love her, and to love her meant, for the bold young Englishman, to win her. By bribing the eunuch he arranged further meetings, to which Zulfahra was not averse, and finally succeeded in smuggling his lady-love on board a ship and escaping with her to Bombay.

A lover, equally daring, one Samuel Patterson, of Connecticut, carried off his lady-love on a snow-plough, through one of the most terrible storms that even America has known. The parents of Miss Martha Durg, of Redding, were strongly opposed to the wooing of Samuel Patterson, and forbade her, under terrible penalties, to correspond with him any longer. When Samuel, who is a grocer's clerk in New York, heard of this, he took his courage in both hands, and also took the seven o'clock express from New York, although a blizzard was raging at the time.

To his dismay he found that the express did not stop at Redding, but, as it dashed through the station, he jumped from the train into an "avalanche of snow." Fighting his way through the heavy drifts, and the gale, he reached the house where his fiancée was awaiting him, and together they made their way back to the station. Here they encountered a serious check. The snow had fallen so heavily that all trains were stopped. Just as they were beginning to despair, a snow-plough bound westward came snorting and lumbering up to the station. It stopped for a moment, and in that moment Samuel Patterson and his bride-to-be were aboard; the engineer was taken into the plot, and in another moment they were fighting their way through snow and wind towards New York and the altar.

Dublin was recently the scene of an elopement which had in it some elements of the ludicrous. A man, who already had a wife and child, fell violently in love with his mother-in-law, of all people in the world, and the two lovers eloped together to Belfast. They were followed by their friends, and ultimately brought back to Dublin in a condition of penitence. But the flame of love was only smouldering; for a few months ago they eloped again, and, for once, a man and his mother-in-law are presumably happy together.

St. Petersburg has been perturbed by two elopements in high life within a year. A well-known Countess recently eloped with her husband's valet; and now another Countess, a young and charming widow, has eloped with a young footman who has been some years in her service. Every day for many months the Countess had found an exquisite bouquet of flowers on her toilet-table.

This tribute of affection was as puzzling as it was pleasing; until one day she surprised the footman kissing her portrait with the passionate ardour of a lover. The Countess, far from being annoyed at the presumption, threw her arms round the young man's neck, and assured him that his love was returned. Within a few hours she was on her way to Berne, in company with the footman and two maids, and here she was married to her humble lover. The Countess has bought a castle and an estate in Bulgaria, where it is expected the emancipated footman will soon blossom into a man of title.

INDIAN NEWS.

The sensational murder of a native resident has taken place at Agra. He was stabbed to death at night while asleep in his house by some unknown persons who are at large.

The Government of India are working, to put in working order, Lord Curzon's new Frontier Policy, and when the scheme is fairly launched, it will show a saving from ten to fourteen lakhs as a result.

The Simla Municipal Committee have voted Rs. 5,000 for the construction at Mayday Hill of a dhooby ghat, with tanks and steam drying apparatus, as an experiment, and the public will be invited to co-operate in making it succeed.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—The Eurasian Pinto, who was under trial at Umballa for molesting the family of a guard of the East Indian Railway, has been sentenced by the Deputy Commissioner to three months' rigorous imprisonment and to furnish security in Rs. 100 to keep the peace; or, in default, twelve months' further simple imprisonment.

ON the morning of the 28th of August, the water picket of the 2nd Sikhs at Khulboi Post in Tochi was fired on within 250 yards of the post by a gang of about 20 raiders. One sepoy was killed and his rifle was carried off. The crime is supposed to have been the work of the Gumatti outlaws. The raiders were followed up and shots were exchanged, but they made good their escape without loss.

ON the Secunderabad grain frauds case being called on Wednesday, Mr. Forbes for the accused applied for an adjournment on the ground that he had filed an appeal before the Judicial Commissioner of Berars against the order of the District Magistrate in regard to the rearrest of the accused, the reason for whose re-arrest no one knew. The case was adjourned until the 11th instant.

A SHAHPUR correspondent understand that the construction of a railway line between Bhera and Shahpur, a distance of about thirty miles, is under contemplation. The District Traffic Superintendent, Rawalpindi, is shortly expected at Shahpur to consult the merchants and other respectable residents of the Civil Station on this point.

WE hear from Bombay of the death on Tuesday morning of Dr. P. Peterson, Professor at the Elphinstone College, and formerly for many years Registrar of the Bombay University. Dr. Peterson was well-known as an Oriental Scholar, and was President of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. His particular study was Sanskrit.

It is understood that the Chief Justiceship of Madras on the retirement of Sir Arthur Collins was offered in the first instance to Mr. John Frederick Rawlinson, Q. C., who will be remembered as having been sent out by the Government to South Africa to represent the Treasury in the inquiry arising out of the Jameson Raid. Mr. Rawlinson, who is only 39 years of age, is a son of a former Chief Justice of Madras, Sir Charles Rawlinson, who presided in the Madras High Court from 1850 to 1859.

MR. R. T. KEEN, Special Engineer, Officiating Deputy Engineer-in-Chief, is placed in charge of the current duties of the Office of the Engineer-in-Chief of the North-Western Railway in addition to his duties, during the absence of Mr. Thomson on three weeks' privilege leave, or until further orders. Mr. W. F. Housden, Executive Engineer, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, is appointed to officiate as Superintending Engineer, during the absence, on privilege leave, of Mr. I. Heine.

AT 1 o'clock on Thursday morning a heavily laden goods train consisting of forty wagons while approaching Rangoon, dashed into another goods train consisting of sixty-seven loaded wagons which was standing at the north distance signal outside Pazoondong suburban station. The engine of the approaching train turned over and fell down the bank, the three loaded wagons following. The engine with four loaded wagons of the standing train were telephonically escaped, with minor injuries, but the boiler of the approaching train was killed and found buried below the engine and tender, whence he was removed. Early this afternoon the line was put in order and traffic admitted through but was closed again afterwards to permit of removing the wreckage.

It is an open secret that recently there has been a good deal of friction in plague work. The Plague Commissioner thought there was undue interference with his work, while the Nizam's Government were of opinion that Dr. Lawrie wanted to exercise powers which he did not possess. The matter has now reached the Resident and the result is some correspondence. Sir Trevor requested Sir Vikar to inform him as to the functions which Dr. Lawrie is expected to perform and the scope of his authority and responsibilities since Lt. Colonel Lawrie has been appointed Plague Commissioner under the Nizam's Government with the assent of the Government of India. Sir Trevor thought that difficulties might be avoided in future by defining Lt. Colonel Lawrie's position, and while giving him full authority to act upon his own responsibility in all matters within the scope of the powers entrusted to him, to require also to obtain the previous sanction of His Highness' Government in other matters which lie outside those powers. Sir Vikar referred the Resident to certain orders issued in August 1898 by the Nizam's Government and observed with regard to the friction which the Resident has heard has arisen that there never has been any interference with Colonel Lawrie's work. The only complaints made are those made by the Accounts Department which has objected to unauthorised items of expenditure being included in the bills submitted for recouping the permanent advances of Rs. 4,000 each allowed to the Plague Commissioners, but on more than one occasion the Accounts-General was directed to pay all charges and then submit objections. If all bills, the Minister observed, are properly prepared, there would be no delay in making payments. The Minister said that the Government of course declined to accord sanction to certain allowances to officers when such allowance appeared excessive. For instance, a proposal is now before Government to grant an officer, whose substantive pay is Rs. 300, a plague allowance of Rs. 600, thus doubling his pay.

Deccan Post.

TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

SIMLA, AUG. 31.

Although yet liable to alteration, the probable programme of the Viceroy's tour will be as follows:—His Excellency will leave Simla on the 23rd October next, accompanied by Lady Curzon, Colonel Sandbach, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Latimer, Colonel Fenn and Captains Baker, Carr, Wigram, Marker and Adams. Starting from Kalka after dinner, the special train, with the Viceroyal party on board, reaches Delhi next day, where a halt will be made until the 26th. Leave Delhi on the 27th, arrive at Jaipur on the 28th. Halt at Jaipur until the 31st and arrive at Oodeypur on the 1st November. Halt here on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd. On the 4th a visit will be paid to the fortress of Chittore. Leave Chittore on the 4th and arrive at Ajmere on the 5th, where a halt will be made until the 6th. Leaving on the night of the 6th, the arrival at Abu is fixed for the 8th. Leave Abu on the 10th and arrive at Jodhpur on the 11th. Halt here until the 13th and leave for Bikaner. Halt at Bikaner on the 14th and 15th and leave on the 16th to arrive at Nussarabad on the 17th (visit Deoli). Arrive at Bundi on the 18th. Halt here on the 19th and 20th and arrive at Kotah on the 21st. Leave on the 22nd and arrive at Baran on the 23rd. Visit Bhilsa and arrive at Bhopal on the 24th. Leave Bhopal on the 26th and arrive at Gwalior on the 27th. Halt here on the 28th and 29th and arrive at Dholpore on the 30th. Their Excellencies will visit Muttra and Brindaban on the 1st December and arrive at Bhurtpore on the 3rd and Agra on the 5th. Leaving Agra on the 10th, arrive at Cawnpore on the 11th and Lucknow on the 12th. Leaving Lucknow on the 14th arrive at Benares on the 15th and Calcutta on the 18th December.

MYMENSINGH, AUG. 31.
Mr. A. M. Bose was entertained at an evening party yesterday in Surja Kanta Town Hall by his friends and admirers. The hall was tastefully decorated and illuminated. Many notable zemindars, the gentry of the town and mofussil and all local non-official Europeans attended. The Amaraati Amateur Concert played a selection of music, Babu Nagendra Narain Acharjee Chowdhury, B. A., of Muktagacha, entertained the party with his phonograph. The whole affair was a grand success.

SIMLA, SEPT. 1.

At to-day's meeting of the Supreme Council the passing of the Central Provinces Tenancy Bill was postponed, on the Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis representing that he had received a telegraphic amendment from his legal friends. The Hon'ble Mr. Dawkins then moved the passing of the Presidency Banks Bill. In doing so he explained that when this Act was originally passed there was no such improvement or trust or otherwise it would have been included in it. Government had been asked to extend the provisions of the Act to assisted Railway Companies and to District Boards. He continued explaining that Government would not refuse to consider the possibility of doing so, but the whole question of the positions of Presidency Banks would be reconsidered in this connection. His Excellency the Viceroy also speaking on the subject, said that what Mr. Dawkins had said represented news to the Government who were desirous of doing every thing possible to encourage the development of the country and the investment of capital on it, by helping Presidency Banks, provided that they could do so without jeopardizing the interests of the Government. The motion was then put and agreed to. The Council was adjourned this day week.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, AUG. 30.

Great Britain and Russia have agreed to refer to arbitration the Russian objection to the validity of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s title to certain land within the Russian concession at Hankow. A party of Cossacks recently demolished the fence around the land in question, whereupon H. M. S. Woodlark landed some Blue-Jackets to protect the place while the fence was re-erected.

LONDON, AUG. 30.

Two Transvaal policemen on arriving at Lorenzo Marquez yesterday morning were at once arrested by the Portuguese.

LONDON, AUG. 30.

News has been received at Cairo of an attempted anarchist insurrection at Shukaba on the White Nile, led by Kanaifa Mohamed Cherif and two sons of the late Mahdi. Egyptian troops stormed the village where the insurgents were entrenched, and killed all three leaders, the Egyptian loss being only one officer killed and two men wounded.

LONDON, AUG. 30.

Sussex has beaten Hampshire by an innings and sixteen runs. Somersetshire has beaten Gloucestershire by five wickets. Matches between Kent and Surrey Leicestershire and Middlesex, Warwickshire and Derbyshire and the Australians and Lancashire all ended in a draw. Prince Ranjitsinhji has completed his three thousand runs this season.

LONDON, AUG. 31.

In consequence of the strong protests made by Doctor Leyds on behalf of the Transvaal Government, the Portuguese Government have instructed the authorities at Lourenco Marquez to release the consignment of ammunition for the Transvaal, which had been detained on board the steamers Reichstag and Koenig at Delagoa Bay.

The Transvaal policemen, who were arrested at Lourenco Marquez, have been released.

LONDON, AUG. 31.

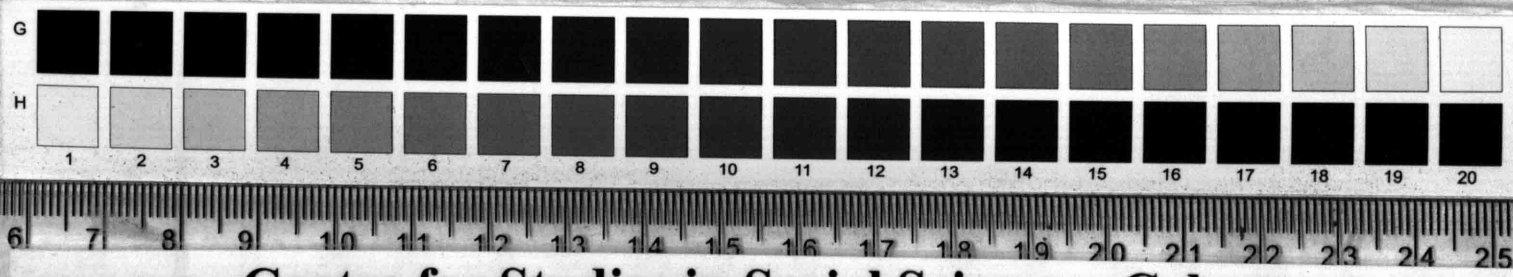
Sir Harry Johnston's Expedition has left London for Uganda. Reuters understands that the task will occupy two years, and that the object is rather development than reorganisation.

LONDON, SEPT. 1.

The Hungarian annual official estimate of the world's harvests forecasts that the total deficiency in all cereals is 97 million hectolitres below the world's demands.

LONDON, SEPT. 1.

Further particulars regarding Mr. Chamberlain's reply to the Transvaal show that Great Britain is ready to agree that Mr. Conynghame Greene and others to be appointed by Sir A. Milner shall make independent investigation into the efficacy of the franchise proposals, and trusts that the Transvaal will afford every facility to omit the complicated conditions proposed in the new franchise law.



WONDERFUL TRAIN.

TO TRAVEL AT 120 MILES AN HOUR.

RAILROAD service in America is to be revolutionised. Within a few months, the Pennsylvania and the New York Central Railroads will have in operation trains built with the smooth lines of an ocean steamship. The idea is to abolish the resistance of the wind, and to make a train penetrate the air with the ease and almost the swiftness of an arrow. This intention is caused less by the desire for speed than for the sake of economy. The very fast trains of all railroads are now run at a loss. It has been discovered that, by minimising the wind resistance, fast trains can be made cheap.

The man who made possible the feat of bicyclist Murphy, who rode a mile under a minute paced by a train, was Frederick U. Adams, a practical railroad man, who has made exhaustive and original researches into the subject of air resistance as applied to trains. Mr. Adams has invented a train which, he says, can run 120 miles an hour far more easily than the trains of to-day can run sixty. The truth of his assertion is admitted by a great many railroad experts, and seems to have been demonstrated by the fact that it was one of his appliances which protected Murphy in that remarkable feat on the bicycle.

The train which Mr. Adams has designed offers hardly any point upon which air-pressure could be exerted. The engine is fitted with a prow like the cutwater of a ship. There are no spaces between the cars; the wheels are enclosed almost down to the level of the track. There are projections from any part of the train. The windows are set flush with the sides of the cars, and cannot be opened. This does not mean that the train is unventilated. On the contrary, the new trains will be more perfectly ventilated than by the open window method. The New York Central and the Pennsylvania Railroads are now making arrangements to give the Adams system a thorough test. Trains are now being built on the Adams plan, and will be used when completed.

According to Mr. Adams, a train properly constructed should have its lines continuous from the engineer's cab straight back to the rear of the last car. The windows should be flush with the exteriors of the cars. The trucks should be enclosed; the front end of the locomotive should be pointed, the rear end of the last car should be tapered, and from front to rear of the train there should be no obstruction. The surfaces of the cars and of the locomotive should be as smooth as ingeniously could make them. As much care should be taken with the exterior of a train as is taken with the bottom of a yacht. The windows should be permanent ones. They should not open or shut. The air for ventilation should be taken from the front end of the train, preferably in through the tender, at which point the air is free from smoke and gas as well as from the dust of the train.

Such a train would be swift, almost noiseless, would be perfectly ventilated with pure air, and would be so vast an improvement over existing constructions that the contrast would be remarkable. High speeds with economy either on land or water are, in his opinion, impossible, unless the resistance due to speed is reduced to a minimum. The prevailing system of passenger car construction is, he thinks, an absurdity. Failure to conform to one of the simplest laws of nature has prevented any material increase in railroad speeds during the last thirty years. The resistance of water is, of course, greater than that of air, yet the speed of the modern steamship nearly equal that of American express trains.

The average speed of passenger trains at the present time is about thirty-two miles an hour. This is known as the economic mean of speed. When a faster speed is attained, the air-pressure is so great that the consumption of fuel becomes an item of overwhelming importance. As a result, all so-called fast trains are run at a loss. The greatest practical benefit which would come with scientific train construction would be the raising of the average speed of all trains, from thirty-two to sixty or seventy miles per hour. This could be done without increased expense. A passenger train of six or eight cars could be hauled on a fairly straight and level track at a continued speed of from 100 to 120 miles an hour.

CHARMED BY A SNAKE.

COLONEL E. W. BASS of West Point and a party of ladies who are spending the summer at Bar Harbour were enjoying an afternoon at schooner head the other day, when one of the ladies suddenly called the attention of another lady in the party to a big snake directly behind her.

The latter, glancing over her shoulder, saw the creature, and fairly looked the viper full in its eyes. The snake was fully four feet long and two inches or more, through and was of a brownish colour, with white circles or rings on its back from head to the tip of tail.

She says that the snake was a most lovely creature to look at, and that though she is invariably afraid of snakes, her fear vanished the instant she beheld it. Instead of running away from it, as her companion did, she says that she was instantly fascinated by the snake, both by its beauty and the "indescribable something" in its eyes, which seemed to hold her transfixed to the spot as soon as she beheld it.

Circling stealthily, and wavelike about her, never once taking its eyes from her's, the snake lifted itself up like a spiral, with its head poised nearly two feet from the ground, and held the woman motionless in its charm. This is repeated for a second time, coming still nearer to her before Colonel Bass came, running back to her assistance. Seeing the danger the lady was in, the colonel picked up a large stick and began a savage attack upon the serpent. Though he struck it several terrific blows, Colonel Bass was unable to kill the charmer, and the snake finally slipped noiselessly away and became lost to view in the thick undergrowth. It was some moments before the lady wholly recovered from the spell and began to realize the great danger she had been in. She is sure that the snake meant to do her injury, and was charming her for that purpose. The snake was the largest ever seen on the island, and unlike the other snakes usually found there, Colonel Bass thinks it was a large adder, and regrets now that he did not succeed in killing the creature.

SIR A. MACKENZIE AND THE CORPORATION.

THE following letter dated August 19th, has been received from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department, by the Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta:—

"In reply to your letter No. 3549, dated 10th August, 1898, forwarding a copy of a resolution adopted by the Commissioners at a special meeting held on the 2nd instant, I am directed to say that Sir Alexander Mackenzie's views were publicly stated in his speech in the Bengal Council on the 4th April, 1898, an extract from which is annexed. The Lieutenant-Governor declines to enter into any correspondence with the Corporation on the subject."

The following extracts from the speech of Sir A. Mackenzie on 4th April, last year, will be read with interest at the present moment:—

"I shall not detain the Council at any length, as I am physically unfit to do so, but it is necessary for me to say something in winding up this debate. I think the Corporation has lost nothing at the hands of its defenders here, and I have listened with considerable interest and pleasure to the speeches which have been made during the last two days. I have admitted fully that the Corporation has done good work, and that it is not in respect of its larger schemes that it is most open to adverse criticism, though indeed I remember that even in respect of one of the big schemes, I once myself declared it in this Council years ago to be an arsenal of delays. But there is no doubt that much good work has been done by the Corporation, and I recognise that there are many good men among its members. I have been intimately acquainted with the affairs of the Municipality from the time when I first came to Calcutta in 1864 or 1865; for during many years I was myself in direct charge of the affairs of Municipalities as Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Municipal Department. I have been intimately acquainted with all the Chairmen of the Corporation, with the exception of Mr. Harry Lee and there was not one of those Chairmen whom I have known who have not told me at one time or other that the system on which the Corporation has been constituted is a system which it is almost impossible for any one, were he an angel from heaven, to work satisfactorily. It is perfectly true that some of them have succeeded in getting business done, but if you refer to the debates in this Council and to Sir Henry Harrison's speeches in 1888, you will not find more scathing criticism of the Corporation and the way in which its business is carried on than in those utterances. When, therefore, we came face to face with a possible appalling emergency in the shape of an approaching plague, I felt it necessary to take stock of the situation. I shall not be here, but I wish most solemnly and emphatically to utter a warning to you that you should not assume that the plague will not come to Calcutta. I do not at all like the conditions of things at present in Upper India. Experience shows that the plague may stay with us for years. I hope to God it may not. But it may, and we are in more danger here in Calcutta from the appearance of the plague in Upper India, in the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces, than we are from its existence in Bombay, because the population of those parts of the country is far more migratory. We have already stopped one distinct case of plague coming from the Punjab into Bengal at Chousa, and the most stringent orders have been given that any one showing symptoms of the slightest appearance of plague should not be allowed to pass; and the Medical Officers of the Government have been told that I hold them personally responsible that not a single case should escape their vigilance. But you never know when it may come. A case may escape attention, and therefore I say that in Calcutta you must keep your eyes open and put your house in order."

"Now I have said that there are many good men in the Municipality. There are, though I am sorry to say that some of the best of them have deliberately kept themselves aloof from me during the whole time I have been here; but that does not prevent me from recognising their worth and that they have done good work. I have read through the whole of the proceedings of General Meetings and of the General Committee and of Special and Sub-Committees, and I have formed my own judgment of the men who are doing good and effective work on these Committees, and it was a pleasure to me to pick out two of them and to ask them to help us in the matter of the building regulations, and I wish now to acknowledge with thanks the work they have done on the Building Commission. Their assistance has been of the utmost importance both to the Hon. Mr. Risley and to the Hon. Mr. Justice Trevelyan and if I thought that under this Bill the City was going to be deprived of services of men like these, I would throw the Bill into the fire. But my own belief is that it is only in this way or by some such scheme that we can give full effect to the worth of men like these. It is perfectly true, as my hon. friend Babu Narendro Nath Sen has told us, that we should look at the work done by the Corporation. I see it. I have admitted it; there is a fair outside and an imposing superstructure, but we all know that beneath this there is a good deal of what no Corporation or any one can feel proud of. I am not going to make an attack upon individuals or upon anybody specifically, but we all know that there is underneath the surface, in the present system of working things which ought not to be. We all know that there are certain classes of candidates who come forward to contest municipal elections, not out of love for the public service, but out of a regard for their own personal advantage. We all know that when it comes to the question of making appointments in the Municipality, there is canvassing, there is jobbery, there is even corruption; and I say that the work of no City can be carried on until there is some effective stop put to iniquities of that description. My theory of the Bill, the cardinal principle of the Bill, the essence of it, is that we must leave the ordinary everyday work of the City in one man's hands. That is a principle which as the Hon. Mr. Risley has told us, is recognised in the more advanced cities of America, where there is less corruption than in some of the other cities. That is the principle recognised in Bombay, and which I now desire to see recognised here. If that is once secured, all the rest appears to be a matter of arrangement and detail. In theory under the present Act all this power is given to the Chairman, but you have not done that. You have insisted on interference by the appointment of Committees and Sub-

Committees. You talk of your Chairman constantly breaking down. I say you do your best to kill them; both Mr. Williams and Mr. Bright, and others beside them have been broken down by the way in which the work has to be done and redone. It is not, however, owing to complaints by either Mr. Williams or Mr. Bright that this Bill has taken its origin. That is an entire mistake. Mr. Bright is rather proud of the way in which he was getting on with the Commissioners; but I have seen him coming staggering into my room after a day's work quite exhausted, and when I asked him what he had been doing, he said he had been engaged sitting with a Committee for four hours at the end of his day's work. I do not want him to make the Chairman absolute. I want to have the power to do the everyday work of the Corporation but I have carefully provided that every Member of the Corporation capable of doing good work should have the opportunity of doing so, and if the Select Committee find in going through this Bill that the actual distribution of power as it stands at present can be improved, it will be open to them to make a recommendation to that effect and to introduce amendments in the Bill for that purpose. I shall say one word about a thing which struck me yesterday very forcibly with reference to what fell from the Hon. Member for the Corporation. He said something about a Member of the Calcutta Trades Association who was a Member of some Committee and who said how admirably they had got on there. Why on earth then should not the popular representatives also get on in the General Committee? It is supposed that every question which will come before the General Committee will be a question between Natives and Europeans? Surely, even if they are popular representatives, they should not treat business questions in that way. There is no reason to suppose that there will be any predominant majority in the General Committee. Men of all classes will, I hope, unite then to do the work of the town in a businesslike way. There need not be and should not be any faction fights. I hope that the selections of men to serve on the General Committee will be such that every man who is a member of that body will show himself willing to do good work and assist in considering what is brought forward, and he will find that he will be able to work with the European colleagues and the Government nominees just as if they too had been chosen by popular representation."

"I do not think I need go into details, but I just wish to notice one point as to what has been said about the domination of minorities. Of course Hon. Members refer entirely to numerical minorities, the democratic motion of majorities and minorities. I have no hesitation in saying that there is no country in the world where that principle applies with less propriety than in India. We have not to count heads, but to weigh interests in deciding on the best form of City Government. The figures which the Hon. Mr. Risley has quoted show that, however much you may talk and write about the elective system in Calcutta is not a popular system. It is a system which appeals to very limited numbers, and to talk about the poor rate-payers taking an interest in this Bill because they will be oppressed under it is an absolute nonsense. In fact they will have much less to pay under this Bill than they have now."

"Now as regards the representation on the Committee of the trade and commerce of the town, I am happy to know that we have behind us the support of the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State, I may say, takes a very real interest in this measure, and on the very day I was leaving London I received a note by special messenger assuring me of his strong support in carrying out any measure necessary for the well-being of Calcutta, and he writes in the despatch to the Government of India:—

"I accept the view taken by your Government and by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal that some change is required in the Calcutta Municipal Law with a view to strengthening the Executive; and I approve of the proposal that the bodies which represent the trade of Calcutta, should have a voice on the General Committee (or Town Council) of 12 members, which will be the Executive body of the new Municipality."

"That he said with our detailed proposal before him. I am quite content to rest upon that, and to leave the Bill in the hands of the Council, feeling quite safe regarding its fate in the hands of my successors."

THE ENGLISH COPYRIGHT BILL.

THE text of the Copyright Bill, as amended by the Select Committee of the House of Lords, has been issued. The Bill is accompanied by a memorandum, signed by Lord Thring, which states that the Bill relates only to literary copyright, leaving artistic copyright to be dealt with in a separate Bill. The alterations made by the measure in the existing law are in the main based on the report of the Copyright Commission, which was appointed in 1875 and reported in May, 1878.

LITERARY COPYRIGHT IS DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS:—

(1) copyright, properly so-called, or the right of multiplying copies of books; (2) performing right, or the right of publicly performing dramatic or musical works; and (3) lecturing right, or the right of orally delivering lectures. The Bill adopts the recommendation of the Copyright Commission and makes the term of copyright in a book to last during the author's life and 30 years after the end of the year in which he dies, and no longer. The term of copyright in dramatic and musical works is assimilated to that of books as also is the term during which a lecture is proposed to be protected. Clauses 7 to 12 of the Bill contain special provisions as to anonymous and posthumous works, joint authorship, plurality of authors, copyright in encyclopedias, reviews and magazines, new editions, and newspapers. The noticeable proposed changes in the law are that, according to the recommendation of the Copyright Commission a term of 30 years from the date of publication is, in the case of posthumous works, substituted for the term of 42 years under the existing law, and in the case of contributors of articles to periodicals works their right to be published in a separate form is much accelerated by providing that they may issue them in a separate form after two years from the time of their publication, in the periodical work, instead of after the lapse of 28 years as is the case under the existing law.

Clause 12, which deals with copyright in news, is as follows:—

"The proprietor of any newspaper or news agency in the British Islands, who has obtained specially and independently news of any fact or event which has taken place beyond the limits of those islands shall be entitled, for the space of 18 hours immediately succeeding its publication to the exclusive right of publishing such news, and any person in the British Islands who publishes the same without the assent of the proprietor who has obtained the news shall be liable to a penalty, to be recovered summarily or by action, not exceeding in amount £1 for every copy in which he publishes the same, and not exceeding in the whole £50. Where two or more such proprietors have obtained news of the same fact or event specially and independently they shall all have equal rights as against all persons who have not obtained the news, but all rights shall cease 18 hours after the first publication of such news."

It may be noted that in the chairman's memorandum the penalty for breach of copyright under Clause 12 is stated to be £2 for each copy, and nothing is said about a maximum.

With respect to Clause 12 Lord Thring says:—

"This clause adds to the law by making 'news' independently of the form in which it is conveyed, the subject of copyright and imposing an efficient penalty for its infringement. The whole subject is fully discussed in the evidence of Mr. Moberly Bell, given in 1898 (862-1072) and of Mr. Whorlow, given in 1899 (1,639-1,690 and 2,545-2,680). A similar provision to that in the Bill has been enacted in Natal, New Zealand, and Tasmania. There seems no reason why news acquired by the exercise of great ability on the part of special correspondents and at great expense should not be protected by copyright as much as a letter or article commenting on the news so acquired."

Lord Thring concludes by stating that the memorandum was written by him at the request of the Select Committee, but owing to the lateness of the Session has not been submitted to them for approval.

Commenting upon the 12th Clause the Times says "the measure aims at giving a limited copyright in news, that is to say, in matter as well as in form when the obtaining of the matter is the result of skill, organisation, enterprise and expense. It proposes to give eighteen hours' copyright to news of any fact or event taking place beyond the limits of these islands. That proposal does not give an extravagant amount of protection, but it would at least put a stop to some very gross appropriations of valuable results. As things are exclusive information telegraphed to this journal at great cost, and procured only by means of organisation costing infinitely more than the telegram, is habitually copied by newspapers all over the country and offered by them to the public concurrently with and in many cases earlier than, the appearance of the Times. In point of fact the Times cannot travel beyond Rugby without meeting newspapers which have already pillaged its columns. It is said that there can be no property in facts, but that is not the point. No property is claimed in an event occurring in Central Africa. It is open to anybody who pleases to have a reporter on the spot, to have the news telegraphed home, and to maintain the costly organisation required to place it upon the breakfast table in a readable form. But, when only one man does that, he produces here in England a commodity different from the event which is its basis, a commodity costing large sums and having a commercial value attested by the eagerness shown to acquire it. That commodity is property to which the producer has a right as morally indefeasible as can attach to any other result of human brains and enterprise."

PAVEMENT MADE OF HERRINGS.

HERRINGS and sawdust make a good paving material. This is no joke. It is vouched for by Professor W. C. Day of Swarthmore College, near Philadelphia. Specimens of the product are now in the possession of the geological survey in Washington and were shown to a Washington correspondent by Professor Dillen, one of the members of the scientific staff of that government bureau.

Not long ago a very curious mineral substance, up to that time unknown, but now called gilsonite was found in Utah, deposited in the veins which evidently had once been fissures in the rock. It is a singularly pure species of asphalt, and is now being mined in a large way, the production of it constituting an important industry. The stuff is used for making varnishes. For this purpose it is specially good, because varnishes made of it will not crack.

Some of this "Gun asphalt," as it is popularly called, was placed in the hands of Professor Day for analysis, and he found that its makeup was such as to suggest an animal origin, at least in part. It is believed nowadays by scientific men generally that asphalts ordinarily are derived from vegetable matter. Such matter being laid down in vast beds during the coal-forming period, subsequently underwent chemical processes.

It occurred to him that an imitation of it might be made in the laboratory by combining such animal and vegetable elements as seemed to be represented in the gilsonite including such nitrogenous compounds as were easily got from fish. So he took, because they happened to be the most convenient, a few fresh herrings from the market and put them into a distilling apparatus, together with a quantity of sawdust. Then he subjected the mixture to distillation, the vapour being passed through a red-hot iron pipe and into a flask, in which it was condensed. The resulting product was a perfectly black, brittle, crystalline substance, exactly like gilsonite in all respects. In fact, neither by analysis nor in any other way can any difference be detected between the two.

The floods in the Swat country appeared to have had their origin in Chitral, and to have originated there in a very peculiar way. Untimely rain on the hills surrounding Chitral seems to have produced an extraordinary mud landslide in one of the minor valleys, leading into the main valley of the Chitral river, which blocked up the exit of the local stream. A lake formed behind the barrier, and in due time the force of the pent-up water carried whole obstruction forward like an avalanche into the Chitral valley, where its irruption caused the same phenomenon to repeat itself on a larger scale.

THE extension of the Oodeypore State Railway from Debari to Oodeypore, a length of 6½ miles, was opened for public traffic on the 25th August, 1899.

COLONEL GARDINER is reported to contemplate resigning Government service altogether, as soon as he is relieved by Sir Arthur Trevor.

It is almost certain that the gang which attacked the Brewery at Quetta, were Samalangi Mengals and Pirkanhis, and that they have escaped to Sharawak. Another gang, thirteen strong, are said to have left the Sarlat Range at the same time to make another attack in British territory, but have not since been heard of.

A CURIOUS phenomenon is said to have been seen by a large number of people in Mandalay on Thursday evening between the hours of 6 and 7 o'clock. Something like a ball of fire was seen to travel from West to East at a height of about 5 to 600 feet; the ball, it was observed, had not a continuous blaze, but only blazed at intervals. What this is meteorologists and others versed in the heavenly bodies may possibly tell us.

SOMETHING IS AFTER YOU.

FAR away, in the jungle of Central India, a village lies asleep. Only a solitary human figure can be seen, following the winding jungle path in the moonlight. It is early night, and the native who comes has been delayed on his way home.

But what is that dark shadow that crosses the path behind him? Quite oblivious, the man marches on. He looks neither to right nor left, nor behind him, where, crouches that dark shadow. A few yards more, and he will be out of the jungle. A few minutes more and he thinks he will be sleeping in the bosom of his family. But see, the shadow moves! With two noiseless bounds like a giant cat the tigress is upon him. One despairing scream and all is quiet. Bitten through the head, the victim is snatched up and carried by the grim man-eater, to her lair in the hills. Meanwhile the village slumbers peacefully on.

Was it the man's fault? Yes, I think it was. Had he not lingered, he would not have been caught. The tigress would not have attacked him in broad daylight. But he was no worse, I think, than those in this country who are to-day doing the very same thing. Thousands and thousands of English men and women have a shadow in their path. It is after them. The time will come, if they do not take heed, when they will feel, like Mrs. Lydia Golding, "as if something had over-taken" them. Here is a letter from her in which she tells her experience:—

"All my life I had been a strong healthy woman, and up to the autumn of 1891 I never ailed anything. At this time I began to feel weak, weary, and tired, and as if something had overtaken me. I had a foul taste in the mouth, my tongue being furred, and a sour fluid would rise into my mouth. I had no appetite to speak of and the little food I took gave me no strength. After eating I had a heavy weight and pain across my chest, and a gnawing feeling in my stomach. I belched up a deal of frothy fluid, and in the night I awoke with a suffocating feeling. Cold, clammy sweats broke over me, and with what loss of appetite, and not being able to sleep at night, I soon got so weak that I found it hard work to get about."

On December 23, 1892, (one Sunday morning) whilst preparing breakfast for my husband, I was suddenly seized with paralysis, which affected the whole of my right side. I had no use of my hand or leg on that side, and a numbness took me on both left and right sides. My husband got me to bed, and fetched a doctor from Northfleet, who gave me medicines. After this I lost my strength rapidly and what I suffered I could not tell.

"I could not rest night or day and I was in and out of bed every now and again. I got little sleep, only doing off for a short time, and then starting up. I was afraid to be left alone, and often in the night I have been so nervous and frightened I could scarcely bear it. I took medicines of all kinds but was little better for anything until one day, in August, 1893, my husband read in the paper, 'Weekly People,' of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and got me a bottle from Perry and Son, Chemists, High Street, Gravesend. After taking it a short time I began to gain strength, and got stronger, and stronger until I was free from the effects of the seizure. I now keep in good health. You can publish this statement if you wish. Yours truly, (Signed) MRS. LYDIA GOLDING, 12, Carter's Road, Perry Street, Gravesend, May 14th, 1896."

What was this shadow that had crossed Mrs. Golding's path? What was it that "overtaken" her and laid her helpless and suffering upon a bed of sickness? Surely you can recognise the monster that sprang upon her as the dreaded disorder Dyspepsia, which attacks you when you are most defenceless and weakest. Paralysis, yes, Mrs. Golding had it, and could feel it, but what she could not feel was what it was that had so acted upon her nerves and muscles as to cause them to become so helpless. Nor could she, I suppose, understand how Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup cured her so quickly, though we know now that it was because the dyspepsia was got rid of.

But, as the native was never heard of more, so there are some who cannot get out of the clutches of Dyspepsia, even with such help as Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, if the help comes too late. Hence the best way of a cure, I say, is to keep out of the jungle after dark; and, if you must go, walk quickly.

A WONDERFUL CURE OF DIARRHOEA.

A PROMINENT VIRGINIA EDITOR, who had been almost given up, but was brought back to perfect health by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, writes:—

"I suffered with diarrhoea for a long time and thought I was past being cured. I had spent much time and money and suffered so much misery that I had almost decided to give up all hopes of recovery and await the result, but noticing the advertisement of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and also some testimonials stating how some wonderful cures had been wrought by this remedy, I decided to try it. After taking a few doses I was entirely well of that trouble, and I wish to say further to my readers and fellow sufferers that I am a hale and hearty man, today and feel as well as I ever did in my life."

O. R. MOORE. Sold by SMITH STANISTREET & CO AND B. K. PAUL & CO.

A VILLAGE RULED BY LOVE.

ABOUT a year ago the little village of Shepscombe, beautifully situated in the Cotswolds, about five miles from Stroud, was chosen as a suitable place in which to make a settlement by a small band of Communists, an offshoot from the Tolstian Colony at Purleigh, in Essex. . . . They have no laws, no rules they disapprove of all law; each one is to be a law to himself, and they trust, that their principle of goodwill to men will keep them right. They hold that fear of their fellow man is the root of all the evil in the world, therefore they disapprove of all that implies fear—the Army, the Navy, the police, the law, the Government, all rule by fear, not by love; therefore this little band of fanatical enthusiasts disapprove of them. Love, they say, should govern the world and every one in it. . . . In accordance with these views they reject all marriage ceremonies, religious or legal; love is the only bond which, according to them, can or should bind man and woman together; and at Shepscombe there are two couples living together in this fashion. One woman has assumed the name of the man with whom she is living; the other has not done so, preferring, as she says, to remain herself. They consider women to have equal rights with man, and to be his equal in all things; some of the men hold that woman is superior to man, and of a more highly-organised nature. They carry their refusal to recognise any law or authority so far as to think it wrong for a parent to command a child, and still more wrong to punish it if it refused to obey; the child, according to their doctrine, has just as much right to command its parent.—*The Humanitarian*.

HER FIRST BISON.

SPORT in India is not the calm, everyday affair it is in England, and an Indian friend writes how she killed her first bison, great event in a sports-woman's life:—"I had often seen bison in the jungles—harmless-looking creatures, who always bolted the moment they saw or heard me, creating a row as if the whole of the kitchen-dresser had got loose and tumbled downstairs—but had never before had a shot at one, although I had killed a panther. The horns make a magnificent trophy, and besides, after six months' diet of chicken, leathern as an old foot ball, a bison has other good points besides his horns—to wit, the tail, which makes excellent ox tail soup, the tongue and the marrow. There are two ways of getting a bison; the one is to get up at three o'clock in the morning and stalk him. There is generally a heavy dew, and you can approach him silently in his grassy feeding-grounds. The other way—on which I decided—was to beat the jungles, and in this case to have a 'morgam'—that is, shoot at any thing that comes out without having had any particular animals tracked down. . . . After waiting on my ladder about three-quarters of an hour, I heard the distant yelling and shouting begin, far away in front of me, and watched, listening for every leaf that fell, and so excited, that I felt sure I should miss anything. Then there was a slight sound in front; it stopped, then roused by roads and yells from the beaters, came on again, and out stepped a magnificent bull bison, his beautiful sleek sides, glossy black, and fine head, the horns gleaming almost white against his coat. I took deliberate and steady aim with my .500 express rifle just behind the shoulder and fired apparently without the smallest result except that he broke into a trot. With the second barrel he disappeared in a cloud of smoke, galloping off into the jungle and going remarkably easily. Then the beaters came up, greatly excited to know what the madame Sahib had fired at. I knew what I had fired at but did not know what I had hit. My husband and I then went to the place where the bison was last seen, and the marks of his hoof were quite plain, in spite of the hardness of the ground. After fifty yards there was a spot of blood, and then a regular blood-trail, which was frothy, showing, the bison was hit through the lungs. The shikari smiled at that, and began to look outsearchingly into the jungle for a wounded bison, though not, of course, as dangerous as a wounded tiger, can and often does charge viciously. Then unless a friendly tree is handy, there is risk of the uncomfortable sensation of being knocked over and tossed. The blood-trail increased, and in a minute we heard the cracking of leaves in front, and the shikari pulled up and pointed. The poor old bison, weak and exhausted from the wounds and loss of blood, was lying by the side of a slant of bamboo. Hearing his pursuers approach, he made his last effort, slowly got up on his legs, and faced us—a picture of helpless defiance. My husband fired, and he fell dead. We approached still with precaution. Seen close, he was more massive than I thought a veritable mountain of flesh. In colour, black throughout, except the lower portion of the legs, which were white and terminated by surprisingly small and daint hoofs. The upper portion of the head and face was covered with short, curly iron grey hair, and gave a ferocious appearance to an animal otherwise harmless. Then after a rest, the beaters were called up, marshalled into line, and paid at the rate of 4 annas (6s) a head, and we went home leaving the men to skin and cut up the carcass for the whole country side will skiff for a day or so. . . . I have just had a bison steak—At."—*Hearth and Home*.

THE work of reconstructing a new Palace at Mysore on the site of the one burnt down a few years ago is proceeding very slowly. Messrs. Macfarlane and Co. have secured the contract for all the iron work, which amounts in value to several lakhs of rupees. The electric lighting contract will go to the firm that set up the previous installation.

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Mothers of children affected with croup or a severe cold need not hesitate to administer Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It contains no opiate nor narcotic in any form and may be given as confidently to the babe as to an adult. The great success that has attended its use in the treatment of colds and croup has won for it the approval and praise it has received throughout the United States and in many foreign lands. For sale by*

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

THOUGHT READING.

THE average individual is prone to look upon the subject of "thought transference," popularly known "mind-reading," with more or less derision. It is nevertheless a fact that a majority, perhaps all, of the human race possess the faculty of reading the thought of others without recourse to speech or to outward signs. That the statement is strictly true, each reader may readily prove for himself by means of the experiments outlined in this article. Before talking of experiments in detail, it is necessary to caution the experimenter against permitting zeal so to blind his judgment as to allow mere chance or coincidence to be mistaken for actual results. No one is so easily deceived by mere coincidence or by trickery as one inclined to attribute such phenomena to supernatural causes—for instance, to the "denizens of the spirit world." And, although the writer offers neither explanation nor theory regarding these phenomena, he feels confident that once the laws of thought transference are thoroughly established they will be found analogous to those physical laws accepted for electricity and light.

The following general rules apply to all experiments in thought transference. The receiver—he who receives the impression from the mind of another—must first of all, learn to bring his mind to a state of absolute rest. In other words, he must learn to think of nothing but the fact that another's mind is trying to impress a thought upon his own. Experience has proved that the more perfect the state of rest and the less the effort employed, the easier it is for the transmitter—he who seeks to impress the thought—to produce the mental effect desired. The success of the experiments depends, in a great measure, upon the ability of the transmitter to concentrate his mind upon the particular thought with which he wishes to impress the mind of the receiver. The measure of success appears to vary inversely with the extent of the effort employed. Merely to think of a word or phrase, without allowing the mind to wander, is all that is required of the transmitter. The circumstances surrounding the experiment sufficient for the transmission of the thought in the proper direction, and that portion of the experiment is certain to take care of itself. The experiment should never be attempted by those either mentally or physically fatigued. Under no circumstances should a novice practice the experiments continuously for any length of time, for the reason that, until an experimenter learns to operate entirely without effort, he finds the work very exhausting. Do not become discouraged at failures upon first attempts. The experimenter finds that by perseverance he soon acquires sufficient skill to be successful in the majority of experiments. If he keep a careful record, he soon perceives that there is no other explanation of the phenomena observed than thought transference. . . .

The mental efforts of the receiver should all be directed toward keeping his mind as devoid of thought as he possibly can. The mental image of the message appears slowly at first, the distinctness of the vision depending upon the degree of concentration exercised by the transmitter. It is sometimes difficult to perceive the image; and several objects may crowd themselves forward before the mind's eye, making it hard to choose the right one. The most persistent image of all usually turns out to be the image, while it frequently happens that the others are thoughts that have crowded themselves into the mind of the transmitter. The novice should, at first, employ several transmitters, say as many as can, conveniently be grouped about a small table.

A great obstacle in the path of success is the tendency of the transmitter to permit his thoughts to wander from the message. In order to obviate this difficulty as much as possible, the writer devised an instrument which he has named "telescope." This is nothing more than an oblong box, one end larger than the other, fitted with a removable slide at the larger end, and at the smaller with a flexible hood, so shaped as to fit the head closely about the eyes. For convenience when in use, it is supplied with a handle on the under side. The slide contains an aperture for the insertion of a piece of paper, having upon it a figure or any character chosen for the purpose. When the instrument is placed to the eyes of the transmitter, he has nothing in view but the message. . . . Not only is it possible to transmit disjointed numbers but the operator may, by practice, reach such a degree of perfection as to be able to read a complete series of thoughts. No better illustration of this can be given than the relation of an actual case, one from the writer's personal experience. The particular instance in question is selected more because of the circumstances surrounding the case, than because the results were unusual. The transmitter was a young lady, to whom the operator had been introduced but three days previous to the experiment. He knew little of her family, and absolutely nothing of her history prior to the introduction; he had, furthermore, no knowledge of her home, but that it was in the neighbourhood of New Orleans, knowing nothing whatever of its exact location. He was likewise ignorant of the topography of the surrounding country, having never been within one hundred miles of the city. The operator sat facing the transmitter and placed the palm of her hand against his forehead. After requesting her to keep her mind upon some event of which she could form a distinct mental picture, he was silent for perhaps thirty seconds before he began a relation of his impressions. Without entering into minutiae, it may be said that he was able to describe her thoughts, briefly as follows:—The young lady had, some years before, been driving with a young man and during the drive they had had a violent quarrel. He drove her through a wood to a steam much too swollen to ford, and after some protestation on the part of the young lady against going farther, he drove her home. The operator described her home, narrated what she did after the young man left her, and even told many characteristics of the country surrounding the house. When she had finished, the young lady exclaimed: "Every word of that is true. Now do you think you can tell me his name?" Quick as a flash came the answer, "George Gardiner." The transmitter sank back in her chair, overcome with astonishment. The answer was right. Although this experiment was performed when the transmitter was touching the operator. Subsequent experiments were successfully performed by the same parties while seated at opposite sides of the room. E. W. Roberts, in the *Cosmopolitan* (U.S.).

CAPTAIN DEASY'S CENTRAL ASIAN EXPEDITION.

CAPTAIN H. H. P. DEASY, the Tibetan explorer, has returned to civilisation, and is now resting in Simla after a two years' journey in the wilds of Turkestan and Tibet. During this period Captain Deasy's caravan journey extended over 5,300 miles of roads, trails and passes, a good portion of which have hitherto been unvisited by Europeans, says the "Simla News." He has made complete surveys of the entire territory he traversed, and when it is borne in mind that a good deal of this surveying had to be done in the rigor of a mountain winter at a season when all other explorers and travellers in that region have so far sought shelter in the plains, it will be patent that the task allotted to himself by Captain Deasy was not one fraught with pleasure exclusively. As was announced some weeks ago, he was obliged to curtail his journey and turn back after he had left the Polu Gorge in June last, because the Chinese officials—whom he obligates freely—destroyed the road and thus prevented his return by the route over which he had proceeded. Owing to the prolonged illness of his sub-surveyor, who had been suffering from rheumatic fever ever since the party had emerged from the Polu Gorge—a misfortune which completely marred the further geographical efficiency of the expedition—it was deemed inexpedient to proceed further under the circumstances for Captain Deasy had no desire to kill any of his men unnecessarily. It may also be stated that, at this period, the explorer had five other sick men in his party, all of whom had succumbed to the continued exposure to heavy rain and snow, and the bivouacking in sodden clothes for several days consecutively, which the entire party had been compelled to endure. As illustrating the hardships that these poor men must have suffered on the journey, it may be stated that Captain Deasy himself was twice frostbitten during the expedition and the condition of the sick men at the time the return was decided upon rendered it obvious that some of their lives depended upon a cessation of their hardships, and change to a more element climate.

Captain Deasy found the Polu Gorge a very difficult one to traverse, the road being practically nothing but rocks, and in places so steep and narrow that the baggage had to be unloaded from most of the animals—from all except the sheep in fact—and carried by the caravan men, who in turn had to assist the animals over the bad places. It was here—where there ought to have been one man to look after every head of transport—that Captain Deasy found himself with only three men for twenty-six donkeys and one man, counting himself, for every five ponies. However, they pulled through fairly well in fact only one man, and one pony were killed during this part of the journey. On leaving Polu the party found itself without guides, and Captain Deasy himself—without having to consult map or compass—piloted the expedition back to the Ladakh frontier—a distance of about twenty-seven marches—arriving at Leh just a month ago.

During the two years he spent beyond the frontier, Captain Deasy only met two parties of Europeans—one being a Swedish missionary at Yarkhand and the other party being the small European colony at Kashgar. Incidentally it may be said that during his two year's survey among the mountains he learned to appreciate the value of the yak as a riding animal, and found it to be a most useful, though slow-gaited steed over very steep tracks at lofty altitudes. It is not a speedy beast, but it is wonderfully sure-footed and is astonishingly so in the dark. Captain Deasy arrived at the Hotel Metropole on Friday last, and will probably remain here the rest of the week. Until his maps are prepared and published he prefers not to make definite statements as to the extent and explanations of his surveys.

BLACK MEN TASTE THE BEST.

"I DON'T suppose that there are many men in Chicago, if any, who can say they have seen and talked to a cannibal on 'his native heath.' Yet I have done so, and the occasion was one of interest to me and one I will never forget." The speaker was Father Galligan, the well-known pastor of St. Patrick's church on the West Side, and he was talking to a few of his friends on the subject of his travels in lands strange to the ordinary run of tourists. "My cannibal," resumed Father Galligan, "lived on one of the islands of the Tonga group, down in the South Pacific. I had been making a tour of that little-known section of the world, and while on one of the larger islands of the group, stopped at the house of a priest, a simple, noble-hearted man, who had devoted his entire life to mission work among the natives."

"After I had been there a few days, I said to him, 'I understand these people practice cannibalism, and I have always had a strong curiosity to see and talk to a man who has eaten human flesh. Can you arrange it for me?'"

"He smiled in answer to my question and then told me that he had lived there forty years; that all the natives were civilized and Christians, and that there had not been a case of cannibalism on the islands in half a century. However, he continued, there are a few old men here who practised cannibalism in their younger days, and I will send for one of them."

"In a few minutes a tall and stately looking old man entered the house and saluted us. 'This is a former cannibal,' said my host, but he only talks his native language."

"Ask him if he has ever eaten human flesh," I said.

"Yes, frequently, when I was a young man," was the reply.

"Did you ever eat white men?"

"Yes, several times."

"And people of your own colour?"

"Yes, when we made war we ate our captives if we were victorious. If not, they ate us."

"Which tasted the best, white man or black?"

"Black man much the nicest; white man too salty."

"I had learned something, and that was the relative taste of black and white men's flesh," said Father Galligan. "Whether it holds good generally, though, I don't know. The few white men whom the old native had eaten had all been sailors, living for months and years on salted meats, and that probably accounted for the difference. But those days have passed in the islands, and when you hear tales of cannibalism from those sections now, you may set it down as sheer romance."

TALE OF SOUTH SEAS.

SOME years of an exceedingly tough and Munchausen-like character have been spun—and printed—by men of their adventures in Australian waters, or in the south seas, but an examination of such stories by any one with personal knowledge of the Pacific and Australasia has soon, and very deservedly so, knocked the bottom out of them. Yet there are stories of South sea adventure, well authenticated, which are not a whit less wonderful than the most marvellous falsehood that any man "has yet told and lived." And the story of what befell John Renton is one of them, say Louis Becke and Walter Jeffery in Cassell's Magazine.

Like Harry Bluff, John Renton "when a boy left his friends and his home, o'er the wild ocean's waves all his life to roam." Renton's home was in Stromness, in the Orkneys and he shipped on board a vessel bound to Sydney in 1867 as an ordinary seaman, he being then a lad of 18. When in Sydney he got about among the boarding-houses in "sailor town," and one morning woke up on the forecastle of the Reynard of Boston, bound on a cruise for guano among the South Pacific islands.

Renton had been cramped, and, finding himself where he was bothered no more about it, but went cheerfully to work, not altogether displeased at the prospect of new adventures, which would enable him by and by, to go back to the old folks with plenty of dollars and a stock of startling yarns to reel off. He was a steady, straightforward lad, though somewhat thoughtless at times, and resolved to be a steady, straightforward man. The vessel first went to the Sandwich islands, and there shipped a gang of Hawaiian natives to help load guano. Then she sailed away to the southward for McKean's island, one of the Phoenix group, situated about latitude 3 degrees 35 minutes south and longitude 174 degrees 20 minutes west.

PLANS FOR A DESERTION.

On board the Reynard was an old salt known to all hands as "Boston Ned." He had been a whaler in his time, had deserted, and spent some years beach combing among the islands of the South seas. And very soon, through his spacious tongue, he had all hands wishing themselves clear of the "old hooker," and enjoying life in the islands, instead of cruising about, hazed here and there and everywhere by the mates of the Reynard, whose main purpose in life was to knock a man down in order to make him "sit up." Presently three or four of the hands became infatuated with the idea of settling on an island, and old Ned, nothing loath, undertook to take charge of the party if they would make an attempt to clear from the ship. The old man had taken a fancy to young Renton. And the youngster, when the idea was imparted to him, fell in with it enthusiastically, for he was exasperated by the treatment he had received on board the guano-man (the afterguard of an American guano ship are a rough lot). The ship was lying on and off land, there being no anchorage, and before the plan had been discussed more than a few hours the men, five persons in all, determined to put it into execution.

A small whaleboat was towing astern of the vessel, in case the wind should fall light and the ship drift in too close to the shore. It was a fine night, with a light breeze, and there was, they thought, a good chance of getting to the southward to one of the Samoan group, where they could settle; or, by shipping on board a trading schooner there might later on strike some other island to their fancy.

ESCAPE FROM THE SHIP.

By stealth, they managed to stow in the boat a couple of small breakers of water, holding together, sixteen gallons, and the forecastle bread barge, with biscuits enough for three meals a day per man for ten days. They managed also to steal four hams and each man brought pipes, tobacco, and matches. A harpoon with some line an old galley frying pan, mast, sail, and oars and some blankets completed the equipment. For they took no compass, though they made several attempts to get at one slung in the cabin, and tried at first to take one out of the poop binnacle and luxury of island life in store for them.

Three days later it fell calm, and they had to take to the oars. The sun was perpendicular, the sea a sheet of glass, reflecting back upon them the ball of fire overhead. Now and then a catspaw would ripple across the plain of water, but there were no clouds, there was no sight of land. They kept on pulling. For three—for four days a week—for ten days—they tugged at the oars, except when a favouring breeze came. The water was reduced to a few pints, the food to a few days half rations. Their limbs were cramped, so that they could not move from their places in the boat, their bodies were becoming covered with sores, and the wind had now died away entirely; the sea was without a ripple, and forever shone above them the fierce, hot sun.

Gradually it had dawned upon them that they were lost—that perhaps they had run past Samoa. The insanity of their adventure gave place to despair, and by degrees their despair grew to madness of a more awful kind.

CAUGHT IN TERRIBLE GALE.

On the fifteenth day there appeared to the south and east a low, dark-gray cloud. "Land at last!" was the unspoken thought in each man's heart as he looked at his comrade, but feared to voice his hope. And presently the cloud grew darker and more clearly defined, and one of the men, the next oldest to the author of all their miseries, fell upon his weak and trembling knees and raised his hands in thankfulness and prayer to the Almighty. Alas! it was not land, but the ominous fore-runner of the fierce and sweeping mid equatorial gale which lay veiled behind. In less than half an hour it came upon and smote them with savage fury, and the little boat was running before a howling gale and a maddened, foam-whipped sea.

And then it happened that, ill and suffering as he was from the agonies of hunger and thirst, the heroic nature of old "Boston Ned" came out, and his bold sailor's heart cheered and encouraged his wretched, despairing companions. All that night and for the greater part of the following day he stood in the stern sheets, grasping the bending steer oar as the boat swayed and surged along before the gale, constantly watching lest she should broach to and smother in the roaring seas; the others lay in the bottom feebly bailing out the water, encouraged, urged, and driven to that exertion by the gallant old American seaman.

Toward noon the wind moderated; in the afternoon it died away altogether, and again the boat lay rising and falling to the long Pacific swell, and "Boston Ned" flung his exhausted frame down in the stern sheets and slept.

Twenty days out the last particle of food and water had been consumed, and though the boat was now steering as near westward as old Ned could judge, before a gentle, southeast trade, madness and despair were coming quickly upon them, and on the twenty-third day two of the five miserable creatures began to drink copiously of seawater—the drink of death.

PREPARING TO KILL RENTON.

Renton, though he had suffered to the bitter full from the agonies of body and mind endured by his shipmates, was not one of these, and by a merciful Providence remained sane enough to turn his face away from the water. But, as he lay crouched in a heap in the bottom of the boat, with a silent prayer in his heart to his Creator quickly to end his sufferings, he heard "Boston Ned" and the only remaining sane man except himself muttering hoarsely together, and looking sometimes at him and sometimes at the two almost dying men who lay moaning beside him. Presently the man who was talking to Ned pulled out of his blanket—which lay in the stern sheets—a razor, and, turning his back to Renton, began stropping it upon the sole of his boot, and even "Boston Ned" himself looked with awful eyes and blood-baked, twitching lips upon the youngster.

The lad saw what was coming and as quickly as possible made his way forward and sat there, with his eyes fixed upon the two men aft, waiting for the struggle which he thought must soon begin. All that day and the night he sat and watched, determined to make a fight for the little life that remained in him, and Ned and the other man at times still muttered and eyed him wolfishly.

As he sat thus supporting his swollen head upon his skeleton hands, Renton saw something astern moving slowly after the boat—something that he knew was waiting and following for the awful deed to be done, so that it too, might share in the dreadful feast.

Raising his bony arm he pointed toward the moving fin. To him a shark meant no added horror or danger to their position, but possibly deliverance. "Boston Ned" and the other man first looked at the coming shark, and then with sunken eyes again turned to Renton. Voices none of them had, and Renton's parched tongue could not articulate, but with signs and lip movements, he tried to make the other two men understand.

SAVED BY THE SHARK.

No shark-hook had they, nor if they had had one had they anything with which to bait it. But Renton, crawling aft, picked up the harpoon, placed it in "Boston Ned's" hands and motioned to him to stand by. Then, with eager, trembling hands, he stripped from his legs the shreds of trousers which remained on them, and, sitting upon the gunwale of the boat, hung one limb over and let it trail in the water.

Three times the shark came up, and thrice Ned prepared to strike, but each time the horrid ranger of the seas turned aside and dived as it caught sight of the waiting figure with weapon poised above. But at last hunger prevailed, and swimming slowly up till within a few yards of the boat, it made a sudden rush for the bait missed it and the harpoon deftly darted by the old ex-whaler, clove through its tough skin and buried itself deep into its body.

Then followed shark's flesh and shark's blood some of the former, after the first raw meal, being cooked on a fire made of the biscuit barge, upon a wet blanket spread in the bottom of the boat. The hot weather, however, soon turned the remaining portion putrid; but two or three days later came God's blessed rain, and gave them hope and life again? They managed to save a considerable quantity of water, and though the shark's flesh was in a horrible condition, they continued to feed upon it until the thirty-fifth day.

On this day they saw land, high and well-wooded but now the trade winds failed them, and for the following two days the unfortunate men contended with baffling light airs, calms, and strong currents. At last they got within a short distance of the shore and sought for a landing place through the surrounding surf.

RESCUED BY SOLOMON ISLANDERS.

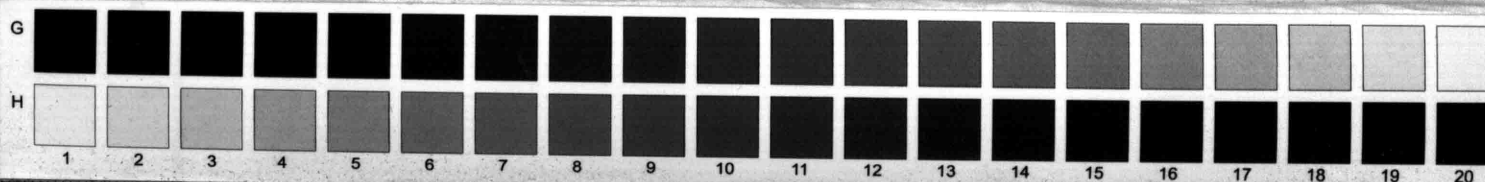
Suddenly four or five canoes darted out from the shore. They were filled with armed savages, whose aspect and demeanor warned old Ned that he and his comrades were among cannibals. Sweeping alongside the boat, the savages seized the white men, who were all too feeble to resist or even move, put them into their canoes, and conveyed them on shore, fed them, and treated them with much apparent kindness. Crowds of natives from that part of the island—which was Malaya one of the Solomon group—came to look at them, and one man, a chief, took a fancy to Renton, and claimed him as his own especial property.

Renton never saw the rest of his companions again, for they were removed to the interior of the island—probably sold to some of the bush tribes; the "man-a-bush," as the coastal natives called them. Their fate is not difficult to guess for the people of Malaya were then, as they are now cannibals.

On Aug. 7, 1875, the Queensland labor recruiting schooner Bobtail Nag was cruising off the island trading for yams, and her captain heard from some natives who came alongside that there was a white man living ashore in a village about ten miles distant. The skipper of the Bobtail Nag at once offered to pay a handsome price if the man was brought on board, and at the cost of several dozen Birmingham steel axes and some tobacco poor Renton's release was effected. He told his rescuers that the people among whom he had lived had taken a great fancy to him; and had treated him with great kindness.

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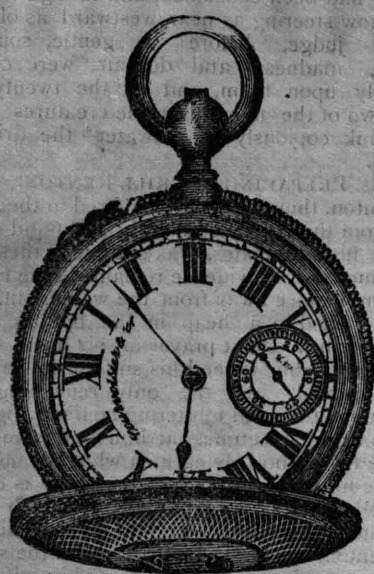
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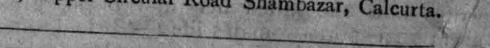
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