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European v. Indian Medical Science.

BENGAL SALT DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT. THE following passages are taken from the Government Resolution on the report of the Board of Revenue on the administration of he Salt Department for the year 1898-99 :-The principal administrative feature of the year 1898-99 :---year 1898-99 has been the preparation of a scheme for the better administration of the Salt Department in Bengal and the formation of an administrative and preventive staff for the suppression of the illicit manufacture of salt in the maritime districts in Bengal outside Orissa. The Secretary of State, in according sanction to the scheme, expressed his concurrence with the views of the Government of India, that it would be necessary to give better pay and prospects than the Government of Bengal contemplated. Re-vised proposals, based on this suggestion, have been submitted to the Government of India. Owing to the receipt of this sanction very late in the year, it was not considered feasible to give effect to that part of the scheme which con

templated the working of the Salt Department in Orissa through District Officers. During the year orders were issued under section 6 of the Indian Salt Act, XII of 1882, absolutely prohibiting the manufacture of salt in the district of the 24-Parganas (except Calcutta). Midnapore, Khulna, Backergunge, and Chitta-gong, so as to enable the salt officers employed gong, so as to enable the salt officers employed in these tracts to send up cases of illicit dealings in salt, including the excavation or removal of natural saline deposits or efflores-cence, under the law as it now stands. A Bill to amend the Bengal Salt Act, VII of 1864, was introduced during the year into the Bengal Legislative Council. The establishment of pri-vate bonded salt warehouses at places other vate bonded salt warehouses at places other than customs ports continues to gain in favour. An additional inland private warehouse was An additional mand private watchouse was licensed by Messrs. Turner, Morrison, and Company at Purulia, and two others by native bonders at Naryanganj and Bhairab Bazar. On this point the Board observe:—"There are at present seventeen such warehouses in the Province, and there was a considerable development in the trade in these warehouses during the past year, the quantity of salt despatched thereto from ship board and from bond in Calcutta amounting to 886,627 maunds, as compared with 695,355 maunds in 1897-98, or

to an increase of 191,272 maunds." When compared with the statistics of 1897-98, the figures of the year under review show an increase of Rs. 4,90,007, or 1'9 show an increase of Rs. 4,90,007, or 1'9 per cent. in the receipts, and of Rs. 58,449 or 16'2 per cent. in the charges. The net revenue, therefore, rose by Rs. 4,31,558, or 1'7 per cent. as compared with the previous year, and stood higher than in any of the year, and stood higher than in any of the preceding ten years, except in 1896-97. The advance of Rs. 3,34,466 in import duty is attributed by the Board to the in-creased clearances of salt during the year. The revenue from excise salt also shows a material improvement of Rs. 1,16,770, owing to the increased sales of this salt in the district of Puri stimulated by the reduction district of Puri, stimulated by the reduction in its wholesale price. There was also con-siderable increase in the proceeds from rent of warehouses on account of the larger stocks of salt in bond during the year. The increase in the charges was mostly under the head of "Refunds of customs duty on salt," and the Board of Revenue attribute this increase to the usual variations due to the greater or less miscalcula-tion of salt on boardship.

tion of salt on boardship. The stock of salt in the golas, which at the commencement of the year stood at nearly $34\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of maunds, fell at the close of the year to $32\frac{2}{3}$ lakhs of maunds. The quantity of salt lying afloat in the port of Calcutta, ready to be sold direct to purchasers, which at the end of the preceding year amounted to 321 or 6 of the preceding year amounted to 231,956 maunds, dropped, during the year 1898-99, to 223, 531 maunds.

In Bengal salt is imported by sea direct into the ports of Calcutta and Chittagong only. The combined imports into these two ports show a net decrease of 1,871,402 maunds, compared with those of the previous year, the decrease having occurred in both the ports. The decline in the total imports both into Cal otal imports both into Calcutta and Chittagong is attributed by the Collector of Customs to the abnormally high

imports of the preceding year and the conse-quent heavy stocks in bond at its close.

There was no importation of salt during the

past two years from the Egyptian and other non-European ports beyond the Suez Canal (group III), while, with the exception of Mada gascar and other States on the east coast of Africa, Ras Rawayah, and Linga, all the foreign

countries sent out smaller quantities of salt this year. On this point the Board write : "The falling-off in salt from the Asiatic ports

was, it is stated, due to the low prices offering for these salts in the market, and that in the importation from Germany to want of freight and to low prices." The imports of Madras salt

decreased by 8'2 per cent, while those of Bombay were nearly the same as in 1897-98. Excluding 98,197 maunds of Madras and Bombay salt cleared free of duty in Calcutta, Bombay sait cleared free of duty in Calcutta, duty was paid on 4195,875 maunds cleared from shipboard, against 5,202,818 maunds in the previous year while the clearances from bond rose from 4,515,621 maunds to 5,622,188 maunds. On the whole, the total clearances of all kinds, including those of Bombay and Madras salts, and if excise salt, rose from 10.336, 318 maunds to 10.424, 307 rose from 10,336, 318 maunds to 10,424, 307 maunds.

Deducting from the above clearances, the excess of exports from Bengal by land and fiver over the imports by the same routes, amounting to 609,671 maunds, and adding 18, 692 maunds of saltpetre brought into use, the balance of salt left for consumption rose from 9,739,835 maunds in 1897-98 to 9,833,328 maunds in 1898-99. The rate of consumption per head was 4 seers and 15 chittaks, against 5 seers in 1897-98. In the saliferous districts, excluding Orissa, the consumption of licit salt increased by Orissa, the consumption of ficit sait increased by 31,534 maunds, and the average consumption rose from 4 seers 12 chittaks to 4 seers 14 chittaks, which was the rate in 1896-97. Compared with the figures for the previous year, the consumption increased in all the saliferous districts except Midnapore and Chittagong. This satisfactory increase in the net result is attri-buted by the Board of Revenue to the improved buted by the Board of Revenue to the improved condition of the people owing to the good harvests of the year, but in a far greater degree to the activity of the special establishment employed in the 24-Parganas to check illicit manufacture of salt. The lowest rate prevailed during the year in Chittagong, where the con-sumption fell from 4 seers 11 chittaks to 4 seers 1 chittak. The falling off is attributed by the Collector of the district to the impoverished condition of the people, owing to scarcity which prevailed during the preceding two years and to the cyclone and storm-wave of October, 1897, from the effects of which the people have not yet been able to recover. In the 24-Parganas and Khulna, the rate of consumption of licit salt rose from 4 seers 12 chittaks to 4 seers to chittaks and 5 seers 3 chitaks, res-pectively while in Midnanows the full 10 chitttaks and 5 seers 3 chitaks, res-pectively, while in Midnapore the figure fell from 4 seers 14 chittaks to 4 seers 12 chittaks. In Orissa the consumption per head rose from 4 seers 14 chittaks in 1897-98 to 5 seers and 7 chittaks in 1898-99. The price of salt was generally lower than in

the previous year. The average wholesale price (exclusive of duty) of 100 maunds of Liverpool salt, purchased from the ship's side in the port of Calcutta, fell from Rs. 80-4-3 to Rs. 66-11-4, while the selling price (exclusive of duty) which in 1897-98 had varied from Rs. 97-12 to Rs. 63-1-1, ranged during the past year between Rs. 73-0-8 and Rs. 61. This falling-off is attributable to the fact that a large and regular supply of this salt is now sent out in liner steamers, and the market has been kept supplied at a lower rate than in former years. The average wholesale price, inclusive of duty, at the twelve chief marts of Bengal fell from Rs. 3-12-8 to Rs. 3-10-9. The corresponding aver-age based on the wholesale prices of all the dis-tricts in Bengal also fell from Rs. 3-14-11 to Rs. 3-13-1 per maund. The total imports from Madras, the Upper

Provinces, and Assam of duty-paid salt rose from 609,213 maunds to 634,008 maunds during the year, the increase being due mainly to larger importations from Madras. The exports from Bengal to the North-West Provinces and Oudh, the Punjab, and Central Provinces rose by 52,401 maunds, against a decrease of 48,115 maunds in the exports to Assam, Rajputana, and Central India, and Nepal, Sikkim, Thibet, and Bhutan. The net result was an excess of exports over import of 609, 671 maunds against an excess of 630,180 maunds in 1897-98. It is anticipated by the Excise Commissioner that the completion of the East Coast Railway will give a great impetus to the trade in Madras Karkatch as compared with that in Liverpool salt, not only in the Orissa districts, but even so far north as Calcutta. In view of the fact that the highest price of Madras salt per 100 maunds is Rs. 41-11 4 less than the lowest price of Liverpool salt, there can be iverpool salt, there can be little doubt that the anticipation will be realised, and that the consumer will receive the benefit A new departure has been made by the estab-lishment of several depots by an English firm for the sale of salt manufactured by them on English principles in Madras. The salt turned out by them is reported to be equal in quality and lower in price than Liverpool salt, and may prove a serious competitor to the latter. All this information is of much importance. With every new source of supply the cost of salt to the consumer is steadily decreasing and the Coast Railway is bringing abundant supplies of a good and cheap article to people who were largely depen-dent on the inferior stuff made on their shores. The greater the facilities for the distribution of cheap salt and good salt, the smaller become the temptations to illicit manufacture. The following general remarks are offered by the Commissioner of Excise, Bengal, regarding the year's work :--"The depart-ment is yet far from being properly organised, but yet the results obtained both in Orissa and the 24-Parganas are hopeful and by no means unsatisfactory. In the former Promeans unsatisfactory. In the former Pro-vince the expenditure has been reduced 3⁸4 per cent. salt crime has been kept well under control, the recipts from local salt have advanced 2617 per cent, and consumption has attained the highest figure n many years. In the 24-Parganas, too, where but a small corner has yet been tapped, several successful raids have been made in spite of organised opposition from the people, and consumption has already so far increased that the duty receipts on that account will more than cover the cost of the operations." The thanks of the Government are due to Mr. K. G. Gupta, Commissioner of Excise, Bengal, and the Board of Revenue for their administration of the Department. The duties of it are difficult for discretion is just as necessary as firmness in the application of the law, and all ranks seem to the Lieutenant-Governor to have done their duty well.

CHARGE OF RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY.

ACQUITTAL OF THE ACCUSED.

THE trial of Honorary Captain Eates, Senior Assistant Surgeon and Mrs. Eates, who had been committed to the Sessions by Captain Campbell, Cantonment Magistrate of Allahabad, was concluded on Wednesday. Captain and Mrs. Eates were charged under Section 411 of the Indian Panal Code with being, in disponent Mrs. Eates were charged under Section 411 of the Indian Penal Code with being in dishonest possession of stolen property: (1) Two steel trunks, one hand towel and one belt, the property of Mr. Stiffle; (2) two silver forks and spoons, the property of Rev. Mr. Chapman, Chaplain of Bareilly; (3) Government blankets and twenty-nine bars of Government soap, both bearing stamps of the broad arrow. For the prosecution there appeared the Government Pleader for the two accused. Mr. C. Ross Pleader for the 'two accused, Mr. C. Ross Alston and Mr. G. P. Boys, Barristers-at-Law. Mr. Alston, counsel for the defence, address-ed the court on behalf of the accused. Initially the learned counsel explained the law as to the rearried counser explained the law as to being in dishonest possession of stolen property. He said there were three necessary ingredients to constitute the offence: (I) The property the subject of the charge must have been a dishonest reten-(2) There must have been a dishonest reten-(2) There must have been a distinuist reten-tion of the property. (3) There must have been on the part of the accused a guilty knowledge. The learned counsel cited the case of Queen-Empress vs. Nilambar Babu, I. L. R. 2 All., 276; in which case the accused had been discharged because it was not proved that the property, the subject of the charge, had been stolen. The learned counsel, after reviewing the facts, went on to say that with respect to none of the alleged stolen property had the prosecution proved guilty knowledge on the part of the accused. With respect to the articles of Government property, it had not even been proved that they had been stolen. There was no doubt that the accused had been negligent in their dealings with bikriwallahs, but the law did not punish for negligence. The Government Pleader, on behalf of the Crown, urged that it had been proved that the Government articles had been stolen. As to guilty knowledge, he submitted that it was in cases of this kind most difficult to prove "mens rea," but that the jury would have to prove mens from the surrounding circumstances that the accused knew of what nature the property

was in all the charges before the court. The learned District Judge, in his summing up to the jury, said :-- "Gentlemen of the jury, the accused persons stand charged under Sec-tion 411 of the Indian Penal Code. As the learned Counsel for the defence has shown you there are three necessary ingredients to that there are three necessary ingredients to that offence." [Here the learned Judge explained the law on the point to the jury.]He continued: " You have heard the evidence for the prosecu-tion and the witnesses for the defence. I expect that you have grasped all the facts of the case. Let us discuss the evidence on the first charge, Let us discuss the evidence on the first charge, that is, being in dishonest possession of pro-perty stolen from Mr. Stiffle. There can be little doubt that that property was stolen. The question remains had the accused guilty knowledge. I do not find that any of the prosecution witnesses prove under what circumstances the accused brought that property. True, there is the statement of Inspector Corbett, who says that when the towel was found, Mrs. Eates tried to snatch it away from him saying that her daughter's name was Stella, and that the towel belonged to her. You have, on the other hand, the evidence of Mr. Stiffle, who admittedly was standing by Inspector Corbett's side tedly was 'standing by Inspector Corbett's side who says that when the towel was found, Mrs. Eates did not say anything, nor did she do anything. It is for you to decide which of these witnesses to believe. Inspector Corbett may have imagined that the above circumstances really took place. In the case of the property belonging to the Rev. Mr. Chapman, there is no evidence to show under what circumstances the accused show under what circumstances the accused got possession of them. There remains the case of the Government blankets and soap. Here, to my mind, there is suspicion. However, you must bear in mind that these articles. except two blankets which may or may not be among those here, were not reported as having been stolen. You must also further bear in mind that the defence have openly bought in the market in this city a blanket and soap of substantially the same kind. It is also true that substantially the same kind. It is also true that the North-Western Soap Company of Calcutta afterwards attempted to regain possession of the soap sold saying that they ought not to have sold it, and that it was through a mistake that it was sold. Bear in mind also that by a contract entered into with Government the above. Company are not supposed to sell some above Company are not supposed to sell soap of the description of this soap to private indivi-duals. It was for the above reason that it did not seem profitable to me to accede to the request of the prosecution to summon the employes of the above Company, because there can be little doubt as to what evidence they would have given. Now to turn to the evidence given by the defence. You have heard Captain Eates' statement, in which he says that it was on account of their being a large family that they tried to get things as cheaply as possible. Mrs. Eates has also produced as evidence two account books showing that she has consistently been buying things from *bikriwallahs*. The jury retired to consider their verdict, and after an absence of fifteen minutes, brought in a unanimous verdict of "Not guilty," which was received with applause. The Judge said: Mr. and Mrs Eates, you have been found not guilty by the jury, and I endorse their verdict. I hope you will let this trial be a warning to you in your future deal-ings with *bikriwallahs*. [In the report of the case in the *Pioneer* of the 6th instant, it was stated that the Judge allowed a certain statement made by Captain Eates to a police officer to be put in. This is not the case. The prosecution wished to put in as evidence in the case a statement made by Captain Eates to Mr. H. Porter, A. D. S. P. Mr. Alston objected that under Section 162 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the statement was inadmissible it being a statement made by an accused person to a police officer during an investigation. The court allowed Mr. Alston's objection and ruled that the statement was inadmissible.]

THE RANGOON OUTRAGE CASE.

RANGOON, 5TH SEPTEMBER.

THE hearing of the outrage case was resumed to-day, and the Recorder passed orders on the admissibility of the statements made to regi-mental officers and the Court of Inquiry, re-fusing to admit them on the ground that Major Morse, a person in authority, held out induce-ments to the accused to make the statements in question in question.

In the course of his judgment the Recorder, having gone over the facts as to the soldiers being brought before Major Morse said the effect of the promptings of Major Morse and Captain Bart were most apparent, for while all Captain Bart were most apparent, for while all the accused had preserved complete silence until June 13th on that day their tongues were at once loosened. It must be carefully noted continued the judge, that in the exortation of both officers the suggestion that Mah r Goon was a prostitute found a prominent place. Later on the judge gueted that Goon was a prostitute found a prominent place. Later on the judge quoted thə Queen's Regulations to show that Com-manding Officers were to use every effort to prevent crime and suppress any tendency to screen its existence. The Commanding Officer was bound by the regulations to re-port to the police crime brought to his Officer was bound by the regulations to re-port to the police crime brought to his cognizance. From such duty the result followed that Major Morse was unques-tionably a person having authority over the accused in connection with this case, and any confession made to him under induce-ment, threat, or promise was irrelevant. ment, threat, or promise, was irrelevant. The judge then examined the authorities as to whether Major Morse's words were an inducement, and held that they were. The statements were therefore irrelevant. The case for the prosecution then closed.

Mr. Van Someren for the defence said he did not propose calling any witnesses. The accused examined by Court said he did

not wish to make any statement. Mr. Fox, addressing the Court said he had hoped to produce satisfactory evidence, first, that the woman had been outraged ; secondly, that the present accused was concerned. One the first point complete evidence had been pro-duced, but on the second point he had failed. The evidence of Major Morse was the first indication to any one connected with the pro-secution in any way of his having made any statement at all to the accused. It was very unfortunate that what Major Morse stated to the accused was not disclosed before the Cantonment Magistrate. If this had been done there would have been no committal of Thorpe, and much labour and time would have been saved. The question whether this particular accused committed rape or not rested entirely on the evidence of Sullivan. Counsel continued : In opening I told you that I was not putting forward Sullivan as a witness of truth, and his story, as I believed, it would be told, would be absolutely inconsis-tent with the story absolutely inconsistent with the story I ask you to believe on the evidence of native witnesses. What I said in my opening as regards Sullivan I in no way retract. I emphasise what I said. It must be apparent to you he has lost himself in the maze of the different versions he has given. The question was he continued whether as maze of the different versions he has given. The question was, he continued, whether as reasonable men the jury could act upon Sullivan's statements. Sullivan must be regard-ed in the light of an accomplice, and in a case of such gravity counsel could not ask them to accept his evidence without corrobora-tion. Counsel concluded: I do not ask you to act in any spirit of vindictiveness or from a feeling tion. Counsel concluded: 1 do not ask you to act in any spirit of vindictiveness or from a feeling that because a crime has been committed somebody must be punished. It would be shocking indeed to suggest that, and for a jury of Englishmen to be capable of acting thus. If you think as reasonable men you cannot possibly act on Sullivan's statement, possibly or probably there will be a failure of justice, but the responsibility for that failure does not rest upon you or upon me. It is occasioned by the present state of the law.

Counsel for the defence did not address the jury. The Recorder havi

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THE trade and navigation Report of Burma for the year 1898-99 reveals the fact that the Burmese depend almost entirely on rice as a Burmese depend almost entirely on rice as a medium of exchange for commodities from other lands. The export trade for the year, not reckoning Government transactions, came to sixteen crores, of which rice contributed more than eleven and-a-half crores, or very nearly 75 per cent. of the total. Teak comes next to rice, the exports of this valuable timber during the year amounting to 184 lakhs.

during the year amounting to 184 lakhs.

nd then a decision will be come to.

The Recorder having summed up the jury at 1-45 P.M. acquitted the accused man Thorpe. They added a rider as follows; The evidence proves clearly that the crime of rape was committed by number of men of the West Kent Regiment. We exceedingly regret that suffi-cient evidence is not forthcoming to convict the guilty parties. The jury unanimously endorse the remarks made by the learned Recorder and the Government Advocate regretting that the evidence of Major Morse was not brought to the notice of the prosecution earlier. The case evidence of Major Morse was not orought to the notice of the prosecution earlier. The case against another of the accused will be called on Tuesday next, when no doubt the Crown will state what course it intends to pursue .-- Pioncer.

OWING to the scare at continental ports since the outbreak of the plague in Egypt, the Direc-tors of the P. and O. Company have decided that the Bombay and Australian steamers shall continue to pass through the canal in quaran-tine without holding any communication with Egypt or taking in any Egyptian passengers. The arrangement may involve some slight temporary inconvenience, but it gives the passen-ger from the East the assurance that when he reaches Marseilles he will be able to land and pursue his way without further trouble

A WONDERFUL CURE OF DIARRHOEA.

A PROMINENT VIRGINIA EDITOR. ALMOST GIVEN UP, BUT WAS ADBROUGHT BACK TO PERFECT HEALTH BY CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA AND DIARRHIGA REMEDY.

READ HIS EDITORIAL.

From the Times, Hillstille, Va. I suffered with diarrhea 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 Diarrhœa Remedy and Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa 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 to-day and feel as well as I ever did in my life.--O. R. MOORE. Sold by.*

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THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1899.

THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1899.

THE LATE AND THE PRESENT INDIAN SECRETARIES.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON should bear this in mind that, a blow inflicted upon Sir William Wedderburn means a blow inflicted upon the people of this country. For, Sir W. Wedderburn has no personal interest in Indian questions; he is not a *persona grata* at the India Office, because he is a representative of the Indians because he is a representative of the Indians. May we inquire what he gains by his advocacy of India's rights and condemnation of India's wrongs? He gets no pay for his work; on the other hand, he has made himself unpopular by this work of love. The Indians cannot pay Sir W. Wedderburn anything in return for the services that he renders to this country. But they are grateful to him; they love him; and they very naturally resent if he is made because he is a representative of the Indians. and they very naturally resent if he is made to suffer in any way for his endeavours on behalf of a nation sadly neglected by those in whose charge it is.

Lord George Hamilton, with his standing majority, sought to humiliate Sir W. Wedder-burn. But Sir W. Wedderburn will not feel it at all ; at least, not in the way Indians will do Lord George Hamilton should remember that his duty is to love, cherish and protect India. If he cannot love India, he has no right to the post, he holds. That being the case, he should regard Sir W. Wedderburn as a friend. The India newspaper circulates gross falsehoods, says Lord George Hamilton. His Lordship has only to point them out to shame Sir W. Wedderburn. Sir W. Wedderburn attacks the Government, says the Indian Secretary. If he does so justly, he deserves the gratitude of Lord George Hamilton. If he does so unjustly, Lord George has only to point it out to silence him. Why should Lord George Hamilton take it that he and the indians are opponents and, therefore, those who advocate India's rights are also his opponents. He could have regarded the Irish as his opponents if he was in charge of Ireland ; for, ey have one hundred members in Parliament to protect them. But the Indians have not one. If the Indians have no members in Parliament to represent them they have him to do this for them.

What a strange idea Lord George Hamilton has of his responsibilities ! He is the agent of India in England. The sole justification for his office consists in his faithfully and ardently protecting the interests of this country. If, therefore, any member volunteers his services on behalf of India, Lord G. Hamilton should welcome him as a friend. By attacking Sir. W. Wedderburn, whom the Indians consider their friend and representative, Lord George Hamil-ton proves, to the Indians at least, that he is not a friend nor a representative of theirs. This hostile attitude of the responsible rulers of India fills the average india to the rulers of India fills the people with the feeling of despair. Who is to take care of them if not their rulers? They cannot protect themselves nor are they permitted to do so. They

cannot even express their sorrows freely in their newspapers with sedition laws hang-ing over their heads. Lord George Hamilton has, however, this excuse for his attitude, that he has been de-moralized by Sir H. Fowler. Indeed, we fear Sir H. Fowler has demoralized the entire Liberal party. If the I iberal matural is detired Liberal party. If the Liberal party did nothing else, they at least spoke with sympathy which instilled hope into the minds of the people of this country. But Sir H. Fowler has ever shewn, as he did during the last Budget debate, that he is more in love with the present methods of the India Office than Lord George Hamilton himself. The attitude of Sir H. Fowler reminds us of the story of the great Shankar, the founder of pantheism in India. He had, from his early days, subjected himself to the strictest discipline for the purpose of liberating his soul. And such was his determination that his soul had succeeded in effecting its release from his body, while he was a very young man. He, however, yet f und himself a half-developed piece of humanity, for he knew nothing of this world—the feelings and passions that move the human mind while in the midst of society. To effect his purpose, he resolved to enter into the body of another, which a man who has been able to separate his soul from his body can do, after some training. As luck would have it, the king died just then, and his body was brought to the river-side for the purpose of cremation. Shankar found his opportunity and he immediately entered into the dead body of the king. Before he did this he, however, took a pre-caution. Knowing that animal life had its temptations, and especially the life of a man in power, he instructed two of his diswith whom he had conferred on the subject, to do certain things under certain conditions. He told them that the life of a king had its temptations and he was going to risk them. If they, (his disciples), found that he had succumbed to them they should go to him and remind him of his fall and persuade him to come out of the body of the king. Lest they failed, he composed certain *slokas* (which are known to the learned in India as *Moha*are known to the learned in India as Moha-mudgar) which they should repeat to him. These slokas, which he left to his disciples, describe, in vivid colours, the folly of yielding is the temptations of this world. Well, after having given the above instruc-tions to his two disciples he entered into the dead body of the king, who immediately rose a living man to the surprise and joy of his attendants who had carried the corpse to the river for cremation. Shapkar had to the river for cremation. Shankar had wisely estimated the irresistible powers of the pleasures of this world. Having never tasted any pleasure arising out of flesh, he tasted any pleasure arising out of flesh, he fell a victim to it so completely, that when his disciples came to remind him it was time that he should come out, he refused point-blank. He said, "Let all my spiritual acquirements go to——, My present life is very sweet, and I am not going to leave it." His disciples then repeated to him the *slokas* and at last persuaded him to come out of the body of the king, who, of course, again fell dead. of the king, who, of course, again fell dead. Sir Henry Fowler was a puritanic and austere Christian. He had succeeded in conquering flesh when his ill-luck took him to the India Office. Having never before tasted the pleasures of power, he succumbed to them as easily as a child would, if confined in a room, full of confectionary. When he entered the India Office, he ought to have enjoined some of his former friends to remind him of the teachings of Jesus Christ, who had

warned mankind so earnestly to avoid temptations, with which worldly life was beset. And thus, with the zeal of a convert, Sir Henry Fowler has beaten Lord George Hamilton in his love for the methods of the India Office. The present Sir H. Fowler can very profitably compare himself with the former Sir Henry Fowler, the puritanic Christian.

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND SECRETARIATS.

CORRESPONDENT of the Daily Mail says that Lord Curzon is contemplating a revolution by making District officers more indepen-dent of the Secretariats than they are now.

dent of the Secretariats than they are now. The writer says :--At present the District officer is obliged to take all his orders from, and refer everything to, an Under-Secretary at head-quarters. The native in his usual penetrating manner, has got to know this, and to know that the District officer cannot move hand or foot until he has had his orders from Simla or Calcutta. All this will be altered by the Viceroy within the next month or two, and there is not the slightest doubt that the benefits which will result from the action of Lord Curzon in the matter will be appreciated by every one except, perhaps, the be appreciated by every one except, perhaps, the "small clique" which they will more particularly

It is presumed that the change will give pleasure to the District Magistrates and that the Secretariats are likely to resent if. Yes, the change will increase the power and pres-tige of the District Magistrates, as it will de-crease those of the Secretariat. As the posses sion of power is considered a choice blessing by most men, it is but natural to suppose that the change will give pleasure to those whose powers it will increase and cause heartburning to those whose powers it will curtail. But how will it affect the people? The Viceroy is an imperialist, and imperialism has its instincts. It cannot tolerate defiance or disobedience of authority, but it cannot also tolerate tyranny upon the weak. Is the object of His Excellency to create a race of despots and let them loose upon the peaceful districts of India? That cannot certainly be the object of the Viceroy. In making his arrangement, it is to be presumed the supreme ruler of the land will take into consideration the interests of the people. Constituted as Lord Curzon is, it is impossible that he can forget the interests of the people. The Secretariats now, no doubt, exercise some unwholesome influence

upon the conduct of Magistrates. It is necessary that they should do so. For, Magistrates now-a-days are quite young men. On the other hand, they also do exercise some unwholesome influence upon their conduct. It is because the Secretariats have to follow the policy of protecting officials at any cost. Under the present system an official, if he is disposed to be a little more zealous than necessary, can play mad pranks without being held responsible for them. For, the Secretariats are bound to protect them. Sir Charles Elliott had no humbug in him, and, he openly declared that his policy was to protect the officials who had become objects of ad-verse comments in the Indian press. Yes, such an official deserves the protection of the Government. On the other hand, an official, who becomes the object of adverse comments, is presumed to be a little too zealous. To protect officials simply because they had become objects of adverse comments, is to deny all protection to the people. What the policy is that obtains now, is not distinctly known; but there is a loud complaint that the Coursement does not listen to the research Government does not listen to the representa-

tions of the people, when they feel that they have a case against the officials. That complaint was voiced and emphasised by Mr. Woodroffe when addressing the High Court in regard to the Munshigunje case. He said to the effect that, "move but a finger against even a petty official, and the whole machinery of the Government is moved to protect him." Lord Curzon's proposal, that is to say, the proposal attributed to him, has this advantage. The District Magistrate, under the proposed system, will no doubt enjoy more powers, but that circumstance will also make them more wary. Besides, when District Magistrates have been made independent of the Secretariats, the latter will be more disposed to listen to complaints than now. Anyhow, we pray that if Lord Curzon has any scheme in his mind, he will take the interests of the people into his gracious consider-ation. It is, however, safe for a Viceroy, who has iust come out to this country and is a perfect stranger here, to consult public opinion before committing himself to any definite line of policy.

now taken. In other words, the resignation is the natural and appropriate, if not inevitable, sequel of the resolution; and the only result it can be expect-ed to have is that of seriously imperilling the cause of Representative Government in Calcutta, by the employeesing position in which it places the Govern embarrassing position in which it places the Govern

When a private person charges another with corruption, the latter has his remedy in the law Court. The Government is, however, above all law. So the only course left to the Commissioners, when they were accused, was to pass a resolution of the kind they did. In that resolution they did not use one disrespectful word towards the Government. On the word other hand, the resolution was couched in very respectful terms, and all that they wanted the Government to do was to disclose the documents which had endisclose the documents which had en-abled it to bring a charge of corruption against them. The *Statesman* does wrong to the Commissioners when he says that they "challenged the Government." They did nothing of the sort. Certain serious charges were brought against them, and they had every right to know what these they had every right to know what these charges were, and who amongst them were the black sheep. This is no challenge but a fair request. Then, if the Government had no other alternative than to refuse the prayer of the Commissioners, surely the latter could not be held responsible for this awkward position. If the Government were not in a position to substantiate its charges, why did it publish them? So, if any body is to be held responsible for the unfortunate result, it is not the Commis-sioners but the Government itself. The States. sioners but the Government itself. The Statesman talks of "imperilling the cause of representative Government in Calcutta." But where is representative Government now? It fled from Calcutta the very day that Sir John Woodburn declared that Government would not yield an inch. The substance is gone and the shadow remains, and it is of the supremest indifference to the rate-payers whether this empty bubble is imperilled or not. The Calcutta Corporation is now an official body, a part and parcel of the Governofficial body, a part and parcer of the Govern-ment, and people's representatives are as out of element there as fish on land. Let the Government now manage the Municipality with its European and *ap-ke-waste* nominees, and let the representatives stand aloof, for they are not wanted.

A public meeting of the rate-payers, «convened through the Sheriff, will be held next Wednesday, provided the Town Hall is avail-able, to consider the present situation.

LORD CURZON is against Frontier expeditions, and to stop them His Excellency has adopted a new policy. The idea is to win the good-will of the wild mountaineers by forming them into bodies of militia under British officers for their soldiers, who are now employed in the defence of the frontier, could be removed. To pass any opinion upon such a scheme, which means something like a revolution, is beyond our juris-diction. But is not Lord Curzon determined diction. But is not Lord Curzon determined never to reduce the strength of the British force here? Where will His Excellency find money to pay these mountaineers? Of course, I refused to carry out the resolution of the House if Frontier expeditions are stopped and the border troops removed, that would mean sav-ing. But are not the militia to be commanded by British officers? There will be some risk in keeping them there. For, Gazyism has not yet become extinct.

HIS EXCELLENCY Lord Curzon wrote a letter to Sir Edwin Arnold, in which his Lordship announced the fact of his having granted an annual pension of Rs. 600 to Babu Kisori Mohan Ganguli, the translator of the Mahabharat. The Viceroy writes to Sir Arnold:--" I can conceive of no more fitting application of Indian revenues than the encouragement of meritorious literary effort particularly in connection with the old Indian classics." We feel grateful to the Viceroy for these kind words, for they convey an idea that he has that love for India which he declared he had. We are grateful to the Viceroy for this pension for two reasons. First, His Excellency acknowledges that meritorious literary effort is deserving of encouragement; and secondly, he makes us feel that the Government is not so alien after all. An action which draws the people towards the Government must be a good one. We must, however, point out to the Viceroy, that he has greater work before him than even rewarding men of talent. For instance, vast myriads here need food, and a better system of administration of justice.

much ground to do this as now; for, was not the question of principle, according to His Honour, settled for good as soon as the measure was referred to the Select Committee ? But the good Lieutenant-Governor has played the liberal all along. His liberality was so great that he even disfranchised the Dacca Division, in spite of the distinct declaration of his two predecessors to the contrary, simply to enable one of the representative members to say his last say on the Bill. But, it seems, he is not destined to deliver his famous speech; for, according to the *Englishman*, His Honour is in a hurry to go to the hills. Such being the case, why was Dacca disfranchised and all these troubles brought upon the country ? If the two Hon'ble members are sought to be closured in the way announced by the *Englishman*, we think they will have no option left to them but to retire from the Council and leave the Bill to the same course long ago to the representative members, more in sorrow than in anger. For, said we, much ground to do this as now; for, was not the in the investigation and trial. It is said that more in sorrow than in anger. For, said we, what was the good of going through the farce of proposing amendments and then getting them massacred ? We had then no notion that they would actually be driven to this position ! they would actually be driven to this position ! The representative members are in Council to protest when, in their opinion, the principle of a measure is likely to hurt the interests of the country. But they will not be allowed to do this, and so they have no business to be present at the Council. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, as the representative of the Corporation, ought to take the lead in this matter. Let us draw here a fanciful picture :

ought to take the lead in' this matter. Let us draw here a fanciful picture : The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar. —I propose that, in the General Committee, the number of elected Commissioners should be eight, instead of four. The Hon'ble S. N. Bannerjee.—I propose that the number of elected Commissioners should not be reduced from 50 to 25. The President.—I call the Hon'ble mem-bers to order. They cannot now raise the question of principle as it has been affirmed by the Government of India.

the Government of India.

Mr. Apcar.-As a representative of the people I am here to represent their views to the Council. If your Honour will not permit me to do so, my presence is not needed here. With your Honour's permission, therefore, I will retire from the Council room, leaving the Bill in the hands of the Government. The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar then retires, and the other elected members follow him silently.

And the Bill is passed unopposed, without one single dissentient voice.

THE most remarkable feature in the recent THE most remarkable feature in the recent Budget speech of Sir H. Fowler was the Minis-terial cheers which it frequently elicited ! When a member, in opposition, is cheered by his opponents, he has reason to be staggered. "I must have said something very foolish or something very damaging to my principles or party to evoke applause from my oppo-nents," ought to be the feeling of the speaker, when he finds that his opponents were cheer-ing him. Sir H. Fowler was cheered, nearly ten times during his short speech, by none, or a very few men, of his party however. Let us quote here a para :--

I refused to carry out the resolution of the House with reference to competitive examinations—(Minis-terial cheers)—a resolution which in the opinion of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues menaced the British power in India. (Ministerial cheers.) A depu-tation waited on me to remonstrate with me on my action, and I frankly admitted that I had done what action, and I frankly admitted that I had done what might be called an unconstitutional thing in disre-garding a resolution of the House of Commons; but I told them that I should stand by my action, and that I was quite willing to take the judgment of the House upon it. Moreover, I said that if they desired to pass a vote of censure upon what I had done, I would insist on the leader of the House giving a day for its discussion. But they never asked for a day. They never put a motion down, and I perfectly understood why, because a mem-ber of the deputation said, "If you did give us a day you would get a large majority." (Ministerial cheers and laughter.) nd laughter.)

He, a Radical, begins by confessing that he refused to carry out a resolution of the House ! And what was the resolution ? It was one And what was the resolution is it was one moved by Mr. Paul, allowing the Indians the privilege of competing for the Civil Service Examination in their own country ! It was an act of injustice to deprive Indians of the services of their own country paid for from their own resources. The Queen graciously promised to make no distinction. Yet a good many distinctions were made. To enter into the Civil Service in India, a candidate must pass his examination in the English language and in Western science. It was further en acted that the Indian must go to England for the examination. Mr. Paul moved that the Indian ought to have the privilege of passing the examination in his own country-a provilege which every nation in the world possesses, except the unfortunate Indian. And Sir H. Fowler declared that if the privilege were granted to India, British rule would come to an end. And how? "The Indians would carry all the posts." That is the idea. But the examination is to be held in a language and in subjects foreign to the Indians. How is it then possible for the Indians to carry all or any of the prizes? The inevitable inference to be drawn from the speech of Sir inference to be drawn from the speech of Sir H. Fowler is, that Indians are more intelli-gent than Englishmen. If that be the case, instead of Englishmen ruling the Indians, the more natural course would be for the Indians to rule the English people. Are they willing to take some for that purpose ? We can spare a good many.

the girl Nuni, aged 14 or 15, belonging to the garden, lodged a complaint before the Deputy Commissioner accusing Mr. Bellwood with having indecently assaulted her. That evening be bound in the accusing Mr. believood with having indecently assaulted her. That evening some policemen were found searching for Nuni's witnesses with the object, it is said, of putting them under arrest. Of course, this was done by order of the Police Superintendent. It was on the same evening that the Deputy Com-missioner received a telegraphic message from the Nadua garden about an assault having been committed on Mr. Bellwood by some coolies. Next day the Deputy Commissioner, accom-panied by the Police Superintendent, went over to the garden, arrested six coolies (who had all been cited by Nuni as her wit-nesses in the case against Mr. Bellwood), two girls, Nuni and another, the latter being also a witness, and ordered the Inspector of Police to investigate the case. These accused were produced before the Assistant Commissioner of Dibrugarh, Mr. Hamilton, who sent to Hajut the six coolies, for they admitted having committed the assault on Mr. Bellwood havens for they admitted having committed the assault on Mr. Bellwood because, as the alleged, of his having indecently assault-ed Nuni. At first Nuni and the other girl were released, but when Mr. Hamilton giff were know that the Deputy Commission-er himself had arrested them, they, too, were sent to the *Hajut*. After this the Police Super-intendent one day took the accused under armintendent one day took the accused under arm-ed escort to the garden -apparently for investi-gation, and returned the same day. At the trial Mr. cellwood deposed that on the day previous to the occurrence, when out for a walk, he fell in with Nuni and another girl and they asked from him ten rupees, at the same time making some immoral proposal to him. Next evening when he was similarly out walking alone, he met the virls, and at a signal from alone, he met the girls, and at a signal from them six coolies set upon and severely assaulted him. This led him to believe that the attack was a preconcerted one. And it was on this version of the story that the Court put faith and convicted the accused coolies, acquitting the girl Nuni and her companion. It should be noted here that Dr. Hancock, who treated Mr. Bellwood and who was an important witness for the prosecution, had very minutely described the wounds in the sequence of their infliction as if he had been an eye-witness of the occurrence which, of course, he was not. In the course of the trial the pleader for the defence asked whether Mr. Bellwood had, on a previous occasion, been assaulted for having outraged a coolie girl and whether on that occasion one of his teeth was broken, but the question was disallowed by the Court. The witnesses for the prosecution—there were two of them—did not see the occurrence but had only heard of it ; and it was on the strength of such evidence only that the accused were sent to jail to rot there for four long years. Besides, the evidence of the other Besides, the evidence of the other girl was not at all taken. There was another was not at all taken. There was another fact which the Court did not take cogni-sance of. The girl Nuni had said that Mr. Bellwood had indecently assaulted her while the pleader who drew up the plaint put it as Mr. Bellwood having *tried* to indecently assault her. Why was not the pleader examined ? But the most curious thing of all is the reason which the correspondent of the *Sanjibani*, ascribes to the silence of the local papers on these points

the correspondent of the Sanjtbani, ascribes to the silence of the local papers on these points. Once before, a certain Mr. Cumming beat a cooly boy from the effects of which he died after two days. For this Mr. Cumming was fined Rs 5 ! The *Times of Assam* commented on this case, and the Editor was summoned by Mr. Reed, the then Deputy Commissioner, and reorinanded for having so commented and reprimanded for having so commented. He was further forbidden to commit such we take these facts from the Sanjibani which is a respectable paper.

Is it absolutely necessary, under the law, to fill up the vacancies in the Municipality, caused by the resignation of the elected members? If it is, there is, of course, no help for Dut It wa prudence to announce a fresh election just at this moment. The city is in a state of intense and passionate excitement, and the fresh elections will keep it up, or rather add fuel to the fire. Is it not? And then, what will be the result of this move? No man, with a drop of self-respect in him, is likely to venture to appear as a candi-date. It is quite true this resignation of the Commissioners has opened opportunities to the nobodies in the city. But yet, we fear, very few, even if willing to stand, will dare do so, considering the strong feeling which the resignation of the Commissioners has created. Arrangements for a public meeting have been made, but the Government ac-tion itself will do much more than any demonstration on the part of the rate-payers. If no really independent gentleman will stand as a Commissioner, that will be a more potent protest against the innovation than any demonstration on behalf of the rate-payers. Let us see whether the mighty Government, like the king of old, can create a race of " Babhuns."

WE do not quite understand the drift of the articles of the *Statesman* commenting on the resignation of the Municipal Commissioners, Our contemporary apparently does not approve of their action. But could he suggest any other course for them? They were divested of all powers. When this was done, in spite of the earnest and persistent protestations of their constituents, they ought to have retired. But yet they stuck to their posts and intended sticking to them till they were actually driven out, lest their action gave offence. When they did not retire, the Government of Bengal sent up certain documents to the Supreme Government, and the Supreme Government, relying upon these documents, came down upon them with the charge of corruption. The Government of India did more. It reduced the number of the elected Commissioners from 50 to 25, thus hinting that at least twenty-five of them were not wanted. The Commissioners yet remained, and submitted a representation to the Government asking for the list of the alleged corrupt Commissioners. When a body of respectable gentlemen like the Commissioners, who had been maligned by the Government, made such a request, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor should either have supplied them with the list or withdrawn the charge, But Sir John Woodburn took altogether a novel course. He sent a curt reply, saying that he would hold no communication with the Com-missioners on the subject. Perhaps that was the only course for His Honor to adopt, for he could not possibly disclose the names of the alleged corrupt Commissioners and the nature of the charges without commonising either have supplied them with the list or nature of the charges without compromising the parties who had supplied the Government with the information. But that is no reason why the Commissioners should allow themselves to be branded as corrupt and yet con-tinue to serve the Corporation. The Statesman

THEY adopted a novel way of coercing the authorities at Ahmedabad to terms about a fortnight ago. The authorities wanted to enforce inoculation and adopt stringent plague measures when all merchants in the town at once closed their shops, and even food could not be obtained either for love or for money. The authorities would not at first yield. For three days they let the people alone. But when the latter would not open their shops, the authorities relented and all demands of the people were conceded. In demands of the people were conceded. In days of yore when the Hindus and Mussal-mans ruled the country, this method of protest was adopted by the people when they felt themselves aggrieved at the conduct of the authorities. The Indian's almost in every part of the country have, however, now given up the old mode of agitation. In its place they now hold public meetings and pass resolutions.

THE following appears in the English. man :--

man :---A very formidable list of amendments to the Muni-cipal Bill has, we hear, been sent in by the Hon. Babu Surendranath Banerji and the Hon. Mr. Apcar. As it is understood to be Sir John Wood-burn's intention not to leave Calcutta until the Bill burn's intention not to leave Calcutta until the Bill has been passed, the prospects of a Puja holiday for the unfortunate members of the Bengal Council seem remote. But we have every reason to believe that there will be a wholesale massacre of the innocents, and that no amendments will be per-mitted with regard to the constitutional portions of the Bill, on the ground that, the principle of the measure having been affirmed by the Government of India, any further discussion upon-that point will be out of order. This will greatly simplify matters, and the news will be welcome to those who are anxious to have something else to talk and think about than the Municipal Bill. Yes, the application of the closure would Yes, the application of the closure would be the fitting sequel to this Municipal Bill affair. If Sir John Woodburn had adopted this method in the very beginning, matters would have been very much simplified and the European Commissioners would have been able to earn their two gold mohurs per sitting long ago. Sir John had then as

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WE are grateful to Lord Curzon for his concession with regard to the Press Messages Bill. The measure will not be taken up at Simla; but, at the next meeting of the Legis-lative Council, a motion will be made to post-pone its consideration till the Calcutta Session. Let us trust that the Bill will be ultimately shelved, for it has the Bill will be ultimately shelved, for it has received support from no quarter. There is no doubt of it that almost all the native daily papers will cease to exist if the Bill is passed in its present shape. A greater condemnation of the measure cannot be conceived.

THE facts of what is known as the Nadua rioting case, in which six of the accused were sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment each, must still be fresh in the mind of the reader. It will be remembered that some coolies including two girls-Nuni and another-were charged with rioting and assaulting Mr. Bellwood, an assistant in the Nadua Tea Garden. Now, a correspondent writing to the *Sanjibani* throws further light on the case and raises some very pertinent questions on the procedure, followed

WE have not the least desire to act the part. WE have not the least desire to act the part of a "political agitator", that is, to suggest any procedure which would, in the least, embarass the Government. But we have to explain the situation, as, besides the press, there is none to do this for the rate-payers. The rate-payers have been asked to elect fresh representatives in the place of those who have resigned. If they decline to do so, they act in a manner which may not be considered to be in keeping with those feelings of profound res. in keeping with those feelings of profound res-pect that they entertain for the Government. If they do so, they only confirm the disgrace cast upon their representatives by the:Government, and indirectly accept the measure they have so strenuously condemned. Some very serious charges were brought against their represen-tatives, and in consequence of those charges, they have resigned their seats. If they now they have resigned their seats. If they now elect fresh men in their places, they only ac-cept the charges brought against their representatives. The question is, are they to stand by their representatives or to throw them overboard? They assuredly would have them overboard ? They assuredly would have thrown their representatives over-board if the latter had been proved guilty of the charges preferred against them. But they were stabbed from behind. It is not known even who are the alleged culprits and what are the charges against them. And when the Government was asked to make good its accusation, it declined to do so. Under such circumstances, the rate-payers are bound to stand by their representa-tives. That being the case, when the Gov-ernment has asked them to elect men for the seats vacated by the resignation of their reseats vacated by the resignation of their re-

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THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1899.

presentatives they have one of these two courses to adopt : First, either to re-elect those who have resigned ; or, secondly, to decline to take any part in the elections.

WELL if the rate-payers choose the first course, vis., if they re-elect those who have re-signed, they can do so on the ground that they have to elect the best men-men of experience, men upon whom they have confi-dence, and they have therefore to re-elect those who have resigned. Of course, there are serious charges against them, but the rate-payers cannot accept them as proven and are not prepared to condemn their respresentatives, who been working for them at immense sacrifice and for love unheard of. But if they re-elect the Commissioners who have resigned, the latter will be placed in a very awkward the Government to re-consider its case against them. Indeed, the Government will find another opportunity of correcting its mistake if it has committed any. If the Government proves agreeable, the Commissioners can then rejoin their places, and stick to them till the new Act is put in force. If the Government declines to accede to this prayer, well, thenbut we have no need to provint prayer, wen, then The rate-payers, however, will have no opportunity of re-electing the representatives who have resigned, for none of them will possibly offer himself as a candidate, and the rate-payers cannot vote for one who has not offered himself as a candidate. offered himself as a candidate.

IF they choose to take no interest in the elections they may do so on the ground that they have been treated with scant courtesy by the Government, and that they cannot honestly elect representatives when self-government has disappeared. Their re-presentatives have been disgraced unheard, and their prayers for the improvement of the Bill have been rejected. That being the case, they can say, "How can we persuade our citizens to take the risk of representing us, and how can we ask them to represent us when they are to be treated as mere nobodies in the Corporation ?" Those rate-payers who think that if they decline to take any part in the election, are likely to give offence to the Government, may elect others than the Hindus. Let such rate-payers elect only Euro-peans, and some Mussalmans.

THE Prekshak of Satara gives the details of a case which is well worth the study of the administrators of this country. Here is a summary of the case : The earliest arrests in this case were made on the 17th of February last, and the Huzur Deputy Collector gave his final judgment in the case on the 15th of this month. It will be thus seen that the principal accused, Janu Patel, was in custody as an under-trial prisoner for six months. But of these six months the hearing before the Huzur Deputy Collector occupied four months. These hearings numbered no less than 105, and some 86 witnesses in all were examined in the case. The fees of the Public Prosecutor alone are said to have amounted to Rs. 2,625, and process fees about Rs. 200 at the least. The expenses of Government, therefore, in this case, may be said to have amounted to Rs. 3,000. As for the accused, his costs are estimated at Rs. 10,000. The net result of all these proceedings was that the principal accused, Janu Patel, was convicted and sentenced to twenty-four hours' rigorous imprisonment and a tine of twenty rupees. Any comment on this case is unnecessary If the case had been tried by the *punch* (jury, of old, it would have taken only a few minutes to decide it.

ELSEWHERE is published the judgment delivered by the Sessions Judge of Murshidabad in the case in which Babu Tarini Prosad Dhur and five others had been convicted and sentenced by the District ne month's rigor imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100, and the others to three weeks' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 20 each. The facts of the case are briefly these :- At Jungipur an annual religious procession takes place, known as Tulsi Bihar. This procession is organized by Babu Tarini Prasad Dhar, the brother and manger of the lady-Sebait of the Thakur, in whose honour it takes place. In this procession the Thakur is carried from Jungipur to Raghunathgunge and placed there in the temple known as the Tulsi Biharbari. Now, on the occasion of the last procession, which took place on the 12th May last, there were carried with the procession a double-barrelled gun and two swords. When the procession had entered the Tulsi Biharbari and was approaching the shrine itself, two constables seized the gun and a sword Thereupon, it is alleged by the prosecution, the last five accused with some other burkundazes, acting under Tarini Babu's orders made a combined attack upon the con-stables, beat them and snatched the weapons from their grasp. It will thus be seen that the constables were the aggressors. In justification of their conduct, they put forward that they were under the belief that the processionists possessed no license for the gun and swords. With reference to this argument, it was, however, found that the Sebait held a license for four guns and four swords, and the Sessions Judge remarked that, of this licence "the police of Raghunathgunge and Jangipur are of course well aware." Thus the reason assigned by the constables for their conduct was plainly nothing but a "false and frivolous pretext." As regards the allegation that Babu Tarini Prasad gave orders to his men to attack and beat the constables, the Judge holds that the evidence on this point "instead of corroborating the constables negatives their stories." One may natural-ly ask, what then led the constables to act in this way? The reply will be found in the following sentence in the judgment of the Sessions Judge: "Their (the cons-tables,) intention was plainly to insult and annoy and to obtain a handle for proceedings against the manager and servants of Nityakali (the Sebait) with whom the Police officers of the Raghunathgunge Police station are ad-mittedly at feud." The case is one, out of thousands that happen in this country, which shows that even the meanest officials possess irresistible powers in this country. The constables were wholly in the wrong from the beginning to the end; and yet, the District Magistrate not only justified their high-handed illegalities, but convicted their victims,-

that the powers of the Magistrates should be curbed and not increased in the interests of the people. Indeed, the standing complaint of the people is to save them from the high-handedness of the Magistrates.

JOTENDRA NATH BANERJEA, a Bengali routh of good education and a gentleman by by birth, is serving the Gaekwar State as a common soldier on a pay of Rs. 7 or 8 ! It is because he has no opening in his own country As a gentleman of education, the life of a common soldier must be degrading to him. But be latter will be placed in a very awkward what can he do? He is ambitious of entering the army as Suresh Biswas was. The latter found opportunities to distinguish himself. But Jotendra Nath is in his own country, and therefore he has no such opportunities.

> It is understood that the questions of reduc-ing the transfer of District officials, also of im-proving the Indian Police are not being lost sight of by the Government of India. It is not yet possible to say how soon orders will issue upon them, as an immense amount has first to the whole matter has been most fully looked into. It is looked upon at Simla, however, as of the greatest importance, and it is understood that nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of its early consideration.

MR. PEDLER'S NEW SCHEME .--- II.

(Communicated.)

IT must be from the very best of motives that Mr. Pedler has proposed his new scheme. He means well to our vernacular school-going pooulation; but then, owing to his want of knowedge of the educational needs of our country, Mr. Pedler always runs into extremes. Certainly his antecedents are not in his favour. He was formerly second assistant to the professor of chemistry,South Kensington; and then professor of of chemistry, Presidency College, Calcutta. From this post he has now been raised to the head of the Education Department in Bengal. There was an interim of about six months between his chemistry professorship and his present Directorship, during which he officiated as Inspector of Schools, Western & Behar Circles. It was during this officiating incumbency that he acquired all the practical experience of the mofussil and the educational requirements of country that he can command.

Taking a common-sense view of the case, and certainly without meaning any disparagement to Mr. Pedler's high qualiications as a scientist, we must say that this sort of experience counts very little towards his being justified in pronouncing an opinion on the condition of the province in his charge with any authority that may be called high. Mr. Pedler will kindly excuse us, when we say that it is his inexperience alone that has made his scheme what it should not be. We must admit that Mr. Pedler has very wisely supplemented his Kindergarten scheme in the method of imparting instructions, by the provision of object-lessons. This is well and good, for we are always of opinion that the Kindergarten and the object-lesson methods form two inseparable parts of one harmonious whole. That may well be styled the scientific method of educating our boys and girls. But we are sorry to have to state that, perhaps owing to his being deeply absorbed in scientific pursuits from head to foot, he seems to have rather overlooked commonsense, and, as a consequence, driven matters to extremes. If one were to closely examine the syllabus of object-lessons proposed by Mr. Pedler, he would be at a loss to understand how one or two at least of the items of his long array of object-lessons could be realized in practice. Mr. Pedler lays down that a boy of five years will have to be taught what the body is made of, and a boy of seven years to be taught what is blood, what is brain, what is skin and what are the secondary and primary colours. If this recommendation of Mr. Pedler could actually be carried out, it would no doubt do infinite good to our community. But the fact is it is impossible. With our respect and esteem for Mr. Pedler as a scientific man, we are compelled to say that, if this recommendation be bodily adopted, the inevitable consequence would be to destroy what brain and blood the poor boy or girl may have been endowed with by Nature. We appeal to Mr. Pedler him-self and ask him, if he were to-day appointed to teach these lessons to our infants, could he be able to do justice to his subject? But he must know the difference between himself as teacher and the ordinary teaching staff available n our country is as between heaven and hell. The Central Provinces system of vernacular education, which Mr. Pelder so strongly advocates, seems to be an institution of recent ori-gin, having been introduced only about ten or twelve years ago, and as such cannot, with any degree of propriety, be said to have had sufficient trial to recommend its safe introduction into our province. The Central Provinces system is no doubt a close and faithful imitation of the system in vogue in Ireland, and if the Irish system be regarded not fit for introduction here in Bengal, *celeris paribus* the Central Provinces system is also not so fit. Considering the difference in the conditions of the two Provinces, we can safely say the introduction of the Central Provinces system in our province does not seem to be indispensably necesary. In the Central Provinces there was no indigenous system of vernacular education at work worth the name; whereas in Bengal there has been in existence from time immemorial such a system, a pretty perfect system too, having regard to the condi ions of the country. In the face of the existing system, which has been pro nounced to be suited to the instinct of the vast population of the country and to their educational needs by no less an authority than the members of the late Education Commission and the Late Sir George Campbell, one would think that the present Director of Public Instruction should thrice consider before he thrusts his innovation upon our vernacular schools. There is no denying the fact that the Bengal system was strongly recommended by the Education Commission as the fittest; and ac cording to the law of the survival of the fittest, subsequently bodily adopted by the Govern-ment of Sir George Campbell than whom no

one of them, a highly respectable man,—and sentenced them to rigorous imprisonment. And Lord Curzon, it is said, intends to makə the Magistrates more powerful than they are. His Excellency, we are afraid, is not aware the subject of primary education was dealt with in it and how fitly Sir George Campbell prescribed practical subjects for introduction into our vernacular schools. It was Sir George Campbell who first found the neces sity of introducing scientific instruction in our country as the only means for the ameliora-tion and advancement of its condition. And he was quite right, for it is an undoubted fact that science teaching and its final ap-plication into arts has made Europe what it is. But the conditions of the European countries and India are greatly different. India has resources but no capital. However much we might instruct our school-boys in science and initiate them into the way of how to apply their knowledge to practical arts, the fact that there would be no capital forthcoming to help them when they enter the world, would no doubt be a serious obstacle in their struggle for life. Indeed, our present Lieutenant-Governor, a very energetic ruler, has of late announced his intention of establishing techni-cal schools in the different districts of the province under his charge. Sure it is, in these technical schools, the means for the sort of instruction that is wanted to make our boys upon them, as an immense amount has first to be done in the way of collecting opinions from local authorities, and no steps can be taken until His Honour, we feel bound to say that there is no means in the present state of our country to remove the serious difficulty of want of capital to help our boys in after life, to speak nothing of our utter inability to cope with European capital. This fact struck the keen-eyed Sir George Campbell, and this was why he did not like to disturb the existing system of vernacular education, which was deep-rooted in the country and which was calculated to bring money into the pockets of those of our vernacular school-boys, whose education ended in the vernacular schools.

It was thus that he thought it proper to retain the Zemindari, Mahajani and Bazar accounts and simple Mensuration as the most mportant practical subjects for the moffussil people. He said in so many words that instruction in these subjects was indispensably necessary, so far as a systematic course of instruc-tion in these would turn out many Zemindari Amlahs and tradesmen's accountants and thus enable the poor people of moffusil, to earn their livelihood and to be in many other respects useful members of society. These have now been condemned and subjects abolished to the great detriment of the interests of the motussil people generally and of the land-holding and mercan-tile communities in particular. But whatever that may be, the necessity of instruction in these subjects has never ceased to exist and the time no doubt will come when our rulers would see their way to their restoration as fit subjects for instruction. We have said that Mr. Pedler speaks too

highly of the Central Provinces system. Indeed, it has many things to recommend it for adoption in Bengal. But you do not propose to do it. If the system now at work in the Central Provinces be your model, why not by all means adopt it in its entirety? This system prescribes separate text-books on separate subects. It prescribes a science text book of a con-siderable number of pages, being in fact a ver-batim translation of Mr. Balfour Stewart's Science Primer in the vernacular of the province. It prescribes grammar as a subject, which is indispensably necessary for the study of literature. It has prescribed text-books on literature and all other subjects, consisting of a respectable number of pages. A great multiplicity of sub-jects and consequently of text-books is a thing to be done away with and to accomplish this object it has prescribed certain subjects as compulsory and has placed the remainng subjects on the optional list. The fact is that it does not sacrifice sense for the sake of saving money, and it does not make a hotch-potch of many things. It has abolish-1 the sys ual training , such as arpentry and other things, simply because it the Hon. Mr. C. E. Buckland, C. I. E., learnt to know that it is impossible to prescribe these things as compulsory subjects n a soceity of which the caste system enters at the very root. You seem to be fascinated with the system in vogue in the Central Provinces, But what do you do towards its introduction into your own Province ? You have gnored the study of grammar as an indepenlent subject. You have reduced text-books on all subjects to the merest skeleton, as if this sort of laconic entertainment is the only means towards the attainment of the Government object, *i. e.* the development of the mental faculties of the boys. The Central Pro vinces system prescribes certain subjects as compulsory and makes others optional, whereas you retain all the subjects, but prescribe such text-books on them as would surely eventually lead to the deterioration of education and to the final shapeless mutilation and literature things of past. Surely this is cursory view of it forcibly reminds one of the famous story of Canute the Great and his courtiers. Our only hope lies in the wise discretion of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. His Honour, we are sure, has great foresight. He is a very able, and experi-enced administrator and understands and respects the feelings of his people. He knows the educational and other needs of the vast population entrusted to his charge, and we are sure he will deeply consider the matter before committing himself to any policy of a novel nature. We may rest assured that our trust is safe in the hands of Sir John Woodburn, and that his wisdom will guide him to a scheme which will advance the hightest interests of the country.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

A MEMORIAL MEETING. - A memorial meeting in honor of the late Babu Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee was held on Thursday last to consider steps to be taken to perpetuate his memory, at the Calcutta High School.

AN OFFICIATING APPOINTMENT .- Mr. H. E Girard, Senior Appraiser, Calcutta Customs House, is appointed to act as 2nd Assistant Collector of Customs, Calcutta, and Import Superintendent, vice Mr. J. A. E. Burrup, on

AN ACCIDENT ON THE RIVER .-- On Thurs day morning a passenger boat, with a full complement of passengers in it, was crossing the river from Telkul Ghat when it accidentally struck against a steam launch and was capsized The passengers all fell into the river but were saved one and all by the crew of the launch.

HIGH COURT.-The Court closed for the long vacation from Friday. Justices Sale and Stanle will preside over the Vacation Bench which wil hear all criminal cases and urgent civil matters. Besides the gazetted holidays the Bench will sit, as at present arranged, on every Tuesday and Thursday.

ALIPORE DISTRICT BOARD .-- On Monday last at a special meeting of the Alipore District Board, the proposed lines of steam tramway (1) from Calcutta to Amtolla, (2) from Bagbazar through Baranagar to Tittaghur, (3) from Cossipore ghat to Bhangore ghat were sanctioned The District Board approved of the intention of Messrs. Burn and Company, Ld., to apply to the Local Government for sanction to construct and work the above lines.

CALCUTTA CORPORATION .- The sixth ordinary monthly meeting of the Commissioners of Calcutta was held on Wednesday, at the Town Hall at 4. P. M. There were 24 Commissioners present, of whom 9 were elected--one European and 8 natives, and 15 nominated-12 Europeans and three natives. Of the Europeans there were some who had very seldom, if ever attend-ed Municipal meetings. The business transact-ed was only of a formal character.

A SESSIONS CASE .- In the last Comilla Sesions there came up for trial the case, in which it was alleged, one Baishnab Charan Saha who has absconded, with a relation Anundo Chandra Saha and several others, of a village called Bangalpara, in the jurisdiction of the Austogram thana, in Mymensing, had forcibly taken away a girl, aged between sixteen and eighteen years, while she was asleep with her ausband, Bharat Saha, in his house at Goalnagore, a village in the jurisdiction of the Nasir agore thana, in the Tippera district. Goalnagore and Bangalpara are about four miles apart, with the river Meghna between. The girl was said to have been confined in several places for the space of over twenty-four hours, after which she was brought back to her village before day-break by those who had taken her way. The girl's husband, it was said, was in intrigue with a co-vallager's wife, who is the ister of Baishnab Saha. Hence it was alleged by the prosecution that Baishnab and others had forcibly taken away the girl as a punishment to her husband for bringing disgrace on Baish-nab's family. Anundo Chandar Saha was sent up for trial, as no other arrests could be made. The prosecution charged him under sections 366, 365, and 346 of the Penal Code, with having forcibly taken away the girl and wrongfully confined her. The Officiating Sessions Judge, Baboo Dwarka Nath Mitter, believed that the girl had been confined, but acquitted the accused of the offences under sections 366, 365 and 346, and sentenced him to two years' rigor-ous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200.

THE PREVENTION OF CROP PARASITES .-In the course of a lecture delivered by Mr. N. G. Mukerji, M. A., M. R.A.C., at a meeting of the Indian Industrial Association, held strike the Corporal twice on the chest, and on the 26th August, under the presidency of

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY .-- Mr. Casperz and the Hon'ble Dr. Ashutosh Mookerjee have been appointed Examiners for the ensuing Honours-in-law Examination to be held in November next.

CROP PROSPECTS IN BENGAL.—The rain during the week was moderate in amount, but general in its distribution. The transplantation of winter rice is being rapidly completed, and the reports of the crop are generally good. More rain is, however, still required in Puri and Angul and in the Chota Nagpur Division. Some slight damage by insects is reported from Cuttack and Puri. Early rice is being harvest-ed. Jute is being cut and steeped. The *bhadoi* harvest in Bihar is yielding a poor outturn, as was expected. The price of common rice has fallen in some districts, but on the whole it is practically stationary.

A FALSE STORY.—*Anent* the story of a Police Sub-Inspector having been murdered by a Hindu lady whose honour he had tried to violate, which was published in these columns, the *Advocate* says:—We have the authority to say that no such case came up before the Lucknow Sessions. Some two months ago this very story reached us; we did not choose to publish it withreached us; we did not choose to publish it with-out first being sure of its veracity. We then made enquiries as we have done now and were told that the whole account is a pure fabrication and that the whole account is a pure horication and the result of some person's imaginations. We do not know how the story came in circulation, but it is so widely circulated that people from adjoining districts, long before it found its way into the columns of the Calcutta papers, asked us whether the murder of any Sub-Inspector of Police had happened under the circumstances mentioned above.

A CASE OF TEA GARDEN RIOTING .- Mr. G. E. Collins of Khalijan Tea Estate is prosecuting a batch of christian coolies, working as free labourers in his garden, for rioting and attempting to assault him. The story of the prosecution is that some time ago, the complain-ant, having found fault with the work done by the coolies, told them to do the work again, that a short while after, when Mr. Collins was returning to his bunglow from another part of the garden, the coolies headed by their Sardar met him on [the road, some of them actually catching hold of his trap, thus preventing him from proceeding further, on the way, and the whole body of them shouting maro, maro. It is said that Mr. Collins narrowly escaped being assaulted by taking a little time by feignbeing assaulted by taking a little time by leigh-ing to take down their names and then running away from the place by giving a sharp cut with his whip to his pony. The Deputy Commis-sioner has framed charges under Sec. 147 against all the accused. The accused deny the occurrence altogether, though the Sardar says that he was struck with a stick by Mr. Collins, who was dissatisfied with the work done by his coolies.- Eastern Herald.

STRANGE STORY OF A CRIME.-A Dinapore correspondent writes to the Morning Post.-"I am at last able to throw some light on what has been regarded as a mystery ever since its occurrence at Dinapore three weeks ago :--Some of the Garrison troops were out for a trip on the river on a hired steamboat. The next day a Corporal of the Royal Munster Fusiliers was missed. The authorities regarded the man's loss as due to desertion, or drunkenness and consequent drowning, and it was decided not to inform the deceased's brother, who is up in Lebong, till some discovery could be made. Since then the strange relations of Lance-Sergeant Lowe, attached to the Gymnasium of the R. M. F., and a drummer-boy have been remarked and watched. The boy seemed to dog the footsteps of the Sergeant, to follow him as if under his influence, which Lowe several times incautiously resented, and both seemed to have a miserable secret between them. The drummer-boy, apparently not being able to bear the strain any longer, at last confessed to the Drum-Major that the Corporal had been murdered by Lowe. The lad stated that he saw the accused

THE recent floods in the Southern Shan States have swept away all bridges beyond the Salween River.

the lecturer said that it was a useful little saying that prevention was better than cure. It was extremely difficult to deal with a parasite when it had got the upper hand, and when it when it had got the upper hand, and when it persistently appeared year after year and affected miles and miles of rice, or tea or mulberry or sugarcane. They might, by bellowing or spraying insecticides or fungicides, destroy the parasites in their own fields; but what about their neighbour's field? The parasites soon re-invaded the fields unless there was a united and simultaneous effort on the part of all the cultivators affected, to destroy or drive away the parasities. It sometimes happened, of course, that Nature herself came to their rescue when parasitism reached an acute stage, and there was a natural remedy in the shape of parasites on parasites. The most recent instance of this, which had come to his notice, was the tigerand annihilation of the growing literature of beetle bicindela sex punctala. These are highly our country. You know that the University here destructive of the two chief enemies of does not recognise the Bengali language, and if you would persist in bringing about the re-volution you have proposed, your action would surely in no time render the names of Pundit I swar Chandra Vidyasagar, Akshoy Kumar Dutt and other pioneers of the Bengali language and literature things of past. Surely this is and literature things of past. Survey this is notable example of this principle. Spraying or bellowing of insecticides and fungicides, be-as you professed. The fact is, the more one studies Mr. Pedler's scheme the more he is impressed with the idea that a more palpable piece of absurdity never saw the light of day. notable example of this principle. Spraying Mr. Pedler's is a Utopian scheme, pure and simple, so palpably unreasonable that a mere and in some cases to human health and in some cases to human health. As a general rule, the application of the more effective insecticides and fungicides was attended with some risk and loss. It was more desirable to adopt preventive than remedial measures, i e, to avoid the pests rather than deal with them when they to avoid the appear. Preventive measures were easier, less costly, not attended with risks and more effec-tive. The preventive measures he would classify under the following heads:-(1st) Rotation. (2nd) Tillage. (3rd) Hurdling of cattle and poultry. (4th) Selection and preservation of seed. (5th) Picking of seed and seedlings. After dealing with each of these points in detail the lecturer in conclusion said there were certain pests such as the locust, for which special remedial measures had been found highly satisfactory, but his object that evening was merely to point out that by adopting certain preventive measures the cultivator could wellnigh avoid pests and parasites and the application of insecticides and fungicides which in nost cases was not practicable.

then throw him overboard. The murderer subsequently threatened the life of the boy, the sole witness of the crime, if the latter revealed what he had seen. Lance-Sergeant Lowe is in the cells, and a General Court-martial will be shortly held to try the prisoner.

THE TELEGRAPHIC PRESS MESSAGES ACT. Says the Capital :- We notice that in the statement of "Objects and Reasons" of this uncalled-for Bill, the Hon. Mr. Rivaz said : " The great importance to the Indian public of a first. rate service of telegraphic news cannot be deni-ed; it is undoubted that enterprise in that direction is being checked because the existing law recognizes no right of property in public tele-grams." In its issue of Friday last the *Pioneer* claims that this Bill is "more in the interests of the public than of newspaper proprietors." We may at once say, that almost the whole of the newspaper proprietors in India are against the Bill, and that the public have not asked for it. It then adds : " It is no secret that in anticipation of the passing of the Bill, Reuter is preparing to organize a special telegraphic service supplementary to the present ordinary service, and that if the Bill is passed, this arrangement will probably be brought into working in the course of a few months, and the public will come into the enjoyment of a greatly improved service. But its institution obviousy depends on the passing of the Bill." Now his greatly improved service about which the Pioneer makes so much has been offered by Reuter to the Indian newspapers, provided a dozen papers give in their adhesion, on pay-ment of Rs. 200 per month by each, and he undertakes for this to start a special service, averaging 50 words daily, exclusive of Sundays. He proposes to adopt the lines of the special service made to the *Pioneer*, "of which some of the Indian newspapers have shown their appreciation by republishing the same." Now Rs. 200 a month should be absolutely a flea-bite to Indian daily papers with any decent circulation. It amounts roughly to 10s. a day, and it seems to us that if our daily papers cannot incur an expenditure of 10s. a day, to give the public a valuable service without requiring a special Act, the sooner they shut up the better. The whole thing is absolutely too ridiculous. We think that the Government would be well advised to ask those newspapers that are cla-mouring for this Act, to lay before them their balance-sheets to show whether their profits and circulation are decreasing or increasing. Are we to understand that the *Pioneer*, Times of India, Madras Mail, Civil and Mili-tary Gazette, and Morning Post of Delhi, would be ruined by an expenditure of 10s. a day, be-cause that is the only logical inference to be drawn from their desire to have this Bill passed?



THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA SEPTEMBER, 10, 1899.

A special telegram to the *Pioneer* states that the Institute of Journalists claim "the legthat the Institute of Journalists claim "the leg-al recognition of the right to enjoy the product of *individual* enterprise." Most people will agree with this. If the *Pioneer* sends a special cor-respondent to a Frontier War, his letters should be protected. We do not suppose that the *Daily Telegraph* or *Morning Post* would ask for a special Act of Parliament to justify them in granding to shifting a day. But related in spending 10 shillings a day. But what we want to know is, where do the public come in over this? Let us follow, not precede, the British Parliament. No Act has yet been passed in England.

THE JUNGIPUR ARMS ACT CASE.

THE following judgment was delivered by Mr. Teunon Sessions Judge, Murshidabad on an appeal from the order of J. A. Ezechiel, District Magistrate of Murshidabad, dated the 19th July 1899, convicting the appellants under sections 353-149 I. P. C and sentencing Tarini Prosad Dhur to one month's rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 100, in default to suffer one month's further rigorous imprisonment and the other five appellants to three weeks' rigorous imprisonment and to a fine of Rupees 20 each, in default to suffer 3 weeks' further rigorous imprisonment. The hon'ble Babu Baikunt Nath Sen and Babu Haradhan Nag appeared for the appel-lants while the Government Pleader appeared

lants while the Government Pleader appeared in support of the conviction.

From the evidence in this case, it appears that a Jangipur, Raghunathgunge, there takes place year by year a religious procession known as the Tulsi Behar.

In this procession a Thakur is carried from Jangipur to Raghunathgunge and placed in state in a shrine in the Tulsi Beharbari. The sebait of the Thakur is the local zemindar, Nityakali Dasi, by whose people the proces-sion is organized. The appellant Tarini Prosad Dhar is her brother and manager.

In the procession of the 12th May last were carried a double-barelled gun and two swords. When the procession had entered the Tulsi Beharbari and was approaching the shrine two constables, Rameswar and Ram Logon, seized hold of the gun and one of the swords. Their hold of the gun and one of the swords. Ther intention was, they say, to take the arms to the Thanah, and the reason they put forward for their action is that they believed and had reason to believe that the gun and sword were arms for which no license (*i e* license in Form viii) was held. The gunbearer and sword-bearer declined to give up their weapons, and the constables did not in fact succeed in disarming them. The case for the prosecution is that, under the orders of Tarini Prasad, the five other appellants and other burkhandazes in the procession made a combined attack upon the constables, beat them and snatched the gun and sword from their

grasp. In the fight one constable lost his pagri and had his *jumper* torn and the other sustained a bruise on the forehead. On the other side, one of the appellants sustained an injury to one hand. There are no other injuries or marks of injury on either side.

Thus the first question that arises in this case appears to be this—Were the constables justified in seizing hold of the gun and sword and in attempting to disarm the bearers theres of. The magistrate has not found that in fact the gun was one for which no license was held. On this point he comes to no distinct finding but, if I understand his judgment aright he was not on this point satisfied with the prosecution evidence. As a matter of fact, Nincleic Deci holds a license for fact, Nityakali Dasi holds a license for four guns and four swords. The license also covers four retainers. One of the guns kept under this license is a double-barrelled one. In the procession there were but one gun and two swords. There can be no reason for supposing that Nityakali's manager and servants would leave their licensed guns and swords in store and would select for use on an occasion such as this an unlicensed gun and unlicensed swords. Further, though the constables wish to make Further, though the constables wish to make out that the bearers asserted that they had no caught Karim and handed him over to the license, what they were in fact told, would appear to be that the license had been left at home and could not be shewn in the procession. On this point the evidence of the Excise peon Rakhal, and a statement by the constable Rameswar in cross-examination are of importance. Moreover, of Nityakali's license the police of Raghunathgunge and Jangipur are of course well aware.

imposing sentence. For the conduct of this procession and for the carrying of arms there-in permission had been obtained from the District Superintendent of Police. The petition with the District Superintendent's orders endorsed thereon was returned to Nityakali's agent for presentation at the Raghunathgunge Police station. The officers of that station deny that they received the petition and order. There is, however, evidence that it was sent to Jangipur in good time and that one of Nitya-kali's servants handed it in either Police station. This evidence is corroborated by the fact that the Police officers at Jangipur and Raghunathgunge did not suppose that they had any reason to interfere with the procession itself or with the carrying of any but unlicensed guns herein-those responsible for the proces-

The local Police officers, and perhaps the District Superintendent himself, all thought that his permission was sufficient. When there the constables, as I have found, could not have supposed that the gun was an unlicensed one, and when also they were ignorant thath the carrying of a licensed gun in this procession constituted an offence, it is clear that they did not act in good faith On the other hand, both carrying the gun and sword and in resist. both carrying the gun and sword and in resist-ting the attempted seizure, the arms-bearers did only what they believed they were justified in doing. These are circumstances which the Magistrate should not have overlooked even when he came to the finding that the action of the constables was not strictly speaking illegal.

In the view I have taken of the law the constables were not justified in attempting to seize this gun and swords. In their interferencewith this religious procession, as the Thakur approached his shrine, they were obviously also not actuated by any desire to discharge their duty. Their intention was plainly to insult and annoy and to obtain a handle for proceedings against the manager and servants of Nityakali, with whom Police officers of the Raghunathgunge Police station are admittedly at feud.

The trifling injuries and losses sustained by the constables are not more than they might well have suffered in a struggle with the bearers of the gun and sword. As to any combined or organized attack upon them, and as to any order by the appellant Tarini Prasad, they are not corroborated. On the contrary, the witness Ram Doyal, who, on the evidence of the constable, should have heard the order, if given in fact, heard no such order. His evidence, thus instead of corroborating the constables, negatives their story, and he is a credible witness.

When the conduct of these constables is considered their evidence uncorroborated is to be looked upon as unworthy of the slightest credit.

The appellants are acquitted. Their bail-bonds discharged. The fines, if paid, will be refunded.

OUTRAGES IN MYMENSINGH.

THE following cases of outrage have been published in the *Sanjibani* as having occurred recently in Eastern Bengal :--I. Girish Chandra Pal of Secundernagar,

in the Kishoregunj Sub-division, complained that on the 2nd August last, when he and his brother were away, Joychandra Nath, Abdul and four others entered his house at midnight, forecibly carried off his young pregnant wife and ravished her. A little before dawn, they brought her to a field close to his house and left her there. Joychandra and Abdul have peen arrested, while the rest are non est. The Deputy Magistrate after taking evidence has committed the accused to the Sessions.

2. On the 12th July last, Mohar Mudi of Jamalpur was away from his house at night, when Karim Mudi entered his house and indecently assaulted his wife. On hearing her Chowkidar. A complaint was lodged in due course at the Police station. The Sub-Inspector, after a long time, reported the case to be false and asked for permission to prosecute the complainant under section. 211 I. P. C. The Police Inspector also was of the same opinion. Having come to know of this, the complainant filed a plaint before the Sub-Deputy Magistrate, who enquired into it personally and sent it up for trial to the Deputy Magistrate. The Deputy Magistrate of Jamalpur found the accused guilty under sections 457 and 358 I. P. C. and sentenced him to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. On the 14th August last, Ramgati of Mahiramkul lodged a complaint before the Sub-divisional Officer of Jamalpur that on the 28th Sraban last a Police Sub-Inspector and Abdul constable brought away the complainant's wife and an 8-year old daughter in connection with a theft case and that since then he had heard nothing of them. The Sub-divisional Officer sent for a report to be submitted within the 21st idem from the Jamalpur Thana. On that day no report was submitted ; and afterwards the senior Sub-Inspector sent in only a vaguely-worded and indefinite report. That report admits the fact of the woman and the girl having been brought to the Thana, but it is silent as to their present whereabouts. Thereupon the Sub-divisional Officer ordered in Police Inspector to investigate the matter and submit an early report. But none is yet forthcoming. In the meantime a searchwarrant was issued returnable on the 4th instant.

Endian Rews.

A PUPIL-TEACHER, named Ross Lawrence of the Lawrence Asylum, Sanawar, has been bitten by a mad dog, aud despatched to Paris for treatment.

THE hired transport Dunera on her first voyage from England to Bombay, left England on Tuesday, and is expected to arrive at Bombay on the 28th instant.

THE Government of India have sanctioned the reduction of the garrison of Keng Tung by half a battalion of Native Infantry. This reduction will be carried out next winter.

THE Inspector-General of Education, Mysore, has been called upon to submit a memorandum on the subject of Eye-Sight of School Children by the Mysore Government.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made by the nilitary authorities for a camp at Delhi for a party of Austrian Astronomers, who will visit India during October next on a scientific mission.

THE Manmad-Jalna Section of the Hydera bad-Godavery Railway will be formally opened for 140 miles, or 30 miles beyond Jaha, in the Nizam's territory, on October 1st. Materials for rolling-stock are expected from England next week

GOVERNMENT has approved of the suggestion of Mr. Hammick, the Special Commis-sioner in Madura and Tinnevelly, that all cases arising in Madura out of the anti-Shanar disturbances should be tried or committed for trial by Mr. S. W. J. I. MacIver, Special First ClassMagistrate. All cases which Mr. MacIver commits for trial will be tried in the Tinnevelly Sessions Division.

GOVERNMENT has approved of the inclusion in the Tinnevelly Punitive Police scheme of certain villages constituting that portion of the Sivakasi police station limits which lies within Srivilliputtur taluq. These villages include Naduvapatti, the home of the notorious Vellaya Tevan, for whose apprehension a reward of Rs. 500 has been offered. These villages were previously omitted by oversight.

MR. M. I. PHILIP, of the Madras Medical Service, has been on a visit to Calcutta. As the representative of the Hospital Assistants service on the Council of the Indian Medical Association, he has done excellent work for his brethren, as they will soon see Mr. Philip has spent much of his leisure in visiting the large hospitals of thfs city.

THERE is, *Railways* understands, not the remotest chance of and further surveys being made in the near future of the proposed Indo-Burma connection by rail. The Assam-Burma Railway is out side the present sphere of practical politics, unless any private company can be found enterprising enough to embark in the scheme without a guarantee and successfully float a company with the required capital.

MR. GREEN, a passed student of the Engi-neer Class, Fhomason Civil EngineeringCollege, Rurki, has been appointed to the provincial service, in the Engineer Branch of the Public Works Department as Assistant Engineer, 3rd Works Department as Assistant Engineer, 3rd grade, with effect from the 9th of August 1899, and is posted to State Railways. Mr. Smith and Mr. Verna, passed students of the Thomason College, Rurki, have been appointed to the provincial service in the Engineer Branch of the Public Works Department as Assistant Engineers, 3rd grade, with effect from the 18th and 8th of August, 1899, respectively and post-ed to the Punjab.

THERE has been a scavenger's strike in Nagpore city. The excuse for striking work was that the Health Officer reduced the men's wages, and that the system of fines and suspensions, to which they had never before been subjected, had been adopted by the Health Department. On an investigation of the alleged grievances, it a wages was a myth, while the control of the scavengers required on occasions fines and suspensions but that the latter inflictions were not a new departure. The interference of the Police, and a suggestion to prosecute the ring-leaders under Section 110 of the Indian Penal Code, brought the strike to an end. THE Madras Municipality recently demanded for the first time during the last 20 years a pro-fession tax from Mr. Earnest Barclay, Govern-ment Solicitor. The latter refused to pay on his salary, as he contended the Municipality had no right to charge him on a remuneration from one particular chent, as he already paid pro-fession tax as a solicitor practicing in Madras. Mr. Barclay contended further that Govern-ment was his client, and instead of paying the ment was his crient, and instead of paying the bill of costs, compounded for his services with a monthly sum. The Municipality treated his refusal as an appeal and dismissed it. He has preferred an appeal to the Bench of Magistrates. The appeal will be heard on the 20th instant. A PARIAH young man living in Popham's Broadway ran amok between 7 and 9 night killing two and stabbing 12 people. Some time ago he had a quarrel with some Mahomedans about his place, in which he was injured. Since then he has been brooding over the affair and has entertained bitter feelings against the Mahomedans. Last night, apparently after drinking heavily, he came to his house and asked his wife if she was willing to die with him. In spite of her piteous appeal he stabbed her in the stomach, and ran out of his house to the Mahomedan quarter, where he inflicted wounds on about a dozen people. He eventually surrendered himself to the police. The injured, including the wife, are progressing towards recovery under medical treatment. A CORRESPONDENT writes :- Elaborate pre parations are being made in Lahore for parations are being made in Lanore for celebrating a grand yajna in view of the inauspiciousness of the current year. The Samvat 1956 is described to be very disastrous in the books of the Hindu pandit. My pandit was telling me that the Shastras suggest dark forebodings for men as well as animals. There has never been a sapta-graha within living. has never been a sapta-graha within living memory. It occurs this year, but not without its evil effect upon the people. In order to allay its effect and invoke the mercy of gods the Hindoos of this place have decided to celebrate a yajna. A subscription list has been opened, and about Rs. 1,500 have been subscribed. A number of pandits have been sent for from Benares. The yajna takes place shortly in a spacious building.

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, SEPT. 8.

Reuter learns that at a meeting of the Cabinet today, it was decided to send a strong despatch to the Transvaal Government, which will probably be published in London when it is received in Pretoria. It is reported that the Cabinet also decided to send 10,000 troops to Nated emiser to the convert form that emission Natal, owing to the appeal from that quarter, but not to call out the reserves at present.

The Pall Mall Gazette states that in the despatch, which the Cabinet have de cided to send to the Transvaal, the British Government refuses to entertain any idea of relinquishing British suzerainty, and reminds President Kruger that the offer of joint inquiry cannot remain open in definitely.

There was absolute unanimity of opinion at yesterday's Cabinet Council regarding the Transvaal.

LONDON, SEPT. 9.

It is understood that the 10,000 troops for Natal include 4,000 of those to be sent from India.

LONDON, SEPT. 5.

The report that Sir Redvers Buller has been selected to command the forces in South Africa and also the reports regarding the despatch of fresh troops to the Cape which have been cur-rent to-day are declared to be unfounded.

LONDON, SEPT. 5. Tenders will be received up to the 13th insant for two million sterling of India Bills, repayable in six or twelve months, replacing the like amount payable on the 16th instant. The Bills will be issued in amounts of \pounds 1,000, \pounds 5,000 and \pounds 10,000.

LONDON, SEPT. 5

The Court at Rennes has refused to grant Maitre Labori's application that foreign powers should be asked to furnish the documents mentioned in the *bordereaux*.

LONDON, SEPT. 6.

The Transvaal Government has published its last despatch, in which it admits Great Britain's rights to protect her subjects under the Convention, but denies her right to suzerainty over the Transvaal, and accepts the proposed conference at Capetown.

LONDON, SEPT. 6. The air is full of unconfirmed rumours of troop movements due to the War Office warning forces which are likely to be required in case of hostilities.

LONDON, SEPT. 6. The Capetown News, which has hitherto been pro-Boer in its tendencies, says the public has no sympathy with the demand of the Boers that the British suzerainty shall be abandoned. LONDON, SEPT. 6.

The Clan Macgregor has been sunk after collision of the Portuguese coast. The crew has been landed at Cadiz. LONDON, SEPT. 6.

The Australians have beaten the South of England by 110 runs, Surrey vs. Warwick-shire ended in a draw.

LONDON, SEPT. 7.

Advices from Bloemfontein state that it is understood the Artillery reserves have been called out, and that the Burghers have been warned for service.

The Transvaal Government's last despatch to Mr. Chamberlain is regarded as having destroyed the last hope of peace.

RENNES, SEPT. 7. Cornuschi, the Hungarian refugee, is ill light and heat, and are grateful to the human and unable to appear in Court to-day. eye.

TELEGRAMS. [INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(From our own Correspondent.).) SIMLA, SEPT. 7. AT to-day's meeting of the Supreme Legislat-ive Council the Bill to amend the Central Prorinces Tenancy Act was passed. The Hon'ble Mr. Rivaz in moving for leave to postpone the presentation of the Select Committee's report on the Press Messages Bill, explained port on the Press Messages Bill, explained that the Committee entirely approved of the general principles of the Bill and had noticed that the Special Committee of the House of Lords in dealing with the Eng-lish Copyright Bill, had proposed protection for 18 hours to newspaper intelligence re-ceived from foreign countries. At the same time they had seen that the Bill had evoked considerable comment and adverse criticisms in both English and Vernacular press criticisms in both English and Vernacular press and on other quarters; and so they thought it desirable to defer further consideration of the Bilt till the Calcutta season. The leave prayed for was then granted. The Hon'ble Mr. Dawkins in introducing a Bill to amend the Indian Coinage and Paper Currency Act made a lengthy speech. It was time, he said, to terminate the uncertainty which hung said, to terminate the uncertainty which hung over India like a heavy cloud for nearly the quarter of a century. They must show their confidence in the new policy or else how could they expect the same confidence in others? They believed that success would be assured by the ordinary operations of trade. If there should be any temporary check, which, however, they did not anticipate, they had been assured by the Secretary of State for India that all means in the power of Government should be employed to remove that check. The Hon'ble Mr. Dawkins continued saying that no practi-cal inconvenience would arise from delay in the actual coinage of sovereigns at Indian the actual coinage of sovereigns at Indian Mints. His Excellency the Viceroy then delivered an interesting speech on the currency situation. His Excellency concluded his re-marks with these words: —"I do firmly believe and hope that subject to chances which none can foresee but against which we are on the watch, we shall by taking this measure invest the financial horoscope of India with that im-portance which it hitherto lacked and which it will be our duty to utilise in the interest of our clients, the Indian people."

THREATENED TRANSVAAL WAR.

(From our own Correspondent. SIMLA, SEPT. 7.

Intimation has been received here from home to arrange for the immediate despatch of troops for the Transvaal; and the detachments of the 5th Dragoons and the 2nd Gordons which were staying here, to join their headquarters pre-paratory to starting for the Cape. The intima-tion also shews that Sir Redvers Buller will command the forces with Major-General Sir A. Hunter, commanding Quetta as the chief-ofstaff.

ILLNESS OF THENASHIPUR RAJA.

(From a Correspondent) MURSHEDABAD, SEPT. 7. The Hon'ble Raja Bahadur of Nashipur has been indisposed since the 29th ultimo. His medical attendants do not advise his moving about for some time more. It is, however, hoped that he will be able to attend the Council a week later.

MANY of the houses in Manila have the windows constructed of translucent oyster shells instead of glass. These temper the

Thus the reason assigned by the constables for their conduct is plainly nothing but a false and frivolous pretext.

The Magistrate, however, finds that the bearers of the gun and swords were in fact committing an offence, inasmuch as no permission for carrying arms in this procession had been obtained from the District Magistrate. Such permission was necessary condition 5 endorsed on license in Form VIII and had not in fact been obtained. The offence thus committed is, however, I am of opinion, punishable not under Sec: 19 (E) of the Arms Act, as the Magistrate has held, but under section 20, and is therefore not cognisable. In any case, it is to be observed that the constables here did not seek to arrest as for a cognisable offence but merely to disarm. Power to disarm where arrest is not authorized or is not intended, is conferred by the 2nd clause of section 13 of the Arms Act. It is contended for the prosecution that this section authorizes every Magistrate and every Police officer to disarm, and that the qualification "specially empowered in this behalf," is

to be read only with "other person." If this had been intended, the words "by any" should have been inserted between the words "or" and "other person". As the section stands, the qualification must, I think, be read as applying to Magistrates and Police officers as well as to other persons.

Such a limitation of the power of Magistrates and Police officers, it is argued, is unintelligible. It is not, however, for judicial officers to explain the policy of the legislature. It is, at the same time, conceivable that the framers of the law were of opinion that all police officers, at least, could not be trusted with the power to take possession of arms, when the holder could not inso be taken into custody. Moreover when, la all serious cases, the offender may be placed under arrest, the power merely to disarm is not

very necessary. In the view I have taken of the law the constables in this case were not justified either in attempting to disarm or in attempting to arrest.

Even if they had been so justified, the fact that the offence leading to the attempted sizure and the resistance was a merely technical one, should have been taken into consideration in

IT has been settled that Mr. Pritchard goes as Accountant-General to Kashmir, and Mr. Newmarch as Comptroller to Assam.

ON the 2nd instant, some Waziris raided the flocks of the Nasir not far from the Gulkach Some Zhob levies went in pursuit, repost. covered the sheep, and killed one of the Waziris.

THE Recorder of Rangoon has ruled that the statements made by the accused soldiers, in the case of the outrage on the Burmese woman, to the officers could not be admitted as an inducement held not be admitted as an inducement held out to the men to confess. The jury found the accused Thorpe not guilty, adding a rider that the evidence showed the crime of rape was committed by a number of men of the West Kents, and regretting that sufficient evidence was not forthcoming to enable them to convict. The hearing of the cases will be resumed on Tuesday next. resumed on Tuesday next.

Maitre Labori submitted letters showing that Cornuschi was an immoral character, dishonest and mentally disordered. The President of the Court closed the evidence, and the Government Commissioner in his speech demanded the condemnation of the prisoner.

LONDON, SEPT. 8 It is stated that the force to be despatched from home to South Africa will consist of eight Brigades, namely, two of Cavalry, two of Guards, two of English, Scotch, and Irish Fusiliers, and two of Light Infantry. General Sir Redvers Buller will hold the chief command, and the other commands will be filled by Generals Wauchope, Lord Methuen, and Sir F. Carringtou.

A long debate took place in the Volksraad at Pretoria yesterday concerning the mobili-zation of British troops on the Transvaal frontiers. The reply of Sir A. Milner to the enquiry of Mr. Reits (State Secretary) there anent was read, in which Sir Alfred said he did not understand the allusion made to the massing of troops, but it was a matter of common knowledge that our troops in South Africa were intended to protect British interests and to provide against eventualities. All the speeches made by the members during the debate were at Mr. Chamberlain, which were not restrained by the infinence President Kruger endeavoured to bring to bear on the speakers. President Kruger urged moderation, although he said he felt that the Uitlanders wanted not the franchise, but the Boers' country. He again repudiated the British claim to suzerainty, and declared that he placed his trust in God.

THE 'ink-plant" grows in New Granada. Its juice can be used for writing without any pre-paration. At first the writing is red, but in a few hours it becomes black.

As the seasonal prospects in India begin to point to the imminence of more or less serious scarcity in various parts of the country a list of railway projects which might be utilised as famine relief works has been drawn up and submitted to the Government of India. No decision will be come to as to whether any of these projects will be taken up or other con-templated projects postponed until the situation is more clearly defined.

ON August 10th Peter Kushana Lo-Ben's (the son of an African Chief Lo-Ben Gula pro-jected entry into the matrimonial state had excited interest in many quarters. That the propective bride was an English lady. Miss Florence Kate Jewell by name, gave additional flavor to the romance.

THE correspondent of the *Ceylon Standard* writing from Kraal Town on Aug. 28, says:— Before a very large gathering of visitors and villagers, the elephants were kraaled at 10-20 A. M. to-day. Those who were standing in a line with the entrance to the stockade saw a sight not easily to be forgotten. In majestic style, the leader of the herd entered the gate and the others followed close upon his hills. Twice before they had almost entered the kraal, but retreated hastily owing to the noise made by the people about. A she-elephant with a baby avoiding the first fence ran towards the right and came within a fathom or two of the trowd when some of the watchers opened fire and the people raised a deafening shout, which made the beast beat a hasty retreat and enter the gate of the stockade. As soon as the whole herd entered the gate, Mr. Tennekoon, P. M., who was all the time close to the entrance inside the stockade, barred the entrance inside the stockade, barred the gate with great dexterity. Ignorant of the exis-tence of a fence on the opposite side, they marched across, but to their discomfiture they found that they were surrounded on all sides. Then they began trumpeting and run-ning about from place to place, receiving a warm reception in several quarters. Twenty ele-bants have been breadled and there are some phants have been kraaled and there are some babies among them. The noosing, which had been undertaken by Mr. Wm. Dunuwilla, P. M., began sharp at 3 P. M. Five elephants with a tusker were introduced into the stockade with a tusker were introduced into the stockade to begin the capturing. After destroying the huge trees with the greatest ease, the tame elephants began chasing the wild ones and a sort of cat and the game ensued. It was a fine sight. The first elephant was noosed near the left side of the stockade close by the entrance by the Radithawana decoys. When the elephant found his leg caught a terrible strug-gle resulted and the victim was straining every nerve to break away, but without success. The capture was received with tremendous The capture was received with tremendous cheers and a volley from the guns. The man who noosed the first elephant was congratu-lated and rewarded by the "big folks." The noosy was stopped for the day at about 6 o'clock and will begin again at 10. A. M. to-morrow. The town is full and there are over 5,000

persons present.



THE AMRITA BAZAK PATRIKA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1899

BRITISH INDIAN SQLDIERS FOR TRANSVAAL.

THE Simla Correspondent of the Englishman wires under date September 7:-The following have been warned to prepare for service in South Africa and to be ready to live their stations fully equipped at the shortest notice : Cavalry Brigade.—5th Dragoon Guards, 9th Lancers, 19th Hussars, No. 18 British Field Hospital.

Infantry Brigade .- Ist Battalion Devonshire Regiment, 1st Battalion Gloucestershire Regi-Regiment, 1st Battanon Gioucestershire Regi-ment, 2nd Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps, 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders, No. 11 British Field Hospital, No. 24, British Field Hospital.

Brigade Division, Field Artillery-21st Field Battery, R. A., 42nd Field Battery, R. A., 53rd Field Battery, R. A.

An ammunition column of three units, viz., R. I. R. 5, and R. 6, sections A and B of No. 26, British Field Hospital. Miscellaneous units-Ordnance Field Park.

sections C and D of No. 69.

Native Field Hospital for the requirements of the Native establishments of the force-No. 3, Field Medical Store Depot ; No. 6 Veterinary Field Hospital.

troops in India warned for service in South Af- fall the Cauvery is very low. Sowing continue The Cavalry Brigade consists of three out of the ten Cavalry Regiments now in this country, and the Brigade Division Field Artillery contains three batteries. The Infantry Brigade only embraces four battalions, the Devonshires, Gloucesters, King's Royal Rifles, and Gordon Highlanders. The disproportion between the three arms will be at once noticed, and seems to lend colour to the idea that the Indian force will not after all act as an separate unit. No Mountain Battery, curiously enough, seeing that there is only one such Battery in South Africa and the country seems eminently suitable for the employment of light guns, has been warned for service. Without casting a reflection on the regiments that have not been chosen there can be little doubt that the infan-try force that will be despatched from India, if necessary, represents the finest battalions in the service. We presume that it is intended to replace the King's Royal Rifles at Fort William by another regiment. The force by the way, in total fighting strength falls far short of the 11,000 men that it was stated would be sent. Perhaps, however, other regiments may be warned later on the fact that these details are now published does not, of course, mean immediate war. Reuter never spoke a truer word than when he told us yesterday that "the air" (the South African air, presumably) is "full of un-confirmed rumours." It is as full of them as the Uitlanders' case is full of grievances. But it will have to go on being full of them at least until the Conference at Cape Town has been held. That Conference staves off the evil day of complete surrender by the Boers for week or so. From the British point of view, the advantage is all ours. Instead of meeting the Boer President on neutral territory, it is now a case of the Boer representatives waiting upon the High Commissioner at the seat of the British Government of South Africa. There is a distinctly tremulous note, too, in the Transvaal despatch last published. Certainly the suzerainty is repudiated as gruffly as ever, but the Boer Government must have been feeling very shaky about the knees when it prevailed upon itself to admit that the British Government has a right to intervene on behalf of British residents in the South African Republic. To you for nothing." Still, from the Boer point of view it is an immense conces-sion, and possibly indicates that the Transvaalers are getting ready to give way with re-gard to the suzerainty also. If we can se-cure the acknowledged overlordship of South Africa, without being compelled to fight for what is our due, it will be the greatest triumph of the century. On page 5 will be found a map of the Transvaal and surrounding countries

MONSOON AND AGRICULTURE.

The rainfall for the past 24 hours has been scanty and local in character, the largest amounts recorded being 0.61 cents at Bangalore and a quarter of an inch at Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Ahmednagar. A few drops Trichinopoly and Ahmednagar. A few drops of rain also fell at Jeypur, Bhaunagar, Para, Poona, Sholapur, Goa and Secunderabad.

Heavy rain fell at Poona on Thursday after-noon. The prices of food-grains remain high.

THE SEASON.

THE following is the weekly report on the state of the season and prospects of the

crops :--MADRAS.-For week ending 26th August. -The rainfall of the week has been generally irregularly distributed. It has been fair in South Canara, the greater part of the Circars, the Carnatic, and parts of the Central districts, but light elsewhere. The watersupply is insufficient almost everywhereeven under the largest irrigation works, and owing to the ontinued deficiency of the rainowing to rain in the Circars, the Deccan, Carna tic, and West Coast districts, but are much retarded in many places. Good rain is urgently required to expedite sowings and save the standing crops which are generally in fair condition, but are failing in parts. Pasturage has improved slightly in parts, but is generally scanty and the fodder-supply is decreasing everywhere. Prices are fluctuating, but generally between the full states of the state everywhere. Prices are fluctuating, generally show a slight upward tendency.

BOMBAY .- For week ending 30th August .-Rain fell in parts of Karachi and in all districts of the Presidency Proper, except in Kaira, Ahmedabad, the Panch Mahals, Kathiawar, and Baroda territory. Moderate rain was also recorded below the ghat tracts of Kanara, but elsewhere the falls have been slight. More rain is urgently wanted everywhere to save the remaining early crops and for the late sowings. The standing crops are in fairly good condition in parts of the Konkan, Surat, Khandesh, Nasik and Dharwar districts, but elsewhere they have withered or are withering. Preparations for the late crops are in progress in Sholapur. A deficiency of water continues in parts of Sind, but the river is now rising. The water-supply is also failing in parts of Sholapur and Belgaum. Fodder is scarce in parts of Sind, Gujarat, Kathiwra, Belgaum, and Baroda territory and is geting dearer in Sholapur and Satara. Agricultural stock is generally in fair condition. Prices have risen in sixteen districts, fallen in one, but are stationary elsewhere. Relief works are about to be opened in Ahmedabad, and some relief is being given in the Sind desert.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH .-For week ending 30th August.—Good rain fell during the week in the Himalayan, Central-Submontane, North-Central, South Oudh, Lower Doab, South-Eastern, and Eastern-Submontane districts, where the crops have benefited and prospects are at present favourable. Elsewhere the rainfall has been light and more rain is badly wanted. especially in the western-Submontane, Upper Dorb, Central Doab and some of the Bundelkhand districts. Insects are reported to be causing damage in Bareilly, Pilibhit, Jaunpur, and Ballia. The condition of the standing crops is said to be bad in the Al'garh, Muttra, and Jalaun districts, and prospects are becoming worse there. Irrigation is being resorted to wherever practicable. Harvesting of the early autmn crops has begun, but so far the outturn is reported as only moderate owing to excessive rain at the outset or to the break which occurred subsequently. The later sown crops are being weeded, and ploughings for the spring crops have begun in many places. Supplies and fodder continue to be abun-dant. Prices are rising generally. and average in Lahore, Sialkot, and Rawal-pindi. The unirrigated crops have nearly failed August.—General rain fell during the week, Bilas-pur has received 10 inches, Raipur 6½ inches, Sambalpur 5 inches, Bhandara 4½ inches, Narsingpur 4 inches, Chanda and Mandla about 3½ inches each, Dama Jubbulpur, and Hoshangabad 3 inches each Seoni 2 inches also reported from Balaghat, but the quantity not stated. No rain fell at the head-quarters

MONSOON AND AGRICULTURE. A BOMBAY telegram of the 7th instant runs as follows:—Crop reports from Sind made up to yesterday are particularly unsatisfactory. No rain has fallen, and again it is stated that the crops are withering and the deficiency of water Multan, and Amritsar districts. Sowing of the autumn crop is progressing in Lahore and Dera Ismail Khan, and land is being prepared or the spring crops in Lahore. The prospects fof the irrigated crop are reported good from Multan, Amritsar, and Peshawar; fair in Hissar; and average in Lahore Siglist and Pesha and average in Lahore, Sialkot, and Rawal-pindi. The unirrigated crops have nearly failed in Delhi for want of rain; they are withering in Hissar, Umballa, Jullunder, and Sialkot and are said to be poor in Multan and Amritsar. The condition of the crops in Ferozepur is also reported to be bad. Re-cent rain has benefited the standing crops in Peshawar and Dera Ismail Khan but more rain is badly wanted almost all over the Province and especially in the Hissar, Umballa, Amritsar, Sialkot, and Shahpur dis-tricts. The condition of cattle is reported to be good, except in a few districts. Fodder is in-sufficient in Hissar, Delhi, Jullandur, and parts of Lahore and Sialkot, and also in Shahpur and Dera Ismail Khan. The deteriorated rice crop is being used as fodder in Sialkot. Prices-especially of wheat-have risen in all districts, except Multan, where they have fallen one seer per rupee. The price of wheat in Ferozepur was 13 seers per rupee against 18 seers, barley 16 to 18, gram 13½ to 15, maize 16 to 21, rice 12 to 12½ great millet 13 to 20, and bulrush-millet 16 to 20 seers per rupee. CENTRAL PROVINCE.—For week ending 20th August.—General rain fell during the week, Bilas-pur has received 10 inches. Raipur 64 inches Hoshangabad 3 inches each, Bana Jubbarpur, and Hoshangabad 3 inches, each, Seoni 2 inches, Nagpur 1½ inches, and from 1 inch to 28 cents. has been recorded elsewhere. Heavy rain is of Nimai, but some showers were received in parts of the Khandwa and Harsud tahsils and

promises well, but small millets have suffered in Saugor and Chindwara and more rain is Poona, Sholapur, Goa and Secunderabad. The change in the pressure, whether real or temporary is very early, and is such as general-ly takes place at the close of the monsoon. It is this change that brings about squally and unsettled weather, and rain in local scattered showers is likely in the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, Mysore and on the Malabar ghat, the only district in which general distress has declared itself; but relief has also been Betul. Fodder and water are reported to be scarce in Nimar, Chindwara, the Nagpur country, and Hoshangabad. Cattle are reto have sufficient fodder and water ported ince the throwing open of the Government forests, which measure has been adopted wherever necessary. The recent rain has steadied prices in the rice districts and has caused a slight fall in Seoni and Betul, but in caused a slight fall in Seoni and Betul, but in Saugor and Chhindwara they are rising. The price of *juar* continues high in Nimar, and has risen in Hoshangabad, Nagpur, and Wardha on account of exports. The cheapest prices are —wheat 15, gram 20, rice 17, and *juar* 18 seers per rupee ; the dearest prices are--wheat 15, gram 13, rice 9, and *juar* 13 seers per rupee. The highest price of the cheapest staple

in any district is 11 seers rice in Bhandara. CENTRAL INDIA.—For week ending 30th August.—Good rain fell during the week in Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand, none in Bhopawar, and slight to partial in other Agencies. Agricultural operations are in progress in all Agencies except in Bhopawar. The condition of the standing crops is bad in Malwa and Bhopawar and not good in Gwalior. Pasturage is bad in Malwa and Bhopawar and fair to good in other Agencies. Prices are normal in Bhopal and Baghelkhand, but are rising in other Agencies.

RAJPUTANA.—For week ending 30th August -Rainfall—77 cents in Meywar, 45 in Abu, 25 in Bundi, 30 in Bikanir, slight in Dholepur and Ulwar and *nil* elsewhere. Agricultural operations are at a standstill, and *barani* crops are withering for want of rain. Cattle are gener ally deteriorating, fodder being very scarce. Prices are rising in fifteen States and are steady e'se whnre. During the week 223 persons emigrated from Ajmere and 246 from Merwara. The total emigration from Ajmere-Merwara to date numbers 8757. The numbers employ ed on relief works were—Marwara 7261 and the Beawar tahsil 15,249. On ordinary works —Merwara 100 and on gratuitous relief—Beawar 261 and Todgarh 399. Prices-Narwar 8¾, Ajmere 11 to 13½, and Beawar 12 to 15 seers per rupee. Prospects are generally the same as previously reported.

STAG-HUNTING IN ENGLAND.

LONG before the Norman Conquest, writes "R. C. D." in the Westminster Gazette, our Saxon ancestors were accustomed to hunt the wild red deer which in those primitive days roamed in great herds among the extensive forests which covered much of the land. But with the arrival of the Norman dynasty the opportunities of ordinary men to take part in deer-hunts became more limited. Everyone knows how strict were the forest laws during the reigns of the early Norman kings. It formed part of the education of the nobles to be intimately acquainted with the rules and terms of venery, and in those days' skill in hunting was regarded as only secondary to brevery and conduct in war. One may suppose that centuries ago stags of prodigious size and weight frequented the oak forests of England, stags of far greater might than are now seen among the Highlands of Scotland or the coombes of Devonshire. For woodland deer are always heavier and carry better heads than those which dwell in more open country. In the old time three methods of hunting were chiefly practised : one, known as "still hunting" in which closely resembled our modern system of driving; and a third in which dogs were more especially employed. In still-hunting the hunter proceeds quietly through the wood, walking up wind and keenly scanning the open glades around; ere long he is sure to spy a deer, and then his success depends upon his wood craft and skill in shooting. This was the method commonly adopted by poachers in early Eng-lish days, and they pursued the sport at the risk of their lives, for death was the penalty for poaching in Royol forests. Driving needs no detailed description. A certain part of the forest having been selected, men and dogs were employed to drive the herds towards the shoot-ers, and as the deer were plentiful, the slaughter driving; and a third in which dogs were more employed to drive the herds towards the shoot-ers, and as the deer were plentiful, the slaughter was often cohsiderable. Yet a third method consisted in coursing the deer with dogs trained for the purpose. The hunters were sometimes mounted, more often on foot, and the footmen showed extraordinary endurance in keeping up with the chase. When at length the exhausted stag "soiled" in water the dogs held it at bay until their masters appeared on the scene, when with arrow or knife the quarry was quickly despatched. Modern stag-hunting with hounds is but an improved adaptation of the same plan. of the same plan. In connextion with deer-driving it is interest-ing to recall that the Highland risings in favour of the Stewarts were sometimes heraldfavour of the Stewarts were sometimes herald-ed by deer-drives on an extensive scale, under cover of which the nobles and chiefs discussed their plans and made their arrangements without incurring the sus-picion of Government officials. Taylor, the "water poet" of Scotland, describes a gathering of the kind at Braemar which preceded the brilliant but ill-starred rising of 1715; and from the poet's description we gather that the customs of Highland sportsmen at that time differed widely from those of the nineteenth century. Having received their instructions over century. Having received their instructions over night, the clansmen, to the number of five or six hundred, drove the red deer before them in the appointed direction. "The lords and gentle-men in the companies," as Taylor has it, stationed themselves in the passes, while the scouts, "who are called the tinkell, do bring down the deer." The "tinkell" do not omit to secure a supply of vension on their own account

being chased down into the valley beyond the passes, a couple of hundred "strong Irish greyhounds" were loosed on them and what with muskets and arrow, dogs, dirks and daggers, our four score fat deer were slain in the space

of two hours. The records of stag-hunting in the south-west of England go back to the days of Good Queen Bess, and at that time the sport was conducted under much the same conditions which now obtain. Towards the end of the last century sanctioned in local areas in Hoshangabad and the famous Badgworthy deer was killed. This splendid stag carried a grand wide head showing no fewer than nineteen points, and is believed to be the finest ever killed on the Exmoor. There are two packs of stag-hounds in the Westcountry—the Devon and Somer-set, over which Mr. Sanders presides, and the Tiverton, of which Sir John Heathcote Amory is the Master. The Tiverton stag-hounds were started three were started. hounds were started three years ago to hunt the country which lies between Torrington on the west and Taunton on the east. For a number of years the Devon red deer had been spreading south towards Tiverton from their original haunts near Minahead. The farmers complained more and more of the damage to their crops, and as Mr. Sanders found it difficult to cope with the increasing herds the new pack was formed with his cordial sanction and approval. Stag-hunting is carried on from early in August until the first week in October, and then for a time the deer are left undisturb ed during the rutting season. Attention is then directed to killing the hinds, for it is fully as necessary to reduce their numbers as to keep down the stags. Although the same interest and excitement does not attach to hind-hunting, many a fine run is enjoyed in late autumn, when the conditions of pursuit are often more favourable than they are in August. Last season the number of red deer killed by the two packs of stag-hounds was 176: this total is considerably in excess of the record for any previous year, and the farmers doubtless were rejoiced at the success of the campaign. There are no keener sportsmen than Devonshire men, and they love to hear of good runs with the stag-hounds even if they do not witness them; but red deer do an immense amount of njury to corn and roots-one would almost suppose it was caused purposely, to see a field in which they have been feeling — and the farmers are anxious that the herds should be kept within due limits.

No little rivarly exists between those whose chief pleasure it is to hunt wild red deer and that larger class of hunting men who hold that for keen enjoyment nothing equals "forty minutes on the grass without a check" after a stout fox on a grey day in November. To attempt any comparison between the two modes of hunting would be unprofitable. Either sport has its special attractions and advantage. If stag-huntspecial attractions and advantage. If stag-hunt-ing lacks, the fencing and pace which are in-separable from the pursuit of foxes it affords none the less sport of the highest interest and that after a noble quarry which a little less cunning than the fox in its manavres to escape. A common device with old deer is to "run to herd." When a stag finds that hounds are on its track it seeks in every convert bounds are on its track it seeks in every convert bounds are on its track it seeks in every convert through which it passes to discover a hind or younger stag on which to shift the bur-den of pursuit. Having succeeded in its object the artful beast lies close until the hunt has swept out of hearing and then steals away among the words to furnish probably, another bunt on a future occasion "Soiling," or taking water,less frequently results in throwing hounds off the scent. Unless the ground is exceptionally steep and awkward, and the covert unusually dense, hounds can be cast up, as well as down stream and a clever hunts-man, such as Anthony of the Devon and Somerset, usually succeeds in fresh-finding his deer.

The Devon and Somerset began the season last week, holding, as usual, their opening meet at Cloutsham. This was the formal commencement, Hounds had been out on several occasions previously, starting on July 21, these early hunts being especially useful for schooling the young entry. The pack now numbers afty-seven couple of bounds, and are a fine level lot, a trifle bigger than the fox hounds from which bigger than the fox hounds from which they are bred. It is very necessary that stag hounds should stand somewhat high-er than fox hounds. Otherwise they would not be so well adapted to run at speed over heather and rough ground. The outlook for the season is altogether satisfactory. here are plenty of deer, an excellent feeling exists with the farmers, and fields are likely to be a least as large as usual : the last season be a least as large as usual; the last season of the old century may yield a longer tale of slain than has been recorded in the annals of the huntriclamon.

Motussil Rews.

BISTUPUR, SEPT. 5.

THE Aus and jute crops have been harvested but the outturn of the latter is not very satisfactory, owing to the heavy rains. The transplantation of the Aman crop is still going on, as owing to the excessive rain of this year all low lands being covered with water, the peasants could not cultivate them in time. The present condition of the crop is not bad.— The repairs of the Bistupur (east of Dum Dum Cantonment) road is going on very unsatis-factorily—No other diseases are prevalent except fever, which is very common here. The daily number of patients attending the local dispensary established by the late Sir Romesh Chandra Mitter are 70 to 80.—The present price of rice is moderate.

KHULNA, SEPT. 5.

THE other day the annual distribution of prizes to the girls and infants of Dr. K. D. Ghosh's Girl's School took place in the Town Hall, under the presidency of Miss Palit, sister of our well-known District and Sessions Jud e, Mr. L. Palit. The District Magistrate, Mr. S. C. Mukerjee, and all the gentry of the town S. C. Mukerjee, and all the gentry of the town were present on the occasion, and the Town Hall was packed to its utmost. The recita-tion done by the girls was excellent. The Government Pleader gave the girls Rs. 5 on the spot to take sweetmeats. Mr. Trigellus, the local missionary, and Babu S. N. Gupta, Deputy Magistrate, spoke at some length on the education of the women of this country. Then 'r. Palit, on behalf of his sister, addressed the assembly. With a vote of thanks to the chair the assembly separated – We are certing chair the assembly. With a vote of thanks to the chair the assembly separated.—We are getting rain almost every day, yet the days and nights are extremely hot,—Cases of fever are reported from the town and its suburbs.—Rice is selling at Rs. 3-2 a per maund.

NASHIPUR (MURSHIDABAD), SEPT. 5.

THE public health of this place is extremely had. The inhabitants are stricken down with malarial fever. Several deaths have occurred by this time and there is not a family in which it has not claimed three or four victims. The most prominent figure of this place, the Hon'ble Raja Bahadur of Nashipur, has been attacked with fever and toncilides, and his youngest child is laid up with fever hronchitis and indiges. is laid up with fever, bronchitis and indiges-tion. Extreme anxiety is felt by the public of this locality and the neighbouring places on account of the ill-health of the Raja Bahadur himself and his child. We are afraid the Hon'ble Raja Bahadur will not be able to attend the Council on the 9th September and so and so we will lose an opportunity of hearing his views on the Municipal Bill hearing his views on the Municipal Bill although the public is now in a position to judge of his views on this most import-ant subject, by his recent utterances in the Council.—The water of the Ganges has become muddy.—The weather is variable and is supposed to be the harbinger of various courts of maladias sorts of maladies.

GOSAIN-DURGAPUR; SEPT. 7.

WE are in the midst of heavy showers, and for the last 3 weeks we have had this dull, dirty weather; the sun shines now and then with only a feeble and transient glimmer. The roads and lanes are in a very bad condition on account of mud and water.-The harvesting of Aus and ute crops are proceeding. The outturn of Aus where it was sown earlier would be above the normal, but where it was sown later, the yield would be but scanty.—In Patikabati and adjoining villages there is fever in almost every house. Cholera has not altogether disappeared- Cases of cow-pox in Chatterjee-Magura and the neighbouring villages are being heard of.—A death from snakebite occurred here the other day, the victim, a young woman, lived for 2 or 3 hours after the bite. The number of deaths from snake-bite appears to be lower this year than in the previous year. —During the past 10 days the River Kumar has gone down appreciably.—The local H. E. School has suffered a considerable loss

crops are withering and the deficiency of water in the Sukkur and Ghar canals is causing great damage. Fodder is deficient and prices of corn high. Relief is being doled out in several dis-tricts in Thar and Parker. Slight rain has fallen in Guzerat but prospects are gloomy. Ahmedabad is particularly badly off, for all sowings are retarded and new grown stand-ing crops withering. Dacoities are rife in the district, and the destitude people from the villages swarm into the town where the villages swarm into the town where they are largely living on roots. The position is complicated by the depressed condition of the mill industry, and if, as is feared, other ' mills are forced to close the number of indi-gent poor will be largely increased. In Kaira ' and Broach standing crops are completely withered, and in some cases cut down. Cattle are subsisting on leaves. Thana and Kolaba are suffering from want of rain, and standing crops are withering. Fodder famine, however, has are withering. Fodder famine, however, has not affected these districts and stock are healthy. Slight rain has fallen in the Deccan districts except Ahmednagar and Sholayur, but everywhere rain is urgently needed. The sowing of kharif crops is retarded, and stand-ing crops are withering, while on poor lands already withered the southern portion of the Presidency is hadly off and the rainfall has been Presidency is badly off and the rainfall has been altogether inadequate. Standing crops are withering, fodder is getting dear, and sowings of wheat and cotton are retarded. The situation in Kathiawar is very slightly improved. There is plenty of grain in the Province, but fodder is extremely scarce and only obtainable at greatly enhanced prices. Baroda territory is in a bad state. Agricultural operations are at a standstill. Cattle are getting weak, and food is dear.

A WORD TO MOTHERS. Mothers of children affected with croup or 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. 'he 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.

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parts of the Khandwa and Harsud tahsils and Burhan pur received 1 inch. The rain has materially improved prospects, and the condi-tion of the Chaatrisgarh rice erop is much better than reported last week, and with a favourable September, fair crops, may now be expected in the Waingunga dis-tricts, except in parts of Balaghat. Trans-plantation has been resumed, and half or nearly half the crop may be saved. In parts

Thegreat success of Chamberlain's Colic Cholera and Diarrheea Remeday in the treat, ment of bowel-complaints has made it stand, and every the every stand of the schelling and she ard over the greater part of the civilized world For sale by*

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

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THE Government of India have telegraphed to the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma request. ng copies of the proceedings in the case against Private Thorpe, which concluded on Tuesday.

-ACCORDING to the scientist, the best way to woo sleep is to think of nothing. The insomnist will be interested to learn that this is a mistake. The way to sleep is to think it was time to get up.

-AFTER having regularly struck the hours for 500 years, the old clock of St. Quentins, in margence, has got out of order and is being repaired. After the repairs are made it is confidently expected that it will do its duty for five more centuries .- New York Tribune.

-TEA drinking in Japan is a poem. You drink tea by set rules, and the rules are as fixed as the writing of a sonnet. The boiling of the water, the immersion of the tea-dust, the cleaning of the cup, the handing of the cup, the receiving it, the handing of it back, must be done just one way, and no other. The whole of life is poetry in Japan.

News has been received from Bagh that most of the Afridi homesteads in Tirah, des-troyed during the late campaign especially the three-storied solid villages of the Kambar and Malekdin Khels, in the Maidan Valley, have been rebuilt. Tukans from Peshawar city have here amployed in many cases to fix raffers and been employed in many cases to fix rafters and make the outer doors, the money having been raised in Peshawar Bazaar by loans backed by the native officers of the Punjab Infantry.

ening of two H. E. schools in the neighbourhood,

COMILLAH, SEPT. OUR life at Comillah is at best but a dry humdrum one. The pleaders, who everywhere represent the intellect of a town, its public voice, its mouthpiece, are here but a dumb set of gentlemen. There is, indeed, a Town Hall in the centre of the town, but except on very rare occasions, the stillness of the Hall is very fare occasions, the stillness of the Hall is not broken by any human voice.—I learn that an institution, bearing the imposing name of "Comillah Institute," has been lately started here for the moral education of students. Unfortunately, however, with the solitary exception of a phonographic exhibition, which though ostensibly designed for the students was enjoyed mostly by the pleaders, nothing has come out of it as yet.—Your readers are perhaps aware, that a new college and a new school have been founded here this year through the munificence of two patriotic zemindars of the town. The college is in a flourishing condi-tion; already the number of boys has gone up to eighty. We wish the college every success in its future career.—The health of the town is tolerably good. It is raining cats and dogs, day and night. On account of incessant rains, the price of rice is daily increasing. Aman rice is selling now at Rs. 3. not broken by any human voice.-- I learn that

PLAGUE NEWS.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA.

ON Thursday there were 5 attacks and 5 deaths distributed over the following wards:— I and I in ward No.3; I and I in No 4; and 3 and 3 in No. 8. The total mortality on that date was 62 against 55, the average of the previous five years.

BOMBAY RETURNS.

PLAGUE attacks on Thursday number 13 and plague deaths 11, the total mortality being 104; last year it was 113 as compared with 135 in 1897.

POONA RETURNS. ON Wednesday 131 cases of plague and 110 deaths were recorded in the city, the total mortality being 122. In the Cantonment there

THE number of books published in England amounts to about twenty a day throughout the

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THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1899.

DR. ASHUTOSH MUKERJEE ON THE MUNICIPAL BILL.

AT the last meeting of the Bengal Legis-lative Council the Hon'ble Dr. Ashutosh Mukhopadhya delivered the following speech, anent the Municipal Bill :--

It is not without some reluctance that I rise to offer a few remarks upon the motion and the amendment now before the Council. When I came here this morning I could not persuade myself to believe that there was not persuade myself to believe that there was really any room for prolonged debate, unless indeed, we deliberately chose to wander away from the question before the Council. The situ-ation, if I apprehend it rightly, is this; under the standing legislative orders we were bound to submit for the approval of the Government of India the Bill as reported upon by the Color of India the Bill as reported upon by the Select Committee ; that Government, after a careful, and, it is said impartial consideration of the whole question, has come to the conclusion that certain changes of the greatest importance are essential, in so far as the constitution of the Municipality is concerned. This deci-sion is embodied in a despatch which it will be idle to deny practically conveys a mandate to us, although it is couched in extremely courteous language. If this is the right view of the position in which we find ourselves, a of the position in which we find ourselves, a position which probably none of us anticipated when the Bill was sent up to the Government of India, I confess I find it difficult to dis-cover what practical advantages are to be secured by a criticism of that despatch. If my hon'ble friend, who opened the debate to day with one of those speeches which to-day with one of those speeches which we all delight to hear, had ventured to assert that the decision of the Government of India is not binding upon us, if he had ventured to suggest that though the independence of this Council is somewhat mythical, we are at liberty to disregard the views of the Govern-ment of India, and proceed with the considera-tion of the Bill, clause by clause, his remarks would have been perfectly intelligible to me. If, on the other hand, my hon'ble friend nad taken of a more moderate position and had ventured to suggest that the Council should appoach the Government of India and respect-fully ask for a re-consideration of their decision fully ask for a re-consideration of their decision on the ground that the views of the Mem-bers who represented the interests of the Corporation had not been rightly appre-ciated, his remarks would have been perfectly in order. In support of such an amend-ment, it would have been open to me to show that the despatch from the Government of India was remarkable for the fact that the con-clusions embodied in it were not deducible from the premises. To the a converte the premises. To take a concrete instanc in support of such an amendment, it would have been perfectly legitimate to show that a sum ing as indeed it is assumed in the 13th paragraph of the letter from the Governof India, that the allegation is well founded, that the existing Corporation has de-voted itself to speech rather than to action ; assuming further, that in order to check the assuming infiner, that in order to check the abuses and anomalies complained of, it is necessary to reduce the numerical strength of the Corporation; assuming all this, it does not necessarily follow that the proposed reduction should be confined to the body of elected Commissioners alone. Indeed, if these positions are granted, and I shall assume for my present purpose that they are granted, it would follow that the reduction should not be confined to the body of elected Commissioners alone, but should be extended to the body of nominated Commissioners as well; unless, indeed, the Government is further prepared to affirm that the vice of speech without action is monopolised by the elected Commissioners, and the abuses complained of are traceable to them exclusively. But these com-ments, however just and well-founded they may be, are somewhat pointless in relation to the amendment before the Council. If these considerations cannot have any practical effect on our action in the present stage of the Bill, I submit with great confidence that the wisest course would be to refrain from such ineffectual criticisms. At the same time I frankly confess that the amendment proposed by my

THE DANGER IN AFGHANISTAN.

At the present moment, when we are pre-paring to detach a large protion of the British garrison in India for service in South Africa, listurbing rumours from Afghanistan possess a very serious and special significance. Not a Kafila filters down the Khyber Pass but brings idle and lying tales to fill the ears of the gossip-mongers in the Peshawar bazars, and it is, therefore, unwise to attach much importance to every transfrontier rumour. But two items of news from Kabul that have recently found currency must be causing some mis-giving in Simla. We have, in the first place, the report, published in the Continental papers and repeated on their authority in the Times, that a Russian emissary is at present in the Afghan capital negotiating for the extension of the Khushk Railway into the Amir's territories. Again there is the news just telegraphed from Lahore that a fresh rebellion has broken out in Afghan Turkestan, and that severe fighting has already taken place. Our Simla correspondent telegraphs that the report is not believed there, because it would argue Russian connivance. There are others who would put faith in the story for this very reason. As regards the Russian Agent we do not believe Abdur Rahman would for a moment entertain any ideas of railway extension from the North, or for that 'matter even take any public notice of the foreigner's presence in the city. But all who have any knowledge of the Amir's court are aware of the atmosphere of intrigue which surrounds it, and of recent years Abdur Rahman has been growing more and more secret and crafty in his conduct of State affairs. Moreover, dis-simulation is natural to every Oriental despot, and the Amir's conduct during the last frontier war laid him open to the suspicion of encouraging our enemies at the very moment when he was loudest in his protestations of friendship. Therefore it is not impossible for a Russian to be resident at Kabul. His presence there, for obvious reasons, cannot be looked on without disquietude.

But setting aside the story of the Russian Agent, there is room for the gravest con-jecture regarding the possibilities of a rebellion in Turkestan. There is no doubt that the Amir is hated throughout his dominions, and that strange exodus of Pathans from the Ghuznavi district into India which has been attracting attention of recent years is entirely due to his lawless exactions. No man's life or property is safe in Afghanistan. Afghans themselves are wild and turbulent, hard to govern, and doubtless pay more respect to a stern than to a benevolent ruler. But there are imits to despotism. From all accounts Abdur Rahman has been exceeding those limits. In his later years he has grown savagely intolerant of advice from his courtiers, suspicious of his friends, and miserly in the extreme. Withal he is in failing health. A rebellion, therefore, at the present moment is likely to have popular support, especially if initiated in those outlying regions where the terror of his presence cannot overawe the sufferers from his exactions. His own troops are not to be relied on, for he will not pay them. The Muhammad Ismail Khan who is now said to have raised the standard of revolt is the son of Isa Khan, the Amir's first cousin, who in 1888 challenged the Amir's authority. That rebellion was put down with a ruthless and terrible hand. Indeed, so awful was the slaughter carried out among Isa's followers and those whom Abdur Rahman suspected of sympathising with them that the Government of India was constrained to send a warning letter that such proceedingcould not be tolerated from a ruler who was under British protection. The Amir sent back the curt reply that the only possible way of dealing with rebellious subjects was to make it impossible for them to repeat the offence, and the matter was allowed to drop. It is signi-ficant that a second rising should be said to have started in the very region where Abdur Rahman had so glutted his vengeance.

Now, the Government of India is deeply concerned in keeping Abdur Rahman on the

CODFISH BALLS.

TAKE 21lb. of codfish, either salt or fresh that has been boiled, remove the bones care-fully and mince the fish; mix it with double fully and mince the fish; mix it with double the quantity mashed potatoes, season with butter and pepper, and mix all together until quite smooth; if it seems dry, moisten with a little cream or milk or beaten yolk of ah egg; make into small cakes, sprinkle with flour, and fry in hot lard to a nice brown. Send to the table hot. Cost, 9d.

CLOUDS TO, ORDER. ANOTHER WONDER OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

THE Paris Exhibition of 1900 promises to be worthy of the great event it is intended to signalise--the dawn of the 20th century. From time to time there have appeared on this page drawings of the more important features— mechanical and scientific chiefly—which will distinguish the exhibition ; but none of them has equalled in novelty the contrivance illustrated herewith. It is a machine for making clouds ! The promoters of the scheme are, not unnaturally, unwilling to give any detailed description of the workgive any detailed description of the work-ing of the engines which when com-pleted, will resemble the gigantic globes. In these huge clouds will be generated and given off at stipulated times during the day. Cumulus "fish tails" and other kinds of clouds will be manufactured, and it is proposed to give an additional touch of realism to stormclouds by imitating the roar of thunder and the flash of lightning.

Those who are content to witness the effects without prying into the cause will be accom-modated on a kind of elevated platform behind which the engines will be situated; but those of a more inquisitive disposition will be allowed to stand near the engines themselves.

Several of the most prominent sceintists and engineers are engaged in working out this novel scheme, and are receiving the advice aud assis-tance of three well-known French meteorologists.

Already a vast sum of money has been spent in the preparation of plans and experi-ments with models. With the latter some curious results have been achieved; but these, of course, will be put into the shade when the

of course, will be put into the snade when the larger machines are completed. What with the giant telescope which is to bring the moon to within a few miles of the earth, " the voyage around the world " on a real steamer which encounters imitation tempests, and the latest marvel of all, "the cloud actory," the Paris Exhibition promises to be the most remarkable aggregation of scientific and mechanical wonders the world has ever seen. At the same time, much of the great show will be instructive as well as entertaining.

TERRORS OF A SPIDER FIGHT.

I ONCE had a spider pet of a kind the books 1 ONCE had a spider pet of a kind the books enabled me to identify. He was a fine, big fellow. I caught him in the garnden, carried him home, and for nearly two months he and 1 took a close interest in each other, he for the flies I introduced to him, and I for the amusement he indroduced to me. I kept him in a milliner's box, letting him out when I visited him, special-by delighting myself with allowing him to drop ly delighting myself with allowing him to drop from one hand by his fine spun thread, and then either catching him in the other or gently compelling him to climb back again by apparently eating his own ladder.

apparently eating his own ladder. One day I captured another spider of the same species. I kept him for a few days in a separate box, and then, with the kindly idea of companionship, I introduced him to "Tiger." I have seen dogs fight : I have seen chanticleer fight and slay his man; I have seen rams fight till with his skull crushed in. One lay dead at the foot of the other ; I have seen men fight : I have the other is the seen men fight is the foot of the other is the seen men fight is the seen the set the seen the the other ; I have seen men fight ; I have seen women fight-at least they once were women-till they became a confusion of blood and hair and shreded garments; but the fullest sense I ever realized of mad murderous passion let ungovernably loose, centred in one destroying aim and sum-moning every physical energy to its devi-lish service, I realized when those two spiders rushed to mortal combat. I stood in boyish terror as their tangled legs dropped off, torn by mutual rage; and as, with vicious dexterity, they struck each other with their poisoned fangs, using for their own destruction the weapons and appliances with which Nature has provided them for the capture and slaughter of their prey, I visibly turned pale. "Tiger" was the victor, but even while with brutal wrath, all mangled as he was, he hit and spurned his dead and limbless foe, he was seized with symptoms I took to be paralytic, and in a minute or two I helped him be to his death. And this fearless gladiator was afraid of, I remember, and never would tackle, a big blue-bottle fly. What is courage?

THE INCOME TAX IN BENGAL. ANNUAL REPORT.

THE following passages are taken from the Government Resolution on the Report of the Board of Revenue on the financial results

the Board of Revenue on the financial results of the administration of the Income Tax De-partment for the year 1898-99 : The net revenue shows an increase of Rs. 1, 35,906, or 2'9 per cent against an increase of '5 per cent. in the previous year. In other words, in place of the large reduction in the average annual increase which was noted last year, a sensible advance on it has now to be recorded, adding yet another to the many proofs of the adding yet another to the many proofs of the prompt return of the province to prosperity, since the famine of 1896-97, which have been noticed in other branches of the administration. The gross receipts, including advance payments and excess collections and making allowance for various adjustments. amounted to Rs. 50,85,059, of which Rs. 49,56, 352 represents the receipts on account of the current demand for the year. There was an increase in the final demand in

all the districts, except the 24-Parganas, Jessore, Darjeeling, Chittagong, Patna, Saran, Monghyr, Sonthal Parganas, Palamau, and Singhbhum. The increase is due to agricultural prosperity and to more careful and accurate assessment. The causes assigned for the decrease in districts where it occurred are decrease in districts where it occurred are various, but in no district does the percentage exceed 3'6, except in Singhbhum, which shows a decline of 19'5 per cent. due to some railway contractors and shopkeepers having left the district on the completion of war on the Sini section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. In other cases the causes given call for no comment, except in Palamau, where the decrease was attributable to exemptions on rivision consequent on careless assessments originally made.

The outstanding balance, including penalties, costs, and arrears was Rs. 1,81,239, as against Rs. 1,68,600 in the year 1697-98. against Rs. 1,00,000 in the year 1697-98. Of this balance, Rs. 1,28,322 are reported to be good and under realization, Rs. 17,919 doubtful, and Rs. 34,998 bad and irrecoverable. The number of distress warrants issued was nearly the same as in the previous year, but the proportion on the number of persons fall form the previous sector. persons fell from 5'2 in 1897-98 to 5'03 in the year under review. The proportion of war-rants issued to the number of persons assessed was above 10 per cent. in the districts of Jessore (12'2), Shahabad (11'9), Muzafferpur Jessore (12'2), Shahabad (11'9), Muzafferpur (10'1), Purnea (10'1), and Bhagalpur (10'09). Jessore and Bhagalpur, which were also in this category in the previous year, show a slight decrease. As requested in paragraph 6 of last year's Resolution, an inquiry has been made into the cause of the consistently high percentage of warrants which had been noticed in certain districts. In Jessore, the most noticeable instance, it is attributed partly to the litigious nature of the people—a characthe litigious nature of the people-a charac-teristic understood to be not peculiar to hold him to the earth. lessore-but also to wrong assessments made by an assessor who appears to have be-come too well acquainted with the district. It will be instructive to see whether the remedy which has since been adopted of transferring the assessor proves effective in reducing the pro-portion of coercive measures.

portion of coercive measures. The largest number of sales reported was sixty in Rangpore, twenty-eight in Dinajpur, twenty-five in Purnea, twenty-three in Mymen-sing, twenty-two in Faridpur, and twenty in Rajshahi. Inquiries which have been made into the sale procedure have disclosed certain defects which are engaging the attention of the Board. The amount of tax collected during the year under review from companies and other

under review from companies and other employers, who agreed under section 9 (2) of the Income-tax Act to collect the tax from the salaries of their servants, rose from Rs. 3,19, 319 in the previous year to Rs. 3,49,551; while the remission allowed by way of commission to the employers rose from Rs. 10,371 to Rs. 11,017. The number of companies who under-took to collect the tax also rose from 369 to 375. Twelve of them failed to collect the tax, which had to be realized by the District Officers. In

Uarieties.

An interesting garment from the wardrobe of King George III. will come under the hammer at Mr. Stevens's rooms in King-street, Covent Garden. It consists of a pale blue dressing gown made of silk brocade, being a truly regal garment as regards size and appearance. It is composed of a vest with sleeves, and a large voluminous over-dress. The dressing gown was given to the owner's husband by a lady who is still alive, and whose father was King George's private secretary and attendant up to his death.

THE largest tree in the world is to be seen at Mascali, near the foot of Mount Etna, and is called "The Chestnut Tree of a Hundred Horses." Its name rose from the report that Queen Jane of Aragon, with her principal nobili-ty took refuge from a violent storm under its branches. The trunk is 204ft. in circumference. The largest tree in the United States, it is said. stands near Bear Creek, on the north fork of the Tule River, in California. It measures 140ft, in circumference. The giant redwood tree in Nevada is 119ft, in circumference.

THERE is a plague of rats at present in New York, and their pilferings are remarkable. Jewels, watches and costly trinkets have jewels, watches and costly trinkets have mysteriously disappealed from guests' rooms in hotels, and have never been recovered. The other day the head of a firm in South Street, New York, missed a pocket-book containing some important papers. Some of the clerks were suspected, but their reputation were cleared when the office floor was taken up to facilitate an alteration in the lighting arrangements. There the pocket-book and its contents lay in tatters forming a cosy nest, in which nestled a dozen ' aby rats. A miner fresh from Klondike, put some gold nuggets in a window-sill at a Broad-way hotel. Next morning they had varnished. The situation was embarrassing to the landlord. Some time afterwards a couple of workmen, engaged in tearing down a partition in the room which had been occupied by the miner, brought to light a rat's nest. In it were the missing nuggets and several other articles of value which the rodent thief had adoritly filched from nmates of the hotel. These revelations cause one to inquire how far the rats have been responsible for undetected burglaries which appear in the crime statistics.

NOT HEAVY TO HIM.

THE man on the elephant's back is nothing to the elephant. The big beast doesn't mind horses you see in London minds the brass ornaments on his harness. Yet on my back or yours the man would be a load; and, if fasten-

Thus, we are reminded, my thoughtful friends that there are no absolute facts. The burden depends on the back. Albeit Samson walked off with the gates of Gaza, an ordinary garden get would, I am sure, prove all that we should want to lug. It follows that weight or heavi-ness can, as the advertisements say, "be sup-

ness can, as the advertisements say, "be sup-plied in a variety of styles." When, for example, Mr. Sidney Challanger mentions in a letter that a certain period he was "heavy," he does not mean that he tipped the scales at a stone or two more than usual. His horse would have felt *that*, in case he rode one; but the truth is that at the time referred to he was actually under his proper weight by several pounds. What he wants us to understand is that he

was heavy to himself; it was not an increase of weight but an increase of weakness, having practically the same result. His explanation practically the same result. His explanation is that in the early part of 1890 he began to feel ill and out of sorts. He went about in a mazy way, feeling badly without knowing what the trouble was or how to account for it. "I had," Mr. Challanger goes on to tell us "a nasty taste in the mouth and no relish for

hon'ble friend seems to me a very reasonable one, and it has my hearty support."

CAPTAIN MAC MAHON, Political Officer at Malakand, who has been on a flying visit to Simla, was to leave again on Wednesday last for the frontier.

-A CLEVER hand at figures says: 12,000 vehicles, a quarter of them omnibuses, pass through the strand in the day and the narrowness of the street causes each of their 63,000 occupant to waste on an average three minutes. The total waste of time equals 3,150 hours, the money value of which, at the very moderate rate of one shilling an hour, \pounds_{157} per day, or over $\pounds_{47,000}$ per annum. -London Court Journal.

OUT of six Judgeships in Oudh only one, Hardoi, shows an increase in the number of suits: all the rest are on the debit side, and the total over the whole year shows a decrease of 2,951 suits, the lowest on record since 1891. This decrease in the number of suits instituted This decrease in the number of suits instituted was confined to only one class of suits, viz, suits for money and moveables. "Suits for immoveable property" and "other suits" increased in number from 2,504 and 3,527 to 2,728 and 4,372, respectively. The to 2,728 and 4,372, respectively. The large decrease of 1,504 suits in the Gonda Judgeship was mainly in the bahraich Courts (10010 suits). The total work for disposal on the Original Side (123,648 was lighter than in 1897 (128,164). Commensurate with this decrease, the number of cases disposed of was rease, the function of cases disposed of was 110,571, against 113,515 in 1897, and the num ber of cases pending at the close of the year fell from 14,649 to 13,077. THE judicial figures of crime in the Central Provinces for the year 1898, like the police figures, show a very large falling off, as compar-ed not only with the previous year but with

ed not only with the previous year, but with any of the seven years preceding it. There was an increase in offences affect-ing the human body, chiefly cases of simple hurt and assault, but this was more than counterbalanced by the decrease in offences counterbalanced by the decrease in offences against property, while heinous crime of almost all classes greatly diminished. Cases of homicide decreased by 37 per cent., of dacoity and robbery by 60 per cent., and of the more serious forms of criminal trespass by 75 per cent. Cases of defamation and criminal intimidation, of which the fluctuations are governed by the same causes as cases of assault, increased; and there were many more prosecutions under the Excise, Municipal and Police Acts, these latter representing not so much an in-crease in the number of offences actually committed, as increased activity of the prosecuting agencies.

throne. In the first place we are bound to do so under treaty obligations. Whatever may be the exact conditions under which the Amir was placed in Kabul, the whole tenor of our relations with Afghanistan since the last war shows that some offensive-defensive alliance exists. Abdur Rahman certainly believes that he can count upon English help in the event of trouble with his subjects. In the first days of Isa's rebellion the Amir sent off an urgent appeal to Simla for help asking for troops to be pushed forward to Chaman, Kurram, and Landi Kotal with a view to the ocupation, if necessary, of Kandahar, Ghuzni, and Jellalabad. Indeed, he was willing to allow Kandahar to be occupied at once. However, the back of the rebellion was broken before the Government took any steps. Supposing the Amir were again to make the same request. The British would be in a most awkward dilemma. If they refused not only would they be breaking their pledged word, but Abdur Rahman might be torn from his throne, and succeeded by one with active Russian sym-pathies, for the whole of Isa Khan's family have hitherto been living across the Oxus, re-cipients of Russian hospitality. Again if a rebellion dragged on for some years an excuse would be offered the Russians for interference for they might very well say that it was impossible to tolerate a continued state of warfare just across their frontiers. Many politicians are prone to forget that now-a-days the Russian frontier does march alongside Afghanistan But supposing that we interfered, we should be interfering to retain on the throne a man hated and detested by his sub-jects, and that fact would not be forgotten

when the Amir dies, an event that may happen when the Amir dies, an event that may happen any day. Could we then by any means induce the Afghans to believe that we were friendly towards them, and would they then support the Amir's son if they suspected him of pro-English leanings? The situation, therefore, is full of danger, and emphasises the necessity of careful deliberation before the British garri-son in India is reduced, for, however, short a period -Englishman. period.-Englishman.

IN Tinnevelly the Special Sessions opened on Monday last for the trial of the rioters. In the course of the trial, a Shanar witness stated that it was the general impression that the looting of Shanar villages had been sanction-ed by the Queen, and that the Shanars believed it to be the case in respect to the dacoity and looting of the 12th June, and they therefore made no attempt whatever to complain to the authorities about the impending attack.

Two branch lines, Sagaing to Alon and Meiktila to Myingyan, will be opened next spring.

THE name of Sir Henry Stafford Northcote is now mentioned as that of one of the likeliest appeared in that conjection in the Home papers for the first time in the week before the mail left, but for some months past Sir Stafford Northcote had been named as one who might have the post if he chose, though more recent information was that he was reluctant to take it and that in the event of his refusing, a choice would be made from the ranks of Indian Civilians. He carries a name, writes the Bombay Gazette, that would bespeak friendly acceptance, for no member of the House of Commons was held in more kindly regard than his father, who became Lord Iddes-Inan his father, who became Lord iddes-leigh after long years of service to the Conservative Party. He himself has had a good deal of varied experience in the less prominent walks of official life, as Secretary to two important special embassies, as Private Secretary to his father when Chancellor of the Exchequer in Lord Beaconsfield's last admi-nistration , and as Financial Secretary of the nistration ; and as Financial Secretary of the War Office. But he is fifty-three ; he would come as a beginner at a time when it is highly important that everyone connected with the Bombay administration should know his work; and we shall not be disappointed if the Crown a its wisdom places its choice elsewhere.

inies collecting the tax rose from 244 to 251.

Excluding the tax on the interest on Gov-ernment securities and the salaries of Government officials, the average incidence of the tax in the whole Province was Re. 1 to every 15'6 persons, against an average of Re. 1 to every 16'2 persons in the preceding year. Darjeeling still continues to show the highest mofussil average, Re. I to every four persons tion at the stomach and pain at the chest while the incidence was lowest in the Sonthal as if a bit of food had lodged there while the incidence was lowest in the Sonthal Pargans, viz., Re. I to seventy-five persons. In Calcutta the average incldence was Re. I to every four persons, the same as in the previous year. Including the taxes recovered by the Accountant-General, Bengal, the inci-dence was Re. I to every 14'06 persons, against rot 31'1 persons. The proportion of persons assessed for the whole Province was one to 625, against one to 637 in the preceding year. In comparing the figures appended to the Report for 1897-98 with those of previous years, the Lieutenant-Governor was struck by the differences between different districts in the incidence of the tax and in the propor tion of its increase since 1887-88. The Board over an coordingly asked in October last to examine the causes of this, and the Lieutenant-Governor begins to apprehend that there were more grounds for this examination and inquiry than he felt at the time, for the reply of the Board is still awaited by Government. The expenditure incurred in the working of Rs. 1,88,447 in the previous year to Rs. 1,00,627. The increase, which occurs under all the different heads of expenditure, except under Collector's establishment, is mainly attributable to the grant of increased pay to the tax during the year under review rose from Rs. 1,88,447 in the previous year to Rs. 1,00,627. The increase, which occurs under all the different heads of expenditure, except under Collector's establishment, is mainly attributable to the grant of increased pay to the tax during the year under review rose from Rs. 1,88,447 in the previous year to Rs. 1,00,607. The increase, which occurs under all the different heads of expenditure, except under Collector's establishment, is mainly attributable to the grant of increased pay to Pargans, viz., Re. 1 to seventy-five persons. In Calcutta the average incldence was Re. 1

Rs. 1,88,447 in the previous year to Rs. 1,90,627. The increase, which occurs under all the different heads of expenditure, except under Collector's establishment, is mainly attributable to the grant of increased pay to peons, increase of establishment in the district of Nadia, which moved up to class II, and the appointment of two additional bailiffs for the Warrant Department of the office of the

Collector of Income-tax, Calcutta. No new administrative question has arisen during the past year which calls for special comment. The tax, though it naturally comment. The tax, though it naturally cannot be said to advance in popularity, has now ceased to arouse public feeling. Its suc-cessful administration must, of course, ultimately depend on the standard of energy and integri ty which prevails among assessors, and on the amount of supervision exercised by the local officers. Over assessment exposes itself; but oncers. Over assessment exposes itself; but under assessment and omissions can only be gradually remedied by inquiry into the local circumstances prevailing in each particular district. That progress, in this matter is being made is shown by the steady and continuous increase in collections sinc 1887-88.

my meals." But eat we all must, or starve; and eat he did. Not much, though. At best it was a forced business. Nothing tasted natural or good, and he took just enough to keep him going until the next meal time should come round.

"And even for that I had to suffer," he says. "After getting it down I had, almost immediately, a sense of fullness or detenas if a bit of food had lodged there-which couldn't be."

by the miracle called digestion; for of all God's

The first must be transmuted into the second by the miracle called digestion; for of all God's ways in nature none is more awful, more amaz-ing, more glorious. And, when impeded or overborne when none which punishes the interference more certainly and swift. "I got little or no sleep," continues our friend, "and awoke in the morning tired out, as after a hard day's work. Presently I could hardly walk, for very weakness, and from time to time had to give up work altogether. No medicine helped me and I tried plenty. "After three wretched years of this, Mrs. Bird of Tallistorn, told my wife about Mother Seig-el's Syrup, and through her, advised me to try it. She said my ailment was indigestion and the Syrup would cure it. And it did. One bottle, greatly relieved me. I could eat freely, and food agreed with me. I persevered with the remedy and got strong as ever. All the pain and heavi-ness left me, and I felt light and energetic, al-though I have gained in weight."—(Signed) Sydney Challanger, Gladstone, Villa, Cwm, near Waunliwyd, Mon, August 30th, 1898.





Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta