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পদকপাতক।

দুশুর্ন হইয়াছে
কুলা ও- চাঁকা
বিশিষ্ট যুবক

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে পাওয়া।

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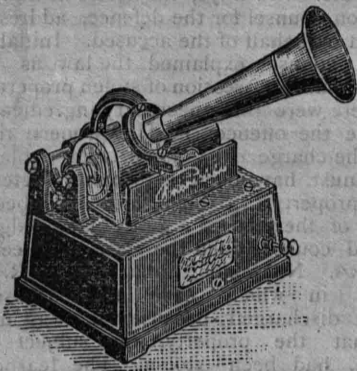
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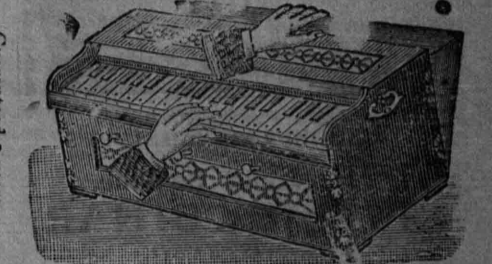
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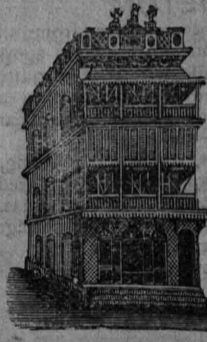
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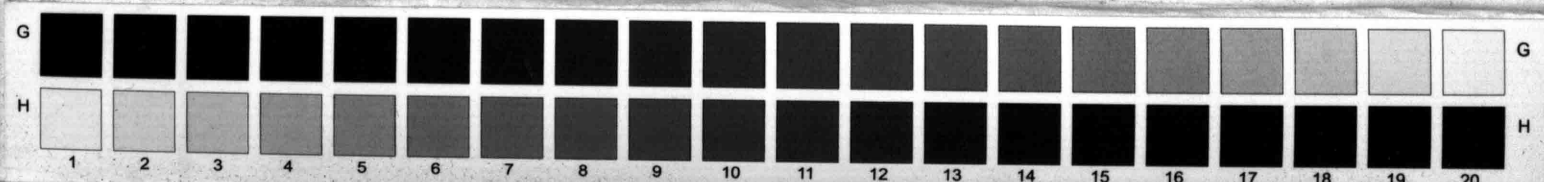
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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

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.

Lord George Hamilton, with his standing majority, sought to humiliate Sir W. Wedderburn. But Sir W. Wedderburn will not feel it at all; at least, not in the way Indians will do.

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.

Lord George Hamilton has, however, this excuse for his attitude, that he has been demoralized by Sir H. Fowler. Indeed, we fear Sir H. Fowler has demoralized the entire Liberal party.

Before he did this he, however, took a precaution. Knowing that animal life had its temptations, and especially the life of a man in power, he instructed two of his disciples, with whom he had conferred on the subject, to do certain things under certain conditions.

Well, after having given the above instructions 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.

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.

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.

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND SECRETARIS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Daily Mail says that Lord Curzon is contemplating a revolution by making District officers more independent of the Secretaries than they are now.

It is presumed that the change will give pleasure to the District Magistrates and that the Secretaries are likely to resent it. Yes, the change will increase the power and prestige of the District Magistrates, as it will decrease those of the Secretariat.

It is because the Secretaries 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.

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.

We do not quite understand the drift of the articles of the Statesman commenting on the resignation of the Municipal Commissioners.

A very formidable list of amendments to the Municipal Bill has, we hear, been sent in by the Hon. Babu Surendranath Banerji and the Hon. Mr. Apcar.

By challenging the Government to do what they knew it must refuse to do, the Commissioners practically committed themselves to the step they have

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 expected to have is that of seriously impeding the cause of Representative Government in Calcutta.

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.

A public meeting of the rate-payers, convened through the Sheriff, will be held next Wednesday, provided the Town Hall is available, 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 own defence.

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.

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 following appears in the Englishman:-

A very formidable list of amendments to the Municipal 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 Woodburn's intention not to leave Calcutta until the Bill has been passed, the prospects of a Pujah holiday for the unfortunate members of the Bengal Council seem remote.

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.

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 most remarkable feature in the recent Budget speech of Sir H. Fowler was the Ministerial cheers which it frequently elicited! When a member, in opposition, is cheered by his opponents, he has reason to be staggered.

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 moved by Mr. Paul, allowing the Indians the privilege of competing for the Civil Service Examination in their own country!

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 Legislative Council, a motion will be made to postpone its consideration till the Calcutta Session.

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 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.

in the investigation and trial. It is said that 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 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 Commissioner received a telegraphic message from the Nadua garden about an assault having been committed on Mr. Bellwood by some coolies.

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 girl was not at all taken. There was another fact which the Court did not take cognizance 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.

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 it. But it was an act of great imprudence to announce a fresh election just at this moment.

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, embarrass 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 respect that they entertain for the Government.

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