

# Amrita Bazar Patrika

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CALCUTTA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1899

NO 71

## পদকপ্তক।

দম্পণ হইয়াছে  
বুলা ৩০ টাকা।  
পরিশিষ্ট বহু।  
অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

## শ্রীঅদৈতপ্রকাশ।

শ্রীঅদৈত প্রভুর প্রিয় অমৃতচর ও শিষ্য  
শ্রীদেবাননাগর কৃত।  
শ্রীমদাশ্রমের লীলা সম্বন্ধে অনেক নতুন  
কথা আছে এবং শ্রীঅদৈতপ্রভুর সমুদ্র লীলা  
বিশদরূপে বর্ণিত হইয়াছে।  
মূল্য ১০ আনা। ডাকমাণ্ডল ১০ আনা।  
অমৃতবাজার, পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

## অনুরাগবল্লী।

শ্রীমদেবাননাগর প্রণীত।  
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বৎসর পূর্বে লিখিত।  
মূল্য ১০ আনা। ডাকমাণ্ডল ১০ আনা।  
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এই পুস্তক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অল্পসংখ্যক চিকিৎসা  
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চিকিৎসা প্রণালী এই সহজ এবং পুস্তকের  
ভাষাও এত সরল, যে স্ত্রীলোকেরা পর্যন্তও এই  
পাঠ পুস্তক করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে  
পারে। প্রত্যেক রোগ বৎসর বাহ্য এই প্রণালী  
অল্পসংখ্যক অল্পে সর্পাঘাত ব্যক্তিকে বিহ্বল  
চিকিৎসা করিয়া আরাম করিয়াছেন, এবং অল্প-  
সংখ্যক আরাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।  
এই সহজ কারণে প্রতি ঘরে ইহার এক এক  
খানি পুস্তক রাখা এবং বালক বালিকাবিশেষকে  
অন্যান্য পুস্তকে সহিত ইহা পাঠ করান  
বিশেষ কর্তব্য।

### শ্রীগোলাপলাল ঘোষ।

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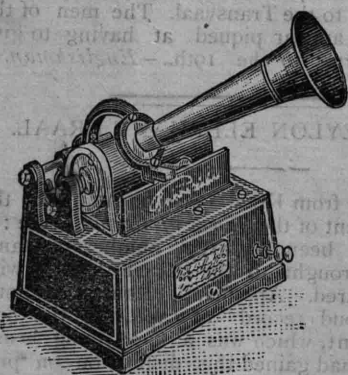
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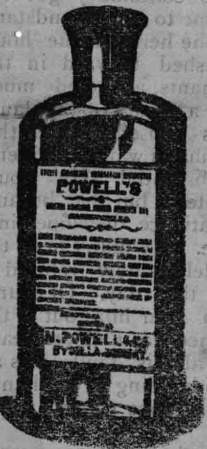


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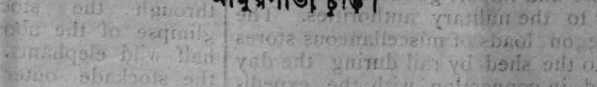
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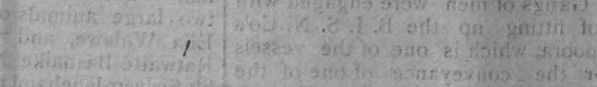
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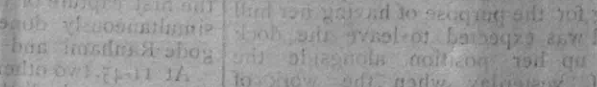
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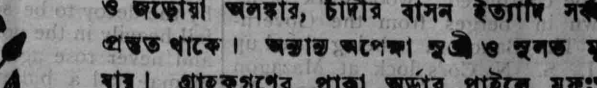
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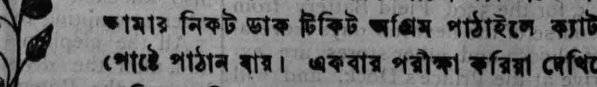
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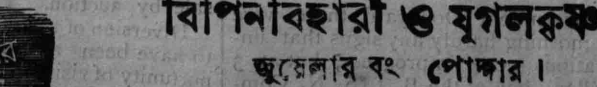
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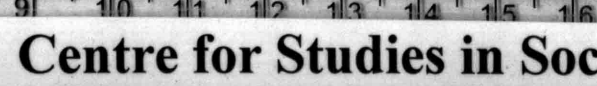
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## EXPERIMENTS IN MANURING.

## THE CURRENCY BILL.

## THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

THE Annual Report of the Burdwan Experimental Farm for 1898-99 has an interesting account of some experiments undertaken to ascertain the effects of different manures on different crops. In the case of paddy, the comparative values of (1) cowdung, (2) castor cake, (3) bone meal, and (4) bone meal and saltpetre have been tested in two series of experiments, the first series started in 1891-92 and carried on to 1898-99, the second conducted during the two past years. The general result points in both cases to the marked superiority of a mixture of bone meal and saltpetre; white bone meal gave the next best return. But in the second series bone meal alone gave a slightly higher outturn of grain than the best plot of mixed bone meal and saltpetre. Of all the manured plots in the latter series, that treated with saltpetre alone gave the poorest yield both of grain and straw; thus taking the average of the two years, the yield per acre was only 1,668 lbs. grain and 4,441 lbs. straw, which was very little better than that from the plot which had not been manured at all. In the first series the relative quantities per acre of the different manures used were—cowdung 100 maunds on one plot and 50 maunds on a second; castor cake 6 maunds; bone meal 6 maunds on one plot and 3 maunds on another; bone meal and saltpetre 3 maunds of the former and  $\frac{3}{4}$  maunds of the latter. Testing the same crop (paddy) with jute ploughed in as a green manure against 50 maunds per acre of cowdung, it was found that the former gave the heaviest yield of grain, but the latter the largest outturn of straw. On jute, the relative merits of castor cake, bone meal, cowdung, and a mixture of superphosphates and saltpetre, have been tried in a series of experiments extending over the past 10 years. The results show that cowdung has always given the highest yield of fibre, castor cake giving generally the next largest. Bone meal, on the other hand, has been conspicuous for always giving the poorest results of all the manured plots. In the case of this crop it is noticeable that the unmanured plot has invariably failed since 1891-92. Experiments with sugarcane have been carried on for the past three years with the object of comparing outturn obtained by cowdung, bone meal, cowdung and saltpetre, and cowdung and bone meal, but unfortunately the results have been so conflicting so far as to render necessary a continuation for many years before conclusions can be safely drawn. With potatoes, experiments with cowdung, bone meal, and castor cake were undertaken during the past 5 years; in the first two, cowdung gave the best results, but in the next three castor cake proved its superiority; in the year under report bone meal gave a higher yield than cowdung. In the case of this crop the difference between the manured and unmanured plots is very marked in each year, thus, in 1898-99, 1,200 maunds cowdung per acre, gave 20,760 lbs. of the tubers to the acre; 36 maunds castor cake yielded 22,776 lbs.; 12 maunds bone meal 1,192 lbs. as against 4,176 lbs. from the unmanured plot. Another experiment was tried on this crop, treating it with pitted cowdung and cowdung purchased from the ryots (600 maunds each per acre). This experiment, extending over 4 years, resulted in favour of the former, except in the first year.

Another interesting experiment referred to as having been in hand for nine years is the testing of the comparative advantages of the trench and the shallow planting of sugarcane. Castor seed was applied to both plots at the rate of 3,759 lbs. per acre in each case. The results of 1896 and 1897 however had to be omitted, in the former case they were unreliable, and in the latter the experiment failed. But the trench system has invariably been found to give a much larger outturn than the ordinary country system of planting in shallow lines; last year it yielded one-and-a-half times as much as the other. In another experiment the system of planting tops *versus* that of planting entire canes was tried, and it was found that the latter, the indigenous method, gave much the larger outturn of jaggery. The system of ratooning was also tested against that of planting annually, and the outcome showed that the former, besides having the advantage of saving cost of seed and that of ploughing and harrowing the land, gave a much better yield of jaggery. Yet another experiment with the crop, viz. building *versus* non-building, resulted markedly in favour of the building process, wrapping the canes with their leaves, the relative outturns being 5,354 lbs. and 3,360 lbs. per acre, and both plots having been similarly treated. Four varieties of sugarcane were tried in 1897-98, and last year under the direction of Dr. Leather. In both cases the *Thamshara* variety gave the highest yield, 7,484 lbs. and 6,077 lbs. per acre; in 1897-98 the *Poona* cane next with 6,336 lbs.; but in the following year the *Kajli* was second best with 5,808 lbs. The *Puri* variety gave the worst outturn in both years, viz., 4,584 lbs. and 4,152 lbs. Half of each plot was manured with cowdung at the rate of 56,055 lbs. and the other half with castor cake at the rate of 3,759 lbs. per acre. This is heavy manuring, but the yield is remarkable as compared with what has been officially taken as the average for all India, viz., 2,240 lbs. *per* acre.—*Pioneer*.

The rather startling statement is made that diamonds are alive. It is certain that some precious stones are affected by the health of the wearer. Pearls and opals are both said to grow dull through the ill-health of those by whom they are worn, and the turquoise is said to become pale from the same cause. We have heard from excellent authority of a ruby ring, which on the hand of an invalid went paler and paler, until on the patient's death the stones lost their colour entirely. Pearls are extraordinarily sensitive to the condition of the skin on which they rest. An example of this fact is shown by an episode in which a lady greatly desired to possess a pearl necklace, and her husband bought a very beautiful one. A month or two afterwards, however, the pearls began to lose their lustre, and he took the necklace back to the jeweller who sold it to him. The salesman admitted the deterioration. "You are quite right," he said, "but the truth is that your wife cannot wear pearls next to her skin. Let her maid wear the necklace for a few weeks, and the pearls will regain their brilliancy. A pearl dies as actually as a flower, though its life is a great deal longer and all its colour and brilliancy disappear. Its average life is impossible to estimate, as some pearls are known to be hundreds of years old; but it is probable that the life of others is far shorter.

THE following is the full text of His Excellency's Speech at last Friday meeting of the Legislative Council:—"The situation in which we are placed to-day, and the circumstances in which the Finance Member has just spoken in introducing this bill, are not without an element of surprise. If anyone had prophesied two years ago—or even one year ago—that in response to the unanimous finding of a composite but singularly competent body of experts at home, in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretary of State and, so far as I can judge, with the almost unbroken concurrence of public opinion both in India and England, the Government of India would to-day be introducing a Bill to establish a gold standard with a gold currency in this country he would have been laughed at as a dreamer of dreams. The bimetalists would have scouted him as a bigotted doctrinaire, and the champions of free silver would possibly have denounced him as a traitor. Even when the Committee was launched and was already fairly under way, I venture to think that the likelihood of a unanimous report exceeded the expectations even of the most sanguine. Indeed I remember a charge being brought against the Committee, that so evenly had the rival interests been balanced, and of such motley opinions was it composed, that its deliberations could have no other result than to add to the already existing confusion, and once again to throw the future of Indian currency into the crucible. We have been saved from any such catastrophe by the sagacity and common sense which characterised the proceedings of the Committee, by the ability with which its counsels were guided by its chairman, but most of all, I think, by the convincing and overwhelming strength of the case for a gold standard which was submitted to its consideration. Hence it is that we have arrived at the remarkable result of a consensus of opinion upon a matter hitherto so fiercely disputed, and that we are engaged this morning in giving to its legislative effect."

"I should like to point out that in taking this final step the Government of India are acting in logical accord with a policy which they have pursued ever since, more than twenty years ago, the fall in the gold value of silver first became acute. Throughout this period the underlying principle of their action has been the defence of India from the inevitable consequences of an unarrested decline in the sterling value of the rupee, namely, the necessity of imposing fresh taxation upon the Indian people, at the same time that capital, upon whose introduction and proper application their future prosperity so largely depended was being driven away by the insecurity arising from constantly fluctuating exchange. The continuity of policy of which I speak has not been impaired by the fact that other remedies than that finally adopted, have before now been sought, or that even when the desirability of the gold standard became generally recognised, proposals were put forward for attaining it which have since been abandoned. For instance, so long as there was the hope of an international bimetallic agreement, the Government of India looked favourably to such a solution. But when the Brussels Conference broke down, and it became obvious that we could not count upon co-operation with others but must depend upon ourselves, the gold standard then rose into prominence. Since then it has been a question not of principle, but of method. The Government of India have never lost sight of the ultimate goal which they had in view. With that object they closed the Mints to the free coinage of silver, with that object they made definite proposals to the Secretary of State, and with that object they now accept the recommendations of the Committee, and are introducing this Bill. We do not tie our hands by taking this step; for whilst adoption of a gold standard renders us independent of the caprice or hostility of foreign countries for the time being, it will not prevent us at any date in the future from embarking upon a discussion with foreign Powers as to an international agreement to enable us to enter the field upon equal terms, if indeed we may not claim a positive advantage in the possession of a stable system."

"My hon'ble colleague has explained the reasons for immediate legislation. They rest in the main upon the desirability of acquainting the public at the earliest moment with our resolve, and of inspiring them with the confidence which we are not conscious of rashness in admitting ourselves. We are not very much afraid of the danger with which we have been threatened, viz. that we may lose some of the gold which is on its way to our reserves. If this risk were serious, I would ask how it comes about that since the report of the Committee, since its acceptance by the Home Government and its recommendation to us, when all the world so to speak, has been anticipating the action that we are now about to take, gold has nevertheless continued to flow into our Treasuries, not in diminishing but in increasing volume. In June we only received £77,000, and in July £23,000; but in August, after all these events had taken place, the inflow rose to £223,000, whilst for the week ended on Monday last the additional amount of gold received in the Treasuries and Mints amounted to £18,000. This does not look as though we were frightening away gold or driving it into channels from which it would be incapable of recovery. Since the sovereigns began to enter India last year, the amount of gold retained in our Treasuries amounts to £2,620,000, and in the future, as announcements have been made will show, we look to receiving and coining gold of Indian production in addition to that which enters the country in the ordinary operations of trade from outside."

"I do not wish to dilate upon what to some may appear the sentimental advantage of a single gold coin, uniform and incapable of depreciation, circulating throughout the British Empire, although to me it seems that that fact has a very practical and imperial application. But I will put it in another way, and will the sovereign in circulation in and out of India, appears to me to exist a very potent guarantee for extension of our mercantile relations, both with the United Kingdom and with other parts of the British Empire. Every merchant who trades with India, every capitalist who invests in this country, will know in future that his sovereign is worth Rs. 15; Lender and borrower will be dealing in the same money, with a fixed and unalterable denomination. For my part I cannot doubt that such security must lend stability and confidence, not merely to our trade with foreign countries—and the London Committee has reminded us that four fifths of our foreign trade is with countries

possessing a gold standard but also to commercial and industrial development within our own shores. I do not desire to indulge in any chimerical dream of the future, I do not expect any sudden or frantic rush of capital to India, I do not pretend that we are opening an Asiatic Klondyke to the investing world, least of all am I anxious to import the speculative element into Indian business or finance, but I do firmly believe and hope that, subject to chances which none can foresee, but against which we are already on the watch, we shall by taking these measures invest the financial horoscope of India with a security which it has hitherto lacked, and which it will be our duty to utilise in the interests of our own clients, who are the Indian people."

## HYSTERICAL CATS AND DOGS.

THAT animals are subject to attacks of hysteria is a discovery only lately made by surgeons. Two cases recorded recently seem to leave no doubt about the matter.

The animals affected were a cat and a canary, respectively. The cat was one day deeply bitten in the back by a dog, and immediately fell down paralysed. When it was first seen, some five or six weeks after the injury, it walked only with its fore-paws, dragging its body and hind limbs. There was complete loss of sensation in the hind paws and back of the animal being indifferent to deep punctures with a needle and to hot applications, but it always responded to gentle touching of the front half of the body. The tail was paralysed, but none of the limbs atrophied, as is usual in such cases.

It was considered that the cat was suffering from an inflammation of the spinal cord, but the animal gave no positive signs other than the paralysis. One day the servant girl threw it from the first floor of the house on to the pavement. It alighted on all fours, immediately ran away, and was completely cured of its paralysis, which had lasted for more than two months.

There was no lesion of the spinal cord at all, and all its symptoms were due to an attack of hysteria.

The second reported case showed itself in a canary, whose cage, with the bird in it, was pulled down from the wall by a cat, but the owner interposed before the cat seized it. The bird lay on the bottom of the cage, stiff as if dead, but was revived by sprinkling with cold water, after which it was lively, and showed no abnormality except that from having been a fine singer it became silent.

For six weeks the bird never uttered a note, then this condition passed off quite unexpectedly, and the canary once more sang very well.

## THE TRANSVAAL AFFAIRS.

ORDERS have been issued for the immediate mobilisation in Lucknow of the 11th British Field Hospital to proceed to Calcutta for embarkation for the Transvaal. Lieutenant-Colonel Carter, R.A.M.C. (now at Jubbulpur) is in charge. It will comprise three Medical Officers and eight Assistant Surgeons, but no transport, transport attendants or ambulance tongas and bullocks are to be taken, the hospital being equipped with dandies only. Four pack-store sergeants and eight nursing orderlies accompanying the hospital are drawn from the Camerons and the Duke of Cornwall's regiments.

On Saturday afternoon orders were received by Captain Goodrich, R.N., Director of the Royal Indian Marine, to arrange for transports being at once engaged for the conveyance of British regiments ordered from India to the Cape. Enquiries made on Sunday last show that in all fifteen steamers have been taken up, comprising the Secundra, Bancoora, Lalpoora, Puneah, Vadala, Sirsa, and India, all belonging to the B. I. S. N. Company, and, among others, the Nurni, belonging to the Bombay and Persian S. N. Company. The Secundra is being now fitted out in the Government Dockyard, Bombay, for the conveyance of the Field Battery and Veterinary Hospital. The Lalpoora is being fitted, but in the Prince's Dock, with accommodation for the 2nd Battery and Native Hospital. The Bancoora, now being fitted in the B. I. S. N. Company's docks, will take an Infantry Regiment. The Vadala and Sirsa were expected to arrive in Bombay on Monday when work on them was to be taken in hand at once. It is expected that in the course of nine days' time five or six ships will be ready for troops, and that the remaining transports will be available after that at the rate of about three a day. Regiments to leave from Bombay are all to be rallied in the first case to Deolali, from which place they will be brought down by train to Prince's Dock, as the ships that are to be prepared for them are declared to be ready.

At the Prince's Dock, which has been selected as the place of the embarkation of troops, very useful work has been done in preparing the wharves and sheds for the accommodation of transports, stores and materials. The whole of the jetty shed' has been cleared of general export and imported goods, and has been handed over to the military authorities. The first few waggons loads of miscellaneous stores were run into the shed by rail during the day and unloaded in connection with the expedition. There was very little doing in the docks on Monday. Gangs of men were engaged with the work of fitting up the B. I. S. N. Co's steamer Lalpoora, which is one of the vessels chartered for the conveyance of one of the field batteries, probably the 21st, from Trimulgherry. This vessel entered the dry dock in the morning for the purpose of having her hull cleaned, and was expected to leave the dock and take up her position alongside the jetty wharf yesterday, when the work of fitting her for the conveyance of horses and men would be completed, wood-work being brought down in barges from the Government dock. The Bancoora is being fitted up in the B. I. S. N. Co's dock at Mazagon in the same manner, and is to be ready by Saturday, when she will probably embark in the Prince's Dock, for the 53rd Field Battery from Deesa. In course of the next few days several train loads of bloosa and other stores are expected to arrive at the Prince's Dock, and will be loaded on transports by the Commissariat Department.

In the Government Dockyard there were on Monday morning hardly any signs that unusual preparations were in progress, but at 3 o'clock the Ellora, one of the B. I. S. N. Company's steamers, was brought into the dock to be fitted up. The steamer Secundra, which

had been docked on Saturday, is being fitted up rapidly, and will be ready to leave on Friday. She will be utilized to convey one Field Battery and one Field Hospital with complete transport. It is expected that the mobilisation of troops will be completed at Deolali by that date, and that the troops will be put aboard the steamers Secundra, Buldana and Lalpoora on Sunday or Monday at the latest, when the three vessels will at once sail for Durban. The average speed of the fleet will be 10½ knots an hour, so that the port of Durban ought to be made in about sixteen days. On account of the bar at Durban, all the transports will be able to draw only 18 feet. The owners of the transports engaged have decided to carry enough coal to serve the steamers for their return voyage, about 150 tons for each vessel. The steamers Buldana, Lalpoora and Secundra were surveyed on Monday morning, and pronounced fit for service. The steamers Vadala and Sirsa, arrived that day and are now unloading. As soon they are cleared, they will be docked in the Government dockyard, and the work of turning them into transport will be taken in hand at once.

The following is the full list of the transports engaged:—The steamers Lalpoora, Secundra, Buldana, Puneah, India, Henzada, Ellora, Pundua, Sirsa, Vadala, Palitana, Patiala, Wardha, Nevassa, Nowshera, Lindula, Virawa and Warora of the British India Steam Navigation Company; the Sutlej, of the Peninsular and Oriental Company; the City of London, of the City Line; and the Nairung and Nurni, of the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company.

The 42nd and 53rd Batteries, Royal Field Artillery, stationed at Ahmednagar and Deesa, respectively, have been warned to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Bombay for embarkation on field service.

Three officers of the 4th Queen's Own Hussars have volunteered for active service in South Africa and have been attached to the 19th Hussars. Lieutenant Barnes left for Secunderabad on Sunday night with Mr. Farrier, Major Toynne and a stretcher party, consisting of two Sergeants and eight men from the 4th. Captain Lafone left on Monday night. Lieutenant Savory, who is out shooting at Castle Rock, has been ordered by wire to join the 19th immediately. Rev. Bull has also volunteered to go to the Transvaal. The men of the 4th Hussars appear piqued at having to give up their arms to the 19th.—*Englishman*.

## THE CEYLON ELEPHANT KRAAL.

WRITING from Kral Town on Aug. 30, the correspondent of the *Times of Ceylon* wrote:—"There has been a large number of tame elephants brought to the Kral than of wild ones captured. Appuhami, Rane's mahout, had the proud record of capturing the first wild elephant, which was a fine young beast. Appuhami had gained this distinction on previous occasions, and was therefore rather a conceited fellow, and his contumacy got the better of him when he came to the grandstand and was not treated like the hero of the hour. His heroism, as he dashed forward in the midst of the wild elephants, attracted much attention, and there was a round of applause when the first animal was noosed; but all this was only praise, and Appuhami wanted evidently something more substantial. He would have got it had he waited, but he became impatient, and his impatience developed into abuse and bad language. He didn't heed the Ratemahatmeyas, and deliberately refused to noose another elephant that day. Of course the only remedy was to turn him out of the stockade. However, Rane was a clever beast, and her mahout, with all his faults, was an expert in the capture and riding of elephants, and his sudden disappearance caused much regret."

The other decoys, in the meantime, were doing their best, but all their attempts proved futile. Two other animals were noosed, but, owing possibly to the inferior quality of the ropes used—but, according to the idea at the time prevalent, mismanagement—the nooses snapped, and no more captures were made on Monday.

The Ratemahatmeyas certainly looked low-spirited, but whether it was at the small number of elephants kraaled, or for other reasons, could not be ascertained. It was originally announced that the noosing operations would be resumed on Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock, and long before this time a large number had assembled near the stockade; but Mr. Dunniwell considered it advisable that the decoys should be first taken to water and fed before they tried conclusions again with the "enemy," and notice was given that the noosing would commence after breakfast time, at 10.30. There was some disappointment at this postponement, but it could not be helped, and the course Mr. Dunniwell adopted, as subsequent events showed, proved a wise one. Long before 10 o'clock crowds were seen wending their way towards the stockade, and by 10.30 the forest of Lenewa, inhabited forsooth a couple of months before by wild animals only, and where no human voice was ever heard, was transformed into a sea of heads, the spectators craning their necks through the stockade fence to catch a glimpse of the noosing of a dozen and a half wild elephants. Punctually at 10.30 A.M. the stockade outer gate was opened and the decoys entered, and within the first half hour was witnessed the noosing of two large animals of the herd. Wira of Kiri Ella Walawe, and "Punchi," belonging to Mr. Ratwatte Basnake Nileme, ridden respectively by Sirwardenahemi and Panchirale (the gentleman with wooden leg), shared the honour of the first capture of the day, which was almost simultaneously done. The noosers were Aragode Ranhami and Tawalongode Ranhami.

At 11.45, two other large animals were noosed, one near the little pond in the centre of the stockade; and this animal, while being dragged by the decoy to be secured and tied to a tree, fell heavily in the pond, which is now quite dry, and never rose again. It died to-day. This animal had a bullet wound in the back, and had spear wounds on the forehead, and was also knocked down by one of the decoys when attempting to charge.

All the elephants have now been captured, and after the division of the captives to-day between the Ratemahatmeyas and Mr. Dunniwell, the remaining animals will be put up for sale by auction.

Division of the pleasantest character seems to have been afforded all who seized the opportunity of visiting the recent kraal at Lenewa, and judging from the accounts given by those who have just returned to Colombo, the holiday

has been thoroughly enjoyed. "The weather," said one, "was delightfully fine and the few showers that fell were so slight as to be unworthy of mention. It was not an easy task to get to the scene of operations, for the road on the Chilaw side was covered with soft white sand for a distance of about ten miles and to a depth of about ten inches. It was terribly hard to get through, and, as each cart passed, the track became worse. At Kral Town itself everything was wonderfully well arranged."

"The Europeans had their bungalows built quite close to the kraal and the natives were located further down the hill. The bungalows were very pretty and extremely comfortable, the best being built of wood with cadjan roofs. The insides, generally, were lined with white calico, and some of the bungalows had excellent verandahs running around them. There were nearly 30 Europeans present, and those who had made adequate arrangements beforehand certainly were comfortable. We sent our baggage on two days in advance, in order to make sure that, even if a break-down should happen, there would be plenty of time to get things ready before we arrived. Some of the other people, I believe, were there before their beds and their food arrived. The first day we went straight to Chilaw, leaving there 5 o'clock the next morning and reaching the Kral at noon. The earlier you start the better, because in the heat of the day it is difficult to get the bulls to go. Some people I believe, kept their horses going by pouring whiskey and soda down their throats. Two horses were almost dead, and there was not much hope for another one. To drive one horse 52 miles, ten of which were through a thick layer of sand, was enough to kill any animal in this climate. One of the prettiest sights I have seen for a long time was the three lines of fires which were lit at night to keep the elephants in the vicinity of the kraal. The first lighting up the jungle, with the palms and other tropical vegetation in the background reminded one of a huge transformation scene at a theatre. I noticed rather an amusing incident on Tuesday. An endeavour was being made to noose a female elephant, standing by whose side was a baby elephant. The efforts to noose the mother were futile, but in the end the baby was noosed. This little animal then set up a tremendous row and made more noise than all the others put together. The rope was let loose, and the baby got nearer its mother. Suddenly it broke away with the rope and rushed towards a large group of natives. The latter took to their heels, rushing helter-skelter in all directions, and the way they tumbled one over the other was highly amusing. One small elephant died while it was being driven in, and one large animal, which was found to have two serious bullet wounds, it was thought, would also die."

NEWS has reached the Government of India of a disturbance in British Somaliland, the originator being a fanatic who pretends to pose as a local Mahdi and is said to contemplate a descent upon Berbera. No serious outbreak is feared but in any case it happens that this being the season of relief double detachments will be at the British coast ports.

THE elephant has more muscles in its trunk than any other creature possesses in its entire body, their number being no less than 40,000; while the whole of a man's muscles only number 527. The proboscis or trunk of the elephant which contains this vast quantity of small muscles, variously interlaced, is extremely flexible, endowed with the utmost exquisite sensibility and the utmost diversity of motion.

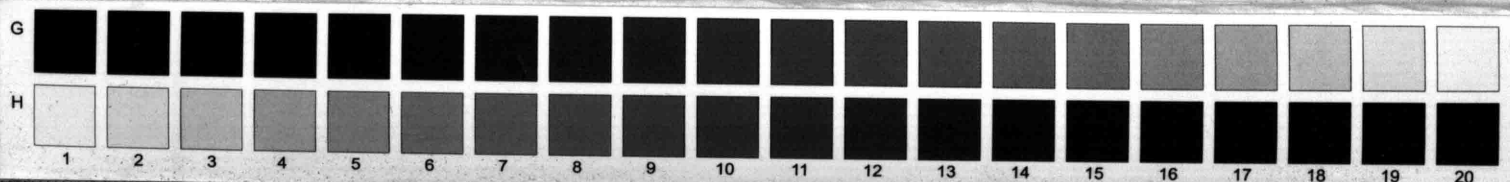
THE British Aluminium Company, through its Agents, Messrs. Best and Co., has addressed the Government of India suggesting that aluminium, slightly alloyed, might be used in the manufacture of coinage with a view to replacing the present copper or bronze coinage of India. The moment is thought to be opportune for suggesting the change, because lately owing to the immense increase in the price of copper, about 250 tons of copper coins have been exported from India, their value as metal being now greater than their face or coin value.

THE Jalna-Manmad section of the Hyderabad-Godavary Railway for 140 miles will according to present arrangements, be formally opened for traffic on the 1st proximo. The Prime Minister will probably be deputed to perform the opening ceremony. Sir Vikar-ul-Oomrah expressed a wish to inspect the section on the 23rd ultimo, but as the line was on the metre-gauge, his saloon could not run across, and no first or second class carriages are as yet constructed for the new railway.

SINCE the recrudescence of plague in Julundur district last month, the Hoshiarpur Plague Observation Staff has been brought on the same footing as last year—a naib teshildar and medical subordinate on special duty at Garhshankar to watch the Nawashahr road and two others at Balachor to watch the Rupal Ferry. The frequent arrivals of *bahils* and *hakims* from Bombay and sepoys on unfurlough from South Africa, all passing through Bombay keep the observation staff on the *qui vive*. Dr. Forrester from Nawashahr has succeeded Dr. Duni Chand as Plague Medical Officer of the Hoshiarpur district.

IT is understood that the Government of India has called for a special report regarding the liquidation of the Agra Savings Bank, Limited, Allahabad, and other institutions in the North-West Provinces and Oudh. The liquidation has been in progress for nearly ten years, although the Bank was a very small one, with almost purely local interests, and a firm of chartered accountants would have settled the business in six months. The investigation will, it is believed, disclose the fact that the cost of the liquidation to date has been nearly four lakhs of rupees. The capital of the Bank was about a lakh.

CONSIDERABLE excitement arose in Bangalore City on Friday morning, when the rumour got abroad that tiger in the Lalbagh Menagerie had escaped. While the keeper went into the cage to clean it, the beast, finding the cage door open, got out, sprang over the wall, and got into the adjoining village, where it hid itself in a bamboo thicket. Several gentlemen went out with guns, but the shikaries, failed to move Stripes. Fearing danger to life, if left to roam at night, he was despatched with a bullet just as it got dark. It is a great loss to the menagerie. The tiger was presented in 1888 by the late Maharaja.





## Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA SEPTEMBER 14, 1899.

## SCENES IN OUR REFORMED COUNCILS.

We have said elsewhere that some interesting scenes were being enacted just now in our local Legislative Council. The India Councils Act was hailed with universal delight, and it was declared that the people of India had at last obtained a boon for which they could not be too grateful to their alien rulers. The hope was held out that, both official and non-official members would be allowed to exercise their fullest independent judgment, and that, in due course, the reformed Councils would remove, to a considerable extent, the want of a Parliament in India. We shall presently see what sort of reformed Councils we have got. But, before we do so, let us see how the Councils did their business before the grant of the privilege of enlarged representation.

Well, before the passing of the Councils Act we had not only Councils, but also representatives of the people to fill them. We had, in this manner, representatives from Bombay, Madras, Bengal, etc., in our Supreme Council. Of course, these representatives were not elected by the people. The people were too much like children to know what was good for them and what was not, or to elect men who were competent to represent their interests. The Government, which occupied the position of a *ma bab*, therefore, selected for them their own representatives.

Every law in this country was thus made with the full consent of the people. When a measure was to be passed, the Bombay member was asked whether his province would accept it or not, and thus the acceptance of Bombay was at once secured through him. It was in this manner that the opinion of the whole Empire was taken before a Bill was passed.

In the Local Councils, the Secretaries represented the views of the people. These Secretaries framed Bills, settled them in the Select Committees, and then passed them unanimously at full meetings of the Councils, on behalf of the province they represented.

We had debates too in our old Councils, like every other civilized nation. Our members, like senators in other countries, delivered long, elaborate, written speeches. There was, however, a little bit of peculiarity in these debates. In other countries opponents attack one another, and sometimes furiously, in Councils. Here too the members got furious. They did not, however, attack one another but their constituents, the people. As regards themselves they only praised one another.

One member declared that the Hon'ble member on his left was the wisest and best man in the universe with whom he agreed in every particular. The Hon'ble member thus addressed repaid the compliment by stating that his Hon'ble colleague on the right was wiser than he, and, that if it were true that his Hon'ble colleague had agreed with him it was likewise true that he also perfectly agreed with his Hon'ble friend. It was in this agreeable manner that debates used to be carried on in our Councils a decade ago.

A change, as every body knows, has now come over the constitution of our Councils. In a fit of generosity the Government acknowledged that the people of three or four Presidencies were no longer children, but sufficiently grown up to deserve its confidence, and thus gave them the privilege of choosing representatives from amongst themselves and helping both the Supreme and Local Councils in the work of legislation for the country. Said the Government, addressing the people—"You are henceforth permitted to elect four members for the Supreme, and six for the Local Councils. You shall also get some non-official members selected by us. And with a dozen or so of official members more, we shall make laws both for the Empire and the Provinces." The arrangement, as we said, gave unusual satisfaction to the people.

Eighteen members have thus been sitting since Saturday last in the Council room of the Bengal Government to consider a most important measure, six of whom are elected, and the rest official. The elected members laid it down that "the sun rises from the east." To this the official members objected. They said, "the sun rises from the west," and there was a hot discussion. The President of the Council then declared that the matter ought to be decided by votes. This being done and hands counted, it was found that the twelve Government members had declared that the sun rose from the west, and the five representatives had said that it rose from the east. One representative member, apparently in deference to the wishes of the Government, abstained from voting. Five to twelve, the representative members were defeated, and it was thus established, beyond doubt, that the sun rises from the west.

The second matter put before the Council was, whether it was the sun or the moon that made the day. Here, again, the representative members, with one exception, objected. The matter was again put to the vote for settlement. The twelve Government members declared it was the moon that made the day, and the five representative members said that it was the sun that made the day. The representative members were thus again defeated, and it was established beyond doubt that it was the moon that made the day.

It was in this way that upwards of one hundred questions were decided during the last two sittings of the Council; and two hundred more will have to be settled during the next two days with, of course, the same result.

When measures have come to be disposed of in this fashion, the people are beginning to doubt whether there is any difference between the old and the new Councils, and whether they have derived any benefit at all from the "reform." They are rather inclined to think that it would have been better to have left things as they were; for, the present system is only a grim pleasantry, which has been palmed off on the people of India as a serious and substantial boon.

The Council meeting, held last Saturday, presented a picturesque sight when the amendments of the elected members were slaughtered, one after another, the five representatives raising their five hands on one side, and the twelve official members raising their twelve hands on the other, one happy elected member only occupying a neutral position by voting neither for his constituents nor for the Government. This farce was enacted for nearly five hours that day, and is likely to be repeated for the next two or three days, as more than three hundred amendments have yet to be gone through. In our Congresses and Conferences, we have our omnibus resolutions. Why not adopt this procedure in the Council, and simplify matters? The other way of disposing of this formidable array of amendments is to apply the closure. Well, if the closure could be applied in the case of amendments relating to the constitutional part of the Bill, we do not see why it cannot be applied with regard to those portions which deal with details. Of course, Sir John Woodburn, with his usual generosity, declared that he would not interfere with the putting of these amendments. But, as it makes no difference to the people whether these amendments are closed or are slaughtered by the show of hands, we think no one will be sorry if the speedier method is adopted and the Council at once, closed, so that His Honour, and his Secretaries might run up to the hills and enjoy their well-earned holiday.

The meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of the city, held on Wednesday before last, was a "solemn farce." There were only 9 elected Commissioners present and only one of them—the Hon'ble Mr. Apar—took any active part in the business of the afternoon. The meeting looked more like a conference of Government officials than anything else, and certainly it did not convey any idea of a meeting of a self-governing institution. The resignation of the twenty-eight Commissioners, of course, brought about this state of affairs. It is well-known that there are Commissioners who, very seldom, if ever, attend Municipal meetings; but at the last meeting such Commissioners were not only present but took part in the transaction of the day's business. The letter of "A Rate-payer," published elsewhere, throws some light as to how these Commissioners came to be present. Says the correspondent—"I understand that all the 15 nominated Commissioners were specially written to by the Chairman to attend and the ten elected by special bodies were written to through the Secretaries of the bodies who had elected them." So, the authorities did not keep quiet over the resignation of the Commissioners, but exerted themselves to their utmost to obtain a quorum. There is another point in connection with the business of the day—a very serious one—to which the correspondent refers. We are told that the Hon'ble Mr. D. F. Mackenzie (who, by the bye, attended for the first time the last Municipal meeting since his election in April last), came with a written speech supporting the claim of Messrs Burns and Co. for Rs. 28,300, which had been disallowed them by the General Committee. There is nothing unnatural in that by itself, but when we are told that the Hon'ble gentleman is not only a shareholder of the Company but also a Director, we do not quite see how far he was justified in taking this step. The above may be taken as a fair index of what the rate-payers may expect from the Municipality under the new Act.

We pointed out the other day that the complaint of the missionary paper, *Harvest Field*, that the lack of good feeling between the Indians and the ruling race is due to the stupidity of the Hindus, is without foundation. Perhaps there are other causes than the stupid social customs of the Hindus which lead to this difference between the rulers and the ruled. By the bye, it is possible, under ordinary circumstances, for the rulers and the ruled, living under an absolute form of Government, to be in the most cordial of terms? But that is neither here nor there. As we said, it is because the Hindu does not dine with the European, that there is this difference? Professor Ram Chandra was a mathematician, whose original researches in the region of pure mathematics secured for him a European reputation. While editing Professor Ram-chandra's work, *Maxima and Minima*, he was, by the bye, a Christian—Professor De Morgan wrote to the Dean of Ely—

Had I been publishing independently of Government, I should perhaps have added what Ram Chandra meant me to add—as I judge by his mode of telling it—that he had been beaten in the public road by a man in a British uniform, for not making a salaam as he passed. We talk a great deal about the ways and means of preserving India; but few know that this treatment of educated and civilised Natives is always going on. We are constantly sending out to India a parcel of boobies who have no idea of the people they have to govern, and who will each of them make a few hundred malcontents among educated men who are revered by the mass of the people.

We have not yet heard of any redress having been offered to Mr. Asghar Ali, who was assaulted, and had his eyes blackened, because he was going to a station-master to complain of the treatment he had met with, from four commissioned officers. And we have in the case of Sohoni vs. Rowcroft the stern fact, that the Hindu, an educated gentleman, was assaulted by an educated English gentleman on the ground that the former had not saluted the latter in the proper way. Now, is it possible that Lieutenant Rowcroft would have acted in this silly manner, by which he made himself, nay, his nation, ridiculous, if some of his countrymen had not demoralized him by their example?

The Lucknow Advocate relates a sensational story of by-gone days which is not known to us here. After describing how Lord Canning declined proclaiming martial law in Bengal though urged by the Commander-in-Chief to do so, the writer comes to notice the appointment of Mr. Dwarka Nath Mitra. The writer seems to be under the impression that Mr. Justice Mitra was the first Hindu appointed to the Bench of the High Court. The first Hindu to be appointed was, however, Babu Rama Prasad Roy. But here is the story as described by the writer—

When the late Dwarkanath Mitra was appointed a judge of the Calcutta High Court, the then editor of the *Englishman* wrote most insultingly on the choice. A rule, under the Let-

ters Patent, was issued by Mr. Justice Mitra. The jingo editor did not respond to it. The matter came to the notice of Sir Barnes Peacock, the then Chief Justice, who at once issued a distress warrant; the editor was arrested while taking his food and brought handcuffed before the Full Bench, and there and then tried, convicted and sentenced, owing to Mr. Justice Mitra's appeal for leniency, to three months' simple imprisonment.

As we said above we never heard this story before, but we know the facts of another similar case. Mr. Taylor was Commissioner of Patna. He had, during the mutiny days, invited some Patna Maulvis to his house for a conference, and arrested them. This act was not approved of by the Government of Lord Canning which considered it dishonourable, and Mr. Taylor was dismissed from the service. Mr. Taylor moved heaven and earth to be re-instated, but without avail. He then turned a mulekār of the High Court, and, as such, appeared before Mr. Justice Mitra in a case. In passing judgment Mr. Justice Mitra said that Mr. Taylor or his client, we don't remember who, had committed "fraud." Mr. Taylor had no remedy but to appeal to the press, and the *Englishman* opened its columns to the virulent abuse of Mr. Justice Mitra. And Mr. Taylor vented his spleen by abusing Mr. Justice Mitra under his own signature. When several such letters had appeared, the matter attracted the notice of Sir Barnes Peacock, and he issued process against Mr. Taylor for contempt. Of course, this action of the Chief Justice created intense sensation all over the country, as it created indignation in the mind of the *Englishman*. That paper, considering his position absolutely safe, began to abuse Mr. Justice Mitra, as also the Chief Justice, and appealed to the European public for funds in defence of Mr. Taylor. The *Englishman* declared that, to show what widespread discontent the action of the Chief Justice had caused in the public mind, he would accept only a rupee from each. This sensational announcement was followed by another to the effect that, his call for a rupee subscription had been responded to in an unprecedented manner. The *Englishman*, however, gave another offence. It openly defied the Chief Justice to issue process against him. And true enough, the Chief Justice, in response to that challenge, did issue a process against the *Englishman*. And his Lordship did more; he required the Editor to be present with the list of persons who had responded to his call. Now there were many officials who had subscribed to the fund, and others, who were not officials, were demoralized by the determined action of the Chief Justice. So, as soon as the process was issued, they ran to the *Englishman* office to have their subscriptions returned and their names erased from the list. For a few hours the *Englishman* office seemed to be besieged by the terror-stricken subscribers. The Editor consulted lawyers, and they could offer no hope. The Chief Justice took that occasion to declare that, as Chief, he was bound to protect his colleague though the latter was but an Indian. And he further added that Mr. Justice Mitra "was a most high-minded and modest gentleman, and he felt it an honor to associate with him." The Chief Justice, however, excused the parties and discharged them with a warning. To a question from the counsel on behalf of the defence, whether it was contempt to comment upon the action of the Judges, the Chief Justice declared that it was not so when it was made *bona fide*; but when done from malicious motives, it was contempt.

The Government shows a good deal of interest to protect India from sedition. We think that, if sedition means the spread of discontent against British rule, the Indian press is not so guilty of the offence as some lawless Europeans, as for instance, men like Mr. Ross, who figured in the late Mohanpore tea-garden case. That case has been just brought to a termination. Fancy, how the sense of justice of the Indians, especially of that quarter where it happened, was outraged by this case! Every one knows that Mr. Ross was charged with the murder of a native, and that he was acquitted by the High Court. Some Anglo-Indian papers took that occasion to deplore over the ferocity of the Indians and the helpless condition of Europeans here. Unfortunately, this is the unfair way in which public interests are jeopardized by the Anglo-Indian press in this country.

The story of Mr. Ross was that, armed with a revolver, he went to catch thieves, who were in the habit of cutting bamboos which belonged to him; and that having arrested a couple of thieves, they assaulted him. They struck him on the arm, the revolver went off and one man was killed and others wounded. This story was not believed by the lower Court and he was sent up for trial before the Calcutta High Court. There he was acquitted, as we said before. Mr. Ross, not satisfied with his lucky escape, sued the villagers for assault. That case has ended in the acquittal of the villagers. The judgment of the Deputy Commissioner, Captain Herbert, makes the case clear as noon day. Mr. Ross' case was that he had arrested men, who were cutting bamboos that belonged to him. But the finding of the Magistrate was that he had illegally arrested men who were cutting their own bamboos. This is what Captain Herbert says—

It therefore follows that complainant laid claim to land which did not belong to his garden on the statement of a garden coolie who had never previously been to the place and then proceeded to arrest two villagers lawfully employed in cutting bamboos on this land, which was their own property. Complainant was, therefore, the aggressor, and the friends of the 2 men seized had the right of private defence of their companions against unlawful restraint by complainant and his coolies.

So, the real facts are that Mr. Ross, armed with a revolver, arrested two villagers, who were cutting their own bamboos. And the result was that a man was killed. Even if the revolver had gone off, yet he was primarily responsible for the loss of a human life. We were assured by Anglo-Indian papers that Mr. Ross was an educated Englishman. If so, more the shame to him. For thus Captain Herbert says of him in the judgment—

There are good grounds for thinking that complainant himself cannot be believed on two important points. His primary reason for carrying a revolver, he states, was because of wild animals and his secondary reason was to protect himself; he does not say against whom or what. His first reason is false on the face of it. In cross-examination he first stated that he had shot wild beasts with his

revolver, and when pressed stated that he had shot one jackal. In re-examination he stated that he carried a revolver to scare wild beasts. Now it is perfectly evident that he carried a revolver for quite another purpose. He wanted to catch men cutting bamboos, this is evident from his own statement that, he went to the place in consequence of information received, that he had previously caught men cutting bamboos, that he did not go by the path he ordinarily used, because there was a Fakir who had given warning to persons in the jungle of his approach, and the reason why he took a revolver was without doubt that he expected to meet with resistance, when a weapon would be useful.

So it is that, expecting resistance, he had gone there armed with a revolver, resolved to use it, if occasion required it. And the same revolver really killed a man. So, though Mr. Ross was the aggressor, though he had seized men who were cutting their own bamboos, though a man was shot by his revolver; yet he was acquitted by the High Court and in the end was seen to pose as an aggrieved party before the Court of the Deputy Commissioner. Just fancy what an idea of British character and sense of justice has this case of Mohanpore, led the people of that quarter to form! The Deputy Commissioner deserves public gratitude for the independence and strong sense of justice he has displayed in connection with a case which evoked such strong feelings in the European community. The facts, Mr. Cotton is the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and his subordinates have come to feel that His Honor will not allow flagrant acts of injustice to be perpetrated by Europeans upon poor natives as long as he rules that Province.

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker was pleased to call the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce as "one man's show," meaning thereby that Babu Sita Nath Roy, the Secretary, is all in all there. Such utterances are quite in keeping with the manner in which the proceedings of the Council last Saturday began and ended. Of course, the real facts are otherwise; but what of that? The Hon'ble members are paid not to deal in facts, reasons and arguments. That is the business of the ordinary folk. They are paid such princely salaries to convert night into day, and *vice versa*. The partners of most of the respectable firms in Calcutta, some of them being not only millionaires but highly educated men—are members of the National Chamber of Commerce. But yet, the Hon'ble Mr. Baker, who is an enlightened gentleman and whose sympathies are with the people of this country, was led to belittle this influential body in order to obey mandates. What an irksome task must be that of the official members in our Councils! They must say "yea" or "nay" as they are taught to do. And then, they must justify their vote in the best way they can! They begin in this manner and end their lives in this sorry way. How hard their lot! They have no opportunities of tasting what freedom is.

A WAG likens our Legislative Councils to the theatrical stage. Yet there is a difference. On the stage we have both comedy and tragedy. In the Councils, it is all farce. And then, on the stage, the actors weep and the spectators laugh. In our Councils, the members enact farces and crack jokes at others' expense, while the spectators weep and beat their breasts. The stage, then, is a far more interesting place than the Legislative Council. On the stage we have sometimes originality. This, of course, is impossible in our Legislative Councils. Again, on the stage, we have good music, good scenes and good light. Since our Councils are but a copy of the theatrical stage, why is not some music introduced into them—and we were going to say, some dancing too? But perhaps dancing may not be quite dignified on the part of our stage senators. Indeed, with some slight changes, our Councils may be made as attractive places as the best managed theatres in Calcutta.

The *New Age* is serving India with a zeal which does credit to its noble heart. There are Englishmen—writers and administrators—who feel the wrong that the Indians have to suffer, but have not the courage to utter a word in protest. What Englishman is there who does not condemn the attitude of the Bombay Government towards the Nattu brothers? But how many are there who would take the risk of saying so? If an Anglo-Indian newspaper does so, he will lose the patronage of his constituents. If a public servant does so, he risks his place. The *New Age*, therefore, is doing yeoman's service, not to the Indians but to the Empire, by his protests against injustice. For, there is no doubt of it, that the Empire needs looking after. The methods adopted to govern it have been tried and found wanting. If Lord George Hamilton is tired of India, India is likewise tired of his Lordship. It would scarcely be an exaggeration to say that every department, under the State, except perhaps the Post Office, has failed under the present system. The administration of justice, for which the English people are so celebrated, is not so absolutely pure here, as it was before, and as it ought to be. Justice is costly; and though the people have been secured against external foes, society seems to be at the point of being dismembered. Litigation has made our society pestilential. The feelings between the rulers and the ruled are day by day getting estranged; and, we think, the time is not distant when the rulers of the land will have to change their methods for the protection of the Empire. The fact can no longer be concealed that, while the expenses of the Government are increasing, the capacity of India to meet them is decreasing. The prospect of another famine thus threw Lord George Hamilton into a state of despair.

The *New Age* is doing this service, that it is disclosing the real state of affairs in India, which others will not do. The Government sends fragmentary reports home; the Secretary of State, in the same manner, submits fragmentary reports to Parliament, and thus the real condition of the country is kept a sealed book. Of course, English newspapers can do much, but do you know what is the feeling of the leading English newspaper towards India? Our readers know that, in giving away prizes at the Cooper's Hill Engineering College, Sir Donald Stewart was led to exhort the students "to treat the Indians well as they would do their own countrymen."

He further said that "Indians were a very charming people," to whom he was "deeply grateful." Now the *Times*, in reporting this speech, omitted these kind expressions of Sir Donald Stewart towards the people of this country! This omission was pointed out by the *New Age*. Can malignities go further? As we said the other day, the *New Age* is a paper which ought to be supported by all those who wish well of the Empire.

The *Indian Spectator* refers to the letter of Professor Max Muller to Babu Protap Chander Mozumdar, in which the savant recommends to the pious Brahmo and to those of his way of thinking, to start a Church of Christ in India, independently of all European Churches. "All that has grown up in the Church after the death of Christ or the Apostles," he writes, "does not concern you." Indeed, we do not know if they concern any body at all. "You will want, no doubt," continues the distinguished Professor, "some kind of constitution, some Government, some Church, or someaj. Have a baptism or *Upanayana*, if you please, as an outward sign of that new life which baptism signified among the early Christians, and which was well-known also to your great teachers of old. Remember before all things that you can be followers of Christ without being Roman Catholics, Anglo-Catholics, or Greek Orthodox Catholics, without assuming the names and fashions of Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Unitarians or any other Dissenters. Keep aloof of all of them; they have proved stumbling blocks in the progress of Christianity."

The Professor is mistaken in thinking that there are any considerable body of men amongst the Bengalees who, feeling the necessity for a Messiah, would yet accept Christ. The Professor is quite correct when he says that the "Gauranga cult" is influencing the educated men of Bengal. Those who feel the need of an *avatar*, will first of all try to find one nearer home before going abroad, in search of such a Being. And this fact has led the Christians to look on "the Gauranga movement" with "bitter hostility. Says the *Indian Christian Herald* to hand: "There seems to be quite a rage for lectures on Gauranga." And why should the writer, who is presumed to be a pious man, object to religious discourses? For, lectures on Gauranga mean nothing more or less than discourses on religion. The writer quotes from the author of the "Lord Gauranga"—

In the description given of the "Mahaprakas" or "The Great Revelation," there occur passages in which Chaitanya is represented as denouncing "Advaitabhad" and occultism. We read: "He said: 'The Sannyasi of Benares, Prokasananda, is teaching dangerous doctrines. I shall teach him a lesson.' And this Prokasananda, the foremost Sannyasi of the time, then a resident of Benares, was teaching 'Advaitabhad,' that is to say, the doctrine of 'He and I are the same,' a doctrine which was fatal to the religion of 'bhakti,' which Nimai was teaching." This ought to determine the attitude of every Chaitanyait towards the self-styled men-Swamis and women-Swamis of the day. We read also: "Said the Lord: 'Muran, I am here to show you the study of fruitless occult philosophies. Murari, a little disconcerted, said: 'Are they not good? Do they not teach religious truth? Good or bad, that is not the question, replied the Lord. But these researches into the realms of occultism will not lead any one to find Me.' Thus the occultism of theosophy should not find favour with the followers of Gauranga."

In the above there is an attempt to pit the Gauranga movement against Theosophy and the men-Swamis and women-Swamis of the day. Now, Theosophy may be a religion, nor is Swamism. A Theosophist may be a good follower of the Lord Gauranga as well as a Swami. The cultivation of Bhakti is quite different from the cultivation of the art of Yoga. The former leads to God, the latter to the acquirement of occult powers.

The Europeans are day by day monopolising posts worth having, which had before been in the possession of the natives of the soil. It is thus fair that Indians, who are big land-holders, should have their own countrymen for their managers. Of course, those landlords, who are not rich, are not meddled with. But those who have posts worth something at their disposal, have to engage Europeans frequently. Then Europeans are also often fastened upon estates over which the local authorities have some control, when they can pay sufficiently well for that purpose. A correspondent from Bhagpore states that "the Luchmipur estate, in the Bhagpore Division, has lost its manager, Mr. Breadwood, by death. An account of how he was thrust upon the estate, without the consent of the owners, appeared in your columns some time ago. The Ranees would not have Mr. Breadwood, but the authorities would not listen to her protests. Now that Mr. Breadwood is dead, an attempt is being made to furnish Mrs. Breadwood with a pension from the estate." Says the correspondent: "Though Mrs. Breadwood deserves sympathy, she has no claim to a pension certainly. Now that Mr. Breadwood is dead, some Europeans, and as far as we can ascertain, one native, are trying for the place. The Europeans are Messrs. Gregory, Savin and another, the Indian being Babu Umacharan. The managership of Handawai (Nagoon) is also vacant. One plan is to amalgamate the two estates and employ a European with high pay. The other plan is to employ two Europeans for the two places. There is also a third plan which, we fear, has not occurred to the authorities. It is to amalgamate the estates and employ a European at the head and then divide them into sub-managerships for Indians. This will serve the purpose of satisfying the claims of both Indians and Europeans. Khan Bahadur Nazabat Hossain, the talented manager of the Rohinee estate, can be given his reward at this present juncture. He may be entrusted either with the Nagoon estate, or the portion of the Luchmipore estate which adjoins the estate of Rohinee." Needless to say that the appointment of Europeans as managers of estates belonging to Hindus and Mussalmans is considered a very great grievance by the natives of the soil.

Two cases of outrage upon punka coolies by European soldiers are reported, one from the Punjab side and the other from Benares. As regards the first, we are told that the man has been killed in the lines of the Royal Scots Fusiliers at Peshawar, and Private O'Gara, of the G. Company, has been apprehended and



for trial before the Chief Court, Lahore, for wilful murder. The Sergeant-Major has been made a prisoner by the Deputy Adjutant-General for not reporting the case.

ANENT the Benares case, our local correspondent writes under date, 9th instant:—"Two days ago, a punkha cooly, it is alleged, was kicked by a soldier of the Black Watch here. The man is lying in a precarious condition. A military Court sat the next day to try the case, but dismissed it at once." Without the records before us, we cannot pass any opinion upon the merits of the case. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the N. W. Provinces, who, not long ago, issued a circular calling upon District Officers to bring to his notice all cases of outrage upon Indians by Europeans, will no doubt take serious notice of this deplorable incident, and bring the guilty party to justice.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

## MAGNETISM AND LIGHT.

THE first investigator to discover any direct action of a magnet on a ray of light was Faraday. He found that light which had all its vibrations confined to a single plane—in which case it is said to be "plane-polarised"—had this plane of vibration twisted round when it passes along the lines of magnetic force. For about forty years this was the only known relation between magnetism and light.

In 1897 Dr. Zeeman observed an effect of an altogether different character. He placed a source of light between the poles of a powerful electro-magnet, and observed the bright lines in its prismatic spectrum; switching on the exciting current of the electro-magnet noticed that these bright lines grew distinct, wider, narrowing down again when the magnet was demagnetised by stopping the current.

In this matter theory ran ahead of experiment; no sooner was Dr. Zeeman's result announced than two independent investigators, Professor Lorentz and Dr. Larmor, showed, as the result of mathematical analysis, that each line ought to be divided by the magnetisation of the source of light in the simplest case into three new lines; and they announced that the broad lines seen by Dr. Zeeman was due to the closeness of these three bright lines, which the apparatus was not powerful enough to show as separate objects.

Since that time arrangements have been devised by which it is possible to produce a magnetic field so strong that it completely separates the lines, so that they may be seen and photographed. It was soon found that the analysis of one line into three did not exhaust the facts, as some lines were split by the magnetisation into four, six, or even eight constituents, the simple case which would give these being far from common; moreover, the lines of any one spectrum are subdivided in different ways by the same magnetisation.

The results of this experiment are of a most interesting character. In the first place they can be shown to be due to the rotation of charged particles of matter in particular orbits. These charged particles, or "ions," moreover, are smaller than the so-called "chemical atoms," which were formerly regarded as the ultimate point to be reached in the sub-division of matter; each chemical atom consists of a number of ions, generally of different kinds. What is still more surprising to find evidence of the occurrence of the same ions in different chemical atoms. For example, magnesium, zinc, and cadmium each contain three kinds of ions, and each kind of ion occurs in the atoms of all three metals. The differences between the so-called "chemical elements" appear, then, to depend more on the manner of grouping of the ions to form the chemical atom than on any real difference of material.

The life history, as zoologists call it, of the salmon, is even yet far from being entirely cleared up. We, of course, do know a good deal of the fish, at the different stages of its growth, but how long it takes before attaining maturity, little more than guesswork. In the *Zoologist* a brief account is given of a paper by Mr. J. W. Bond, which deals with the life of a Severn salmon. During a good part of its life the salmon lives in the sea, and comes up into fresh water for breeding purposes. It is a warmly disputed point whether the fish habitually feeds in fresh water, or whether it does little more than snap an occasional insect. Again, we do not know the age to which a salmon will live if it escapes the onslaughts of its numerous foes. Mr. Bond says that a 20lb. fish cannot be less than four years, and is probably older. He would be hatched out, say in 1890, and in the following year, at the earliest, would descend to the sea as a smolt, but might delay his visit till the following year. If he went down in 1891, he would probably return as a grilling in 1892, as a grilling in 1893, and as a salmon in 1894. But any of these stages may apparently be prolonged by a stay in the river, and probably seven years is nearer the mark for the age of a 20lb. fish.

## THE KISSING CRAZE.

THE editor of the *Gil Blas* addressed a circular letter to all manner of celebrities, asking them at what price they value their kisses. The inquiry was suggested by the fashion so prevalent in the States of fair ones selling kisses at charity bazaars.

Mlle. Liane du Pougy answers: "The true kiss is beyond all price." She suggests that the American ladies "trafficked in a simple 'pass' of the lips and at a very low price," and adds, "I should have made a man pay a good deal more for my favour."

A well-known poet is responsible for the opinion that the kiss most appreciated by the young man is the kiss of the married woman, while the married man delights most in the kiss of his neighbour's wife!

A popular actress says that she would never sell her kisses, and a well-known actor replies, "If a woman offered me a kiss in return for money I should give her the money, and tell her to present her lips to the poor. They—the poor—might possibly find pleasure in them."

THERE are 672 known volcanoes in the world, of which 270 are active; 80 in America, 24 in Asia, 20 in Africa. Java has 109, of which 28 are active. In New Zealand, within an area of 127 miles, there are 63, ranging from 196ft. to 900ft. in height.

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To be had at the *Paty* Office Calcutta.

AN AFFILIATION.—The affiliation of the Hazaribagh Mission College to the Calcutta University up to the F. A. standard is sanctioned by the Government of India.

THE MUNSHIGUNGE CASE.—Babu Kali Prasanna Chowdhuri, Muktar, Munshigunge, who is now undergoing trial at Dacca under Sec. 211, I. P. C., has obtained two weeks' time to enable him to move the Calcutta High Court to transfer his case to another District for trial.

KIDNAPPING.—A Kushtia correspondent writes:—A sensational kidnapping case occurred here the other day. A girl of 15 years of age, wife of one Panchu Bairagi, of Kushtia, was enticed away by one Banku Behary Saha of Uddiani and Madhu Chandra Jagati. They have both been sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment each.

ATTEMPTED TRESPASS.—Our Khulna correspondent writes under date 9th September:—Last night a compounder of a local medical shop was caught by the Police guard within the Plague Camp compound at midnight, while trying to enter into the house of the Plague lady doctor Mrs. Lopege, with evil intentions. Accused is on bail. The police is on the look out for the other accused, who, it is said, helped him in the attempt. Great sensation prevails in the town.

THE RAMNAGAR RAJA'S CASE.—A correspondent writes:—As your readers are aware, the trial of the Raja of Ramnagar is fixed for the 18th instant before the Sessions Judge of Champaran. On Saturday last, an application was made on behalf of the Raja for the postponement of the case to the next Sessions in November. The application was rejected by the Sessions Judge, who directed the District Magistrate to look to the prompt service of summonses to the witnesses.

THE NORTON ASSAULT CASE.—When the rule of the High Court was served upon Prince Jani Mirza and Ahmed Reza, to show cause why the order of the Chief Presidency Magistrate binding the former down in the sum of Rs. 100 to appear when called upon for judgment and the sentence of Rs. 50 imposed upon the second accused, for assaulting Mr. J. B. Norton on the Strand Road, should not be set aside, and such other punishment imposed as the High Court would deem fit, the second accused Ahmed Reza was not present. The High Court, thereupon, issued a warrant for his arrest, to which he surrendered on Saturday last before Mr. T. A. Pearson. The Court ordered him to enter into his personal recognizance for Rs. 500 and to find bail of Rs. 500 to appear when called upon to do so.

THE BONGONG OUTRAGE CASE.—The case against Mati Lal Bhattacharji, Ticket-Collector, Bongong Railway station, and Nengrodo Nath Bannerjee, Assistant Booking-clerk of the same station, who were charged before the local Deputy Magistrate under section 354 I. P. Code with having outraged the modesty of a female passenger who had been waiting at the Bongong Railway station for a train, ended last Wednesday. The Magistrate found the first accused, Mati Lal Bhattacharji, guilty and sentenced him to undergo three months' rigorous imprisonment. The second accused was acquitted for want of evidence. The Bengal Central Railway authorities have dismissed both officers and the Assistant Station Master who attempted to hush up the affair from their service. Fuller particulars of the hearing will appear later on.

INVENTIONS AND DESIGNS.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed: The American Cotton Company, a Corporation organised under the laws of the State of New Jersey, and having its principal place of business at 27, William Street, New York, for improvements in cotton bailing apparatus; Reese Hutchison, electrical engineer, and James Howard Wilson, President of the "Mobile Light and Railroad Company," Mobile, Alabama, U. S. A., for improvements in audiphones; C. Grenon, mercantile employee, of 104, Clive Street, Calcutta, for an attachment for using gas on any ordinary kerosine oil lamp illuminant; William Dundas Scott-McCormick, engineer of 14, Victoria Street, Westminster, England, for improvements in or relating to the purification of sewage and apparatus therefor; Frederick Bedell, scientist, of 4, Cook Street, Ithaca, New York, for improvements in systems of telegraphy and transmission of currents of electricity; John James Marsland, assistant to Messrs. Richardson and Cruddas, iron founders, Byculla Iron Works, Bombay, for an improved seat and shoot for a latrine or privy to be called "the Aryan combined privy seat and shoot."

SOMETHING OF A PARALLEL.—The Calcutta Municipal imbroglio brings to our mind the incidents at a memorable meeting of the Lahore Municipal Committee. How the Commissioner of the Division lectured the Municipal Commissioners on their lapses and laches! The members, with their heads hanging down, heard the improving discourse. They were told that their chief fault was that they talked, talked and talked and did not give free rein to the Secretary. Looked at Amritsar, the venerable Commissioner exclaimed, where everything went on so smoothly, because the members did not interfere with their Secretary. Amritsar had already got the conservancy tramway while Lahore still wanted one because the members wasted their time in debate instead of doing anything practical. In vain it was pointed out to the ruler of the Division that conditions at Amritsar and Lahore were totally different; that while such a tramway

would be useful at Amritsar, it would be a great nuisance in Lahore; and that in the former town the Secretary was all in all the Committee only having a nominal existence, in the latter the Committee sometimes tried to justify its existence. All this explanation was of no avail, the Commissioner was unconvinced as ever. The experience of this meeting enables one to clearly understand the attitude of the oligarchs towards the independent members of the Calcutta Corporation.—*Tribune*.

## THE "ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA" DEFAMATION CASE.

BABU KALI PRASANNA KAVYABISHARAD, editor and one of the proprietors of the *Hilabadi* newspaper, filed a case of defamation on the 1st instant, before the Suburban Police Magistrate of Alipore, against Babus Shishir Kumar Ghose, Mati Lal Ghose, Golap Lal Ghose, Mrinal Kanti Ghose, and Piyush Kanti Ghose, as editors and proprietors of the *Bishnupriya* and *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, and against Babu Keshub Lal Roy, as printer and publisher of that vernacular paper, which has recently been started in Calcutta. He complained that two articles appeared in the issue of the paper of the 30th August, in which he had been defamed as a journalist. The Magistrate asked him to furnish a translation of the articles which he did, the translation being made by the complainant himself, as mentioned in the *Hilabadi*. The Magistrate next wanted to know which of the accused had edited the particular issue in which the alleged defamatory articles had appeared. He replied he could not say that; but he stated that all the accused were proprietors as well as editors of the paper.

When he made this statement on solemn oath, the Magistrate issued processes and summonses were served on all the defendants. On Monday Mr. P. L. Roy, on behalf of Babus Shishir Kumar Ghose, Mati Lal Ghose, Golap Lal Ghose and Piyush Kanti Ghose, appeared before Moulvi Seraj-ul-Huq, the Alipore Suburban Police Magistrate, and applied under the provisions of Section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Code for the exemption of his clients from personal attendance. Mr. Roy stated to the Court that summonses had been issued in the case on a charge of defamation at the instance of one Kali Prasanna who styled himself as Kavyabisharad, though how he came by that title no body could say. Not long ago this very gentleman had been convicted and sentenced to 9 months' imprisonment for having published in his newspaper, the *Hilabadi*, a most malignant and atrocious, false and libelous attack upon the chastity of a Brahmo lady.

He, Counsel said, has also by indiscriminate attacks upon diverse members of the community, built round himself a ring fence of fire and now forsooth he complains of being himself scorched. Of course, if the complainant may have defamed others, that is no reason why he should not get justice if he has been wronged. But so far as the charge against his clients is concerned it is maliciously false and it has been vindictively brought in order to stifle, and as a counter move to, the charges impending against him by the proprietors of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, sufficient indication of which was given in their issue of the 7th of August. Summonses in this case were issued on the allegation that the present petitioners were the proprietors and the editors of the *Bishnupriya* and *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, wherein the alleged libel appeared. But it is totally false that these gentlemen have anything to do with this paper. The first-named petitioner, to the knowledge of the complainant, is in feeble health and is over 60 years of age and it is common knowledge that he has retired from all worldly affairs and is leading the life of a religious recluse at Deoghur. No man is more respected among all sections of the community for high character, profound learning and deep piety, than Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose, who has perhaps done more for the country than all our public men put together have been able to do. The second petitioner, who is well-known from the manner in which he is conducting the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, is also in indifferent health. The fourth petitioner is a student reading for the B. A. Examination in the Metropolitan College and he has no connection with any paper. The fact of the inclusion of a boy like this in the list of the accused persons savours of peculiar malignity on the part of the complainant, his sole motive being to bring in the whole family, the fourth petitioner being the son of the first petitioner. No harm can be done by allowing these gentlemen to appear by agent. They had shown the complainant great kindness in having saved him from two prosecutions for libel and he was at one time an employee in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* office, as a proof-reader and Assistant Secretary to the Relief Society, and in that capacity he received much kindness from the family; and the way in which the complainant has shewn gratitude for past favours is to bring this maliciously false charge against his former patrons.

At this stage a pleader, Babu Hemendra Nath Mitter, got up and most vehemently opposed the application and said he had no notice of the application. Mr. Roy said that the pleader had no *locus standi* in the present application and that the law required no notice of such an application being given to the complainant. It was purely a matter for the Court to grant the application or not. The pleader nevertheless urged that the application should only be filed and no order should be passed on it until the day of the hearing. He ended by saying—"I appeal to the Peshkar to say if this has not been the practice of this court for twenty years and more."

The learned Magistrate immediately after passed an order allowing Babus Shishir Kumar Ghose, Mati Lal Ghose and Piyush Kanti Ghose, to appear by agent.

Then Mr. K. N. Sen Gupta, on behalf of Babu Mrinal Kanti Ghose, made a similar application. He said that his client admitted his connection with the paper wherein the alleged libel had appeared. But that he was only the financial manager of the paper and had nothing to do with the editing or the publishing of it. Babu Mrinal's duties as such manager were to receive all business letters and money-orders and that was all the connection he had with the paper. The ground for the application was, as Counsel observed, that Babu Mrinal's only child, a boy aged 6 years, was lying dangerously ill and there was a medical certificate attached to the petition to that effect. That certificate showed that the boy required the constant attendance

of the petitioner and refused to take medicine from the hands of any body else but his father.

The learned Magistrate upon hearing Mr. Sen Gupta passed orders allowing Babu Mrinal Kanti Ghose to appear by agent.

Mr. Roy then asked the learned Magistrate not to take up the case on Thursday. The Court said that it had specially fixed this case for Thursday next, and that this was the only case on the board for that day.

Mr. Sen Gupta said that it would be inconvenient for them to appear before His Honor on Thursday as the Vacation Bench of the High Court would sit on that day, and that if it was not inconvenient to the Court, his Worship might fix any other date but Tuesday or Thursday for this case.

The learned Magistrate said that he would consider this matter on Thursday next. (to-day)

ON Tuesday last, Mr. Buckland, Counsel for the complainant, the Editor of the *Hilabadi* newspaper, wrote to Mr. P. L. Roy, Counsel for the defendants in this case, enquiring whether he had any objection to the case being postponed during the Pujah holidays. In reply Mr. Roy wrote that he had no objection to the arrangement. Next day, however, Mr. Buckland, without any notice to the counsel for the defendants, appeared before Moulvi Seraj-ul-Huq, Suburban Police Magistrate of Alipore, with an application for the issue of a search-warrant to search the office of the *Bishnupriya* and *Ananda Bazar Patrika* for the seizure of the following documents:—(1) Mss of the two alleged defamatory articles and other Mss bearing on the subject; (2) Proof-sheets and order-sheets connected with the paper; (3) Bill-books for subscribers and advertisers; (4) Account-books of the said paper; (5) Letters received in connection with the said paper. The learned Deputy Magistrate after hearing Counsel in explanation, rejected the application.

Mr. Buckland, thereupon, motioned the District Magistrate, Mr. Allen, against this order of the Deputy Magistrate as also against the order of exemption from personal attendance of Babus Shishir Kumar Ghose, Mati Lal Ghose, Mrinal Kanti Ghose and Piyush Kanti Ghose in connection with the case. After hearing the learned Counsel in support of the motion, his Worship rejected the application.

Mr. Buckland next applied to the District Magistrate for the transfer of the case from the file of Moulvi Seraj-ul-Huq, Suburban Police Magistrate of Alipore to that of the District Magistrate or some other subordinate Magistrate on the following grounds:—

1. That the trying Deputy Magistrate had erred in law in allowing some of the accused to appear before him by agent;

2. That the Deputy Magistrate was wrong in refusing to grant a search-warrant as prayed for by the complainant.

In doing so, Mr. Buckland urged that his client could, under the circumstances, hardly expect to a fair and impartial hearing from the Deputy Magistrate; and prayed that further proceedings in the case might be stayed. The District Magistrate passed orders on the application rejecting the prayers made therein. He held that the Deputy Magistrate had not committed any error; he had simply exercised a discretion which he was authorised by law to exercise. If the case was transferred to the Court of any other Magistrate that Magistrate should be expected also to use the same discretion. At the worst the trying Magistrate could only be said to have misused his discretion. Indeed, the first ground urged for transfer, was one by which the prosecutor had not been prejudiced in the least. As to the second ground, his Worship held that to refuse or grant an application for a search-warrant like the one prayed for, was discretionary with the Magistrate. It was not at all necessary for the ends of justice that there should be any transfer, nor had anything been alleged by the prosecution which could induce him to believe that the prosecutor would not get a fair and impartial hearing from the Deputy Magistrate before whom the case was proceeding. His Worship therefore rejected this prayer also.

MR. R. THOMSON is permitted to resign the Indian Civil Service.

VELAN, the pariah young man living at Popham's Broadway, Madras, who ran amok on the 6th and stabbed 14, killing two, committed suicide on Friday by hanging himself while being imprisoned in the sub-jail.

THE quantity of salt imported into the Nizam's Dominions during the quarter April to June, 1899, is 382,293 maunds and 5 seers from Bombay and 45,840 maunds and 12 seers from Madras, making a total import of 428,133 maunds and 17 seers.

THE Cairo correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* writes:—Stopping on his journey to the Sudan at Kenah, near Luxor, the Sirdar has purchased there a large white she-donkey, which he is presenting to the Queen. The animal stands thirteen hands high, and is a most magnificent specimen of a peculiar race of donkeys which are gradually disappearing from the country. It is of the same type as the male ass already owned by her Majesty. The animal will arrive at Cairo for immediate shipment to England.

As the result of the disorderly scenes arising from the siege of M. Guerin, serious disturbances broke out in Paris on 21st August. Certain anarchists and other revolutionaries who attempted to hold a meeting came into conflict. Several persons were injured. Shots were fired, and the Police Commissary sustained wounds from which he is not expected to recover. Later on another encounter occurred between the police and the mob who, making their way to the Place de la Republique, smashed the windows of two religious establishments. The crowd subsequently attacked the Church of St. Joseph which they broke open with hatchets and bars of iron. The edifice became a scene of pillage and sacrilege. Chairs and ornaments were burned in a bonfire. The crucifix was pulled down, and a statue of the Virgin destroyed. On the arrival of the Republican Guard the mob entrenched themselves in a belfry, in which they were besieged. At length they were overcome and taken into custody. The interior of the church is a wreck. Three hundred and eighty persons were injured and 150 arrested. Order was restored eventually in the Rue de Chabrol, where M. Guerin continues to hold out.

## English Notes.

THE India Office has notified the Government's intention to purchase the Great Indian Peninsular Railway.

THE *Novoe Vremya* contradicts the report of a Russian emissary being at Cabul. The stories about the arrival of numerous Russians in Persia are also denied.

TELEGRAM to the *Penang Gazette* from Ioph states that on the 18th ultimo, at the eleventh mile, a tusker elephant charged the goods train which left Teluk Anson in the morning. The animal was eventually shot. The train having been delayed an hour, proceeded on its way.

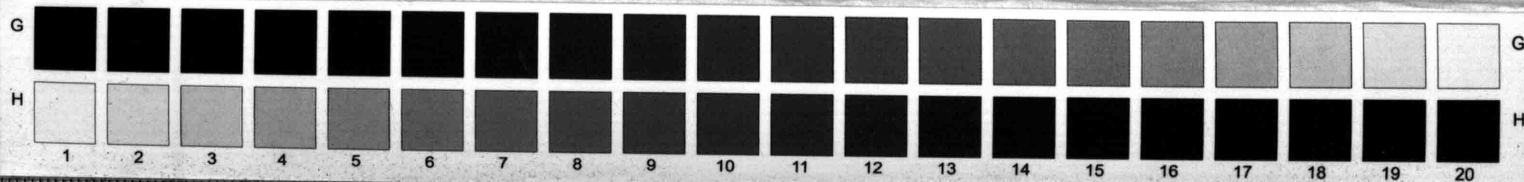
PROFESSOR PICKERING, says the New York correspondent of the "Standard", who is known in connection with the discovery of the Satellite of Saturn, is reported to be favourably impressed with the atmospheric conditions for the use of the remarkable telescope now being made at Harvard University, for photographing the new planet Eros. The designed focal length is 162 feet, while the aperture may exceed a foot by only an inch or two. It is intended to mount the instrument permanently in a horizontal position, and to observe or photograph the image reflected by a mirror, the earth's motion being compensated for by a clockwork arrangement. This novel instrument will be practically a horizontal photo-heliograph, giving images of the moon exceeding a foot in diameter, and even without enlargement, and it will surpass the best yet made. The next approach of Eros to the earth and the sun's eclipse, on May 28 next, are also proposed to be used as subjects for the employment of the telescope.

JUST before Parliament was prorogued Mr. Brodick was asked by Sir Mancherjee Bhownagree if any information had been received with reference to the inquiry which he proposed to institute regarding the issue of a stringent edict by the Governor of German South-West Africa, prohibiting the extension of credit to African natives; whether this edict decreed that henceforth the claims of British Indian traders arising out of loans to such natives shall be dismissed by the colonial Courts; and whether, as the Gewerbesteuer, or tax upon commerce, is directed against those traders, any steps had been taken to represent to the German Government the injustice of imposing upon British subjects trading in German possessions restrictions that are not imposed upon German subjects trading in British possessions. At that time the details asked for were not in the possession of the Foreign Office; but Sir Mancherjee Bhownagree has since received a communication from Mr. Brodick informing him that, while the effect of the ordinance would be to prevent natives from buying goods on credit in ordinary circumstances, there was nothing either in its wording or in the explanatory statement attached to it to lead to the supposition that it was directed against British Indian traders. The ordinance was executed on Feb. 23 last, so that in any case it does not appear that any action is called for on the part of this country.

"SOME Famous Dogs" is the subject of one of the articles in the September number of the *Gil's Realm*. One of the dogs who occupy a niche in the canine temple of fame is Fussy, intelligent fox-terrier who for many years was Miss Ellen Terry's constant companion. Miss Terry made Sir Henry Irving a birthday present of the dog, and it was during this part of Fussy's life that the following incident occurred. Fussy, it should be pointed out, had been taught by Miss Terry to bring his rug, a square of Jaeger blanket, before he asked any one to nurse him. "Rug, Fussy, rug, rug" was the formula which would send the little creature off at once after his blanket. One evening Sir Henry (who was then Fussy's master) gave a charming dinner-party at his hotel. I was telling some pretty girls there of Fussy's wonderful intelligence, and they all began to want to pet and nurse him. The dog was nothing loth. "No, no, no!" said I, "Rug, Fussy, rug!" He flew off and returned—looking at us all wildly—and with no rug. "Rug, Fussy, rug!" Off he dashed again, and returned at length triumphantly bearing in his mouth his master's night-shirt and a pair of bed-socks. The poor little fellow had found the sitting-room door shut, and then had gone to his master's bed-room. Besides pretty girls, there were at dinner several very learned professors, "potent, grave, and reverend signiors," but they all joined in a hearty laugh, and Fussy laughed too.

AT the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases much satisfaction is expressed at the successful result of the expedition which left Liverpool for Sierra Leone on July 29. A cablegram received by Mr. Alfred L. Jones from Major Ross, leader of the expedition, announces that he has discovered malaria bearing mosquito, and requests that the Government be asked to send men. It is felt at the school that the importance of the discovery cannot be overrated, as on it depends the whole success of the expedition. The work of Major Ross in India proved the theory, originally started by Dr. Patrick Manson, that the malarial infection is conveyed to human beings by the bite of a special species of mosquito, and Major Ross, who has knowledge of the species in question, determined to search for it in Sierra Leone. It was feared that, with the short time at its disposal and the lack of practical knowledge as to the condition of life in West Africa, the expedition might experience considerable difficulty in locating the special mosquito. The expedition will investigate the possibility of exterminating the pest, at all events in certain districts. The Government will be immediately asked to carry out this work. A *Reuter* telegram from Liverpool states that Professor Boyce, of University College, Liverpool, and Mr. Adamson, who with Mr. Jones are the organisers of the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases, were at once apprised of the discovery, and Mr. Jones also communicated with Mr. Chamberlain. It is believed by the Liverpool school that the Government will now send out representative medical men to assist their own in the further prosecution of the researches.

IN Siberia there is a good custom that a bride, on coming to her husband's house, has to give a dinner prepared with her own hands as a test of the education she has received. If she succeeds in gratifying her guests, it is taken as a proof not only of the young woman's own excellence, but also as a recommendation of her whole family, by whom she was instructed.





## Varieties.

THE largest flower in the world is the *Rafflesia* Arnoldi, of Sumatra. Its size is fully 3 ft. in diameter—about the size of a carriage-wheel. The five petals of this immense flower are oval and creamy white, growing round a centre filled with countless long, violet-hued stamens. The flower weighs about 15 lb., and is capable of containing nearly two gallons of water. The buds are like gigantic brown cabbage heads.

A FOREST fire was raging the greater part of August 13 in the Parkstone Woods, near Bournemouth. Small fires had been burning all the week, caused, it is said, by sparks from the trains. But in the present instance the flames worked from the opposite quarter, and the sparks must have travelled against the wind. Several acres of beautiful health and fir trees were completely destroyed.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News* points out that rumours are again persistently cropping up that the Russian Imperial couple will next month arrive at the Hessian Grand Ducal Castle of Friedberg, and that the Tsar who is suffering from a nervous affection of the heart, will undergo a cure at Nauheim, near by. Hasty preparations, it is said, are being made at Friedberg for their reception. Nauheim can be reached from Friedberg in a 40 minutes' walk.

NEW YORK, August 12.—A dispatch published this morning by the *New York Sun* says that the Austrian Count and Countess of Festetics have had a miraculous escape from capture and death at the hands of a cannibal tribe in the Solomon Islands. They were cruising in their yacht in that locality, when they were pursued by the natives in their canoes. The chase was kept up for many miles, but eventually the yacht gained upon the cannibals and made good her escape.

THE month of February 1866 was in a respect the most remarkable in the World's history. It has no full moon, January had two full moons, and so had March, but February had none. Do you realize what a rare thing in nature that was? It had not occurred since the creation of the world. And it will not occur again according to the computation of astronomers, for—how long do you think?—2,500,000 years. Was not that truly a wonderful month?—*Golden Days*.

CAPTAIN SILVIO PASTIRO, of the Italian head-quarters staff, has discovered, says a Rome correspondent, a means of preventing explosions of acetylene gas. His discovery remains a secret for the present, but the experiments conducted before a technical commission leave no doubt as to its importance, and the Minister of War, General Mirri, has decided to purchase Captain Pastiro's patent. The illumination of a battlefield by electricity is surrounded with great difficulties, which do not obtain with acetylene. The latter form of illumination is also more brilliant and cheaper than electricity.

MUCH interest is felt in the approaching trials of Count Zeppelin's wonderful aerial ship, with which the inventor claims to have solved the problem of flying. Count Zeppelin is an enthusiast, and has spent £10,000 in building a "dock" for his ship near the Bodensee in Upper Austria, while the ship itself has cost him a further sum of £40,000. The description of the vessel is suggestive of Jules Verne. It is long, thin and cylindrical in shape and is sharply pointed at one end. It is similar in form to a lead pencil with a very sharp point. It will be driven by two sets of screws, vertical and horizontal, and the motive power will be electricity. Count Zeppelin declares that the new airship will be able to travel at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour. He anticipates its adoption for purposes of both war and commerce throughout the civilised world.

SOME very interesting results were obtained with wireless telegraphy on August 16th at Dover, where one of Signor Marconi's installations was set up for experimenting between Dover, the South Foreland Lighthouse, and the East Goodwin Lightship. The apparatus was set up at the Town Hall buildings, the work being accomplished in a very short space of time. The wire attached to the recording instrument passed up the ordinary flag staff of the Town Hall building, which is surrounded by houses and is in the centre of the town of Dover in the valley. Between the place where the instrument was fixed and the South Foreland are the high cliffs upon which stand Dover Castle. For messages to be transmitted between these points the electric currents had therefore to pass through or over these cliffs (which are from 300 ft. to 400 ft. above sea level for about four miles, and then twelve miles across the sea). The results which were really marvellous, were completely successful. Messages were transmitted and received with the greatest ease and without a hitch in the same way as they are across the Channel through the air with no obstruction intervening.

THE British and African Company's mail steamer *Bona*, which has arrived at Liverpool left the French port of Cape Lopez, on the 10th of July, on which date a French official lost his life. Just before *Bona* arrived seven elephants came to within a few yards of the trading factories at Cape Lopez. There are about twelve white men in the place, and these gave chase after the animals, but hearing the gun of the mail steamer the traders returned to make their shipments to England. The lighthouse-keeper of the place, a Frenchman, kept up the chase, and brought one of the elephants to the ground with his rifle. Thinking the animal was dead, he approached it, when it rose and charged him. He had only his black servant and a dog with him. The elephant knocked the Frenchman to the ground, driving one tusk through his chest and the other through his right arm. The animal then jumped on the official until the body was in a crushed and mangled state. In this condition it was found by natives, who brought the remains into Cape Lopez for burial. This was the first news that the traders received of the death of their comrade. When the *Bona* left the white men were preparing to go again in pursuit of the elephants. With but one exception all the whites in Cape Lopez are Frenchmen. It is years since any elephants had ventured so close to the factory. The dog was found by the body of his master unhurt. The black servant also escaped without injury.

## VACCINATION IN BENGAL.

FROM the Government Resolution on the report of the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal on the working of the Vaccination Department during the three years 1896-97, 1897-98, and 1898-99, it appears that the total number of operations performed was 2,293,655 in 1896-97, 2,319,536 in 1897-98, and 2,147,452 in 1898-99, giving an increase for the triennial average, as compared with that of the preceding period, of 155,053. In 1898-99 the six-puncture system of vaccination was introduced, and the novelty, being unfortunately synchronous with the plague inoculation scare, appears to have been generally regarded as indicating some sinister intention on the part of Government. Consequently there was a decrease in the number of operations for the year as compared with the previous year which extended to 34 out of 49 districts. The general increase, however, in the triennial average is satisfactory and shows that progress is being made. It extends to 33 districts out of 49 as against a decrease in 16. The Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to ascribe the instances of decrease not so much to the special causes noted by the Civil Surgeons as to the defects in the constitution of the vaccinating staff, on which the Sanitary Commissioner remarks in another part of his report, and to the want of effective supervision. The districts which show the most noticeable increase in the triennial average are Cuttack (26,568), Backergunge (25,881), Mymensingh (15,311), Balasore (14,367), Gaya (12,627), and Patna (11,541). The largest decreases are in Angul (11,057), Noakhali (8,449), and Dacca (8,083).

For the purpose of comparison the Sanitary Commissioner gives a table showing the proportion of infants successfully vaccinated in 1898-99 as compared with 1895-96, the year previous to the period under review. Taking the estimated births at 40 per cent. of the population shown in the census of 1891, and deducting the recorded deaths among infants under one year of age, the result arrived at for the whole Province is that 203'88 infants per mille were successfully vaccinated as against 169'19 in 1895'96. The increase is satisfactory, but would be still more so if it were accompanied by a levelling up of the striking differences between the percentages of different districts which were commented on by Government in their Resolution last year. These differences range from a proportion of 85'55 per mille in Malda to one of 24'29 in Puri. The average in Puri is, however, the lowest on record, and the improvement in Shahabad is trifling. The backwardness of vaccination in Puri has attracted the special attention of the Sanitary Commissioner, and he has arrived at very radical conclusions which must be separately discussed. In the meantime the opening of a training school for vaccinators at Cuttack, should be undertaken as soon as possible, and the Commissioner will be asked to use his influence with the Chiefs of the Tributary States to entertain trained and respectable men. As regards the other backward districts of the Province, Sir John Woodburn would call the special attention of the Civil Surgeons concerned to the example of Gaya.

There was an increase of 130,006 primary vaccinations during the period under review as compared with the previous triennial period. The percentage of successful operations is given as 97'92 as against 98'29. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, ascribes this high ratio to the habitual falsification of returns by vaccinators, who include even absolute failures as successful cases; and points out that this practice can only be put a stop to by stricter supervision on the part of Civil Surgeons and the inspecting staff. The system of six puncture vaccination has, in spite of considerable opposition, which has not yet altogether ceased, been generally introduced into the Province, and satisfactory results are now being obtained. It is hoped that the existing prejudice against it which has no doubt been due to the plague inoculation scare will in a short time vanish altogether. The average number of revaccinations increased, from 43,998 in the preceding period to 69,045, and the ratio of successful operations rose from 36'99 to 61'22. The increase in numbers is satisfactory, but the high ratio of successful cases must be regarded with suspicion. The average number of operations performed during the recess rose from 110,541 in the previous period to 113,601. The average in Calcutta has, however, declined by almost one-half, the explanation given being that extensive recess operations were rendered unnecessary by the absence of small-pox in an epidemic form.

There has been a continuous decrease in the cost of vaccination, the average annual expenditure having fallen from Rs. 1,94,966 to Rs. 1,87,186, and the cost of each successful operation from Rs. 0-1-6 to Rs. 0-1-4. The saving has been effected by the absence of Deputy Sanitary Commissioners during the greater part of 1897-98 and 1898-99 and by the reduction in the number of paid vaccinators. In the triennial report for the years 1893-96, great stress was laid by Major Dyson on the importance of introducing vaccination direct from the calf throughout the Province. As it is naturally the case in India with novelties of this nature, difficulties were at first experienced, but the anticipation of Major Dyson that these difficulties would, by tact and judicious perseverance, be gradually overcome, is, it is satisfactory to see, in a fair way to be realised. Major Dyson is to be congratulated on the successful introduction of this important reform.

Owing to the impossibility of continuously retaining Deputy Sanitary Commissioners in the three circles into which the Province is divided, comparatively little inspection work has been done by these officers during the period under review. In the Government Resolution on the Vaccination Report for 1897-98, attention was drawn to the extraordinarily large number of villages shown as having been inspected by some Civil Surgeon. On enquiry it has been ascertained that this was due to the Civil Surgeon having in some cases ordered the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Vaccination to collect the vaccinated children at several villages, at a particular spot for inspection, thereby rendering it possible to return a large number of villages as having been inspected by him. Under ordinary circumstances this is a most objectionable practice, for it enables subordinates to set the seal of superior authority upon any concealment of deficiencies which a genuine inspection would have disclosed. But the Sanitary Commissioner asserts that under his orders his vaccinators maintain a nominal record of all vaccinations and of the cicatrices of all successful punctures.

When the six-puncture system is in general operation, this plan may afford sufficient check, but while making all excuse for the hard-worked Civil Surgeon, the Lieutenant-Governor is sorry to see that the practice of assembling children at centres has been meanwhile so frequent.

The Sanitary Commissioner notices the great variation in the number of inspections performed by the subordinate inspecting staff, and remarks that, in the case of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Vaccination, inspection of less than 30 and 50 per cent., respectively, of the operations in their jurisdiction is inexcusable. The attention of the Civil Surgeons should be drawn to this matter.

## BRITISH INDIAN SOLDIERS FOR TRANSVAAL.

THE following news comes from Bombay:—Steady progress is being made with the preparations for embarking the South African contingent. The Lalpura is being fitted at the docks, and large quantities of stores are being accumulated. The work on the Bancoora is progressing satisfactorily, and the Vadala is being rapidly unloaded. The P. and O. Sutlej is to convey the head-quarters staff, and will be fitted as hospital ship. In the Government dockyard work is being pushed on. Preparations on the Secundra are nearly complete, and the Ellora has been taken in hand. It has been definitely decided that the transport No. 2, the Secundra, will leave the Prince's Dock on Sunday at 6-30 P. M. She will convey the 42nd Field Battery and No. 6 Veterinary Hospital. The transport No. 1, the Lalpura, will leave on Monday, the 18th, at 6-30 P. M., and will convey the 21st Field Battery and two sections of the 26th British Field Hospital. The transport No. 3, the Buldana, will leave on Tuesday, the 19th instant, at 7 P. M. She will convey the 53rd Field Battery. These are the only steamers the dates of the departures of which have so far been fixed, but transports will probably sail daily after this. The 10th Hussars and the Devon Regiment will sail very shortly; the former will sail in the transports Vadala, Sarsa and Pandua while the latter will sail in the Sutlej, the City of London and the Ellora. A large number of mules will be carried in these steamers. Captain Sir Edward Chester, Bart., R. N., has been appointed Principal Naval Transport Officer at Durban.

A Poona correspondent wires:—Poona is left severely alone during the recent Transvaal crisis owing to the plague, but the Poona Arsenal has not escaped its share of responsibility. The 41st Field Battery going from Ahmednagar, has to be got ready for service. The arsenal is kept busy, and lots of stores have been despatched already from Poona.

## PLAGUE NEWS.

ON the 12th September 8 cases were reported, while of deaths two were said to have taken place on that day and the remaining six on previous days. The total mortality was only 40 as against 55, the average of the last five years.

THE plague attacks on Tuesday number seven, and plague deaths 19, the total mortality being 90. Last year it was 117 as compared with 145 in 1897. The mortality for the week was 662, an increase of 29, and plague mortality was 89, a decrease of seven.

POONA FIGURES.—On Tuesday 91 cases and 79 deaths occurred in the City, the total mortality being 95. In the Cantonment there were 11 cases and seven deaths, in the Suburban area two cases and one death and in the district 34 cases and 28 deaths. Plague has broken out in Khandalla, 11 cases and deaths were recorded on Monday. Numbers of dead rats have been found in Lanawli, also a few cases have occurred in the Bazaar. Lieutenant Duncan and Mrs. Kennedy are progressing favourably. Major Welman is now convalescent.

COMPENSATION for the loss of the harvests of 1897 and 1898 is to be paid to the tune of 3,536 to the owners of the land occupied by troops at Idak and Miran Shah.

THE latest cholera returns in the Punjab show 786 cases with 438 deaths. The disease is now abating. The plague in the province has almost disappeared, only a few cases remaining in a village in the Jullundur District.

MR. D. NORTON, it is understood, officiates as Financial Commissioner of Burma, vice Mr. Smeaton, who proceeds directly on short leave, afterwards joining the Legislative Council in Calcutta.

MR. R. D. OLDHAM, Indian Geological Department, who has recently made a geological tour through Ceylon, has furnished a report to the local Government embodying a scheme for a Geological Survey of the island. He has not, it is understood, made any examination of the mineral wealth of Ceylon.

THE Bombay Legislative Council meets at Poona on the 27th September, when the Hon. Mr. James will introduce a Bill for the better management of the Municipal affairs in the mofussil towns and cities in the Bombay Presidency, and a bill to enable Government to allot land to colonists intending to settle in the Jamrao Canal colony.

THE deficiency in railway earnings during the earlier months of the year is being rapidly made up. Last week, for which the returns are complete, shows an improvement of nearly seven lakhs, compared with the corresponding seven days last year. The recovery is chiefly due to better traffic on the North-Western, Eastern Bengal, G. I. P., Bombay-Baroda, and Rajputana-Malwa lines.

JUDGMENT was delivered on Friday last in the Muthukrishnapuri riot case which has been tried at Tinnevely by special Sessions for the trial of faction riot cases in the south. The first accused, a village Magistrate, who took part in this particular riot and incited the Maravars to plunder and burn Shanar houses, was sentenced to 6 years' rigorous imprisonment, the other prisoners were sentenced to terms varying from 4 years to 6 months on all counts.

## THE PROVINCE OF YUN-NAN.

ITALY AND CHINA.  
VIENNA, Aug. 18 (Standard).—The *Politische Correspondenz* declares that there is no truth in the statement that Marquis Salvago Raggi, the Italian Minister at Peking, has demanded on behalf of an Italian syndicate concessions for constructing two railways and for working a mine. It will be his duty to promote certain commercial designs which Italy has in China, but hitherto he has not taken any steps in this direction, as it is not yet quite certain what shape Italy's policy will take.

Peking, Aug. 22 (Reuter).—The Tsung-li-Yamen has not yet given any definite reply to the Italian proposals, and appears to be pursuing its usual evasive tactics. It is understood that if the affair is left to the Yamen, the latter will probably agree to some at least of the proposals; but the Empress-Dowager, acting on the advice of the Grand Council, has given positive instructions that nothing is to be conceded. There is considerable speculation as to the course which Italy will adopt in the event of China's refusal to agree to any of her proposals. There is a general consensus of opinion that the demand for Sammun Bay will be renewed, and, if necessary, enforced.

Rome, Aug. 22 (Reuter).—It is stated that the cruiser *Liguria* has left Spezia to join the Italian squadron in the Chinese waters.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.  
A Marseilles correspondent telegraphs to the *Times* correspondent at Paris on Aug. 21:—Details have arrived by to-day's mail of an incident which may have serious consequences. A mission of Russian engineers and their escort were attacked by Chinese brigands at Kirin, on the Chino-Russian frontier and on the main Manchuria line of railway. All were massacred. This has made a great sensation in the territories where Russian influence is steadily increasing and serious reprisals are feared. The reports dispatched to St. Petersburg indicate that the Chinese Government will have to justify the absence of mandarins and officials who leave the field clear to the bandits in regions containing authorised European missions. Russia is known to have been pressing for important concessions, said to be contrary to English interests. These demands have hitherto been met by the Chinese with oriental apathy, but it is thought that Russia will profit by this Kirin affair, and repeat her demands under threats of legitimate reprisals.

## MONSOON AND AGRICULTURE.

A BOMBAY telegram of the 12th instant says:—Heavy rain has fallen at Sholapur (2'39), over an inch at Ratnagiri (1'85), Goa (1'39) and Karwar (1'12), about three quarters of an inch at Belgaum, about half inch at Secunderabad, Mangalore and Bombay, about quarter of an inch at Raipur and from 0'07 to 0'12 cents at Cuddapah, Bellary, Masulipatam, Poona, Bangalore, Cochin, Ahmednagar, Malegaon, Nagpur, Bhavnagar, Para, and Allahabad. The monsoon gradient has increased considerably on the Malabar coast where it is about twice its usual steepness, between Bombay and Karwar it is extremely weak, being about one-third. The weather is very favourable for rain along the coast from Cochin to Karwar and for light or moderate showers between Karwar and Bombay. At the inland stations in the Bombay Presidency, in Ceylon, and at the northerly stations in the Madras Presidency, local showers are to be expected. In Berar and the Central Provinces the weather is slightly favourable for local showers; at or about Jhansi, Allahabad and Cawnpore local rain appears likely.

A correspondent wires from Simla under date 12th instant:—The storm which has just crossed the coast from the Bay of Bengal has given light showers in the Central Provinces, while the east winds connected with it are blowing up the Gangetic plain, and have brought rain as far as Chota Nagpur in the plains and Dehra Doon in the hills. The whole of Madras and the Bombay Decan have also continued to receive excellent rain, while Allahabad reports a shower northern Bombay, Rajputana, and Southern Punjab, however, continue rainless, the only exception of importance in the famine-threatened area being Jodhpur, which has received half-an-inch of rain. This is invaluable where it has fallen, but seems unfortunately to have been a mere local thunderstorm.

Unusual falls of snow on the higher ranges of the Himalayas and rain in the Kashmir Valley are reported, and are believed to indicate an early and severe winter.

THE Currency Bill and Church of Scotland Kirk Sessions Bills will probably be passed at next Friday's meeting of the Legislative Council.

A SERIOUS fire occurred at the Mount Road premises of Messrs. Oakes and Co., Madras, on Saturday night, when the wine and spirit godown was partly destroyed, damage being caused, it is stated, to the extent of over a lakh and a-half of rupees, which is covered by insurance. The fire was fortunately confined to this godown, and was kept away from the powder magazine, where a large quantity of powder and cartridges was stored.

THERE were no fatal accidents at all in the Central Provinces last year. Certainly the total number of factories is smaller than in Bengal—there were only 46 altogether as against 35 in the previous year. Even the serious accidents diminished. Only nine were recorded in 1898 compared with 18 in 1897. "The requirements of the law in the matter of rest for women," are reported to have been properly observed in all factories in the Nagpur Division. With regard to the other factories in the Provinces, the official record is silent.

THE Railway Conference of Managers, Agents, and Traffic Managers of the various railway lines, which was advised some time ago, met at Simla on Monday morning for the first time. Mr. Brereton, Director of Traffic, presiding.

## Mahat Asram.

9, CORNWALLIS STREET, CALCUTTA.  
This is the only reliable Hindu Boarding House for respectable gentlemen, where dinners, if desired, and first-class articles of fish and meat can be had at a very moderate price. Respectable Hindu gentlemen coming to town on a short visit will find it a very comfortable lodging.

## TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

## IN AID OF THE HINDU COLLEGE.

(From a Co respondent.)  
[MIDNAPUR, SEPT. 12.]  
A crowded and influential meeting was held on Sunday last at the Bayley Hall, Midnapur to raise funds in aid of the Central Hindu College at Benares, Raja Narendra Lal, Khan Bahadur, presiding. Great enthusiasm prevailed. A handsome amount was promised the Raja Bahadur heading the list with Rupees 1000, and Baboo Radha Gobindo Pal, Zemindar, coming next with Rupees 200.

## THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

(From a Correspondent.)  
[MYMENSINGH, SEPT. 12.]  
A public meeting was convened yesterday by the secretaries of the Mymensingh Association and the Anjuman Islamia, and many other influential gentlemen to elect representatives to the Calcutta Central Congress Committee and for other matters. The meeting undertook to pay to the Central Congress Committee Rs. 2,000 within December next. About Rs. 300 were subscribed on the spot. Mr. Ananda Mohun Bose eloquently explained the objects of the Central Congress Committee. The audience were much affected when Mr. Bose referred to the resignation of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta. His peroration visibly moved the audience.

## TROOPS FOR THE TRANSVAAL.

(From our own Correspondent.)  
[SIMLA, SEPT. 12.]  
According to present arrangements, the following are the probable dates for troops to sail from Bombay: 18th Instant—42nd Field Battery, half battery, No. 26 British Field Hospital; 17th Instant—21st Field Battery, No. 6 Veterinary Field Hospital; 18th Instant—53 Field Battery; 19th Instant—Nos. 18 and 24 British Field Hospital; 20th Instant—Hussars, cavalry brigade staff, and the 19th and 21st Infantry Brigade staff and the Devons; 22nd Instant—the Gordons; 23rd Instant—9th Lancers; 24th Instant—1/2 of No. 60 Native Field Hospital and ammunition column; 25th Instant—5th Dragoons. The 60th Rifles and the Glosters sail from Calcutta on the 18th instant.

## THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S TOUR.

[SIMLA, SEPT. 13.]  
Here is the programme of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's tour:—He leaves Simla on the 10th November next and reaches Umballa the same day; halts at Meeranmeer on the 11th, 12th and 13th instants; at Rawalpindi on the 14th, 15th and 16th; at Peshawar on the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th; reaches Campbellpore Kushalgarh on the 21st; halts at Kohat on the 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th; at Mooltan on the 26th, 27th and 28th; at Umballa on the 29th and 30th; at Delhi on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd December; at Agra on the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th; at Jhansi on the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th; at Katni on the 11th; at Jabulpore on the 11th, 12th and 13th; at Allahabad on the 14th and 15th; at Dinapore on the 16th; and reaches Howrah on the 17th December.

## THE TRANSVAAL EXPEDITION.

[SIMLA, SEPT. 13.]  
Intimation has been received here that Lieutenant-General Sir George White will command the British forces in the Transvaal and that if the number of troops amount to an army corps, the command will then devolve on Sir Redvers Buller. Captain Wyndham of the 16th Lancers has been selected for appointment as the D. A. A. G. and leaves for Durban at once.

## [FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, SEPT. 10.  
Dreyfus has signed an appeal for a revision of his sentence which will not go to the Court of Cassation, but to a Special Committee. The English, Foreign, and American papers are amazed at the verdict.

LONDON, SEPT. 11.  
News has been brought to Tripoli by a courier that the French Foreign Legion expedition to Lake Chad has been annihilated by an overwhelming force of Tuaregs at the Airoasis.

LONDON, SEPT. 11.  
In consequence of the universal indignation at the sentence passed on Dreyfus a movement has been started on the Continent and in America to boycott the French Exhibition next year.

LONDON, SEPT. 11.  
Consols rose one quarter in London to-day.

LONDON, SEPT. 12.  
The last British despatch which was framed at the Cabinet Council last week was delivered at Pretoria to-day and is reported to be virtually an ultimatum.

LONDON, SEPT. 12.  
Sir George White has been appointed to command the forces in Natal, and sails on Saturday next. General Buller only goes to the Cape if an Army Corps is sent out there.

LONDON, SEPT. 12.  
The *St. James's Gazette* states that the transport *Dunera* has been intercepted at Malta, and ordered to the Cape.

LONDON, SEPT. 12.  
The death is announced at New York of Cornelius Vanderbilt, head of the family.

LONDON, SEPT. 13.  
Reuter's special correspondent at Pretoria telegraphs that Mr. Chamberlain's despatch was read yesterday in the Volksraad and was calmly received.

It is stated on the same authority that a reply is asked within 48 hours. The Executive will draft a reply this morning after consulting with the Orange Free State, and the matter will then be submitted to the Volksraads of both Republics.

The position is considered grave.



## INDIA AND ENGLAND.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

[LONDON, AUG. 25.]

## PLAGUE AT OPORTO.

I AM afraid there can be little doubt that the plague is spreading to Europe, and has been advancing steadily westward during the last 3 years. The present serious development in India came undoubtedly from Hong-Kong, in whose back alleys and slums of the Chinese quarter, it always lurks and is never quite stamped out. The pestilence has spread westward from Bombay: cases have been reported from the Persian Gulf, Aden and Alexandria, and this week it has unmistakably broken out in Oporto, an important Portuguese city. The other European Powers have placed Oporto on the list of infected parts, and are taking every possible precaution to prevent its spreading to other countries in Europe.

Evidence proves that the outbreak at Oporto has been due to some packages from Bombay, which, lying about on the wharf for some time, had been attacked by rats, who took the disease into the houses in the neighbourhood of the docks. Both rats and mice are dying of plague, and there can be little doubt that it is a genuine visitation of the fell disease. I do not anticipate any spread of the pestilence in Europe. All Portuguese towns are notoriously 100 years behind the times in sanitation; but so far, in spite of the congenial soil afforded by Oporto, only thirty cases have occurred, of which about half have proved fatal. It is really 70 years since Europe suffered a really serious outbreak of plague, and then it was confined to Gibraltar and the southern Spanish ports. Sanitary knowledge and appliances have made giant strides since those days, and the peril to any European country off the Mediterranean coast is very small indeed. The press of this country is full of warm expressions of sympathy with the people of Poonia in the terrible increase of plague from which they are now suffering.

## "INDIA" AND LORD GEORGE HAMILTON.

During the last fortnight, a considerable discussion has been going on in the Radical press of the country, with regard to Lord George Hamilton's unworthy and quite unwarrantable attacks upon Sir William Wedderburn and the British Committee, as well as Sir Henry Fowler's attitude towards the friends of the Congress movement. This whole quarrel is very deplorable for the true interests of India, and he is India's best friend who endeavours to remove it from the political arena.

There are faults all round, but it is impossible for the impartial critic to avoid the conclusion that the chief cause of it all is Lord George Hamilton. This statesman has never been remarkable for prudence, or greatly distinguished for good temper, or tact, and for a long time past he has lost no opportunity, in or out of Parliament, to make a mock of the Congress movement, and have a fling at its promoters at home and in India. He has been more reckless than usual in this last virulent and most ungentlemanly attack upon Sir William Wedderburn and the editor of "India," who is, of course, directly controlled and inspired by the British Congress Committee, whose property "India" is. However much Lord George may differ with Sir William Wedderburn, he is bound to remember that he is a member of Parliament, singularly qualified by long residence in the country, by 25 years' loyal service in its administration and the wide experience thereby gained, to discuss Indian affairs with knowledge and effect. In the Budget debate, Sir William made a careful and elaborate criticism of certain important Indian subjects, in which a considerable number of members agreed; he was studiously careful to avoid all cause of offence. Lord George Hamilton, instead of dealing with the criticism by reasonable arguments of which there were plenty (as Sir Henry Fowler's speech showed) rode off into a very fierce attack upon "India," charging it with circulating the "grossest falsehoods," the language of which is now quite familiar to your readers. The only case which he quoted was that he had been falsely accused of calling India a "savage country." The truth of this so-called "falsehood" could and ought to have been promptly asserted by Sir William and the Speaker called upon to direct the withdrawal of the offensive word which he would certainly have done. But Sir William's weak spot in Parliamentary debate is quickness of reply, and he let the opportunity, which was only momentary under the rules of debate, pass by with a repudiation of personal responsibility for the editing of "India," which was quite futile, as of course every member of the British Committee is as responsible for what appears in "India," as the publisher of a daily paper is. The Liberal press, freely commenting on this painful incident, have called upon Lord George Hamilton to publicly substantiate the very grave and serious charge he made against the editor of "India," or else to admit that he has made a blunder and to apologise for it. But Lord George, though a nobleman, does not appear to be a gentleman, and is silent under these appeals from journalists who are at the head of their profession like the editors of the "Manchester Guardian," the "Daily News," and the "Chronicle," and shelters himself from an action for libel under that protection of "privilege" which extends to utterances in Parliament. On the whole, Lord George comes very badly out and Sir William Wedderburn comes out with flying colours. The editor of "India," in self protection, has thought well to circulate to the press the following protest, which conclusively disposes of the only illustration which Lord George thought fit to use in support of his disgraceful attack. It has been published by leading Tory papers like the "Glasgow Herald," as well as by the Liberal press everywhere, and it is significant that no Tory editor has ventured to support Lord George Hamilton in his cowardly and slanderous tactics. It may be well for you to reproduce this protest from "India" as it skillfully and completely disposes of the only case quoted in the attack. Here it is—

"INDIA."  
84 and 85 Palace Chambers,  
Westminster, London, S. W.,  
August 11, 1899.

Sir,—I think you published a report of Lord George Hamilton's speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, in which he said that the journal "India" circulated the grossest falsehoods. May I request you to be good

enough to publish the accompanying reference to the matter, which appears in the issue of "India" for August 11.—I am, &c.,  
THE EDITOR OF "INDIA."

Lord George Hamilton's controversial methods are peculiar. He ignored the topics raised by Sir William Wedderburn in his speech on Tuesday, but brought a sweeping charge against this journal. According to Lord George Hamilton, we "circulate the grossest falsehoods, which go out to India and come back repeated a hundredfold in the native press." We challenge Lord George Hamilton to produce a title of evidence in support of this cowardly accusation. He sought in his speech to justify it by a garbled reference to our criticism of some remarks of his thirteen months ago. Let us recall the remarks in question, which then, as now, we quoted in full from the "Middlesex County Times" of July 2, 1898:—

If he turned to the department for which he was responsible—India—he thought they might congratulate themselves and the Indian Government on successfully surmounting plague, famine, war, and sedition. There was one thing he was good tempered about. He did not care for personal attacks upon himself, as he had been long enough in politics to know the exact value of personalities of that character; but he could not stand the attacks made upon their fellow-countrymen in positions of tremendous responsibility, who, at great risks to their lives, were striving to maintain the prestige of the British flag. If their empire abroad were extending to an immeasurably greater extent than that of any other country, one of the main reasons of that advance and progress was that there were any number of young men, who, at any moment when they were called upon, were ready to go to a savage, foreign country, taking their lives in their hands and by force of character and foresight they were enabled in an immeasurably short time to establish humanity and civilised order. These men were entitled to their respect, and their consideration, and if they heard that under the most trying circumstances they had committed an error of judgment or had done something which upon reflection seemed better, not to have been done, still they should take into consideration the extreme difficulties which surrounded them and they should be thankful they were able to obtain such a body of young gentlemen ever ready to maintain the prestige of England at the risk of their lives, and to bring about the extension of the empire in all parts of the world.

Upon this passage we commented (July 15, 1898) as follows:—

It will thus be seen that Lord George Hamilton claims a respectful consideration for Anglo-Indian officials because of the dangers they run in extending the empire and in civilising savage countries. Now it will naturally be asked—What has this glorious extension of empire to do with the Indian Government? How does it touch the Indian Civil Service? It is pretended that this is their chief duty that the true sphere of their labours is beyond the North-West frontier; and that any errors committed throughout India are to be condoned because of the great services rendered in civilising the Afridis! Or, does he mean that the great deeds done by Englishmen in Africa throw such a halo of glory over their countrymen in India as to wipe out all offences? But if neither of these meanings be his, how can the extension of the empire affect our judgment on the actions of the Indian Government? Again, Lord George Hamilton tells us, as an answer to troublesome and seditious critics, of the number of young Englishmen, or should it be "young gentlemen,"—who are ready to go to a "savage, foreign country," to establish civilised order. Does this mean that India is a savage country which is only becoming civilised by the efforts of the English—India, which presented an aspect of ordered civilisation to the soldiers of Alexander the Great, the contemporary of Aristotle; a civilisation which was already ancient, when the ancestors of the English were still nomads, and which has endured unbroken to the present day. The people of India have their faults, like other peoples; but who ever, before this, thought of them as savages? And yet, if India be not one of the savage countries to which the Secretary of State refers, how does the readiness of young Englishmen to go to savage countries help the case of the English in India? How is it an answer to attacks—whether well or ill-founded—on abuses in India to point to what Englishmen have done on the Niger or the Nile? Either Lord George Hamilton believes that India is a savage country or he can only defend the doings of the English in India by turning attention to what they have done in Africa, which, whether it be good or bad, is beside the question.

Lord George Hamilton may think—though we could not agree with him—that this criticism was unduly severe. But whether it can fairly be described as a "gross falsehood" we are well content that our readers should decide.

As an instance of the treatment which this communication has received from the more cultured non-political press of the country, I have cut the following from the "Investor's Review," a well-known and highly respected financial weekly. Such comment may well be taken seriously to heart by the Secretary of State for India:—

Too late for publication last week we received from the editor of India a slip of his reply to the attack made upon Sir William Wedderburn, as the gentleman responsible for the policy of the paper, by Lord George Hamilton in the House of Commons. This week other subjects so occupy our space that we regret to be unable to accede to his request and publish these extracts. But after all it is hardly necessary, because the cause of Lord George Hamilton's wrath is plain enough. Carried away by the thin glow of his oratory, he did use in a speech language that bore the interpretation put upon it by India. He was in his feeble way glorifying English character and thanking Heaven, or his particular Imperial god, for creating such a number of nice young Englishmen who were able and willing to go forth into the world and subdue the "savages" thereof. As his address was ostensibly devoted to Indian affairs it was a fair retort to ask him whether he considered India a "savage" country, open to the talents of these nice young men. He clearly did so mean it, and it was because he so meant it at the time that his wrath boiled over against Sir William Wedderburn and India for catching him out in his maladroit insolence. We are sorry for him, but cannot say that we expected anything better from such a man, for we have always felt that the presence of one so weak,

though perhaps well meaning, at the head of a great department like the India Office was of the nature of a warning to look out for coming trouble in that dependency. Strong men and true are wanted to turn India back from the gulf towards which it is plunging, and Lord George is not a strong man. It is his misfortune and one can pity him more than blame. But he really should abstain from calling people liars.

## SIR H. FOWLER'S LIBERALISM.

SIR HENRY FOWLER must be rather uncomfortable under the general consensus of flattery and praise which he is receiving from the Tory press, some of the editors exalting him as a sort of martyr to Radical persecution and as a patriot of the first water. On all matters except India, there is no fault to be found with Sir Henry's liberalism; but, of course, he cannot be surprised if he is judged as a Liberal generally by his attitude towards Indian politics. So long as he out-herods Herod Hamilton in extravagant admiration for the existing system and especially of the India Office administration, his impatience and contempt for all honest criticism and for Congress-wallas in particular, his position will be resented by good Radicals, and looked upon, wrongly but naturally enough, as an indication of the character of his liberalism generally. In the meantime, he carries the *Front Liberal Bench*; that is the real trouble. Further, the ambition of his life is to return to the India Office, and I am afraid that any future Liberal Prime Minister will, in forming a Cabinet, prefer to offend the British Committee to offending so powerful a politician as Sir Henry Fowler; for the simple and natural reason that Sir Henry Fowler is backed by half-a-million Methodist votes in the constituencies, while the existence of the British Committee is hardly known to ten thousand. Within 12 months, it is probable, that all this will happen.

## SUCCESS OF INDIAN REFORMS.

I have been in the very centre of active political life for 35 years, and do not hesitate to say that no great question has entered the arena of politics which can compare in interest and importance with those reforms of Indian administration the securing of which is entrusted to the British Committee of the Indian National Congress. Their success must be obtained by the same old methods by which every reform of the last fifty years have been wrested from unwilling Parliaments. Success is only obtainable when a political demand is forced upon the respect of Party leaders by a strong backing in the constituencies. To this, and this alone, the entire efforts of the British Committee should be directed, now and henceforth. It might easily have been secured in the formation of the coming Liberal administration, had the British Committee realised this three or four years ago; it is now too late—*Fowlerism will prevail* for the present.

## AFRICA-RETURNED EMIGRANTS.

An interesting statement, lately published, shews that last year about 3500 coolies who had completed their engagement in British colonies, had returned home, bringing with them savings to the amount in the aggregate of five lakhs of Rupees, or an average of about 150 Rupees each. This speaks well for the thrift and sobriety of the Indian labourer; and these returned coolies, settling on land with a little ready money to make them independent of the money-lender, form a valuable element in Indian society. The increasing readiness of this class of the community to leave home and seek their fortunes, makes it almost certain that the east of Africa will be largely settled by this most desirable kind of emigrants, and should palliate the fear, expressed by Lord George Hamilton and other superficial observers with regard to the increase of population in India.

## OUTRAGES BY BRITISH SOLDIERS.

The short discussion raised by Lord Stanley of Alderly in the House of Lords, just before the holidays, has attracted some notice, and I hear, on good authority, that Lord George Hamilton is very uncomfortable about the many outrages recently committed by British soldiers on natives of India. Although both the Liberal and Tory Peers, connected with the India Office, expressed a happy confidence in the splendid conduct of Thomas Atkins generally, the public and many members of Parliament, are much troubled by such incidents as the Rangoon outrage, the murder of Dr. Sirkar, the Guntakul, Dum Dum and other murders which have, from time to time, been brought to light of day. If Lord George is wise, he will have a very searching enquiry made into the conduct generally of the British soldier towards the quiet and law-abiding native population with which he is surrounded, and he will find a thousand small tyrannies and oppressions which not culminating in serious outrages, do not obtain publicity. I am satisfied that the bulk of the British soldiers in India are decent, law-abiding fellows, and very worthy men in all respects, and the ruffians are only a small minority. It would, however, be well to issue a circular order to Colonels of Regiments, calling attention to the constant shielding of the black sheep by the regiments at large, who, as in the case of both the Rangoon outrage and the Guntakul murders, were well aware of the delinquents, but with a false sense of loyalty, concealed the evidence. It would be well if the "Amrita Bazar Patrika," which has rendered such fearless service in this respect in the past would carefully collect, verify and publish every outrage and aggression committed by soldiers on natives of India, during the six months which intervene between now and the meeting of Parliament next February. I am sure that Mr. Herbert Roberts M. P. who has made this question his very careful study, would use such material with good and telling effect in a series of questions, or by moving the adjournment of the House for their discussion. A special outlook must be kept on Courts Martial, for it has been ordered that in future, in view of the frequent infringement of the rules regulating the issue of shooting passes to soldiers, orders have been given that in future all such cases shall be tried by Court Martial, and not in the Civil Courts. I hope your thousands of readers will keep a sharp look-out and report to you for publication every case that they can hear of.

## POLICE TORTURE IN INDIA.

It will also be as well to keep a sharp look-out for cases of torture by the police for the purpose of obtaining evidence. The recent case at Fyzabad, in which the servant of Major Hill V.C. was horribly tortured, to the extent of attempting to commit suicide to escape further torture, has attracted much notice in the British press. In this case Major Hill

took the matter up, had the police prosecuted and severely punished. But this is almost a solitary case of punishment, and I fear these barbarities are committed daily all over India. I do not forget the horrible Balladun scandal, which I had the pleasure of exposing in Parliament, and this Fyzabad case revives its memories in the minds of the public here. There ought to be a searching enquiry by competent and unbiased persons into this seamy side of Indian police administration.

## THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

## DISCUSSION IN COUNCIL.

## "WASTE OF BREATH AND WASTE OF TIME."

A NUMBER of amendments, given notice of by the elected members of the Bengal Legislative Council, were discussed at Tuesday's meeting of the Council and disposed of in the usual manner. Besides His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor there were 11 honourable members present, of whom five were representatives of the people, two of the European merchants and the rest were Government nominees. On each and all the amendments, on which the Council was divided, the peoples' five voted solid one way and the remaining twelve the other way. There was in consequence a wholesale rejection of the amendments. As the result of each motion made by the five representatives was a foregone conclusion, the lengthy speeches and elaborate arguments in support of, and in opposition to, it seemed unnecessary, or, as Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee tersely put it in the course of his earnest appeal to the President to properly consider the proposals, as "a waste of breath and waste of time." This home-thrust evoked a rejoinder from His Honour who denied that proper consideration had not been given to the amendments.

This lively incident, the only redeeming feature in the otherwise monotonous routine at Tuesday's meeting, took place in connection with an amendment or rather a string of amendments on the appointment of Deputy Chairman. This will be altogether a new post to be created under the impending Act. Section 28 B of the Bill which refers to this matter, provides—(1) that the Local Government may, if it appears to it to be expedient so to do, appoint a proper person to be Deputy Chairman of the Corporation; (2) that the Deputy Chairman shall receive such salary as may, from time to time, be fixed by the Local Government, not being more than fifteen hundred nor less than one thousand rupees per mensem.

The Hon'ble Surendra Nath Banerjee and the Hon'ble Mr. Aparc both gave notice of an amendment for the omission of the entire section 28 B, but in case this amendment were lost, which they knew would surely be its fate, they sent in other amendments, the object being to take away this power of appointing a Deputy Chairman and fixing his salary from the Local Government and to vest it in the Corporation according to Baboo Surendra Nath, and in the Corporation subject to the approval of the Local Government according to Mr. Aparc. But the Government would have none of it; not even the much milder motion of Mr. Aparc. In moving the amendments Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee said that the object of the section was to make provisions for the appointment of a Deputy Chairman. The Hon'ble member did not think that there was any necessity for a Deputy Chairman. If such an officer were at all required, the Corporation should have the power to appoint him, as in the Bombay Act which the Government said had largely been followed in this Bill. If this power were to rest with the Government, Government would, in many instances, blunder as they did in asking the Corporation to appoint a Personal Assistant to the Chairman to help him in setting right the disorganised state of the Conservancy Department. But to do that the Chairman as well as the Commissioners had thought that what was wanted was not an addition to the supervising staff, but an addition to the bullocks, drivers, carts and coolies. If Government wanted to avoid blunders the power of making this appointment, should, if necessary, rest with the Corporation.

Mr. Aparc spoke at some length in the same strain. He said he was willing to concede that the appointment, if necessary, be made by the Corporation with the approval of Government.

Mr. Baker in reply said that since the amalgamation of the town and the suburbs in 1889 an enormous amount of work had been thrown upon the Chairman, which was more than sufficient for one man to do. It was true that the Chairman was no longer the Commissioner of Police, but the work thrown upon him in addition was much more than the work taken away. A Deputy Chairman would be appointed to assist the Chairman in all his duties as the powers of the Chairman could not be delegated to him which could not be delegated to a Personal Assistant. It was the Lieutenant-Governor's intention to appoint a Deputy Chairman as soon as the Act came into force. The only ground urged was that the Bombay Act made some such provision, but that was no special ground. Moreover the members of the Corporation did not know all the particulars of most of the items as they were not generally discussed.

Babu S. N. Banerjee.—Proceedings are circulated.

Mr. Baker.—They are never read by a large number of Commissioners. The leading Commissioners read them, but not the majority of them. The proceedings are a huge mass of papers.

Mr. Aparc said that the Chairman, and consequently the Corporation, would be the proper party to know if a Deputy Chairman would be necessary.

Babu S. N. Banerjee observed that just after the amalgamation, when Sir Henry Harrison was Chairman of the Corporation, he was offered by the Commissioners the services of a Personal Assistant, in view of the enormous amount of work that fell upon him. He, however, declined the offer. The work had now been considerably lightened as the task of hearing appeals had been transferred to the Vice-Chairman. The Chairman was only the general supervisor, each department having its head. It was more a matter of capacity than labour. The work of the Chairman had not really increased. If the Vice-Chairman were to be appointed by the Corporation why should not the Deputy Chairman be, when the Government said there was to be no distinction between the two posts.

They had moved amendment after amendment, all of which had been lost. The legitimate conclusion might therefore be that this Council was not open to conviction. It seemed that the Council had already made up its mind and would accept no suggestion. If that was so, it was an absolute waste of breath and waste of time to discuss these amendments. If the Council had made up its mind with regard to this Bill, the best course would be to tell them so, so that they might not spend any more of their time in preparing arguments. He hoped that the Council would sympathise with them.

His Honour the President: I don't think the honorable member will deny that this Council has listened with great patience to all the arguments brought forward in support of the amendments. If the decision of the Council, after hearing the *pros* and *cons*, happens to be against the honorable member, the honorable member is not justified in saying that the Council is irrational in not accepting his suggestions.

The amendments were then put to the vote with the usual result—five for and twelve against them.

## Indian News.

JEMADAR MOUNG SU YA, of the Burma Company, Madras Sappers, and Miners, was recently tried by court martial for gambling with certain men of the Corps within the lines. He was found guilty and sentenced to be suspended from rank allowances for six months.

NEAR Jeevanakatte, a mile from Mysore Railway Station on the Seringapatam side, the railway line to the length of some 15 feet was found washed away by the rainfall of the 3rd instant. The patrolling coolie who saw this at once reported the matter to the station authorities who with some difficulty managed to pass the morning train and then repair the line. If the coolie had not found this out in time, probably the train would have met with a serious accident in the gorge.

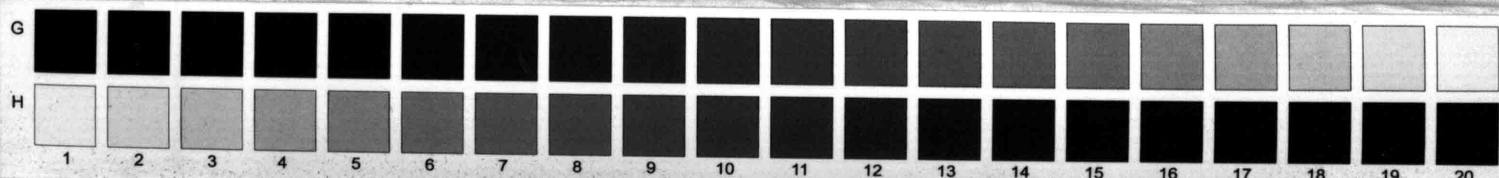
The weekly weather report is far from encouraging. Prices are rising in nearly all the affected districts, and more rain is urgently required in Madras. Crops are failing, and a good deal of damage has been done in the N.W. P. In the Punjab unirrigated crops are much below the average. In the Central Provinces rapid deterioration will follow another week's drought. In Berar and Hyderabad the crops are utterly destroyed. In Rajputana the crops are withering. Cattle are generally described as emaciated. There are 30,000 persons on relief works in Merwara and about 10,000 in the Central Provinces.

The first through train reached Kars from Tiflis on the 4th of July last, but there still appears to be a large amount of work to be done before this important strategic line can be declared completed. The big Zamaklin viaduct is still an unfinished state, and a considerable portion of the permanent way has not yet been ballasted. There are fourteen tunnels in all, the biggest being that of Jajpur, 560 feet long, at an altitude of 6,000 feet. The Zamaklin viaduct consists of three metal spans resting on masonry buttresses. It is 756 feet in length and 168 feet above the level of the water. The railway runs in part through very picturesque mountain scenery, and will no doubt present a further inducement to the increasing number of tourists who visit the Caucasus.

The following extract from the diary of Mr. P. S. Achutha Rao, Chief Plague Officer, Mysore, dated 26-8-99 will be read with interest:—

"Went to the Zoo as information was received that two more porcupines had died. One had distinct Buboes and the others appearing as having died from hæmorrhage from the lungs due to severe attack of pneumonia. On examining the place where these porcupines used to live, I found that the pointing of the stone Slabs in the walls had almost wholly disappeared, and big crevices were visible. Mr. Hughes on cross-questioning informed me that out side this particular cage and underneath a deal-wood cage, some 20 dead rats had been found a few days ago and that he got them burnt. I told Mr. Hughes and intimated to Col. Campbell that the Slabs need re-setting. I found the monkey house and the aviary too small and ill-ventilated. A ventilator or skylight for each of the partitions would allow free current of air and greatly improve the condition of things. I advised Mr. Hughes that it was better to remove the monkeys and birds into the open for a month or so. He said he would get deal-wood cages constructed and do as above."

GENERAL SIR RICHARD SANKEY, R. E., who was Chief Engineer in Mysore from 1866 to 1877 and Chief Engineer in Madras from 1879 to 1883, supports in a letter to the "Spectator" the scheme for harnessing the Cauvery Falls and utilising the force for the generation of electricity which the Mysore Government has been lately considering. He thinks there can be no doubt whatever that the falls can be thus utilised, judging from what one sees at the Niagara power house whereby the extraction of a relatively infinitesimally small quantity of water from the Upper St. Lawrence, by a short canal and turbines, electrical current equal to forty thousand-horse-power is generated, and has already been successfully transmitted to Buffalo, twenty-eight miles distant. He quotes the opinion of Professor Forbes, Electrical Engineer for the works at Niagara, to the effect that it is only a question of providing copper wire of adequate sections, in order to ensure the transmission of current to any distance, up even to five hundred miles, without serious loss in potentiality. "When, therefore, it is considered that the great goldfields of the Kolar District of Mysore are only distant ninety miles as the crow flies, the large town of Bangalore sixty miles, and the city of Mysore thirty miles, it is only reasonable to assume that the magnificent Falls of the Cauvery must before long, like Niagara, be harnessed to the electrical car for industrial purposes." This opinion from an authority like Sir Richard Sankey is very encouraging; but even if the question of the distance of transmission be as easily soluble as Professor Forbes maintains, the real question at issue is, the amount of horse-power available. The flow of the Cauvery in the hot weather is of only a little, and it is on the minimum not the maximum quantity of water that the project must be based. Again, the whole project turns upon the fact that the Kolar mines will take the power, and it seems to us that it will be only prudent to obtain from them first of all a binding agreement to this effect.





## Correspondence.

## DETECTIVE ABILITY OF A POLICE OFFICER.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The other day you complained of the increase of thefts in villages,—that is true. Thefts are increasing, and sometimes it has happened that when a theft is brought to the notice of the authorities, the complainant is prosecuted under section 211 I.P.C. As a matter of course, many thefts are suppressed and never brought to the notice of the authorities. I can, however, give you the account of a case in which remarkable detective ability was displayed.

Detective stories now form a leading feature of sensational literature. Unfortunately they are, as a rule, evolved out of imagination. The one I am going to relate is true in its minutest particular, and will go to prove that the art of detection is not unknown even in the wildest parts of the province where, if villages are sparsely populated, they are also sparsely situated, oftentimes interminable forests and inaccessible hills separating them. In these parts of the country, it is not an unusual sight to leave a village and not find another till you have passed through a jungle extending from eight to ten miles. I am, of course, alluding to the Sonthal Perganas, which are inhabited by savages and semi-savages, who many years ago rose against the British Government. Well, it so happened one day that a dead body was brought to the Sub-divisional Court at Pakur. No body could say who the deceased might have been, but it was evident he had been murdered. The body was found in a jungle with marks of violence on the person, while the head had been completely smashed. As there was no identification the matter was allowed to drop. But the Court Sub-Inspector did a wise thing. He had the head cut off and preserved in spirit.

Well, the Inspector of Police, Babu D. N. Lahiri, had a man, by name Kalicharan, whom he had brought from the eastern districts, and now employed as a peon. This man lived with him. He had gone out to serve summonses in the interior, but he was not forthcoming though due, and the Inspector possibly felt a little anxious on his account. When, therefore, it was brought to his notice that several days before, a corpse had been brought to the Sub-divisional Office had not been identified, and he felt a suspicion that it might be the missing man. So he hastened to the dead-house and inspected the head, which had been well preserved in spirit. He saw that it was the face of Kalicharan. The Inspector was led to feel a personal interest in the matter. As a Police officer he was bound to trace the crime home; as the patron of Kalicharan he was likewise bound to trace his murderers. He resolved to succeed.

As I said before, the murdered man was a peon and had been sent out to serve processes. From the Nazir, the superior officer of Kalicharan, the Inspector got a list of the *Perwanas* that he had been entrusted with. These documents enabled him to trace the possible route of the murdered man. Armed with the knowledge of the contents of these *Perwanas*, he left Pakur in pursuit of the culprit or culprits. His great difficulty was that he knew not the language of the savages in whose midst the murder had been committed. It must be known that if the Sonthals are savages they are an enlightened people in comparison with Paharias. These men were the original inhabitants of this part of the country. The Sonthals having driven the Paharias to the top of the hills, have been residing below. In the tracts where the Paharias live, British rule has scarcely penetrated yet. They were independent before, and even now they are semi-independent. The work of the Inspector was to enter into their villages and find the culprit. He provided himself with rations, not expecting to get any in places where he was bound to go. For more than a week he followed the track of the murdered man and at last came upon a clue. Step by step he unravelled the mystery, and at last he was able to fix upon the parties who had committed the murder. But they had absconded and fled to different and safe places. They knew that they were safe, for they had carried off with them the evidences of their guilt, namely, the things that belonged to the murdered man. But their hiding place was discovered, and they were arrested with conclusive evidence of their guilt.

It took about ten days for the Inspector to accomplish all this, and the culprits were punished, two were hanged and one sent to jail for life. The Inspector, Mr. D. N. Lahiri, deserves recognition of his services in a substantial manner and Kalicharan's minor son as a pension, for Kalicharan was murdered while discharging his duty.

A SAVAGE.

## SOME FACTS ABOUT THE LAST MEETING OF THE CORPORATION.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—There seems to be a feeling in some quarters of gratification, if not of exultation, that notwithstanding the resignation of 28 elected members, the Corporation of Calcutta was able to hold a general meeting on the 6th instant and transact its usual business. It seems to me that there is an idea that by their retirement, the elected Commissioners wanted to bring the business of the Corporation to a dead-lock.

But I am certain that there was no such intention on the part of those who resigned. Apart from the remaining elected members, there were 25 Commissioners, of whom 15 were nominated by Government and 10 were elected by special bodies, and 18 of these alone would form a quorum at a general meeting. This, of course, I take it, was well-known to those who resigned as it is well-known to the public.

But the last general meeting is not without its significance. I understand that all the 15 nominated Commissioners were specially written to by the Chairman to attend and the 10 elected by special bodies were also written to through the Secretaries of the bodies who had elected them.

There is, however, one matter to which I wish to call public attention as it seems to me to be somewhat curious. One of the items of business was the question of payment of a sum of Rs. 28,800 claimed by Messrs. Burn and Co., which had been disallowed by the General Committee. This matter came up for confirmation and to our surprise we find that the Hon'ble D. F. Mackenzie who is a shareholder of Messrs. Burn and Co., as I found on reference to the share list filed with the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, and who, I understand, is also a Director of the Company, came prepared with a written speech to support the payment of this large sum to Messrs. Burn and Co. although the opinion of two learned counsels taken by the Corporation and followed by the General Committee, was against such payment.

I may observe that the Honorable Mr. Mackenzie was elected as a Commissioner by the Chamber of Commerce in April last, but this was the only meeting he has attended ever since his election. That the support of the Company's claim was deliberately made appears from the fact that the gentleman came prepared with a written speech, though reading speeches is against the rules of the Corporation. Section 32 of the present Municipal Act clearly provides that no Commissioner, even though he is only a shareholder of a registered Company, shall vote or take part in any proceedings relating to any matter in which he is interested. If the elected Commissioners who have gone out had been present, I am certain they would have promptly brought Mr. Mackenzie to his bearings. With what crushing effect would Sir Alexander Mackenzie have laid it on the poor Hindu elected Commissioners if any of them had dared to act in the way in which the Hon'ble Mr. Mackenzie who, I am credibly informed, is a brother of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, has done.

My fellow rate-payers may also note that in the absence of their representatives, a large number of the present body of Commissioners were for lightly voting away nearly Rs. 29,000 to a firm of contractors against the advice of the law officers of the Corporation and that they were only saved from this waste by a bare majority of 2 votes.

A RATE-PAYER.

## THE PATNA SHERISTADAR'S CASE.

A REFERENCE, made by the District Judge of Patna under section 307 of the Criminal Procedure Code, disagreeing from the verdict of "not guilty" passed by the jury by a majority of 3 to 2, acquitting one Fazlur Rahman, the Sheristadar of the 3rd. Munsif's Court of Patna and one Chedi Lal, the Peshkar of the said court, came up for the other day before Justices Chose and Hill, transferred by the special orders of the Chief Justice, for disposal. It was alleged on behalf of the prosecution that these two persons in concert and conspiracy with one Basant Lal, a rich Zemindar in the district of Patna, had, with a view of manufacturing evidence of *alibi* on behalf of the said Basant Lal, introduced a bogus plaint in the record of the said 3rd Munsif's Court, and in order to make it appear that the plaint in question was a *bonafide* suit regularly instituted on the 27th September 1898, had caused entries to be made and orders to be passed as purporting to have been made and passed on the said 27th September last; whereas, in fact, the said entries and orders were not made till a much later date.

The learned Standing Counsel, Mr. P. O'Kinealy, appeared on behalf of the Crown in support of the reference. Mr. P. L. Roy with Mr. K. N. Sen Gupta appeared for the accused Fazlur Rahman, the Sheristadar, and Babu Atulya Charan Bose for Chedi Lal, the Peshkar.

The Standing Counsel after placing before the learned Judges the letter of reference and the charge of the Sessions Judge to the jury and the evidence in the case, argued that it had been clearly made out that the plaint in question was a bogus plaint, and that it bore the stamp and Court Fee number of the 27th September, and the evidence showed that it was the duty of the Peshkar Chedi Lal to receive all plaints and petitions and to date and register them in the Court Fee Register. The evidence showed that the Court Fee number was in the handwriting of Chedi Lal. It also appeared from the evidence that there were interpolations in the Court Fee Register by Chedi Lal. As regards Fazlur Rahman it was urged that the plaint not having been filed till the 8th or the 10th October, the order written by him on the back of the plaint, giving the plaintiffs 10 days' time to supply the deficit Court Fee stamps, was clearly a *malafide* order and made with a view to make it appear that the suit in question could not be included in the quarterly return, which had been sent in on the 5th October.

Mr. P. L. Roy, on behalf of Fazlur Rahman, submitted that the evidence was wholly insufficient to bring home the guilt to his client. There were several charges laid against him, although the Judge below confined the attention of the jury to the charge of fabricating false evidence alone. He contended that with regard to the other charges there was absolutely no evidence. It was urged that with regard to the conspiracy between his client and Chedi Lal the evidence in the case showed that these two officers were on very bad terms with each other, and it was not likely that they would bury the hatchet in order to save Basant Lal who, there is nothing in the evidence to show, was even acquainted with his client. It had been proved in the case that it was only the duty of his client to examine the plaints already filed and write the first order on them, and in writing the first order was incumbent on him to put the date of the filing irrespective of the time when it came into his hands. He had done no more than what was his duty to have done in dating his order on the plaint as 27th September, which was the date appearing below the Court Fee. In this view of the case, it was immaterial when the plaint had come into his hands, so that even if it were to be admitted for the sake of argument that it was not really filed on the 10th it would still be the duty of the Sheristadar to keep the original date of filing. The argument that the order to supply the deficit Court Fee was made with a view to keep it out of the quarterly return was clearly untenable. The evidence showed that although the return had been sent on the 5th it was quite feasible to have this plaint entered therein. With regard to the question as to when the plaint was filed it was by no means proved that it was not filed on the 27th, and the evidence that

it was filed on the 8th or the 10th was not by any means reliable. The pleaders, when examined at first, did not give any precise evidence on the point. Three months after various warnings had been given to them about the displeasure of the District Judge in regard to their conduct, one of these pleaders came forward and stated that he remembered having signed this plaint on the 8th of October by reason of the fact that he had been reminded by another pleader that on that particular date he had to attend another case in the Court of the Sub-Judge. But this pleader in his evidence did not corroborate him. The Munsif who admitted the plaint was not examined. And there was no explanation why his evidence was withheld. The stamp on the plaint showed that it was sold on the 27th September to Basant Lal and the stamp vendor was not examined.

Babu Atulya Charan Bose was then heard on behalf of Chedi Lal.

The Standing Counsel was heard in reply. Their Lordships then delivered judgment, acquitting Fazlur Rahman, the Sheristadar, and convicting Chedi Lal, the Peshkar, under section 193 I. P. C. and sentencing the latter to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment.

## THE FAR EAST.

## THE POWERS AND CHINA.

SINCE the establishment of spheres of influence in China, says the New York correspondent of the *Standard*, American trade has suffered. The State Department, wishing to know the reasons for this, is sending Mr. Conger, on board the *Princeton*, to visit every port of entry, and to report upon the situation and outlook. A Shanghai telegram of Aug. 22, says:—According to a report emanating from the Chinese local authorities, the French have revived the claim to a settlement at Nankin, based on the French treaties of 1858 and 1860.

INTERVIEW WITH BARON VON HEYKING. Berlin, Aug. 23 (*Standard*).—The following account is given of an interview with Baron von Heyking, who has just arrived here from Peking:

I attribute no political importance to the recent outrages committed by the Chinese. They are often to be explained by misunderstandings. The owners of land along the railway believe for the most part that they would have to give up their lands without compensation, and in this belief they are often supported by officials, who are afraid of having their rights diminished. The Government in Peking has nothing to do with these persecutions. On the whole, the Chairman is absolutely well disposed towards the Germans. He earns five times as much from Germans as he earned formerly. After the energetic measures taken by Germany regarding the first revolts, there is no reason for seeing in the present situation in China a probable recurrence of similar excesses. As to the financial future of the Shan-tung lines, as the Peking Tien-tsin section has hitherto been largely used it is probable that the German lines now in course of construction in that thickly-populated district will also be greatly used.

An alliance between China and Japan seem to be hardly possible. The Chinese have for centuries cherished a hatred against the Japanese; and the Japanese, especially since the China-Japan war, have looked down upon the Chinese. China is now far behind the times, and being poverty-stricken into the bargain, would bring as good as nothing to her ally. An alliance between Japan and China would easily lead to China becoming a protectorate under Japan, which would naturally cause difficulties with other Powers. A partition of China would be without doubt absurd.

## THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES.

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (*Reuter*).—A telegram from Cebu states that General Bates met the Sultan of the Sulu Archipelago on Monday and discussed a new treaty containing fifteen articles with him. The treaty, among other conditions, guarantees the non-interference of the United States in the religious customs of the inhabitants, and provides for American protection and sovereignty. The Sultan objected to one of the articles requiring him to fly the American flag when abroad, and giving the Americans the right to occupy convenient places for military purposes. It is, however, believed that he will ultimately yield.

Manila, Aug. 20 (*Lafan*).—Two companies of the 12th United States Infantry drove the enemy to the mountains from Angeles to-day. The Americans lost one officer killed and one wounded. A despatch from Negros states that Lieutenant Cole and eight men encountered 100 Filipinos entrenched in the mountains. They fought for two hours. Nineteen Filipinos were killed by rifle fire. The American loss was three wounded. The New York correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, writing on Aug. 21, says:—The report of an interview with Admiral Dewey published in London, in which he declares for a cessation of hostilities in the Philippines and a large grant of autonomy, has produced a profound impression here. This view is so completely in line with the admiral's acknowledged utterances and known opinion that the interview is regarded as antecedently credible. The administration organs deny its authenticity, but would be visibly flustered, no doubt, if Admiral Dewey should openly declare for a policy of conciliation which would break up the plans of Mr. McKinley for coercing the Filipinos. The Americans are not disposed to be too nice in the question of military insubordination involved. A coincident visit of Secretary Root and General Merritt to the President to-day, revives a rumour, that General Merritt is to replace General Otis, this, however, is officially denied. The inner ring of the War Department continues optimistic about a speedy collapse of the insurrection, and even goes so far as to fix Aug. 31 as the date when Aguinaldo will surrender.

The *Standard's* correspondent at New York, writing on Aug. 20, says:—Mr. Henry Nelson, the editor of *Harper's Weekly*, having lately spent some days in the company of Mr. McKinley, has given his impressions of the President's opinions. They are coloured by Mr. McKinley's firm expectation that the speedy end of the war will put the question of the future of the Philippines before Congress. Mr. McKinley thinks that Congress will decide to keep the

islands, and believes that it should do so. Not to keep them would, in his opinion, be a failure of duty, and would expose the United States to European and Oriental derision. He does not regard the Philippine Question as standing alone, but as having an important bearing upon United States relations with China and upon trade with the Far East. If these matters are fittingly elucidated, Mr. McKinley says that he will have no hesitation in going to the country upon them.

Washington, Aug. 23 (*Reuter*).—The State Department learns that General Otis has applied the Chinese Exclusion Law to the Philippines.

## "THE GAZETTE OF INDIA."

Mr. R. G. THOMPSON is permitted to resign the Civil Service.

The new rules for the regulation of appointments in the Secretariat clerical service of the Government of India are published.

The services of Captain Boileau, 5th Bengal Cavalry, District Superintendent of Police at Port Blair, are replaced at the disposal of the Military Department.

Captain Walton, 20th Punjab Infantry, District Superintendent of Police at Port Blair, is confirmed in that appointment, *vice* Captain Boileau.

The Rev. Davies, Chaplain of Nowgong, Central India, is granted privilege leave for two months.

Mr. Clarke, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, is granted furlough for two years.

Lieutenant Luard, Indian Staff Corps, is posted, an Assistant to the Governor-General's Agent in Central India.

The services of Mr. D. Donald, Political Officer, Khyber, are replaced at the disposal of the Government of the Punjab on his return from privilege leave.

Mr. W. J. Lyon, Assistant Commissioner, Northern India Salt Revenue, is granted privilege leave for two months; Mr. J. Durham, officiating.

## GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS.

Babu Annada Prosada Bosa, second Persi Asst to the Commr of the Presy Div, is allowed leave for one month under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. R. R. Pope, Dist and Sess Judge, Dinajpur is appointed to act as Dist and Sess Judge, Ra'shahi, in addition to his own duties.

Mr. J. R. Blackwood, Asst Magte and Collr, on leave, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Jt Magtes and Dy Collrs.

Mr. A. H. W. Bentinck, Asst Magte and Collr, Patna, is appointed to act temporarily as Cant Magte of Dinapore, and to have charge of the Dinapore sub-div.

Mr. Syud Nurul Huda, Offg Dist and Sess Judge, Noakhali, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Addl Sess Judge of Backergunge, during the period of the ensuing Civil Court vacation.

Babu Misvesver Bhattacharya, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is allowed leave for six months, under article 369 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. F. H. Harding, Dist and Sess Judge, Shahabad, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Addl Sess Judge of Patna, during the period of the ensuing Civil Court vacation.

Mr. F. H. Harding, Dist and Sess Judge, Shahabad, is appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Addl Sess Judge of Gaya, during a portion of the ensuing Civil Court vacation, viz. from the 4th to the 27th October 1899.

Babu Nanda Lal Bagchi, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Contail, is allowed leave for thirty-one days under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Sures Chandra Chatterji, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted temporarily to Bhagalpur.

Babu Charu Chandra Chatterjee, offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, is posted to Hoogly.

Babu Barada Das Bose, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Rajshahi, is allowed leave for fifteen days under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. J. V. Ryan, Offg Dist Supdt of Police, Rajshahi, is allowed leave for two weeks under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

The services of Mr. H. A. S. Burt, Asst Supdt of Police, in charge of the Angul Dist Police, are placed at the disposal of the Govt of India in the Home Dept.

Mr. J. E. Armstrong, Asst Supdt of Police, Sonthal Parganas, is appointed to have charge of the Dist Police of Angul.

Mr. J. A. Stevens, Asst Supdt of Police, Howrah, is transferred to the 24 Parganas.

Consequent on the grant of three months' privilege leave to Mr. E. Robertson, Supdt, Calcutta Police, on Rs. 500, the following acting promotions are ordered during his absence, on leave, or until further orders:—Supdt Mr. C. F. Merriman to act as Supdt on Rs. 500. Supdt Rai Jogendra Chandra Mitra Bahadur to act as Supdt on Rs. 450. Supdt Mr. J. G. Bell to act as Supdt on Rs. 400. Supdt Mr. A. Forsyth to act as Supdt on Rs. 350.

Mr. S. C. Aldridge, first grade Inspector, has already been appointed to act as Supdt, Calcutta Police.

Mr. J. S. Slater, Principal of the C E Coll, Sibpur, on furlough, is appointed to a class I of the former Bengal Educational Service.

Mr. J. Mann, Prof, Presy Coll, on furlough, is appointed to the second grade of Personal allowances (Rs. 200—10—250).

Mr. Mahomed Zahoor, Offg Munsif of Barisal, is appointed to be a Munsif of Patuakhali.

Babu Aghore Nath Biswas, Munsif of Patuakhali, is appointed to be a Munsif of Chikandi.

Babu Rajendra Lal Lahiri, Munsif of Chikandi, is appointed to be a Munsif of Jahanabad.

Babu Achinta Nath Mitter, Munsif of Jahanabad, who is now on deputation at Kotalpur, is appointed to be an Addl Munsif of Faridpur and Madaripur, but to be on deputation at the former station.

Babu Bhagabutty Charan Kundu, Addl Munsif of Faridpur and Madaripur, on deputation to Goalundo, is appointed to be a Munsif of Madaripur.

Babu Bhagavati Charan Mitra, Munsif of Madaripur, is appointed to be an Additional Munsif of Madhupura and Begusarai, but to be on deputation at the latter station.

Babu Shyama Charan bannerjee, Addl Munsif of Madhupura and Begusarai, on deputation to Begusarai, is appointed to be a Munsif of Satkania.

Babu Pankaja Kumar Chattopadhyaya, Munsif of Satkania, is appointed to be a Munsif of Siwan.

Babu Taruk Chandra Das, Munsif of Siwan, is appointed to be a Munsif of Goalundo.

Babu Surjo Narain Dass, Munsif of Goalundo, is appointed to be a Munsif of Baraset.

Babu Purno Chandra De, Munsif of Baraset, is appointed to be a Munsif of Narainganj.

Babu Gopal Chandra Banerjee, Munsif of Narainganj, is appointed to be a Munsif of Barisal, *vice* Babu Haro Sunder Chuckerbutty retired.

Babu Gobind Chandra Basak, Munsif of Ranchi, is appointed to be a Munsif of Mymsensingh.

Babu Shoodhangshu Bhusan Roy, Munsif of Mymsensingh, is appointed to be a Munsif of Barisal, but to be on deputation as an Addl Munsif of Diamond Harbour.

Babu Bipin Chandra Chatterjee, Munsif of Barisal, on deputation to Diamond Harbour, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bongaon.

Babu Kali Das Mukerjee, Munsif of Bongaon, is appointed to be a Munsif of Hathazari.

Babu Charu Chandra Mukerjee, Munsif of Hathazari, is appointed to be a Munsif of Atia.

Babu Lal Bihari Bhaduri, Munsif of Atia, is appointed to be a Munsif of Sherpur.

Babu Umesh Chandra Sen, Munsif of Sherpur, is appointed to be a Munsif of Sakhira.

Babu Harendra Narayan Guha, Munsif of Sakhira, is appointed to be a Munsif of Khulna.

Babu Upendra Nath Bhanja, Munsif of Khulna, is appointed to be a Munsif of Serampore.

Babu Nunda Lal Kundu, Munsif of Serampore, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bagerhat.

Babu Gaendhra Nath Mukherjee, Munsif of Bagerhat, is appointed to be a Munsif of Nalpur.

Babu Hari Lal Mukerjee, Munsif of Bolpur, is appointed to be a Munsif of Kurigaon.

Babu Upendra Nath Bose, Munsif of Kurigaon, is appointed to be a Munsif of Basirhat.

Babu Probha Chandra Singha, Munsif of Basirhat, is appointed to be a Munsif of Sitamarhi.

Babu Trailakya Nath Some, Munsif of Sitamarhi is appointed to be a Munsif of Narail.

Babu Atul Chandra Batavayal, Munsif of Narail, is appointed to be a Munsif of Dubrajpur, *vice* Babu Bijoy Gopal Basu.

Babu Binwari Lal Banerjee, Munsif of Gaibanda, who is now officiating as an Addl Munsif of Munshiganj, is appointed to be a Munsif of Atia. He will, however, continue to act in his present apptmt as an Addl Munsif of Munshiganj.

Babu Onil Chandra Dutt, sub protom Munsif, is appointed to be a sub protom Addl Munsif of Munshiganj, but to act as a Munsif of Atia.

Babu Upendra Chandra Mukerjee, Munsif of Atia, is appointed to be a Munsif of Kishanganj.

Babu Kam Lal Das, Munsif of Kishanganj, is appointed to be a Munsif of Kasba, but to be on deputation at Comilla.

Babu Sarat Chandra Bose, Munsif of Kasba, on deputation to Comilla, is appointed to be a Munsif of Narail.

Babu Phani Bhusan Mookerjee, Munsif of Narail, is appointed to be a Munsif of Nabainagar.

Babu Kunja Behary Gupta, Munsif of Nabainagar, is appointed to be a Munsif of alpaigai.

Babu Kanti Chander Mukerji, Munsif of Jalpaiguri, is appointed to be a Munsif of Purulia.

Babu Uma Charan Kar, Munsif of Purulia and Chabassa, on furlough, is appointed to be a Munsif of Netrakona.

Babu Kedarnath Chaudhuri, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif of Netrakona.

Babu Jogesh Chandra Mukerjee, Munsif of Netrakona, is appointed to be a Munsif of Fenny.

Babu Sarat Chandra Pal, Munsif of Fenny, is appointed to be a Munsif of Baranpur.

Babu Atul Chandra Ghose, Munsif of Baranpur, is appointed to be a Munsif of Bihar.

Babu Nistaran Banerjee, Munsif of Bihar, is appointed to be a Munsif of Netrakona.

Babu Jogesh Chandra Guba, Munsif of Netrakona, is appointed to be a Munsif of Magma.

Babu Rakhal Chunder Bose, Munsif of Magra, is appointed to be a Munsif of Jahanabad.

Babu Mahendra Nath Das, Munsif of Jahanabad, is appointed to be a Munsif of Patna.

The services of Babu Raj Krishna Bondonpadiya, Munsif of Patna, are placed at the disposal of the Chief Commr of Assam.

The services of Babu Sri Hari Lahiri, Munsif of Aurangabad, are placed at the disposal of the Chief Commr of Assam.

Babu Mohim Chunder Chuckerbutty, Munsif of Chikandi on deputation to Madaripur is appointed to be a Munsif of Buxar.

The services of Babu Jadub Chandra Bhattacharjee, Munsif of Malda, are placed at the disposal of the Chief Commr of Assam.

Babu Kison Lal Sen, Munsif of Puri, is appointed to be a Munsif of Brahmanbaria.

Babu Asutosh Banerjee (No. 11), Munsif of Brahmanbaria, is appointed to be a Munsif of Puri.

Babu Sarat Chandra Mukerji, Munsif of Diamond Harbour, who is now offg as Sub Judge of Mymsensingh, is appointed to be a Munsif of Chandpur, but will continue to act in his present apptmt as Sub Judge of Mymsensingh.

Babu Rajendra Lal Ghosh Munsif of Chandpur, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif of Diamond Harbour.

Babu Lolit Mohan Das, Munsif of Nuxar, on deputation to Arrah, is appointed to be a Munsif of Nagaon.

Babu Hem Chandra Mitter, Munsif of Nagaon, is appointed to be a Munsif of Malda.

Babu Jogendra Nath Basu, Munsif of Atia, is appointed to be a Munsif of Nator.

Babu Jogendra Nath Mukerjee (No. 1), Munsif of Nator, is appointed to be a Munsif of Malda.

Babu Ras Vihari Basu, Munsif of Burdwan, is allowed leave for twenty-one days.

Babu Akhoy Kumar Chatterji, Munsif of Arrah, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Babu Akhil Kumar Chatterjee, sub protom Sub-Dy Collr, Monghyr, is allowed leave for five weeks under article 273(a) of the Civil Service Regulations.

Maulvi Syed Azizuddin Mohamad Abul sub protom Sub-Dy Collr, Sirajganj, is allowed leave for thirty-seven days under article 273(a) of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Girish Chandra Das Gupta sub protom Sub-Dy Collr, Mymsensingh, is transferred to the Kishorganj sub-div.

Babu Sita Nath Mookerjee, Sub-Dy Collr, 24 Parganas, is transferred to Sakhira sub-div.

Babu Jogindra Nath Sarkar, sub protom Sub-Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to Alipuri.



## GREAT BRITAIN AND THE TRANSVAAL.

## THE REPLY TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S DESPATCH.

Reuter's Agency learns that the full text of the reply of the Transvaal Government to Mr. Chamberlain's despatch was received in London on Aug. 22. Secrecy is maintained regarding its contents, but it is stated that the despatch is now under the consideration of the Government.

The Cape Town correspondent of the *Times* says:—I learn from an excellent though unofficial source that the communication sent by the Transvaal Government to the High Commissioner contains the following proposals:—

(1) A five years' franchise; (2) a share in the election of the President; (3) increased representation for the goldfields, to the extent, probably, of eight new seats; (4) other questions to be submitted to arbitration, but not that of a foreign Power; (5) Great Britain to agree not to use her present interference as a precedent; (6) Great Britain to agree to relinquish her suzerainty rights.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the *Standard*, writing on Aug. 23, says:—

The Transvaal authorities, for reasons best known to themselves, have been trying to make a mystery of the reply to Mr. Chamberlain's proposals. The Pretoria correspondent of the *Johannesburg Star* states that, in reply to his request for details, Mr. Reitz, the State Secretary, informed him that the reply had not yet been sent.

The only plausible explanation forthcoming so far is that it was thought better in Pretoria to pretend that the document, which, as we learn by cable messages, reached London quite early in the week, was merely a provisional draft submitted to the Imperial Government to see whether it was acceptable or not. On this point, however, it is useless to speculate, and I can only say that people here are not a little puzzled at the discrepancy between telegrams from Pretoria and cable messages from England.

Both in Cape Town, however, and here, the general belief is that the apparent drift of the reply, such as it is, points to an arrangement more nearly approaching to a satisfactory settlement of the crisis than any suggestion or concession previously offered by the South African Republic. At the same time it is felt that the document ought to be most carefully scrutinized; for Transvaal diplomatists are adepts in the art of withdrawing with one hand what they give with the other. A surreptitious phrase, even a word, might be slipped in, which would altogether nullify the apparent effect of the whole document. It is accordingly hoped that no time will be lost in publishing the full text here, in order that those who are most deeply concerned in the matter may see for themselves what the Boers really propose to do. The very natural suspicions entertained by the Uitlanders may, of course, turn out to be unfounded; but they would like to feel assured that there is no chance of their being again deluded by fair promises.

The special correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* at Pretoria says:—

The League and the Uitlander Council vehemently repudiate the proposed settlement, insisting that England must deal with the other grievances, particularly the dynamite monopoly, the question of fortifications, and the right to carry arms. They also demand a much larger representation in the Raad than proposed by Sir A. Milner. These demands are impossible, and are intended to prevent a settlement. The Council is more influential than the League, but neither largely represents Uitlander feeling, which strongly favours any peaceable termination of the present uncertainty. A five years' franchise, with reasonable securities, would be widely accepted.

The *Johannesburg Leader* describes the proposal as a crafty and insidious attempt to capture unthinking English opinion. But the Uitlander press only represents capitalists and irresponsible politicians who seek immediate control of the country by British force. The capitalists take no open part, but work through the League, the Council, and the press. The chief agitators have left Johannesburg, fearing arrest. The League comprises no important Johannesburgers, who are amazed at its influence with Sir A. Milner and the British public. I find in Johannesburg a widespread willingness to take the franchise, but no eagerness. The grievances are genuine, but not enormously exaggerated, and are not keenly felt except by hot politicians. The real demand is for any decent settlement.

Excitement and bitter feeling. Meanwhile a petition is being signed by burghers at Pretoria urging the Government to cease negotiations with great Britain.

The Johannesburg correspondent of the *Times* says that there is much excitement and activity among the burghers. Mauers and ammunition have been freely distributed in several districts. Disquieting reports come from Natal, and it is said that the Sunday train from Johannesburg was fired on in Transvaal territory. The feeling near the border is bitter.

Mobilisation is rapidly proceeding at Mafeking, where several hundred recruits have arrived. It is rumoured that 300 Boers are in laager on the border fifty miles south of Mafeking.

THE DYNAMITE COMMISSION.

The Raad at Pretoria was occupied during the whole of the sitting on Aug. 17 with the discussion of the report of the Dynamite Com-

mission. Mr. Dieperink, supporting a minority report in favour of cancelling the contract, described the monopoly as a series of frauds and unfulfilled obligations, and asserted that the confirmation of the proposal now made would perpetuate the contract, and was in direct conflict with the Raad's own decisions.

The debate was continued on Aug. 23. Mr. Wolmarans, member of the Executive, said that reasons why he favoured the majority report were (1) that 65s. per case was less than the price, which the representatives of the mines in 1897 stated before the Industrial Commission would satisfy them; (2) that Mr. Chamberlain had stated that the concession was not a breach of the London Convention so long as the Government got most of the profit out of the monopoly, and under the new proposals such was the case; and (3) that the extension of the contract, against which Mr. Chamberlain protested, had now been abandoned. Mr. Schalk Burger, member of the Executive, agreed that the price was most satisfactory, and that the mining industry need not grumble. What he objected to was the manner in which it was proposed to bring about a reduction in the price. If, he continued, rights were given to the Government under Article 15 (a) to take over the trading obligations of the company, dynamite would be supplied at a cheaper rate, and the matter would be finally settled. The Chairman of the Raad declared himself in favour of the majority report, and said it was likely to be carried by a small majority.

A DESPATCH FROM SIR A. MILNER.

On May 9 last Mr. Reitz sent another despatch in which he reiterated the view of the Transvaal Government that no suzerainty exists. Commenting on this, Sir Alfred Milner, in a communication to Mr. Chamberlain, says:—

This reply appears to me to go further than any of the previous statements of the point of view of the Government of the South African Republic. The State Secretary not only says that "no suzerainty exists"—the question whether the present position of Her Majesty's Government, towards the South African Republic is properly described as "suzerainty" is to my mind a question of the interpretation of a vague word—but he goes on to say that "the now existing right of absolute self-government of this Republic is not derived from either the Convention of 1881 or that of 1884, but simply and solely follows from the inherent right of the Republic as a sovereign international State." This proposition appears to me more important than the denial of the correctness of the term "suzerainty." But it is a proposition which, in my opinion, is historically and logically quite untenable. At the time of the Convention of 1881, the Transvaal was undoubtedly part of her Majesty's dominions, and both the representatives who signed and the Volksraad which ratified this Convention recognised that position when they accepted self-government subject to certain conditions from commissioners appointed by her Majesty "for the settlement of the Transvaal territory."

Neither at the time of the Convention of 1881 nor during the existence of that Convention could it by any possibility be contended that the Transvaal had an "absolute right of self-government." How then has it attained that right? According to Mr. Reitz, it is by the complete abrogation of the Convention of 1881. But how was that Convention completely abrogated? It was completely abrogated, again according to Mr. Reitz, by the Convention of 1884. Surely then it is evident according to Mr. Reitz's own showing, that it is to the Convention of 1884, and not to any "inherent right" as a sovereign international State, that the South African Republic owes the degree of self-government, be it absolute or otherwise, which it possesses. The contention of her Majesty's Government, as I understand it, is that the right of self-government is derived from the Conventions of 1881 and 1884 taken together, the terms of the latter document now governing the position, although they are not intelligible without a reference to the former. Mr. Reitz's contention is that the Convention of 1881 is completely gone, and that on its disappearance the Transvaal emerged as a sovereign international State, not, however, by virtue of the new Convention, which, according to him, absolutely abrogated that of 1881, but by its inherent right to be something which, as a matter of fact, it had ceased to be seven years previously. The way in which the State Secretary juggles with the Convention of 1884 is rather irritating to a plain man. But the importance of the matter does not consist in his arguments. It consists in the assertion that the South African Republic is a "sovereign international State." This appears to me to be contradictory of the position consistently maintained by us, and, in fact, in the nature of a defiance of her Majesty's Government.

Finally, Mr. Chamberlain, on July 13, wrote to Sir Alfred Milner in these terms:—

Her Majesty's Government concur generally in the views expressed in your despatch, and have no intention of continuing to discuss this question with the Government of the Republic, whose contention that the South African Republic is a sovereign international State is not, in their opinion, warranted either by law or history, and is wholly inadmissible.

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