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NO 74

পদক-পতক।

শ্রীমদ-বৈষ্ণব

অনুগ্রাহক পত্রিকা বাক্সে প্রাপ্য।

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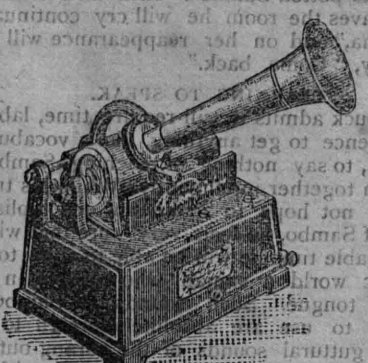
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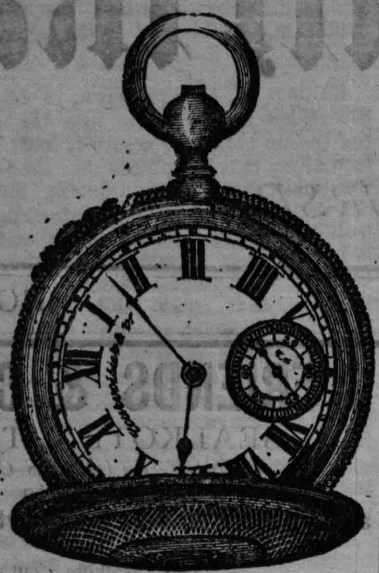
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Name on Dial and movement.
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Each Watch supplied in a nice velvet case with spring, glass, and chain and forwarded by P. P. C. at our risk to any part of India and Burma.

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Certified that I chemically examined the contents of a phial labelled Nizam's Gonorrhoea Cure and found it to be free from Mercurial and Arsenical preparation, and though it is a vegetable preparation, it does not contain any poisonous ingredients.

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4 BOTTLES WILL DO, if used according to directions, curative effect will be seen after taking a dose. Each bottle, with directions, containing 8 doses.

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Guaranteed in every case, no matter how obstinate or long standing. No other preparation like. The iron used in this preparation, combined with the other ingredients, acts like a charm in its wonderful result and has no equal; it is pleasant to take, does not impair the digestion, and gives tone and strength to the entire system. No need for injection, therefore no danger of producing stricture.

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EFFECT.—After taking six doses of GENO the discharge, the Scalding or Retention of the Urine are altogether stopped and the Burning Sensation is no longer experienced. You have only to try once to know its efficacy.

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CHEMISTS,

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Of that well-known comic drama

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To be had at the Patrika Office.



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রামপুর বোঝালিয়া দোকানে আমাদিগের পুস্তকাক্রমে পোড়ারি ও জুয়েলারি ব্যবসা চলিয়া আসিতেছে। আমাদিগের কার্ণে প্রসিদ্ধ প্রসিদ্ধ হুনের ভাল ভাল কারিকর দ্বারা নতুন নতুন ধরণের স্বর্ণ, রোপ্য ও হুনের অলঙ্কারাদি হালকা ও ভারি ওজনে বসামান্য পাইন দ্বারা অতি অল্প সময়ে প্রস্তুত হয় ও সর্বদা বিক্রয়ার্থে প্রস্তুত থাকে। ১০ তিন আনার ডাক টিকিট পাঠাইলে সচিত্র ক্যাটালগ রেজেষ্টারি ডাকে পাঠান যায়, বিশেষ বিবরণ তাহাতেই প্রাপ্য।

ক্রিয়োগেজ জুয় হুদ্রেজুয় ধর।
পোড়ারি এবং জুয়েলারি।
রামপুর বোঝালিয়া, পোঃ কোড়ালিয়া, রাণসাহা।

BEECHAM'S Music Portfolio.

In continuation of our recent announcement to the effect that we had run out of stock, we have now the pleasure to advise receipt of a shipment, which enables us to proceed with orders, already registered, while upon their completion we shall be happy to execute any further orders with which we may be entrusted. Owing to the continued popularity with which the Portfolio has met both in India and elsewhere, our Principal has decided upon the issue of two new volumes, viz. Nos. 15 and 16, the former of which is now available, while the latter will arrive in November.

The Portfolio to date consists of volumes Nos. 1 to 15, each 30 songs (with accompaniments) and Piano Forte Pieces, and the price is as before.

3½ annas per volume, or Rs. 3-4-6, for the complete Portfolio postage paid, but if per V.P.P., charges extra.

In order to enable previous purchasers to complete their Portfolio, we will when possible, supply spare volumes from Nos. 9 to 15, but under no circumstances will orders be executed or acknowledged except when accompanied by a remittance. The complete Portfolio only will be supplied per V.P.P., and intending purchasers are particularly requested to note this fact.

G. ATHERTON & CO.,

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Sole Agents for India,

Burma & Ceylon

FOR

BEECHAM'S P.L.L.S**AN OURANG-OUTANG WHO IS LEARNING TO SPEAK.**

HE CAN ALREADY SAY "MAMMA!"

As an approximate climax to a series of experiments in educating a monkey, Mr. J. L. Ruck, now in Boston, will try to make the monkey talk. The animal is one of the greatest curiosities in the simian line ever seen. The point to which his education has been carried is wonderful. He rejoices in the name of Sambo, and is a Borneo of the ourang-outang species. Sambo eats at table with as much complacency as a Christian, and behaves better at his meals than some Christians. In describing his methods of teaching Sambo how to use a spoon, Mr. Ruck explained that he placed the food in a very deep cup. Sambo's natural intelligence at once showed him the use of a spoon, but he at first made the mistake of bringing his provender from the depth of the cup by means of the spoon and then laying it down on the table to be grabbed by his fingers.

Mr. Ruck cured Sambo of this habit by placing a hungry monkey at the table beside him. When Sambo would lay the food down the hungry one would snatch it away. After a while Sambo saw the point and foiled the thief by carrying the food directly from the cup to his mouth by means of the spoon. The accomplishment once acquired there was no more trouble.

TAUGHT THE VALUE OF CLOTHING.

Sambo was taught the value of clothing by being left for a time in a cold place and afterwards taken in and warmly clothed. In this way the advantage of wearing clothes soon became apparent to his monkey mind.

What caused Mr. Ruck most perplexity was how to get Sambo to wear a cap, for he seemed to have a rooted antipathy to any kind of head gear. The trainer was almost on the point of giving it up, when one warm day he noticed that flies were annoying the monkey very much. When they were particularly persistent around his head Sambo would pull up his coat to protect his poll. Inspiration came to Mr. Ruck. Daubing a little molasses on Sambo's head, he left him to be tormented by the flies for a time and then placed a cap over his head show him the use of the covering. Sambo realised the utility of a cap at once, and has worn it without protest ever since.

By these methods, and without the use of the whip that is considered so indispensable by most trainers of animals, Sambo's education was carried on.

He can dress himself without assistance, putting on his shoes and stockings as carefully as an orderly boy, at meal times carrying his chair to the table and sitting up like a regularly recognised member of the family, eating his meals decorously and daintily, with his napkin tucked under his chin, and behaving in short, with the best of table manners.

SLEEPS IN A BED.

At night Sambo will sedately remove his clothing and climb into the little white enamelled bedstead provided for him, cover himself with the bedclothes and dream blissfully of his happy emancipation from the ignorance of his ancestors.

Sambo breakfast, lunches and dines on the food that Mr. Ruck and his family eat. He relishes vegetables cooked in any manner and all kinds of bread, pie, cake, cheese, and strangest of all, he has learned to eat meat and grown very fond of it. Naturalists assert that the ourang-outang is a vegetarian, but Sambo has never had a day's illness since he has partaken of a meat diet. All food given

him is prepared in the same manner as that intended for the family.

The most interesting experiment is the attempt that Mr. Ruck is making to develop Sambo's vocal organs. After a careful examination Mr. Ruck concluded that these were perfect and capable of the power of speech. The method employed to teach the monkey to speak he is not desirous of giving in detail. He says, however, it consists of parts of each of the methods used to teach birds, feeble-minded children and the blind, deaf and dumb.

Although Sambo is hardly of an age to grasp the advantage of speech, his trainer considers that even a year of unavailing effort will not be time wasted, as he is confident that as Sambo grows older he will learn the language. At his present age, two years, Sambo is very nearly as far advanced as most babies, as he uses the words "Mamma" and "Come back." Mrs. Ruck has petted Sambo to such an extent that if she leaves the room he will cry continually, "Mamma," and on her reappearance will say distinctly, "Come back."

LEARNING TO SPEAK.

Mr. Ruck admits it will require time, labour, and patience to get anything like a vocabulary of words, to say nothing of teaching Sambo to put them together intelligently. While his trainer does not hope to make an accomplished orator of Sambo, he feels very sure that within a reasonable time he will be able to show to the scientific world a simian who speaks in the English tongue. Such sounds as Sambo is learning to use are absolutely foreign to the natural guttural sounds of the ourang-outang. Mr. Ruck has made arrangements with an East Indian trading house to bring over a wild simian at least once a year, so that Sambo may not forget his mother tongue. Should the efforts to educate the monkey to speak prove successful, the time may come when Sambo will act as interpreter between man and the missing link.

Sambo is what is known as a cage bred animal. His parents were captured when young and tamed in a cage by the Rajah of Somabaye. So Sambo has never known a wild existence which may account for his genial and tractable disposition.

THE RANGOON OUTRAGE CASE.

RANGOON, 19TH. SEPTEMBER.

In the hearing of the charge against Private Johnson, of the West Kent Regiment, of being concerned in the outrage upon Mah Goon, Private George Atkins deposed that the woman was dancing in barracks on April 2nd. Coomber and others followed her. A quarter of an hour afterwards witness went to the spot. Cross-examined: Thorpe, Johnson, Martin and Coomber were there. He admitted saying to the police that he saw Sullivan there. He could not now say he did. No soldiers touched the woman. He had not heard of any enquiry as to what soldiers were present. Witness was never asked by Corporal Nurse, nor any of the officers.

This closed the evidence for the defence, and Mr. Vansomeren addressed the jury. He said the defence was that the woman came to barracks and behaved in such a way as led the men to suppose she was perfectly willing. He must accept the fact admitted by the prisoner, but he contended that the evidence of the soldiers showed she was a willing party.

The Government Advocate, in reply, said they had now for the first time heard the defence not in full, but as fully as the defence thought expedient. The other prisoners had not been called, though the defence had hinted that they meant to call them, nor had Thorpe, who was now a free man, been called. The defence would not produce this evidence of the chief actors in the affair because they would get deeper in the mire than they now were. The jury had heard the life history of Mah Goon, which showed her to be a virtuous woman. There were discrepancies in the evidence for the prosecution; the witnesses did not agree as to minute details, but this was natural where a large number of persons were concerned and prove the bona fides of the prosecution witnesses. As to Sullivan and Nurse whom he was bound to call as witnesses, the former had lost himself in the maze of versions that had been running through his head. As for Corporal Nurse, the theory of the prosecution was that no member of the regiment below the rank of sergeant had told the whole truth. Nurse was undoubtedly present when Horricks was arrested, and if Horricks was innocent as Nurse alleged, why did the latter permit the arrest of Horricks. That he did permit the arrest showed that Nurse did not believe him innocent. Nurse's stories were due to esprit de corps—a very noble sentiment in its place, but it was responsible for a great deal of the action of higher persons in the regiment than Nurse. The officers did not believe Nurse's story that 30 or 40 men must have had connection with the woman—apparently they would not believe that any of their men were concerned. That was creditable to their belief in their men, but it did not reflect credit on their intellects, individual or collective. The natural result followed that Horricks was innocent and witnesses must be obtained for the defence. Speaking of another branch of the case, counsel said the conduct of Sergeant Allwright and Colour-Sergeant Macdonald stood out in mark contrast to that of the officers. He thought it right to give Captain Burt the opportunity of explaining the action he took. Captain Burt had explained that he had acted on the spur of the moment. He had apparently handed himself over hand and foot to the counsel for the defence, and had forgotten that it was one of his duties not to screen offenders. The case now put forward for the defence made the matter worse than before; for it came to this, that because an old woman behaved like a mad woman in barracks, the soldiers could not be blamed because they could not know she was cracked. The law cast upon every man the duty of showing consent in any such case. Was it to go forth to the world that either a mad or a drunken woman could not go through a British Infantry barracks with safety? Private Attenborough was mistaken in his identification. He could not say when he saw Mah Goon solicit, and as to saying he had seen her a week after the occurrence soliciting, that was impossible; for they had it on evidence that the woman was with her relatives, many hours journey from Rangoon, from the day of the outrage till the Horricks trial. It was, he contended, an impossibility for Mah Goon in her then physical condition to go through the antics described by the defence. He commented on the fact that when the Adjutant left Rangoon on April

23rd he had heard no rumour of the woman dancing, nor was any evidence of it produced for the defence of Horricks.

Concluding his address, Counsel said the evidence proved that one of the grossest crimes that were ever perpetrated by man upon woman had been committed—that sort of crime which led people of our own blood in one part of the world to rise and say that the law with its delays and its technicalities is impotent, we will do justice.

The Judge charged the jury, who, after a considerable absence, returned, asking for direction in a case where an accused person believes a woman to be sane, and does not suspect her insanity. Section 78 of the Code was read to them, and the jury, after an absence of 25 minutes, returned an unanimous verdict of "not guilty."—Pioneer.

THE Mahomedan rioters arrested in Kalyan on Saturday last have petitioned for a transfer of their case to the Court of a European Magistrate in Thana. Mr. Joshi, Assistant Deputy Collector, and Mr. Velinker are the only two judicial officials in Kalyan, and the Mahomedans do not like the idea of their trial being conducted before a Hindoo official. The relations between Hindoos and Mahomedans at Kalyan are greatly strained. The Mahomedans complain that on the day of the riots the police at the mosque were all Hindoos who sided with their co-religionists. Mr. Kotwal, acting Superintendent of Police, Thana, who arrived in Kalyan on Sunday, on instituting inquiries, arrested eight Hindoos, who were concerned in the riots.

THE Eastern Division of Madura is now said to be in a state of ferment owing to the attempts of some treacherous rascals to scare people away by threats of wholesale poisoning. It appears that small packets of sugar, evidently mixed with arsenic, are scattered in conspicuous parts of tank-bunds, road-sides and pials of houses, and that already more than half a dozen persons have, by unsuspectingly consuming the sugar, paid the penalty. In one case, in which a woman of Kanadukatham Village, by name Verayee, died with all symptoms of poisoning, the post mortem examination is said to have conclusively established that death was due to some irritant poison, and from this, wildest reports are being circulated that it must be the work of the Shanars, or of the Anti-Shanars to get the Shanars into trouble again.

NOT HEAVY TO HIM

The man on the elephant's back is nothing to the elephant. The big beast doesn't mind him any more than one of those immense dray horses you see in London minds the brass ornaments on his harness. Yet on my back or yours the man would be a load; and, if fastened to a lark's wings, the little brasses would hold him to the earth.

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

When, for example, Mr. Sidney Challenger mentions in a letter that a certain period he was "heavy," he does not mean that he tipped the scales at a stone or two more than usual. His horse would have felt that, in case he rode one; but the truth is that at the time referred to he was actually under his proper weight by several pounds.

What he wants us to understand is that he was heavy to himself; it was not an increase of weight but an increase of weakness, having practically the same result. His explanation is that in the early part of 1890 he began to feel ill and out of sorts. He went about in a mazy way, feeling badly without knowing what the trouble was or how to account for it.

"I had," Mr. Challenger goes on to tell us "a nasty taste in the mouth and no relish for my meals." But eat we all must, or starve, and eat he did. Not much, though. A best it was a forced business. Nothing tasted natural or good, and he took just enough to keep him going until the next meal time should come round.

"And even for that I had to suffer," he says. "After getting it down I had, almost immediately, a sense of fullness or detention at the stomach and pain at the chest as if a bit of food had lodged there—which couldn't be."

No, nothing lodged anywhere. What there was of it went straight down into Mr. Challenger's stomach, where it at once began to ferment and produce a gas which caused the feeling of fullness, while the irritated nerves set up the pain. It was not too much food, but food not digested—food turned sour in the stomach—with the whole body behind it failing of the needed stimulus and nourishment of food, and wondering what the matter was. It was this state of matters that made him, to use his own words, "heavy, drowsy, and languid."

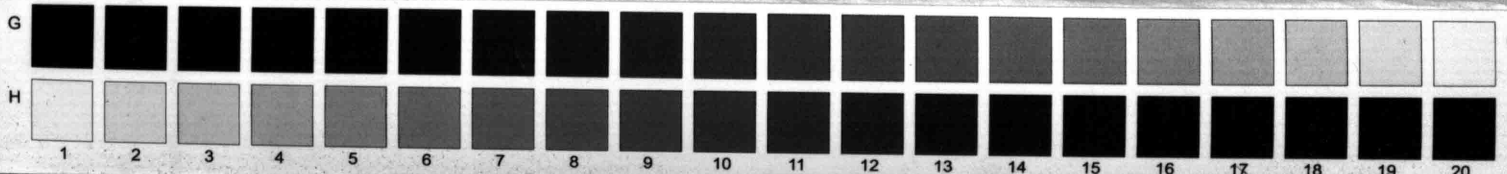
Any river in England, after a long drought in summer, looks just as Mr. Challenger felt—heavy, drowsy, and languid. And for an identical reason—the lack of necessary supplies. Wait an instant, though! Don't miss the point.

The rain when it comes, fills the river by a thousand little channels falling directly into it. Not so as to food and body. Between them is a process; a mechanical, chemical, and vital operation—digestion. Mark you that, and act accordingly. Whether in the sky or on the ground water is water—the same thing.

But food and body are not the same thing. The first must be transmuted into the second by the miracle called digestion; for of all God's ways in nature none is more awful, more amazing, more glorious. And, when impeded or overborne when none which punishes the interference more certainly and swift.

"I got little or no sleep," continues our friend, "and awoke in the morning tired out, as after a hard day's work. Presently I could hardly walk, for very weakness, and from time to time had to give up work altogether. No medicine helped me and I tried plenty."

After three wretched years of this, Mrs. Bird of Tallistown, told my wife about Mother Seigle's Syrup, and through her, advised me to try it. She said my ailment was indigestion and the Syrup would cure it. And it did. One bottle, greatly relieved me. I could eat freely, and food agreed with me. I persevered with the remedy and got strong as ever. All the pain and heaviness left me, and I felt light and energetic, although I have gained in weight." (Signed) Sydney Challenger, Gladstone, Villa, Cwm, near Waunllwyd, Mon, August 30th, 1898.



light of any offence committed against the people. Shooting accidents are very common here. Why? Because here, in India, Europeans shoot very carelessly. The Indians have to do homage to the Queen. That, of course, they would do most gladly. In the same cheerful way they would do homage to the Viceroy, nay, to all important officials including Magistrates. But there does not end the duty of the Indians. They have to do homage to every one who is supposed to be a European. In short, every European here has a notion that he is one of the pillars and owners of the Empire, and this makes a free and cordial intercourse between Indians and Europeans a difficult matter.

SOME Anglo-Indian writers cannot speak of the "Baboo" without cursing him. And yet, with the help of these "Baboo" the English succeeded in acquiring the whole of India so easily. In weal or woe, the "Baboo" has stood firm by their rulers; so, they do not deserve the latter's resentment, specially when they are losing ground daily, but their sympathy. "They breed and breed and breed," wrote the correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, as if the white races in India do not breed at all. The real truth, however, is that the "Baboo" who form the backbone of the Bengali nation, are fast deteriorating physically, and three-fourths of them—the Brahmins, Kayasthas and Vaidyas—have been swept off the face of the earth by malaria, poverty and starvation within the last four or five decades. On the other hand, during that period, a large colony of white people—Europeans and Eurasians—has sprung up and occupied almost all the respectable subordinate posts held by the "Baboo." So, while the "Baboo" are dying away or becoming hewers of wood and drawers of water, in their own country, it is the foreigners who are "breeding" and fattening at the expense of the children of the soil. A correspondent of the *Spectator*, over the signature of "Anglo-Indian," writes about the "Baboo" with no less malignity than did the correspondent of the *Daily Mail*. He calls them "White Baboos"—that is to say, those poor, ill-paid, over-worked beasts of burden, who drive their quills from morning to evening, and then vent their spleen upon them in most offensive terms. It will be remembered that Lord Curzon is said to have expressed a desire to prevent the accumulation of useless reports and statistics and trivial cases being reported upon by half-a-dozen officers, etc. Referring to this matter, "Anglo-Indian" thus falls foul of the Bengalee clerks:—

Another serious evil caused by the same thing is the growth of vast establishments of lazy clerks who copy these reports, etc. These establishments grow like snowballs, for it is almost a proverb that when a baboo gets into an office he looks about to make work for nine other baboos. Every baboo has four brothers, two uncles, a father, and five female relations to support, and he soon points out that he has so much work that he must have two subordinates to help him, and then his two uncles come in on probation, etc. If Lord Curzon knocks that scribbling on the head, and has more things decided on the spot by the District Officer, he will have done one of the best things he ever did. There would be a howl from the native press, and the Little Englanders would echo it, but it would save "the people of India" a great deal of money, and what is much more important, the districts would be properly looked after.

The above may be very smart writing, but it only serves to widen the breach that already exists between the rulers and the ruled. Such writings will not surely help Lord Curzon in removing the racial feeling in this country, which His Excellency is so anxious to do. The writer ought to remember that there is no glory in insulting a fallen and helpless people. On the other hand, it should be the duty of every Englishman, who is in a more favoured position, to speak kindly of the people of India and help them to rise from their fallen condition.

It seems the provision of two gold mohurs in the Municipal Bill has not given entire satisfaction to the members of the mercantile community. It will be remembered that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association proposed to modify the section in such a way as to enable a European member of the General Committee to pocket the amount, whether he attended the meeting for a short time or from the beginning to the end. Indeed, the idea of the above two Associations was that a European member should have the privilege of attending the meeting any time suitable to him and remaining as long as he liked, and charging his full fee of Rs. 32. The Government has unfortunately not seen its way to accede to the request, and hence the Europeans are sulky. *Capital* thus echoes the sentiments of the European commercial community on this point:—

We think that it would have been far better for the Bengal Council to have deleted the section regarding the payment of fees to the General Committee altogether, than to have modified it by reducing the amount of the fee and by making that fee conditional on the Committee-men attending the meeting from the beginning to the end. On the question of fees we have no strong opinion; but, if fees are to be paid, we think that they should be adequate and not hedged in by ridiculous provisions. Business men will not consent to be treated as school boys, and the result of this ridiculous amendment will be that Committee-men will not attend meetings if they are likely to arrive late, or if their engagements are such that they may have to depart before the meeting is over. This absurd proviso was in the Act as originally framed; but the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association objected to it, and it was deleted in consequence by the Select Committee, only to be re-enacted by the Council at large.

In the matter of the Municipal Bill the Government have acted up to the wishes of the European community all along the line. It would thus have mattered very little if the Council had accepted the suggestion of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and allowed full fees to the European members for attending meetings at their sweet will. Nay, the Council might have gone further and provided that when a European member of the General Committee could not attend the meeting on account of some unavoidable circumstances, he should be entitled to send a proxy and earn his two gold mohurs.

ELSEWHERE will be found an interesting article on the "Baboons" of Behar reproduced from the *Behar Herald*. We are astounded to learn from our contemporary that "the Patrika" has given them umbrage by calling

them "a low caste and altogether inferior people." Low caste and inferior they certainly are not," says the *Herald*. But did we say that the Baboons of Behar are a low caste and inferior people? If we said so, we did them great wrong, though unconsciously, for which we are extremely sorry, for we had not the slightest desire to hurt their feelings. Truth to tell, we had no knowledge whatever of the fact that the baronial houses of Behar belong to that caste, and that, what is more, many of our friends in Behar, who are as highly cultured and educated as any Brahmins, are "Baboons." If the *Behar Herald* and those of our Beharee friends who have been pained at our allusion to the "Baboons" will refer to our paragraph, they will find that we could never have meant them at all, for, as the *Herald* says, they are certainly not low caste and inferior people. The "Baboons," whom we meant, are those whom we have seen in the hill tracts of the Sonthal Perganas, cultivating the soil, and who do not seem to us to belong to a high-caste people. It is absurd to place the members of the aristocratic families in Behar on the same footing with these "Baboons" of the hill tracts. And what we intended to convey was that these "Baboons" were inferior to the Brahmins.

THE *Times* says that the Empire and the nation ask that the rulers should go to war. In short, the *Times* is the nation and the Empire! And what does it want? War! And why this war? It is, because proud Englishmen cannot brook their will to be thwarted. If the nation want war, why are Mr. Morley and others opposed to it? War is a wicked business and it is the duty of every man to deprecate it. Does the *Times* realize what war with the Boers mean? It means that they will fight for their homes and hearth, and fight to the bitter end. And that means that they will be annihilated. If that be the end of the war, a great many Englishmen will be sorry for it.

MR. J. SPENCER charged one R. S. Morehead with committing adultery with his wife. Mr. Duke, Magistrate of Howrah, tried the case and found the accused guilty, and sentenced him to one month's simple imprisonment. We do not know all the facts of the case, but it seems that the punishment awarded was quite inadequate to the offence, at least according to Hindu notions. There is such a temptation in this time that many, we fear, would not care to undergo this light punishment for committing it. To seduce a man's wife is to desolate his heart and home; and, in our opinion, it is a more serious offence than perjury or forgery. Adultery is not considered so serious an offence in Europe as it is considered here; and for this liberal view we cannot congratulate the European society.

Scraps and Comments.

WE learn on the authority of a Rangoon telegram dated, September 19th, that Private Johnson was that day unanimously acquitted of the charge of outraging Mah Goon after a seven days' trial. Comments are not in judicious unless further particulars are to hand.

TILL Friday, when the British Cabinet meets, there is no likelihood of anything fresh turning up in regard to the Transvaal affairs. In case of hostilities there may be a requisition of further troops from India, but as yet nothing has been heard of it.

THOUGH nothing has as yet been finally settled as regards the Viceroy's autumn tour, it is understood that His Excellency has decided that if famine or serious scarcity appears to be inevitable in any place included in the original outline of his tour, the programme will be modified accordingly.

A CORRESPONDENT wires to the *Pioneer*:—"Reports as to the scarcity in Kathiawar still come to hand." From Jamnagar comes a pitiful tale: A Bharwad boy, aged two years, was exposed for sale, but a generous offer was made to bring up the boy, and the sale was not completed. Although there is good rain in that part of the country, it has not made any effectual reduction in the grain prices. The Thakur Sahab of Dhol seems to have made timely arrangements to maintain the famine-stricken population, whose misery has been gradually increasing. The people have been disposing of their cattle for little or no price whatever, and now the scarcity has rendered men so heartless as to desert even young children. The Thakur Sahab of Dhol is said to be in charge of a girl of two years, left uncared for by some one. This is no cheering news to say the least.

FROM Burma comes the encouraging report of an important industry. The recently formed branch of the Burma Oil Company's business, that of candle manufacture, which was only begun towards the latter end of 1897-98, and has proved highly successful, affected the import candle trade of the province during the year 1898-99 to a marked extent, particularly that in light weight or "pagoda" candles, which are chiefly of Belgian manufacture, and the importation of which has for the present practically ceased, as the Burma Oil Company's product can under-sell them. The Burmese did not, at once take to the locally made candles, but these have grown in popularity, and there is now a great demand for them.

HIS Highness the Gaekwar is nothing if not an enlightened ruler. The reader is already aware that several Indian students have been sent to Europe to study special branches of industry at State expense. But it would appear that the Gaekwar's Government does not stop at only sending out students. Every encouragement is given to them when they return, in their respective lines of business. We hear that Mr. Mahadeva Narayan Godhole, a State scholarship holder, has returned from Europe after having mastered the process of manufacturing cocoa and chocolate from cocoa fruits. He has floated a limited liability company to carry on the business and His Highness has, besides purchasing seventy shares of the company, given special facilities to the company by granting a lease of land for building the manufacturing premises at a nominal rent and exemp-

tion from customs dues for ten years in that State of the commodities manufactured by the company. This act is what we call praiseworthy and should be largely followed by those who can afford to do so.

WE hear that the Selangor Planters Association have been discussing the question of the likelihood of profits by exporting bananas from the Straits Settlements to western Australia. After due deliberation they have resolved to make some shipments by way of experiment. Will not some of our own countrymen come forward and try this hitherto unexplored field of enterprise? It is true that England is the principal market for such articles from India; it is also true that fruits are grown nearer to that country. But India has her specialties in her garden produce which on other country can rival—for example, there is the mango. The juicy orange of southern France or the refreshing melons of Italy may be very hard to be replaced by anything like them from this country, but in mango India can hold her own. The method of cold storage might very advantageously be utilised in sending ripe fruits. Then there are the different preparations of the fruit, which will also be found profitable, and what is more, easy of transmission. Attempts might also be made in exporting the pineapple which has been, for something like two centuries, regarded in England as the first fruit.

It is said that Sir Charles Paul has resigned the appointment of Advocate-General of Bengal, and that Mr. J. T. Woodroffe's officiating incumbency will be made a permanent one on the re-opening of the High Court. With regard to the appointment it is in contemplation to fix its limit of tenure at five years.

AT its fag end the Simla session of the Supreme Legislative Council is destined to witness the introduction of two measures which are of considerable importance to the people of Bengal and Assam. The Bill to amend and consolidate the Assam Emigration Act, which has been for some time back before the Legislative Council, will, it is said, be formally introduced soon, but it will be passed at Calcutta. Simultaneously a General Bill on the lines of the Bengal Act of 1889 will be introduced for the better safeguarding of the health of free coolly emigrants on their way to Assam.

CROP reports in the Bombay Presidency for the past week show that no improvement has taken place in the Sind crops. These are suffering much from want of water, and fodder is very scarce. Ahmedabad continues to be the worst district in the Presidency. Again no rain has fallen, and almost all the standing unirrigated crops are withered for want of rain, while agricultural stock is half starving for want of fodder. Three large relief works have now been opened, giving employment to about twelve thousand people, and measures have been taken to check the influx of starving ryots from the Native States. The misfortunes of Ahi Gadabad are shared in a lesser degree by all Guzerat, for crops are withering and rainfall has been altogether insufficient. Nowhere else except Kaira has the necessity for relief work arisen. Rain is wanted in Thana and Colaba, but the position there is not serious. Khan and Nassik report standing crops in fair condition.

SOMETIME back American tobacco was introduced into Burma. But it would appear from the Report of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Burma, for 1898-99, that the results of the experiment have not been of a very hopeful character; "and the trial in future," the Report goes on to say, "be confined to those districts where success has been partially obtained." The seed is generally distributed to Burmese cultivators, who grow their own variety of tobacco on the alluvial soil on the islands or banks of rivers. The experiment, when made with care and skill, is always a success, as proved by the Secretary to the Manheim Agri-Horticultural Society, but it requires more attention than the cultivator takes "the trouble to pay to the local variety, and until some methods of curing the leaves, other than the Burmese method of sun-drying, them can be introduced, the experiment remains still incomplete. The results in the year under report, however, have been more fortunate than usual. The experiment was a great success in Myitkyina and Upper Chindwin. Good results were also obtained in Amherst, Bilin township, Thabon, Mergui, Thayetmyo, and parts of Showebo, Lower Chindwin and Minbu."

THE next census will be taken in 1900 and every arrangement is being made for the successful carrying on of the operations. Mr. Risley, as already announced, has been appointed Census Commissioner for British India; and on his return next month he will set about his work. Native States are also not behind the Imperial Government. Hyderabad and Travancore have appointed their Census Commissioners. This institution of counting the people of a country and classifying them under different heads was first introduced into the United States in 1790. Britain followed in 1800, since which the operations have been repeated every 10th year. In India, a census was first taken in 1831, when the inhabitants of Delhi were counted and classified by a private individual. Thirty-four years after, the census of Calcutta was taken, as also that of the N.W. Provinces. The Central Provinces, Berar and the Punjab followed suit in 1866, 1867 and 1868 respectively. Bengal had no census taken till 1870, when the operations included the whole of India.

THAT there are difficulties, and sometimes very serious difficulties, in taking a correct census in India, we admit. In the towns of Bengal, where the people are educated, it might be an easy matter. But such towns only do not constitute the whole of India. The rural population of the more backward districts do not understand what these things mean and are very likely to put their own meaning on them. It is not unfrequently that one hears such people say that the Government has some evil purpose in counting them. And it is very difficult to explain to them that good

and only good comes out of the operation. The difficulty grows graver as one proceeds to the hills and jungles which are chiefly inhabited by the aborigines. The Sonthals and Kols in Chotanagpur, for instance, view these operations with great superstition and an enumerator finds it almost impossible to induce them to give correct answers to their queries. Then there is the agency which is employed in carrying out the operations. There might be a Risley or a Baine at the head of the Department. But what are they to do? They can only draw conclusions from figures manipulated by others. And who are they? The enumerators. They are recruited in the mufussil, chiefly from the class of village pedagogues, who cannot be expected to fully understand the responsibility of their position. The figures collected by them cannot, in our opinion, be relied upon. It is true that there is the supervising staff. But is it possible for the members of this staff to supervise and properly check the work of all the enumerators under them? We think not. So, it is of the first importance that the agency employed should be recruited from a class of men suited to the work.

THE acquittal of Johnston, the second accused in the Rangoon outrage case, has so much demoralized the prosecution that they are going to drop the matter altogether. Indeed, the five other accused are to be released, as it is thought hopeless to obtain a conviction, the military authorities having systematically obstructed the civil authorities. The Cantonment Magistrate is collecting every newspaper containing mention of the case, probably for the information of the Government of India.

THE trial of Mr. O. Falckytter, Manager, Pollaband Tea Estate, Cachar, who stood charged with having caused the death of a cooly, has resulted in his acquittal. The facts of the case, according to the prosecution, were these: On the second June last, the accused found Chuni Lohar, the deceased, digging a hole. The hole was not straight. This so much angered the manager, that he administered kicks to the cooly, to the effects of which the man is said to have succumbed. In the absence of the records of the case we can make no comment upon it, but there is no doubt of it that the result of this case will only go to confirm the popular impression that in a case between a native and a European, the former always goes to the wall. The plea of spleen-rupture, we find, has been brought forward in this case also.

THE case known as the Parbatipur Murder case came up for trial on Monday last. The facts of the case are most extraordinary. The accused Buckley, a Forest Ranger, went on a shooting excursion and having set fire to a village, shot down eight men five of whom have since died. He was then brought handcuffed to Vizagapatnam. We do not know what part his cook, who accompanied him, took in this murderous affair. All that we know is that both were placed on their trial on Monday, for culpable homicide. And what was the result? Mr. Buckley was declared to be insane and acquitted. The Agent has referred the question to the Government for orders. It now remains for the Government to send Buckley to England at the expense of the Indian rate-payers and put him there in a madhouse. Perhaps Buckley might then one day run away from confinement and sue the Government for damages.

ABOUT fifty kinds of bark are used in the manufacture of paper.

A NOTABLE feat of horsemanship has been performed by Major Siva Singh, an aide-de-camp of the Maharaja of Patiala, who rode from Patiala to Kalka in about three hours.

It is said that a room may be quickly freed from the smell of tobacco smoke by placing in it a pail of water containing a handful of hay, which will absorb all the odour of the tobacco.

THE Prince of Wales possesses a remarkable pigeon. His Royal Highness's bird, so it was stated at the committee meeting of the National Flying Club, won the great race of 500 miles from Lerwick to Sandringham.—*Tribune*.

FUNDS have been allotted for the construction of the new Rangoon College, on the grounds adjoining the present building, at a total cost of about three lakhs.

THE King of Italy is a total abstainer, and the Grand Duke of Baden is fostering the movement on behalf of the use of non-intoxicating beverages. Some of the wineries in South Italy are giving up making fermented wines for other drinks which have a readier sale.

ABOUT four millions of false teeth are manufactured in the United States every year, and it has been calculated that the dentists in that country pack away about a ton of gold and three times that weight of silver and platinum into the teeth of their patients, the value of the metal being estimated at £200,000.

OWING to the great demand on their stock of carriages, saloons and first, second, and third-class compartments, in order to supply the seventeen troop specials conveying troops, mules, and stores, from the Punjab to Bombay and Calcutta for South Africa, the East Indian Railway authorities have had to refuse a string of applications for reserved accommodation on their line. The ordinary train service has in no way suffered, but the company are unable to supply reserved accommodation of any sort, under any conditions.

ON Monday some suspicious cases of fever occurred in Kolahore, and orders were immediately issued for the removal of all the people of the street to quarantine camps at Kini and Shinol (fifteen and twenty miles distant). The people who were ordered out refused to go. The excitement was great and thousands of people at once repaired to the place of the Maharaja to seek relief. He was out shooting at the time, but, on his return, went into the town among the people, and assured them that he would intervene in their behalf. Quiet was thus restored, and business was resumed, the refusal having taken the form of the bazar refusing to do business.

Calcutta and Mofussil.
THE CHIEF PRESIDENCY MAGISTRATE.—Mr. W.A. Bonnard, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, and as Judge of the Marine Court during the absence on leave of Mr. T.A. Pearson.

AN EARLY WINTER.—Information from Cachar states that there is every indication of an early cold weather in Cachar. In point of fact, the correspondent says that he never remembers weather like it in September. On the morning of the 18th, it is said to have been bright and clear, with the thermometer at 8 degrees.

SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE.—A smart shock of earthquake was felt on the 12th instant at Dinajpur at a quarter to ten o'clock. The shock was preceded by a low rumbling sound, and lasted between two to four seconds. A smart shock of earthquake was also felt at Cooch Behar on Sunday last at 9-30 P.M.

CALCUTTA S. P. C. A.—The Calcutta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals prosecuted 769 cases during the months of August 1899, resulting in 759 convictions with fines amounting to Rs. 1,628-8. The number of horses brought up were 406; bullocks 421; buffaloes 1; cows milked by *Phuka* 5; and fowls cruelly treated 24.

TRANSPORTATION FOR LIFE.—On Friday at the Alipore Criminal Sessions before Mr. Geidt, the Additional District and Sessions Judge, an old Hindoo offender, was charged with having committed theft in a house at Baliahatia. The accused confessed his guilt and the Judge sentenced him to transportation for life.

ZEMINDARY OPPRESSION.—On Friday before Baboo M. N. Gupta, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, Baboo Hiran Chandra Chowdhry, a Zemindar of Joynagore and his Gomosta were charged with criminal trespass, assault and technical theft. The Magistrate found both the accused guilty and sentenced them to two months' rigorous imprisonment.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAY.—The approximate earnings of this Railway for the week ending 9th September 1899, were: Coaching, Rs. 1,146; Goods, Rs. 170; Miscellaneous, Rs. 4. Total Rs. 1,320 or Rs. 44 per open mile. In the corresponding week of the previous year the total earnings were Rs. 1,257 or Rs. 55 per open mile. Total for 10 weeks from 1st July 1899, Rs. 12,697 as compared with Rs. 15,599, total for corresponding 10 weeks of 1898.

DACOITS.—Dacoits and thieves are going about Mozufferpore, writes the *Behar Herald*, in the guise of *sedhus* and *fakirs*, causing no end of trouble to the people. At day time they go about begging from door to door and at night enter people's houses. They are a desperate lot; even the police dare not touch them. The other day, some of them entered the jail putting a ladder against the outer wall of the jail and made away with *durries*, coats, and other articles intended for the prisoners. For all the investigation and searches made, not one of them has been caught yet. In spite of the vigilance of the police, these "merry" men are entering, on an average, fifteen or sixteen houses every night.

A NOVEL ROBBERY.—On Thursday Court Inspector B. B. Singh charged a respectable-looking young man of Rajshaye before Maulvi Seraj-ul-Hug, Police Magistrate of Alipore, with having attempted to rob a woman of Bhowanipore by administering Chloroform to her. Accused, it appears, visited the woman on the evening of Monday last and represented himself as a big official of the Maharaja of Natore, residing in the Rajbati at Ballingunge. After a while, when the accused was trying secretly to administer Chloroform from a small phial, the woman getting set off his design informed the local Police. Inspector A. T. Ghose promptly went to the spot and arrested the accused with the phial of Chloroform. Subsequently it transpired that he had similarly administered chloroform to two other women of Chitpore and robbed them of all they had. The trial is proceeding.

VICIOUS ELEPHANTS.—There seems to be a number of vicious elephants on the south borders of Mysore and several people have been chased and killed by them. The following is related by a correspondent from Coorg:—"One pair—one a very large animal and the other a small and somewhat deformed animal—frequenting the Coorg Reserve forests, along the Mysore border between the Cauver and the Trunk road leading from Sidapur to Mysore were particularly vicious. A local sportsman (whom we will call G. P. T.) had rather a narrow shave from the smaller animal. Having been granted a free license to shoot either, he succeeded in bringing down the large one in a very dense scrub bamboo jungle just as the brute was preparing to charge, but the animal recovered his legs and made off; tracking him up some days afterwards, the tracks led across the frontier into Mysore territory, when suddenly out of some very thick jungle an elephant charged, and was right upon G.P.T., only giving him a chance of a snap-shot. This, however, took effect. In fact both barrels of the heavy rifle exploded simultaneously (the recoil of the right barrel setting off the left). The elephant went over, and so did our friend G.P.T. The elephant, on examination, proved to be slightly deformed, suffering from old injuries to both near foreleg and off forefoot, and tallies exactly with the prescribed Dod-Harava Rogue, for whom the Mysore Government have offered a reward. Soon after the rogue fell another elephant rushed right up to within seven paces of the fallen elephant, and then made off again, much to the relief of G. P. T., who was at the time boxed up with a jammed cartridge, his trackers at the first alarm making themselves scarce and taking the spare rifle with them. There are several more vicious elephants about, which ought to be shot, as they are sure to catch somebody. It takes a smart elephant, as a rule, to catch the wily Kuruber, who at catchweights over a short course can make a race of it at climbing up a squirrel. But they lose their heads at times or are caught at a disadvantage, poor beggars! It's 'Dead for a ducal,' stumped, and no appeal.—*Mysore Standard*.

QUARANTINE.—The regulations under the Venice Sanitary Convention are now imposed at all ports in the Madras Presidency against arrivals from Portuguese ports in Europe.

A NEW MUNICIPALITY.—The Calcutta Port Commissioners have agreed to the proposal to form a municipality at Budge-Budge, with a view specially to remedy the insanitary conditions which at present prevail there.

TEA EXPORT.—The total amount of tea exported to Great Britain from Calcutta in August last was 16,346,809 lbs. as compared with 21,516,364 in the previous year. The total sailings from 1st April to 31st August were 53,092,525 lbs. compared with 49,021,578 lbs. in 1898.

THE RANEEGUNGE MURDER CASE.—The Judge with the jury went to RaneeGUNGE by the Bombay mail on Wednesday and inspected the several places of the Paper Mill, specially referred to in the evidence and came back by the return Bombay mail. The Government pleader represented the prosecution. No evidence was taken. Mr. Chatterjee, Counsel for the defence, owing to an accident, could not be present at the inspection, but went to the place later on after the inspection had been concluded by the Judge and jury.

THE RAJSHAYE KIDNAPING CASE.—The judgment in the above sensational case in which a woman named Nagendrabala, and a few others stood charged with having kidnapped a girl, 3 years old, was delivered on Monday last by Mr. Ratnay, Deputy Magistrate of Rajshaye. Nagendrabala has been convicted and sentenced to undergo one year's rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 500, which will be paid to the complainant. The male accused have been sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment each. The Rajshaye public have gone mad over this case. (Communicated.)

FALSE PERSONATION.—An ingenious case of false personation took place a little over a week ago, at the village of Bowhara, in the Sub-division of Hajipore. A Mahomedan lady of means died, leaving two daughters and a sister. According to Mahomedan law, the property of the deceased would devolve upon the daughters and the sister. The husband of one of the daughters, in order to secure the entire property to his own wife, suppressed the fact of the death of the lady by concealing the dead body for nearly 3 days in the house without burial and got executed a *Hiba* in respect of the whole property at the Sub-divisionary of Mohut, by passing off another woman at his mother-in-law. The fact got wind, and the offenders were caught just as they had reached the village after the registration of the deed. The dead body, which was in an advanced state of decomposition by that time and was throwing up strong stench, was then removed and buried. The case is being enquired into by the Police. (Behar Herald.)

BROTHER VS. SISTER.—A funny case between brother and sister is impending before Babu Gopi Nath Mathey, first Subordinate Judge of Patna. It is an offshoot of a criminal prosecution in which Miss Katharine Shea figured as complainant and her brother Mr. John Edward Shea as accused before the Cantonment Magistrate of Dinapore, some months ago. That case, our readers may remember, arose out of some threatening letters from the brother to the sister commanding her not to have anything to do with one Mrs. Turner and her people and not to marry a certain gentleman with whom she was alleged to have fallen in love after an acquaintance of only forty-eight hours. Major Watson, while dismissing the case, warned the brother not to write such letters again. The offended brother now claims damage for malicious prosecution from his sister in the Civil Court. The amount claimed, we hear, is about Rs. 2,500—including counsel's fees, &c. After taking down the examination-in-chief of the plaintiff, the Sub-Judge postponed the case asking the parties to settle the matter amicably if possible. (Behar Herald.)

THE "ANANDA BAZAR" CASE.—Says the Lucknow Advocate:—It is a matter of sincere regret to us to find people devoted to one common cause, should waste their energy in petty fights. Without taking sides as to the present case, we must say that Mr. Kaliprasanna of *Hitabadi* acted very unwisely in going to the court against the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* people. We have not read the articles containing the alleged defamation, but we know the columns of the *Hitabadi* were not free from personalities. Hence our advice would be to allow these disgraceful incidents to be dropped. We are told the conductors of the vernacular edition of the *Patrika* known as the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* were lately contemplating the idea of filing a suit of defamation against the *Hitabadi*; and Mr. Kabyabisharad took the wind out of their sail by filing such a case himself against Babu Shishir Kumar Ghosh, Motilal Ghosh, Golab Lal Ghosh, Minal Kanti Ghosh, and Piyush Kanti Ghosh—all members of one and the same family: the first three gentlemen are brothers, the fourth is a son of Mr. Shishir Kumar and is student of the Metropolitan Institution. Babu Shishir Kumar has retired from the world and is devoting his life in the contemplation of God. Babu Matilal is in practical charge of the papers, and Babu Minal Kanti is Manager of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*. The printer, Kesab Lal Roy, is also one of the accused. It is alleged that in certain issues of the vernacular paper, the complainant was defamed. Hence the case. On the first day of hearing some of the accused asked permission to be represented by agents. This was allowed. Next day Babu Kabyabisharad moved the District Magistrate of Alipore to cancel the order of the lower court to allow some of the accused to appear by proxy and also to remove the case to the file of the Magistrate himself. Both the applications were rejected. The next day of hearing was fixed on Thursday; when the case being resumed the complainant did not put in his appearance. The Magistrate waited for some time and then called for the complainant. He being even then absent, the case was struck off the file and the accused discharged. The complainant turned up after some time to read the fate of the case in the order. We hoped this disgraceful affair ended here. But on Friday morning the Magistrate was moved to issue a rule upon the trying Deputy Magistrate, why his order for dismissal of the case should not be cancelled.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.—Second grade Assistant Engineer E. Blaber has been made a permanent first grade Assistant Engineer. Second grade Executive Engineers, C. A. White and B. K. Finnimore, have also been promoted to be permanent first grade Executive Engineers.

END OF THE "RESOLUTE" DISASTER.—Mr. Skinner, the Hooghly Pilot, who was tried by Mr. Geidt, the Officiating Additional District and Sessions Judge of Alipore and a jury, for so rashly navigating the *S. S. Scindia* on the 14th of August last, in the Diamond Harbour reach, that he collided with and sunk the survey steamer *Resolute*, has been unanimously found not guilty and acquitted.

A QUEER SNAKE STORY.—Information has reached our twin paper, the *Times of Arabia*, the newly-started vernacular paper in this town, that there lives a family in Zawbaza village, Umbari Circle, Akyab township, of one of whom, Mr. Bandug by name, the following uncanny tale is related: It appears that whilst reposing at night, some time back, a snake came and drained milk off her in her sleep. On waking, in her fright she screamed for assistance and the snake, frightened by her cries, crept away in the surrounding darkness. The next night her relatives, anxious to investigate the truth or otherwise of this remarkable story, were informed, kept a close watch. They were rewarded, we believe, by seeing the identical reptile, creeping towards its foster-mother, when frightened by the unusual assembly of people, it disappeared like a streak of lightning. (Arabian Times.)

THE PORT OF CHITTAGONG.—A Resolution on the administration report of the Commissioners of the Port of Chittagong for the year 1898-99, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* states that the expenditure during the year had been Rs. 59,157-14-11 and at the close there was balance of Rs. 31,708-14-3 in hand. The number and tonnage of the vessels which visited the port during the year was as follows:—European vessels trading with foreign ports: Entered 16, tonnage 26,646; cleared 15, tonnage 28,040. British Indian vessels trading with foreign ports: Entered 3, tonnage 434. Vessels trading with Home ports: Entered 484, tonnage 1,71,604; cleared 486, tonnage 1,69,990. The total value of the foreign trade during the year is stated to be Rs. 68,25,931, of which Rs. 10,24,135 is under imports. There is a decrease of Rs. 73,24,418 in the value of the trade as compared with that of the previous year. The largest decrease was in the importation of oils, railway material and salt, and in the export of jute. The only marked increase was in the exportation of rice to Trinidad, the Mauritius, and Rio de Janeiro. The total value of the coasting trade is given at Rs. 1,46,36,197 against Rs. 1,59,76,095 of the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 13,40,498. The decrease is due partly to the import of smaller quantities of rice, owing to a good local crop in the past year, but mainly to increased export of jute from Chanderpur to Calcutta; to a smaller importation of spices from Calcutta in consequence of the local crop in the past year having been good, and as regards exports, mainly to a large decrease in the shipments of specie to Calcutta and Rangoon, and partly to smaller shipments of cotton, due to a full local crop. The appliances of the port and the light-houses are reported to have been kept in good order during the year. The earnings of the steamer *Gekko*, maintained by the port, amounted to Rs. 14,296-12, while the expenditure on maintaining the vessel aggregated Rs. 16,936-13-7, and the net earnings on account of the vessel were Rs. 3,356-14-5. The general health of the shipping in the port was good. Sixty-seven seamen, were admitted into hospital against 88 of the previous year, of whom 53 were cured, two were still under treatment, and 12 discharged after receiving treatment. The working of the Pilot Service during the year was satisfactory. There was only one accident to a vessel in pilotage charge during the year.

A POLICE OFFICER CONVICTED.—Our Gaya correspondent writes:—A very sensational assault case has just been disposed of by Moulay Subhan Ali Khan, a local Deputy Magistrate. It is sensational because an ordinary *Kahar* was the complainant, while the accused is a police officer. The facts are these:—One Akula Kahar, a convict, was under police surveillance. As usual the police used to go to his house every night to see whether he was in his house or not. One night, Girwar, Singh, the town Head Constable, together with a few Constables took him to the riverside and roughly handled him. It so happened that the house of the first Munsiff was close by the scene of occurrence. He was awakened by the cries and shrieks of the man. He recognised the voice of the Head Constable and he was told that the police were beating the man. The next day the mother of the complainant went to have a petition of complaint drafted, but no Mukhtar would agree to do this. At last, however, a complaint was lodged. A Deputy Magistrate enquired into the case and reported it as true. When the case was opened, the Head Constable procured the services of two of the foremost criminal practitioners from the local Bar, besides a number of Mukhtars to defend him. While, on the other side, there were only 2 or 3 ordinary Mukhtars. The accused pleaded *alibi*, but the evidence of the Munsiff was too strong against him. The court-house and the compound were crowded to suffocation so long as the case lasted and the mob was so anxious that the efforts of the police were insufficient to disperse them. Judgment was delivered in the afternoon of the 12th September, sentencing the accused to rigorous imprisonment for 3 months. The prisoner was not taken to the lock-up as is done in other cases, but he was allowed to take his seat in the office-room of the Court on Sub-Inspector. An application was made at once to the District Magistrate for bail, but as the judgment was not ready, the Head Constable refused to pass any orders. The *dicca ghar* on the 14th September, an appeal was preferred against the order of conviction before the District Magistrate, Mr. Oldham, and a prayer for bail was also made at the same time. Mr. Oldham rejected the application for bail and fixed the hearing of the appeal for the next day, the 15th instant. The accused and his friends engaged the services of Mr. Gregory, of the Calcutta Bar, who had come here in another case to argue the appeal. Mr. Gregory argued the appeal very ably and the result was that Mr. Oldham delivered judgment on the 19th instant, reducing the sentence to one month only.

MEDICAL.—Dr. P. R. Hay Jagannadham, Civil Medical Officer of Serampore, has been allowed privilege leave for six weeks, and Military Assistant Surgeon M. E. Mungavin has been appointed to act as Civil Medical Officer of Serampore, during his absence. Lieutenant-Colonel J. French-Mullen, I. M. S., Civil Surgeon of Rajshahi, has been appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Patna, Captain E. E. Waters, I. M. S., Officiating Superintendent of the Presidency Jail, has been temporarily appointed, to be in charge of the current duties of the office of Second Resident Surgeon, Presidency General Hospital, in addition to his own duties.

WEATHER AND CROP PROSPECTS.—The general rain during the week has been very beneficial to the winter rice crop. The winter rice crop in all the Divisions except Orissa, and Chota Nagpur is reported to be good, and if only there are good *hathiya* rains, the crop in Bihar will be very satisfactory. The reports from Orissa and Chota Nagpur are better, but more rain is still required there and in the west of the Burdwan Division. The harvesting of the autumn crops is almost at an end. The cutting and steeping of jute is still going on. No important change in the price of common rice is reported. There is some cattle disease in a few districts. Fodder is everywhere sufficient.

A YOGI.—A Hata Yogi is, says the *Advocate*, the centre of attraction at Lucknow since last week. A Bengal resident of Benares named Babu Pooran Charan Chatterjee has brought the Yogi from Benares. He is said to be over 300 years old, who once belonged to these parts, but migrated to Kamrup from where he was brought by a *radhu* up to Allahabad. We saw him the other morning in the house of Lala Sheo Narain, close to the temple of Sidh Nath Mahadeo, and attempted to have a talk with him but he expressed unwillingness to speak. The left hand of the Yogi is almost dried up, the nails four inches in length, having become rickety; the right hand remains on the right breast and is constantly moving; the face and the hairs are those of a man of 90 years. He cannot be placed in a sitting posture. It is said he is given milk and fruit twice in 24 hours, for which he never expresses any desire. It is needless to say that hundreds of people flock to the Yogi with numerous presents.

MASTER STRIPES ON THE WAR-PATH.—A correspondent writing from Taljuri, Manbhoom says:—A large tiger has made its appearance in the neighbourhood and is committing great havoc among the livestock of the people. One day the people of the village mustered strong and went to fight it out with their common enemy. They could not cope with the beast as they were not armed except with what nature had endowed them with, and may be, a few harmless *lathies*. Of this valiant batch sixteen will remember their adventure for many a day to come, because they were all mangled more or less. Two of them were bolder than the others and had to pay dearly for their temerity. The skull of one has been badly cracked in a hand-to-hand fight, while the other had his hand badly bitten. He caught the monster by the throat by one hand and with the other showered blows on its head. But as fate would have it the hand missed its mark once and fell into the gaping mouth of the tiger. Hence the bite. Now Master Stripes has grown more aggressive than ever. Here is a fine day's sport for a true *shikari*.

THE ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA DEFAMATION CASE.

HEARING OF THE RULE.—The rule issued on the application of the complainant in this case calling upon the accused to show cause why there should not be further enquiry into the case, came on for hearing on Friday, before Mr. Allen, District Magistrate of the 24-Pergannas. It will be remembered that when the case was called on for hearing on the 14th instant before Mr. Matilal Seraj-ul-Huq, Suburban Police Magistrate of Alipore, the complainant did not appear and the Magistrate after waiting for him for some time discharged the accused under Section 259, Cr. P. C. Against this order the complainant moved the District Magistrate on the grounds (1) that the Suburban Police Magistrate had made a wrong exercise of his discretion in discharging the accused, and (2) that the Suburban Police Magistrate should have adjourned the case for a short time before passing any order of discharge. This prayer was supported by an affidavit sworn to by the complainant himself, in which it was stated that he was under the impression that the case would be adjourned on the 14th instant and that he was late in coming because he could not secure counsel earlier. A counter-affidavit meeting most of the grounds in the above petition was sworn to by the Muktar of the accused.

Babu Hemendra Nath Mitter appeared in support of the rule.

Messrs. P. L. Roy, K. N. Sengupta and B. C. Mitter, instructed by Babus Upendra Chandra Brahma and Bonomali Ghose, pleaders, appeared to show cause.

Mr. Allen: Where is the alleged defamatory article published? In the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*.

Mr. Allen: The article, that is marked, headed "Why bengali papers are unreadable?"

Pleader: Yes, that is the article. We have given a translation of it. There is another article.

Mr. Roy: It is their translation and not an authorised translation. I shall show that it contains many incorrect things.

Mr. Allen: The other alleged defamatory article is that headed "A Conference of the Bengali Editors?"

Mr. Roy: It is merely a skit.

Mr. Allen: Yes, I see.

Pleader: The editor of the "Hitabadi" has been caricatured in this article.

Mr. Allen: The facts are that on the 1st instant the complaint was filed, the case was fixed for the 14th and the complainant not being present when the case was called on, the accused were discharged on that day.

Pleader: Yes, but the Magistrate wrongly exercised the discretion given to him under section 259. A petition was made immediately stating the reasons for the delay of the complainant in coming to court; but as the Magistrate had no power to revise his own order, he could not do so. If he had known the reasons, I am sure, he would not have struck off the case.

Babu Hemendra Nath then referred to the affidavit sworn to by his client. In it the complainant had stated that on the 13th September, his counsel, Mr. Buckland, wrote to Mr. P. L. Roy, counsel for the accused, telling him to ask his pleader to make an application for adjournment, that Mr. Buckland's pleader would consent to it, and that the complainant was informed that Mr. Roy had consented to the postponement as desired by Mr. Buckland. His client, the pleader continued, was consequently under the impression that the case would not be heard that day.

Mr. Allen: You did not appear because you understood that the case would be adjourned that day and because you took time in engaging counsel; but you knew that the case was fixed for that day.

Pleader: Yes, we knew that, but we were late by five minutes only.

Mr. Allen: You should have come in time.

Babu Hemendranath observed that the business of the Suburban Police Court did not ordinarily commence before noon and that the complainant came at 11-45 under the impression that the case would not be taken up before noon. But the proceedings in this case were hurried through. The Suburban Magistrate should have waited some time more. It was altogether a case of wrong exercise of discretion given to the Magistrate under section 259; and the pleader asked the Court to set aside that order and direct further hearing.

Mr. Roy in showing cause said he found in the petition of the complainant that there were prayers for further enquiry as well as for transfer, but he understood that the rule was only for further enquiry and not for transfer.

Mr. Roy observed that section 437 had no application to the present case. There could not be any further enquiry into a case in which there had not been any enquiry at all.

In this case no enquiry had taken place according to the definition of trial, which he quoted, as given in a case decided by the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Banerjee, and he therefore submitted there could not be a further enquiry in this case.

The Magistrate observed how was it then that further enquiry was ordered in a case dismissed under section 203?

Mr. Roy said there was a special provision for that.

Mr. Allen: But it was the practice of Mofussil Courts to order further enquiry, if necessary, in a case struck off under section 259.

Mr. Roy said that might be, but that should not prevent him from placing his arguments on this point before the Court.

Continuing his argument, Mr. Roy observed that under the revisional jurisdiction given under section 435 the Court might call for the record of a case for the purpose of satisfying itself as to the correctness, legality or propriety of any order passed by an inferior court and as to the regularity of any proceedings of such Court. Counsel would satisfy the Court that the order passed in the case was correct and legal and that the proceedings were regular. The statements upon which this rule had been obtained were mostly incorrect and some of them absolutely untrue. The affidavit sworn to on their behalf would point out the inaccuracies and untruths in the statement made by the other side. Before he referred to them, counsel wished to point out that the revisional powers given by the section should be exercised only in those cases where there was no other remedy for the alleged wrong done to the complainant. In the present case the complainant had his remedy in the civil court. His object in coming to Court character cleared from the alleged libel. If that was so he could have an adequate remedy in the Civil Court, and this Court should not exercise its revisional jurisdiction when the case had been struck off through the complainant's fault. On the 2nd September last this Kabyabisharad, who edited a vernacular paper, was called upon by the Court to furnish it with the English translation of the articles he complained against, as the Magistrate was not probably familiar with the language in which the articles appeared. It was said that he himself sat down then and there and did the translation. Counsel would shew how incorrect and misleading the translations were. On the 11th September he, counsel, had appeared on behalf of four of the accused persons and applied for their exemption from personal attendance on the ground that Babu Shishir Kumar Ghose was an old man of 60, who had retired from business life, and was living as a religious recluse at Deoghur, while Babu Matilal Ghose was in indifferent health and had to look after the editing of a daily paper, Babu Golap Lal Ghose had to manage a daily paper and the fourth accused Piyush Kanti was a mere boy preparing himself for the next B. A. Examination. All these grounds they had left out from their affidavit. By including a man of 60 years and a boy who was reading in the college, who stood in the relation of father and son, among the accused persons, complainant had only shown his vindictiveness in this matter; and with a view to prevent his vindictiveness from being known, he avoided all references to these grounds in his affidavit. When he, Mr. Roy, was applying to the Magistrate for the exemption of his clients' attendance, the pleader for the complainant stood up and vehemently opposed his application.

Pleader: I did not oppose the application for exemption. I opposed it only when you referred to many irrelevant things.

Mr. Roy: I am very sorry that I am to contradict the learned pleader. This will create unpleasantness. I say it was opposed and I have the most distinct recollection that it was opposed. They also made that matter a ground of transfer. The pleader will remember that he referred to the Peshkar in this connection. Will the learned pleader deny it?

Pleader: I asked the Court to file the petition and put it up for order on the 14th.

Mr. Allen: You say that the pleader opposed the application.

Mr. Roy: Yes, he did.

Pleader: Even if I had done so, I had no instructions from the complainant. It cannot be said that the complainant did it.

Mr. Roy: But the order upon that application was made the ground for his application for transfer.

Counsel continuing observed that on the 11th he applied to the Magistrate that the case might be taken up on the 16th. The complainant's pleader objected to this, and the Magistrate rejected Mr. Roy's prayer on the ground that it was the only case fixed for the 14th. The complainant's pleader knew all this, moreover in the summons

the time of appearance had been fixed at 10 o'clock and the complainant certainly knew that. Their own statement was that they came to Court at 11-45. The Magistrate however recorded 11-45 as the time when the case was struck off and as the case was struck off in the absence of the complainant it could not be said that the complainant had come to court at 11-45. The Court would certainly give preference to the Magistrate's statement.

Then as regards the incident referred to in complainant's affidavit regarding Mr. Roy's consent given to Mr. Buckland for the adjournment of the case till after the Pujah vacation, counsel observed that what took place was this: On the 12th instant Mr. Buckland asked Mr. Roy if he had any objection to the case standing over till after the Pujah vacation. Mr. Roy said personally he had no objection and he believed that his clients would have no objection to the proposed arrangement. Thereupon Mr. Buckland asked Mr. Roy to write to him a letter to that effect, and at 5-30 P. M. of the same day he received a letter from Mr. Buckland asking him to leave a letter for him with the Head Clerk of the Bar Library in case he had no objection to the proposed arrangement for a postponement; but Mr. Roy on thinking over the matter considered it advisable to obtain the written consent of his clients before giving a reply to the said letter, and he accordingly on the same day wrote a letter to Babu Matilal Ghose asking him whether he would consent to the said proposed arrangement, but no reply came to that letter; and as on the next morning at 8 A. M. he saw one of the men connected with the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" Press who had come to his house, who told him that the said Babu Matilal Ghose would not consent to any postponement, Mr. Roy therefore gave no answer to Mr. Buckland's letter of the 12th instant and intended to inform Mr. Buckland in Court of the fact, but on coming to Court on the said day he received the annexed letter from Mr. Buckland, but was not able to communicate to him his clients' unwillingness to consent to any postponement because Mr. Buckland had already left the Bar Library and Mr. Roy was not aware of his private address.

Counsel observed that they could, on no account, say that it had been definitely settled that there would be an adjournment on the 14th. The conduct of the complainant would show that he, at least, had no such impression. If he knew that the case would be postponed what on earth made him to engage counsel on that day. The portion in the affidavit referring to Mr. B. Mitter was also untrue. Mr. Mitter was there and the Court might ask him what really took place on that day. The affidavit was sworn to by the complainant who was not present in Court at all. Mr. Mitter would tell the Court that when the case was called on the complainant was not there, that the Magistrate waited for some time and that again the complainant was called, but he did not appear. What should he do then? Should he wait the whole day for the complainant?

Mr. Allen: It cannot be argued that the Magistrate was wrong.

Mr. Roy: If he is not wrong then it is an order which in no sense of the word can come under section 435. The Court can call for the record to satisfy itself as to the correctness and legality of the order. It is a perfectly correct order and it is legal also. The only question is as regards its propriety.

Continuing counsel observed that the Court should exercise the powers given under the revision section only when there was a manifest injustice done. The intention of the legislature was that the power thus given was now to be exercised unless the justice of the case absolutely required it, otherwise no Court would use the power of revision and order further enquiry.

Mr. Roy next pointed out that the prosecution was a vindictive one. Five members in the same family had been made accused in the case. When the accused applied for exemption from their personal attendance on very strong grounds, the complainant's pleader opposed the application. He made this the only ground for transfer, and lastly, he applied for search warrants. In the complainant's affidavit he had made certain statements which were untrue and this was obviously done with a view to hoodwink the Court. That affidavit was made by Kaliprasanna who was not present in court and Mr. Roy submitted that, under the circumstances, it should be expunged from the record. The prosecution, counsel continued, was not only a vindictive one but was based upon information which was not true. In the first place the object of the articles was not to vilify any person or any journal but to express sorrow at the fall of the Vernacular Press, and to suggest means for bettering their tone. In the next place the translations made and filed in Court by the complainant were full of inaccuracies. Mr. Roy selected at random one passage, which was a subject-matter of the charge. The complainant in his translation gave it a very objectionable meaning, but according to an authorised translator, it bore no such meaning. Mr. Roy asked the Magistrate to compare the translations with the original in Bengali as his Honour understood the language, and to determine which translation was correct.

The Magistrate did so and said that the plain and obvious meaning of the paragraph was that given in the translation furnished by Mr. Roy.

In conclusion, Mr. Roy observed that that was not a case in which the Court should exercise its revisional powers. First, if the complainant thought that there was any reflection on his character he had his remedy in the Civil Court, and secondly it had been shown that the case was instituted out of vindictive motives. The Magistrate in discharging the accused had properly exercised his discretion and Mr. Roy was strongly of opinion that no case had been made out for the interference of that Court inasmuch as the order of the Police Magistrate was correct, legal and, under the circumstances he had stated, proper, and no manifest injustice would be done to the complainant if the Court refused to interfere.

Babu Hemendra Nath Mitter was heard in reply. Judgment would be delivered later on.

The great success of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the treatment of bowel-complaints has made it stand far over the greater part of the civilized world for sale by.

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

TELEGRAMS.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, SEPT. 19.

A force of twelve hundred troops has been despatched from Cape Town to Kimberley.

LONDON, SEPT. 19.

Her Majesty's cruiser, Terrible has sailed for China to relieve the Powerful. Both are ordered to go, vide the Cape.

LONDON, SEPT. 19.

The Minister of Defence at Melbourne has ordered a list to be opened for the enrolment of Volunteers for the Transvaal.

LONDON, SEPT. 19.

The death is announced of Senator Scheurer-Kestner, the earliest prominent Dreyfusard.

LONDON, SEPT. 19.

The Emperor William has conferred the Grand Cross of the Red Eagle on Marquis Magata.

LONDON, SEPT. 20.

The steamer Oratava, has left Melbourne with 65,000 sovereigns for India.

PARIS, SEPT. 20.

M. Guérin has been arrested, but his companions were released.

PARIS, SEPT. 20.

Captain Dreyfus has left Nantes by the Bordeaux train.

LONDON, SEPT. 21.

Captain Dreyfus is staying with some of his relatives at Carpentras in the department of Vaucluse.

LONDON, SEPT. 21.

General Gallifet, Minister of War, has issued an order to the army declaring that the Dreyfus incident is closed, and ordering it to be forgotten.

The General in his order says:—We all bow equally to the verdict passed by the Court at Rennes, as well as to the pardon tendered by President Loubet, and the idea of reprisal is no longer possible.

At a meeting of the Afrikaner members of the Cape Parliament, a message was telegraphed to Mr. Kruger appreciating the concessions he had made, but urging him to do his utmost, short of sacrificing the independence of the Transvaal, to avert war, and recommending his acceptance of the Joint Commission of Enquiry which the Afrikaners believed, would solve the existing difficulties and avert a crisis, the result whereof might threaten not only the Transvaal and the Free State brethren but the Afrikaner party in Cape Colony.

Mr. Kruger, in reply, said the Transvaal had accepted the Joint Commission of Enquiry and he warmly thanks the Afrikaners for their pacific effort which, he hopes, will not be fruitless.

Sir Alfred Milner has telegraphed to President Steyn that the movement of British troops northward is not directed against the Free State, nor is it due to any anxiety concerning the intention of the Free State. "Her Majesty's Government," he adds, "looks to the Free State to preserve a strict neutrality, and gives its formal assurance to strictly respect the integrity of the Free State." Sir Alfred says there is absolutely nothing to justify the disturbance of friendly relations between Great Britain and the Free State.

President Steyn, in replying, says he shares in the hopefulness that a friendly settlement will be arrived at, and does not see even now that force is the only solution of the Transvaal difficulty. He regrets the despatch of British troops to the frontier, and says that if, as is not improbable, the Free State Burgers regard the British preparations as a menace, and if unwished-for developments arise, the Free State Government will not be responsible.

LONDON, SEPT. 22.

A meeting of the Orange Free State Raad was held yesterday, when President Steyn virtually accused Great Britain of breach of faith, and said he was not inclined to advise the Transvaal to accept the latest British demands. The Orange Free State, he said, was bound by treaty to assist the Transvaal. The Raad afterwards held a secret session.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Commander-in-Chief has been indisposed for the last few days.

It is understood that it is practically decided to extend the broad-gauge railway from Peshawar to Jamrud.

The India Office has been asked to send three sets of Röntgen ray apparatus to South Africa for the use of the Indian field hospitals.

The Viceroy telegraphed Rs. 100 to Mrs. Hughes at Bombay towards the fund for providing books and games for soldiers on the transports.

OWING to the deficiency of grain crops, the Raja of Chumbha is prohibiting the selling of any grains outside of his State, and prices have gone up considerably.

THE Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces leaves Nagpur on Friday next, and after paying short visits to Hoshangabad and Jabulpore will reach Pachmarhi on Wednesday, the 27th.

IN Switzerland a death is attended by a custom which calls upon all charitable and Christian people to show their sympathy. A notice edged with a wide black line appears in the daily papers setting forth the day and hour when sympathisers must assemble before the house of the deceased. At the time named a little cloth-covered table supporting a good-sized jar is stood before the house—able, cloth, and jar all being of a sombre, ebony hue—and into the latter small mourning cards, bearing the name and address of their owners, are deposited. The day the funeral takes place is the day selected for the exhibition of the jar. No ladies are allowed to follow at a Swiss funeral.

AT last! The sea-serpent is reported to have made his appearance. Capt. Martin, of the New Zealand Shipping Company's, Opawa reports that on May 10, on the voyage to London, he came upon the real sea-serpent at Bishop's Rock. "The gentleman in question," he says, "was accompanied by his family, three of them." He passed the parent monster within twenty yards, and had him in view one hour. He was as much interested in the ship and sailors as they were in him. The length of the serpent was 40 feet over, and its apex was fully four feet from the surface. At first it looked like a floating cask, but on nearer approach it turned out to be one of the fins.

TELEGRAMS.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

(From our own Correspondent).

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SIMLA, SEPT. 21.

Here is the programme for the next meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council. The reports of the Select Committees on the Central Provinces Tenancy Bill and the Punjab Courts Bill. The Punjab Alienation Bill will be introduced. The Scotch Kirk Sessions Bill will be passed. An amendment Bill will be moved in this connection in accordance with a suggestion of the Bombay Government for the due proof of the constitution of that body in pursuance of the General Assembly at home.

SURVEY OF NEW RAILWAY LINES.

SIMLA, SEPT. 21.

The survey of the following proposed railway lines has been sanctioned to be undertaken by parties mentioned alongside:—Ait-kunch-Jalaun—Madhogurh, 55 miles by the Indian Midland Railway; Dholepur Bari, 50 miles, by the Indian-Midland Railway; Henzada Myauoung, 80 miles, by the Burma Railway; Dacca-Maimansingh State Line extensions, 254 miles, by the Eastern Bengal System of State Railways; Amritsar-Sarhali, 26 miles, by the Director-General of Railway Construction; Malekwal-Lyalpur, 100 miles, by the Director-General of Railway Construction; Morappur-Dharmapuri, 16 miles, by the Madras Railway; Kalkiri-Reychiti, 32 miles, by the South-Indian Railway; Allahabad-Faizabad, 100 miles, by the Director-General of Railway Construction; Khandwa-Akola, 150 miles, by the Director-General of Railway Construction; Salem-Shewaroy, 8 miles, by the Madras Railway; Mutla, by the East Indian Railway; Arsikere-Mangalore, 138 miles, by the Mysore Durbar.

ACQUITTAL OF MR. FALCKYTTER.

(From a Correspondent).

SILCHAR, SEPT. 22.

Mr. Falckytter was acquitted in spite of one of the two assessors finding him guilty.

CLOSING OF A PUBLIC ROAD.

The public road, which leads through the Cantonments from the Railway Station to the Kutchery and the northern parts of the town has been closed by the Officer Commanding for no valid reasons. Unless the Chief Commissioner orders the immediate removal of the obstruction, great will be the inconvenience to the public.

RELIEF WORKS IN BOMBAY.

SIMLA, SEPT. 22.

The weather and crop report states that there are now 22,000 persons on test and relief works in Bombay. There are 25,000 famine workers in the Hissar district in the Punjab, and about 9,000 persons are in receipt of relief in the Central Provinces. Test works have been opened for about 2,000 workers in the Berars, while the number of distressed persons in Rajputana now are—in Merwara 37,000, in Kanhar 1,800, and in Marwar 8,500. Nearly 14,000 persons have emigrated from Marwar during the week, and prospects in Rajputana are bad.

THE RANGOON OUTRAGE CASE.

RANGOON, SEPT. 22.

On application by the Government Advocate, the Recorder to-day stayed further proceedings against the remaining five accused in the outrage case.

Plague News.

BOMBAY RETURNS.

THE plague attacks on Thursday number 21 and plague deaths 10, the total mortality being 109. Last year it was 102, as compared with 117 in 1897.

POONA MORTALITY.

ON Thursday 75 cases and 62 deaths were recorded in the city, the total mortality being 69. In the Cantonment there were five cases, and four deaths, in the suburban area four cases and one death, and in the district 177 cases and 121 deaths.

FIGURES IN MYSORE.

THE returns of the Mysore Province for the week ending the 15th instant show an increase of 27 indigenous cases, and the number of places spread from 42 to 57. The disease is spreading in Dovingore. In the Chittaldurg district, which became infected recently, the people are evacuating their villages and are going into sheds outside. Inoculation is rapidly becoming popular, most of the orthodox people going in for the operation voluntarily. The figures in the Bangalore Cantonment were 2, Bangalore dist 1078, Mysore city 1 case and 1 death, Mysore district 46 cases and 16 deaths. Kolar district 36 cases and 31 deaths, Tumkur district two cases and four deaths, Chittaldurg district 20 cases and 13 deaths. Total 101 cases and 138 deaths against 156 cases and 125 deaths in the previous week. Since the first appearance of disease there have been 200,705 cases and 16,955 deaths.

THE Mussoorie Fine Arts Exhibition will be opened by Sir Bindon Blood next Monday. Those who have had private views of intending exhibits declare that the show will be well worth seeing.

THE cheapest postal service in the world is that of Japan, where for two sen—about seven tenths of a penny—letter are conveyed, all over the empire. This is the more remarkable when one considers the difficulties of transit over a mountainous and irregular country, where the railway is still in its infancy, and where wagons can only pass over some of the principal roads, and only a few of the coast stations are connected by steamers.

MR. HAKLAN SMITH, a representative of the Museum of Natural History and Hieroglyphics, who is now on a research expedition in British Columbia, reports the discovery in a sealed cave on the shores of Harrison Lake of the mummy of an Indian chieftain in perfect completeness, and identical in preservation with the ancient Egyptian mummies. Mr. Smith believes that his Indian mummy is over 1,000 years old. He has shipped it for New York.

THE TOWN HALL MEETING.

THE third Town Hall meeting to protest against the Calcutta Municipal Bill was held last evening. The object of the meeting was two-fold; in the first place, it was to enter an emphatic but respectful protest against the action of the Government of India in connection with the measure; and, in the next place, to express the approval of the recent resignation of the 28 elected Commissioners of their seats on the Corporation. It was an irony of fate which led the inhabitants of Calcutta to protest against the orders of that Government, to pray to the honoured head of which they had assembled at the same place some five months before. The position of the rate-payers with regard to the measure had since grown gloomier and the necessity and utility of the present meeting was dwelt upon by more than one speaker, every one of whom pointed out that if there was any time for action, it was the present and if the agitation was kept on and carried in a proper way, great good was sure to ensue. According to Mr. A.M. Bose, the fight had only commenced and as justice was on the side of the people, their cause is sure to triumph in the long run. In short if there was any immediate result of the meeting it was this, that the rate-payers who had come in such large numbers and who, when they came, were all of opinion that the present meeting was only another attempt at hoping against hope—a mere cry in the wilderness, would go away with the conviction that there was still hope—hope which must in the course of events be realised. What if there was nothing to expect from the Government of Bengal, what if there was nothing to expect from the Government of India and in this there was difference of opinion for according to some, Lord Curzon had misunderstood the whole question and who if only made acquainted with the true state of things, would not be found wanting to redeem that promise which he had on more than one occasion made to the people, viz, that he would never "act in contravention of the broad principles of local self-government, what if there was nothing to hope for from the Secretary of State for India or even from the British Parliament—there was still that palladium of justice, the bar of British public opinion. The arguments used at the meeting against the present measure have very many times found expression both on the platform and in the press; but those who heard the dispassionate eloquence of Mr. N. N. Ghose, every one of whose words came out and hit like bullets, the burning and fiery speech of the Hon'ble. Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, whose pathetic reference to his connection with a ceremony which would end in the total extinction of local self-government could not but strike every one, the calm and placid but scathingly satirical speech of that fearless speaker—Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose—and the lofty and dignified words of Ray Yatindranath Chowdhury, could not but be convinced of the retrograde and revolutionary character of the measure. In referring to the constitutional portion of the Bill, Babu Kali Nath Mitter observed that the cartoon which had appeared in the last issue of the "Ananda Bazar Patrika," very aptly illustrated the position of the elected Commissioners on the board of the new Corporation. The task of moving the resolution expressing approval of the action of the 28 elected Commissioners who had resigned, was very fully entrusted to Mr. A. M. Bose. With his usual silvery eloquence, he observed that the present gloom in the political atmosphere of India, had done at least one good, in that it had brought out the heroic self-sacrifice of the champions of the people's cause and made martyrs of them. Referring to the charge of corruption which the Government had preferred against them he pointed out that they had better look for such things nearer home—in fact, to the London Municipality itself.

The following resolutions were adopted at the meeting:—

RESOLUTION I.

That this meeting desires to express its deep sense of regret and disappointment at the treatment which the various representations of the rate-payers and inhabitants of Calcutta on the subject of the Calcutta Municipal Bill have received at the hands of both the Government of Bengal and the Government of India.

RESOLUTION II.

That this meeting begs to record its respectful but firm protest against the Calcutta Municipal Bill as finally revised by the Select Committee in accordance with the recommendation of the Government of India and as it is about to be passed into law on, among others, the following grounds:—

(a) That the Bill, as now being finally settled by the Bengal Council, is more retrograde and revolutionary and therefore open to more serious objection than the Bill as first revised by the Select Committee or even than the Bill as originally introduced into the Council.

(b) That the Bill virtually deprives the rate-payers of Calcutta, who contribute almost wholly to the revenues of the Municipality, of the privilege of administering the affairs of their Town by withdrawing from the Corporation many of the important powers hitherto enjoyed by it and further by reducing the proportion of their elected representatives on the Corporation from two-thirds to one-half and that on the General Committee from two-thirds to one-third, thus placing them in the position of a standing minority.

(c) That although the administration of the affairs of this Town (entrusted for the last 36 years to one central body, viz., the Corporation) will now be ostensibly divided among three separate and co-ordinate authorities, viz., the Corporation, the General Committee and the Chairman, it will virtually, in a large measure, pass into the hands of an official Chairman appointed by the Government who will no longer be answerable to or subject to the control of either the rate-payers or their elected representatives.

(d) That the establishment in Calcutta of an irresponsible municipal executive with vast and varied powers who have to come in daily contact with the residents of the city is likely to lead to grave abuses and will entail oppression upon the poorer sections of the community.

(e) That the method of transacting business hitherto followed, by which the proceedings not only of the Corporation but also of the General and other Committees are made public will be entirely changed; the proceedings of the General Committee and its Standing Sub-committees (between which the bulk of the business of the Municipality, other than executive work, will be disposed of) will no longer be published nor will these be

circulated even to the members of the Corporation for their information.

(f) That the system of payment of fees for attendance at meetings of the General Committee and its several Sub-Committees is an innovation in this Province, wholly unnecessary and uncalled for, involving a heavy annual drain upon the revenues of the Municipality and cannot fail to demoralise the recipients of the fees as well as the general public by lowering their sense of public duty and of the demands of a true public spirit.

(g) That in the Bill provisions have been made in regard to the supply of filtered water, the building of new houses and huts, repairs or construction of old houses and huts, assessment of residential houses, acquisition of land, determination of the value thereof, and similar other matters, which are calculated to work harshly upon the residents of the Town generally, and the poor in particular.

RESOLUTION III.

That having regard to the fact that the boon of Local Self-Government, generously conceded to the rate-payers of Calcutta by the Government of Sir Richard Temple in 1876, is about to be practically withdrawn, under the proposed law without any sufficient or reasonable ground and in spite of the pronounced and public recognition by the Government from time to time of the valuable services rendered by the elected representatives of the rate-payers in effecting large improvements in the Town, this meeting is of opinion that it would be better if the administration of the affairs of the Town were to be conducted directly by the Local Government itself as being less mischievous than the system about to be introduced, which with some ostensible but wholly illusory semblance of Local Self-Government, will deprive the rate-payers of all powers and authority and will have at its head a practically irresponsible official Chairman.

RESOLUTION IV.

That this meeting desires to express its approval of the recent resignation by the 28 elected Commissioners of their seats on the Corporation and begs to affirm that their action has been quite in accordance with the general feeling of the Indian population of Calcutta.

RESOLUTION V.

That the following Memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy be adopted and forwarded under the signature of the Chairman of the meeting, together with a copy of the foregoing Resolutions.

MONSOON AND AGRICULTURE.

FAMINE relief works have already been started in Ferozepore district. A hundred men are on best relief works in Fuzilka. The crop prospects are very gloomy, with little hope of improvement now, even if rain falls.

The distress in the district of Sind increases. About a thousand people have come in for relief from Cuttch, Lus Belya, and the Sind districts. Famine works are opened in Upper Sind.

In the Thana district the varkas crops will be five annas and in a few hills tracts eight annas. The distress is becoming severe and relief works are being surveyed.

The rainfall in the Bombay Presidency on Thursday has been local and scanty, Negapatnam reporting 0.75 cents, Belgaum 0.25 cents, Calicut 0.18 cents, Bangalore 0.17 cents, Mangalore 0.10 cents, Bombay 0.09 cents, Madras 0.07 cents, Colombo and Goa each 0.06 cents, Ratnagiri 0.03 cents, and Cuddapah 0.01 cents. The monsoon gradient both on the West and Malabar Coasts is about the normal, but the pressure being much above its normal, rain in light local showers only is likely in the Bombay and Madras Presidencies and on the Malabar Coast. The Isobars indicate that the weather far to the east northwards of Masulipatam is unsettled.

In other Deccan districts like Ahmednagar, Poona, and Sholapur the recent rains have caused a great improvement, having saved the standing crops and enabled the winter sowings to commence. In the southern portions of the Presidency rain has also proved beneficial and has proved sufficient except for the rice crop. In Kathiawar the situation is grave, cattle are dying by hundreds and fodder is so dear that even the well-to-do are selling their horses. Some of the leading States like Bhavnagar and Rajkot are taking prompt steps to meet the distress but loans for this purpose will have to be raised by the smaller Chiefs. Baroda territory reports a great scarcity of fodder and loss.

At Ahmedabad three relief works have been opened. The Malakshaban tank employs to-day 10,000 persons, while last week when the work commenced there were only 2,000. Large numbers of people from Marwar, Rajputana, and especially Jodhpur are engaged. No efforts were at first made to prevent people coming into the city from the Native States, and thousands of people have flocked in from Kathiawar, Marwar, Palanpore, Radhanpore, and other native territories in search of food and labour. Owing to the efforts of Mr. Lely several Native States have sent representatives to take their people back to their respective territories. Out of the 10,000 persons who are engaged on the Malakshaban tank, 500 persons were sent on September 19th to Veerangam to the Panar relief work.

THE Government of India are in correspondence with the Secretary of State in regard to the provision of two hospital ships, with 500 beds each in connection with the operations imminent in South Africa.

THE following curious story of hypnotism of a stomach comes from one of the Australian universities. A lady who suffered from terrible attacks of sickness, and who would not retain any kind of nourishment, was recommended to try a hypnotic cure. She was hypnotised, and the doctor ordered her to eat and to retain what she had consumed. On coming to, however, the sickness set in again, and the lady was still unable to retain any food, although the hypnotic treatment was tried several times. Finally a clever young doctor hypnotised the patient, ordered her to eat, and then to forget that she had eaten. When the lady came to she had, in fact, forgotten, and was able to retain and digest the nourishment. The repetition of this hypnotic trick brought about her complete recovery. It will be seen that simple hypnotic suggestion is not always successful, but that fine degrees of suggestive influence must be employed.

Varieties.

If you can't afford to go away this summer, you may find the following recipe of use. Go to the chemist's and ask him to make you up a big bottle containing:—100 parts of water, 10 parts of solution of peroxide of hydrogen, 2½ parts of sea salt, 2½ parts of iodine. Then buy a small steam-spray, or one of the cheaper hand-sprays, pour a wineglass of the mixture into it, and spray your room for half-an-hour. This is a wonderful disinfectant and deodoriser, destroying all microbes and smells. And it fills the room with a very pleasant odour, like that of the seashore.

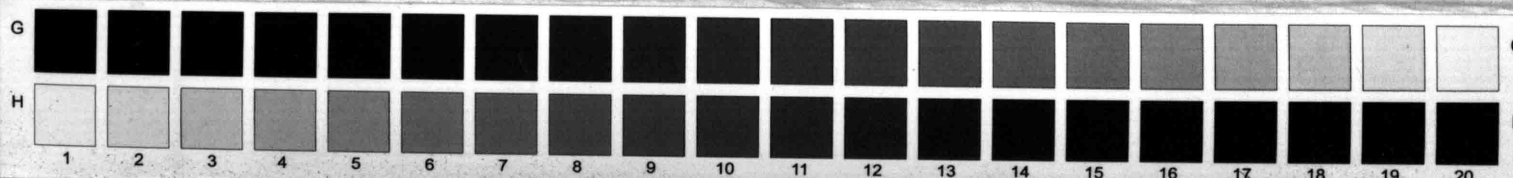
PROFESSOR PICKERING, who is known in connection with the discovery of the Satellite of Saturn, is reported to be favourably impressed with the atmospheric conditions for the use of the remarkable telescope now being made at Harvard University, for photographing the new planet Eros. The designed local length, says the New York correspondent of the *Standard*, is 162ft., 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.

If most people took a quarter the trouble over the general hygienic care of their body that they do their appearance, they would live healthier and longer. Think of the hours that are wasted in front of some looking-glasses! Imagine what suffering is often endured in order to keep the waist down to a certain number of inches. When new boots are chosen, how many are there who think of anything else but size and appearance? The girl with high heels thinks all the men are looking at her pretty feet; but the truth is they are generally noticing what a silly walk she has. Woolen materials are better for clothing than skins or mackintosh, because they will allow a certain amount of exhalation from the skin.

MARK TWAIN'S latest piece of humour is on Satan, which is thrust into an article concerning the Jew. It is so exquisite, that we venture to give a quotation from this amusing paragraph: "I have no special regard for Satan," says Mark Twain, "but I can at least claim that I have no prejudice against him. It may even be that I lean a little his way, on account of his not having a fair show. All religious issue Bibles against him and say the most injurious things about him, but we never hear his side. We have none but the evidence for the prosecution, and yet we have rendered the verdict. To my mind this is irregular. It is un-English; it is un-American; it is French. Without this precedent Dreyfus could not have been condemned. Of course, Satan has some kind of a case, it goes without saying. It may be a poor one, but that is nothing that can be said about any of us. As soon as I can get at the facts I will undertake his rehabilitation, myself, if I can find an unpolitic publisher. It is a thing which we ought to be willing to do for anyone who is under a cloud. We may not pay him reverence, for that would be indiscreet, but we can at least respect his talents. A person who has for untold centuries maintained the imposing position of spiritual head for four-fifths of the human race, and political head of the whole of it, must be granted the possession of the executive abilities of the loftiest order. I would like to see him. I would rather see him and shake him by the tail than any other member of the European Concert."

A LARGE proportion of the camphor now in general use comes from the island of Formosa. For some time past German merchants have carried on its manufacture, and Japanese natives have been the principal distributing agents. By the law which came into operation last month, however, the Formosan Government has created a monopoly for itself, and no one can purchase camphor from the manufacturers now but the authorities. The latter issue licenses to persons to produce camphor for sale to the Government, which can regulate the trade by large or small purchases as it thinks fit. Between two and three thousand boxes are exported monthly from Formosa, practically the whole quantity going to Hong-Kong. No foreign firms are at present interested in the manufacture, though rumour has suggested that it might be farmed to a European company. The serious reverses experienced since the arrival of the Japanese, however, will make them cautious. A low price has been fixed by the Government, but this may have to be raised if the trade is to be established on a sound financial basis. The interior of the island continues to be unsettled, and from time to time reports come in of robbery with violence perpetrated by banditti up-country. Most of the camphor centres are now more or less quiet. A considerable development in the exportation of camphor is likely to follow the intervention of the Formosan Government.

THE most notable achievement of the Oxford Press is said to be its India paper. The secret of its manufacture is, it seems, known only to three persons; no one of those employed in making it is familiar with more than one stage of the process. Half a century ago an Oxford man brought home with him from his travels a small quantity of very thin opaque paper tougher for its weight and substance than any previously made. He presented it to the press; twenty-four copies of the Bible were printed upon it. They were smaller than any edition previously known, and were regarded as great curiosities. The book-collectors would have snapped them up at once; as much as £20 was offered for a single copy. The press, however, declined to sell, preferring to present them to the Queen and other distinguished persons. A fruitless search was made for the source of the paper; all attempts to make some like it ended in disappointment for thirty years. At last, in August, 1875, the secret yielded itself up. This paper is, of course, very well-known. Besides Bibles, more than 100 works and editions are printed on this paper. It has such toughness and durability that a strip, three inches wide, will support a quarter of a hundredweight. When severely rubbed it does not break like ordinary paper, but acquires a surface similar to chamois leather. The paper is made at Wolvercote Mill, in the Oxford Valley.



THE SEASON.

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

MADRAS.—For week ending 9th September.—The rainfall of the week was heavy in the greater part of the Deccan and the Central districts and moderate in other parts of this area and in the Southern districts, but was light in the Carnatic and West Coast districts. The water-supply has improved on account of the recent rain, especially in the Cauvery, which has risen to a moderate extent. In the Deccan, the Central and parts of the Southern districts sowing are proceeding actively and will probably soon overtake arrears; but on the West Coast and parts of the Carnatic and the Circars more rain is much wanted for sowings and the standing crops. Where good rain has fallen the standing crops have been saved and are reviving. Small early harvests are yielding very moderate returns. Pastureage is improving in many places, and though fodder is growing scarce, it is generally sufficient. Prices are stationary or slightly easier in the Deccan, but are dearer elsewhere and have risen sharply in parts of the Circars.

BOMBAY.—For week ending 13th September.—Rain fell during the week in all districts of the Presidency Proper, but none in Sind. There were slight falls also in Guzerat, Kathiawar and parts of the Deccan and moderate falls in the Konkan. The rain has been beneficial to the crops in three districts of the Deccan, two of the Konkan, and two of the Karnata, but more is urgently wanted in all districts to save the withering crops and start agricultural operations afresh. Preparations for the late crops are in progress in Kaira and Surat and in two districts of the Deccan and three of the Karnata. The river has fallen in Sind and the water-supply in some canals is deficient. Fodder is insufficient in two districts of Guzerat and three of the Deccan and scarce in parts of Kathiawar, Hyderabad, the Panch Mahals, and Broach. The condition of agricultural stock is good, except in parts of Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, the Panch Mahals, and Poona. Prices have fallen in four districts, are almost stationary in thirteen and have risen slightly elsewhere. The daily average number on test and relief work for the previous week was as follows:—Ahmedabad 4,100; the Panch Mahals 892; and Kaira 2,684—total 7,676.

Supplementary Report.—Good rain is reported in the Karnata, the Kolhapur Agency, and all districts of the Deccan, except Khandesh. This will benefit the autumn crops where alive and enable spring sowings to be started. It will also improve the water-supply and ensure an early supply of green grass. The situation has been much relieved for the present in the Karnata, Kolhapur, Poona, Satara, and the greater part of Sholapur and Ahmednagar. More rain is required to make the spring sowings general and to remove anxiety. Test works are in progress in four taluks of Ahmednagar and one of Satara. Fair rain is also reported from Colaba and Ratnagiri and a certain amount also, but not enough, from North Guzerat where relief works are in progress.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.—For week ending 14th September.—Reports from the Meerut division, from the Western districts of Agra, and from many other districts have not been received owing to the block on the telegraph lines. From reporting districts it appears that there has been no rain or practically none anywhere. Rain is much needed—especially in Bijpur and Moradabad, where the standing crops are suffering seriously. The damage done is less towards the East, and no serious damage appears yet to have been done in Eastern Oudh. The early autumn crops are being harvested and ploughing for the spring crops is going on. The damage from insects is decreasing. Prices are rising owing to the break in the rains and to export.

PUNJAB.—For week ending 13th September.—The rainfall in the Rawalpindi district was again satisfactory, but only fair in the Bhiwani tahsil. Moderate showers fell in the Lahore, Bhakkar, Bhera, Kulachi, Kharkpur, and Fatehabad tahsils. The rainfall in the Dera Ismail Khan, Khushab, Ajnala, Sialkot, Hansi, and Sirsa tahsils was normal. The spring sowings have commenced in Mooltan. The recent rain in the Dera Ismail Khan district will be beneficial for the autumn sowings and pastureage. The canal crops are in good condition everywhere, except in the Fazilka tahsil, where three-fifths of the crop is likely to fail. In the absence of rain the well-irrigated crops in Lahore are said to be below the average. The prospects of the standing crops are reported to be fair only in Dera Ismail Khan, Peshawar, and Mooltan and more or less gloomy elsewhere. In Hissar only a two-anna crop is expected if rain falls within a week. In Delhi the unirrigated crops are said to be in an almost hopeless condition, and they have also suffered considerably for want of rain in Umballa, Julundur, Ferozepore, Lahore, Amritsar, Sialkot, and Shahpur. The maize crop is being harvested in Umballa and the rice crop in Amritsar. The former crop in Lahore is reported to have been damaged by insects. Cattle are getting out of condition in Hissar, Delhi, Amritsar, Sialkot, Shahpur, and parts of Rawalpindi and Dera Ismail Khan. Fodder is said to be scarce in Hissar, Delhi, Julundur, and parts of Ferozepore, Mooltan, Amritsar, Sialkot, Shahpur, and Dera Ismail Khan. The sugarcane and maize crops in Sialkot are being used as fodder. The average number of famine workers on test works in the Hissar district is about 16,000. Test relief works are also about to be commenced in Ferozepore. The prices of important food staples have risen in almost all districts. The rise in the prices of wheat, gram, maize, and barley in the Julundur, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, and Dera Ismail Khan districts has been more than three seers in the rupee. Wheat is selling from 10½ to 15, barley 14 to 16, gram 10 to 13, maize 13½ to 17½, rice 11 to 12, great millet 11 to 18, and bulrush-millet 16 seers per rupee.

CENTRAL PROVINCES.—For week ending 12th September.—The weather has been hot and occasionally cloudy over the greater part of the provinces. Showers have fallen in most districts, but the amounts reported are very small. In Wardha and Nagpur the falls amounted to nearly three-fourths of an inch, in Mandla, Nimar, Raipur, and Balaghat to about half an inch; but elsewhere the falls have been insufficient. The condition of the standing crops is generally worse than reported last week, and only immediate and

good rain can save the rice crop which is deteriorating fast. In parts of Bilaspur rice has not taken root after the completion of thinning operations, in Balaghat the transplanted rice is past recovery in many villages, and broadcast sowings are withering in Seoni. The prospects of the heavy rains are almost hopeless, and the damage to transplanted rice in Bhandara and Chanda is estimated at 10 and 12 annas respectively. Small millets have suffered seriously in hilly tracts. *Jowar* is doing well in Chhanda and Bhandara, but has begun to suffer elsewhere and urgently needs rain everywhere. Rust is reported to have attacked the crop in Betul and Hoshangabad, and insects are still doing damage to cotton, *fl.*, and the smaller millets. In parts of Raipur the damage done by grasshoppers is reported to be serious. Agricultural operations have been suspended or retarded in most districts: employment is getting scarce in consequence, and distress is spreading—especially in Balaghat and the Nerbudda division. The numbers in receipt of village relief on account of previous failures are 2,239 in Bilaspur. (Reports from Saugor and Demoh have not been received). Relief measures necessitated by the present drought have been started in Balaghat, Betul, Hoshangabad, the Harsud tahsil of Nimar, and parts of Nagpur, Bhandara, and Jubbulpore. Fodder and water are reported scarce in parts of Nimar, Betul, Chhindwara, Hoshangabad, and the Nagpur country; and cattle are reported to be in poor condition in the last named district in consequence. Prices have risen rapidly: the rise is general and is most marked in Betul. The cheapest prices are: wheat 13½ gram 18, rice 15 and *jowar* 15 seers per rupee. The dearest prices are: wheat 9 gram 9, rice 5 in Betul—and *jowar* 10 seers per rupee. The highest price of the chief staple in any district is 8½ seers (rice) in Chhindwara, but *jowar* is selling at 15 seers in that district. The price of *jowar* in Betul has risen at a bound from 15 to 10 seers. News has since been received of good rain in Jubbulpore, Wardha, Bhandara, Nagpur, and Chhatisgarh.

CENTRAL INDIA.—For week ending 13th September.—Some rain fell during the week in Malwa and Bhopawar, but none in Gawalior or Bhopal. The quantity was insufficient in all four Agencies. The standing crops have been partially damaged in Gawalior, Bhopal, and Malwa and almost destroyed in Bhopawar for want of moisture. The condition of agricultural stock is fair in Bhopal, but indifferent to bad elsewhere. Pastureage is insufficient and prices of food grains are rising. (Reports from Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand not yet received).

Supplementary Report.—An inch of rain is reported to have fallen at Indore on the 13th instant, and falls have also been recorded at other places.

RAJPUTANA.—For week ending 13th September.—Good rain fell at Abu (3.82 inches) and local thundershowers ranging from ½ inch to over ½ inch at Serohi, Deoli, Ajmere, Merwara, Kishengarh, Kerauli, Dholepore, and Bhurtur. Slight local falls are also reported from Mewar, Shahpura, Alwar and Kotah. No general rain is reported to have fallen during the week. Agricultural operations have been generally relinquished. The unirrigated crops have for the most part withered up, but the irrigated crops are fair in parts. Cattle are badly off, and owing to fodder being scarce, withered crops are being utilised for the purpose. Prices have risen in ten States, but are steady elsewhere. 1,655 persons emigrated from Ajmere and Merwara during the week. The numbers employed on relief works in the Merwara district and the Beawar tahsil were 20,063 and in Bikanir 1,151. (Figures for the Todgurh tahsil have not been received). On ordinary works—Merwara villages 150, and on gratuitous relief—Merwara villages 107 and Bikanir 193. Prices—Ajmere and Beawar 12½ seers per rupee. Prospects are bad. Cotton crops have either been lost or are suffering. (Marwar report not received). Rapid emigration is reported from Western Rajputana. The condition of Jaisalmer is very bad.

WILD ANIMALS IN SOUTH SYLHET.

I HAVE never seen nor heard any sings of a tiger in my immediate neighbourhood since the tigress and her two cubs paid me a visit last June. I said then that if she was keeping up the "dustur" that she would not have gone far when I wrote, and that she could be found within a couple of miles of Maulvie Bazar on the Balesara side of the range. Curiously enough from what I have been told, she had gone straight from me through the jungle range by the tiger path which passes within two hundred yards of my bungalow and which comes out on the opposite side after a mile from the Maulvie kutcherry. After ranging about there for a fortnight and killing some cows belonging to the ryots, she kept moving further south, and is at the present time accompanied by her progeny, doing considerable execution among the cattle belonging to the villagers in and the coolies at Goyanugger Tea Estate, and is supposed to be making her lair for the time being during her visit among the scrub jungle and sun grass land which lies between the above ground and Mazidhee. She seems to be living well and to be a model mother, if we may judge by the number of cattle which is being laid to her account. She also seems to have lost none of her partiality for the vicinity of a bungalow, as upon several occasions she has deliberately come within forty yards of Goyanugger bungalow, and upon one of these visits bowled over a live cow among the tea. Her movements on this occasion could be plainly heard during the night at the bungalow, and as the wind happened to be in the right direction, the strong odour peculiar to the larger carnivora could be distinctly perceived at the bungalow. One would think that some one of the numerous

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

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

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kills would be picked upon for sitting over on the chance of getting a shot at her striped ladyship; but, curiously enough, no matter how many kills there may be in a district, it is only very seldom that a machan is erected for the purpose of shooting the deer. This may perhaps be looked upon as showing a decline of the sporting instinct of the European, but anyone who has had any experience in sitting over kills will agree that whatever amount of sport there may be attached to this mode of tiger-shooting, hardly compensates for the weary mosquito-bitten waits which, in the majority of cases, are fruitless. The tiger does not always come back to a kill. We may take it that in fifty times out of a hundred, at least he never comes near again, and when he does there is always a great difficulty in making a good shot. Although in the large majority of cases nothing comes of sitting over a kill, sometimes one hears of what must be considered a bit of very good sport, not so much from the actual shot from a machan as from the following up of a tiger which has been wounded from it. Mr. Reid, I. C. S., our late Sub-Divisional Officer in Maulvie Bazar, and Mr. Hunter, of Bhangra, had the most unique experience in following up a wounded tiger on foot that has happened within recent years in this district. Mr. Reid was brought *Khudba* of a kill in the scrub jungle behind the Maulvie kutcherry, and had a machan erected over it. The tiger, on this occasion, did come back for a second feed, and was sent away growling with what was discovered afterwards to be a shot through his hind leg. Next morning some Bengalis, who were engaged for the purpose, struck the blood trail and located him lying up in a small patch of scrub. *Khudba* was immediately sent to Mr. Reid, who in the meantime had been joined by a friend. While making ready to sally forth to finish Stripes off, Mr. Hunter chanced to call and he proposed to take part in the sport, the other gentleman considerably volunteering his services to make all the necessary arrangements in the meantime for holding an inquest on their bodies after their interview with the tiger.

That the latter gentleman's services were not required in that direction was more a piece of luck, if there is such a thing, as the sequel of the shikar will show. Both sportsmen were well armed, and the Bengalis led them straight enough to where the tiger had laid up and pointed out the exact spot. Mr. Reid walked forward and pushed the scrub branches to one side in order to have a look, but by this time the tiger had shifted his quarters, which has just as well for the comfort of Mr. Reid, as a wounded tiger is not the most amiable animal in creation next morning after being shot the night before. After stalking about for some time longer in the search, they came to a very likely small patch of low scrub, and just as a native was being directed to make a detour in order to gain the suspicious looking spot with safety, the tiger charged out from a distance of fifteen yards, and with an Ourch, Ourch, Ourch! got actually within ten feet of the two riflemen before they could bring their rifles up and get their sights lined on him. They both fired with such good effect that he was immediately stopped in his charge, made a half a turn and went down. After allowing some time to elapse, they cautiously made their way towards where he lay, and although he had all the appearance of being dead they had heard too many stories of how a tiger can have sufficient life when to all appearances dead to give his assailants a rough time, to trust altogether to appearances; so, to make sure, they gave him another shot in the head. But it would appear that the first volley had luckily given him his quietus, as the intended *coup de grace* in the head never made him move a single muscle in response. It was found, as I have already stated, that the shot from the machan had wounded him on one of his hind legs. There have been many different versions of this affair, but when the chaff is winnowed from the corn, I think the actual people who were engaged in it will agree with the above accounts as far as they can remember. Men when standing face to face with death can be excused for not remembering every small detail which may happen during the few moments of peril. That they both stood as near death as they will ever do again until they "suffice off this mortal coil" altogether, I would think no one will understand better than themselves.

Only one other case has come under my notice of a tiger being shot by the man whom he was charging. Mr. Hunt, late of Mirzapur, was once charged by a tiger from out of a sugarcane patch in a bustee and he dropped him dead on the charge with a bullet right in the forehead. I have heard him saying that it was as steady a shot as he ever made in his life, but that a few minutes after he was over he could hardly hold the rifle, let alone take a sight with it, as his nerves, which were steady enough while the real danger lasted, could not stand the reaction, and if another tiger had charged out he would have been completely at his mercy. I think most sportsmen who have come through such an ordeal once would have considerable hesitation in attempting a rehearsal.—Forester in the *Englishman*.

It is notified that Government have sanctioned the grant of subsistence allowance and free issue of three-quarter rations for wives and half ration for children to families of British troops proceeding from India to South Africa.

A WONDERFUL CURE OF DIARRHOEA.

A PROMINENT VIRGINIA EDITOR.

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READ HIS EDITORIAL.

From the Times, Hillside, Va.

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

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A HERMIT ON A DESERT ISLAND.

FROM mansions to a hermit's hut; from yacht clubs to eel pots; from tooling coaches for pleasure to weaving nets for a living, and all from choice—such is the history of Charles Alvord, whose home is on a small Government island in one of the widest and most picturesque spots on the Connecticut shore.

Among the fishermen he goes by the pseudonym of "Captain Jack Sprat." But to those few who are familiar with his strange history he is a scion of the Huguenot house of Alvord, one of the oldest and most aristocratic in the east, once famous throughout his State, as well as in New York, Boston, Providence, Bridgeport, and elsewhere, as a society leader, clubman, traveller, sportsman, bon vivant, college graduate and man of wealth and affairs.

To-day he is a recluse on a tiny cluster of bald rocks, overgrown with moss and cactus, a student of nature, indifferent to all the gay world in which he was born and bred, not, indeed, from necessity, but from a surfeit of riches and disillusion of so-called high life.

It is a long road from the cotillon to the lobster pot, from the epicurean club dinner to the homely bacon, self-prepared, and eaten from tin plates on a bare board, but "Captain Jack Sprat" has travelled that strange high way and found complete happiness in consummation. Fifteen years ago Charles Alvord's circle of acquaintances extended over more or less of two continents; to-day the only friends, whom he calls friends, are the waves that dash upon the tiny waste of drab rocks that thrusts a few trees and a knoll or two of moss through the Sound surf. Years ago he was a man of society, who could not bear to be alone; now he is a man of solitude, who shrinks from communion with even the poor fisher folk along the shore.

Then, as the son of a Torrington millionaire carriage builder, he had his town houses and his mountain bungalow, his yacht in the bay and his villa embowered in green on the shore. To-day he may be seen seated on the rocks before the little cabin built by his own hand, sole monarch of his monastic realm on the island, which he rents from the Government for the modest sum of 5 dollars annually on a ninety-nine year lease. Then, when he chose to go from place to place, a special car or a coach and four were in waiting. To-day, when he leaves his little island it is to take a pull at the oar out to the nets or over the bass grounds and back, an open book over at his side, solving the problem of life as few have solved it, ever alone, yet least alone, and for the first time in all his varied career a happy man.

It was an ideal day when a reporter for the "Herald" was rowed from the mainland across the beautiful bay to the haunts of this Selkirk of the Sound—The Tolstoi of Westcott's Cove—who, like his illustrious Russian prototype, has touched every depth of human passion and come to the conclusion that only the natural free-hearted primitive man knows happiness here below. The sun was bright over the blue expanse, flecked with white in the steady south-west breeze. Across the Sound, dotted with sails, could be seen the purple and drab of the Long Island shore, with light blotches here and there along the cliffs, one of them pointed out as the country seat of Governor Roosevelt.

An occasional swell broke upon the little island, under whose shelter the bark was approaching. It tossed its spray clean over the hut, raining benedictively upon the open page and the white nets where bent the grizzled head above them in earnest thought; for "Captain Sprat" not only reads and thinks, but while he reads he works. The man who never knew in his younger days the necessity of toil—who does not know it to-day if he chose to continue in the old paths—has dedicated his life to toil of both body and mind, believing it the only sure consummation of content.

In appearance Mr. Alvord is strikingly in contrast with the fishermen of the Sound, in spite of his working attire and the fact that many years of rough life in solitude have browned his wrinkles and his fine, high brow, hardened his hands and somewhat bent his shoulders. His voice is low and serious, made quaint by the Connecticut drawl. He has acquired the patois of the lobster pots, so that when he converses with the fisher folk he seems to have been born in their humble sphere, but when alone with one of the citizen world he becomes his true self, a cosmopolitan indeed, discoursing upon life and affairs with the air of one who knows from experience, not from books or rumour, always with strong argument and often with the fire of true eloquence.

It is in these inspired moments that the tiny hut, for all the few rare pictures and masses of books about, seems pitifully inadequate to the genius of the place. But this simplicity, even to the point of austerity, has a purpose. The man of the world has reverted to first principles. Some would say that he has retrograded; others, like Tolstoi himself, would argue that he has advanced into a higher kingdom, the nobler realm of the mind and heart. It all depends upon the point of view.

It is with pride that the hermit of Westcott's Cove shows the visitor the interior of his tiny cabin, neat and artistic, crammed with books and furnished with the work of his own hands. But it is when wandering over the moss grown rocks, dashed with spray, that the man becomes inspired and the light of joy breaks from the keen gray eyes set in bronze.

Mr. Alvord is still in receipt of a large income from estates in various parts of the State, notably at Bridgeport, but he never touches it. One who knew the family well in past years vouchsafed the information regarding the past of the remarkable hermit, who is too much absorbed in the solitary content of the present to cast a glance backward, and who was very sensitive to questioning on the subject.

It may be said, however, that no great tragedy or calamity brought about the amazing resolve to abandon the world and live the life of an ascetic. It was merely the conviction of the emptiness of a life of wealth without labour, seeking pleasure for pleasure's sake and proof that the boasted happiness of a life of social triumphs was a delusion and a snare, and that true happiness was to be found as the Russian philosopher found it—in solitude and simplicity, reverting to first principles. Charles Alvord is certainly a pioneer in that sort of philosophy among American millionaires thus far.

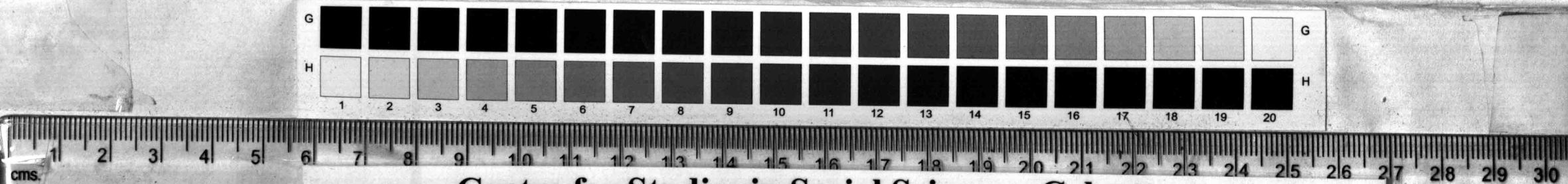
WHO ARE THE BABHUNS OF BEHAR?

WE make no apology for saying a few words on the origin of Goutami Brahmins, popularly called Babhuns or Bhunihar Babhuns of Behar. Three of the principal Raj families of the province, namely, Hutwa, Bettiah and Tikari, the great body of the landed aristocracy in Behar, the baronial houses of Maksoodpore, Narhan, Sheohar and the Rajas of Benares belong to this caste. The Babhuns, though numerous in Behar, are not found in any number west of Benares, and the few of them who may be met with in the other districts of the North-West Provinces, Oudh and the Punjab, can be distinctly traced as migrations from Behar. The public have been much exercised of late to know who the Babhuns really are and how they came to Behar and it seems our contemporary the *Patrika* has given them umbrage by calling them a "low caste and altogether inferior people." "Low caste and inferior" they certainly are not although their origin is much disputed. The Babhuns themselves claim to be *Sarwaria* Brahmins; Buchanan Hamilton makes them Sakadwipas; elsewhere as in Palamu, they claim to be Rajputs. Mr. Magrath thinks that they were a low Aryan race who were brought into close contact with the Rajputs, probably in some of their struggles for supremacy and not being allowed to intermarry or form one people with them have acquired a pseudo respectability by pretending that they are Brahmins. A Collector of Saram says that the most probable account of their origin is, that they were the children of Brahmin girls and Rajput fathers. These theories will not stand criticism. The offspring of a Brahmin girl and Rajput father would be of very inferior caste, and, if the Babhuns were of low Aryan origin, as Mr. Magrath thought they were, they could never have attained to that high position amongst the Hindus which they now undoubtedly occupy. Dr. Rajendra Lal Mitra, in his notice of the Mishen Talukdars, of Oudh, says that the Hutwa Rajas and these Talukdars, are descended from the same progenitor *i.e.* from the same common Brahmin father, but from a mother of the Vaisya caste, but the evidence for this position is not given. If Dr. Mitra means that all the Babhuns of Behar are thus descended, it would place the origin of the caste almost within historical times. This would be almost unique in the legends of the formation of the present Hindu castes, and though the caste of Babhuns is not considered very ancient, it has yet around it a halo of antiquity which would be utterly wanting if the caste had originated within comparatively recent and historical times. If the learned doctor means to say that the Hutwa family alone is thus descended, it would be very surprising indeed that the others and best amongst the caste of Babhuns should regard it as one of them and their equal.

The account given by the Babhuns themselves, is that certain Brahmins deserted their legitimate duties of prayer, praise, and alms-taking, for husbandry, and became the ancestors of the Babhuns, or Zemindary Brahmins.

The legendary account of their origin, as currently given by others than Babhuns is that, on one occasion, Jarasindhu, the famous King of Magadha, wishing to feed four lakhs of Brahmins found, after he had collected all, that they were quite unable to consume the food he had cooked. He, therefore, sent out and gathered together persons of all castes, and decorated them with the sacred thread. These he compelled to eat his supper as Brahmins, and the Babhun caste is said to be descended from these manufactured Brahmins. The legend, the authenticity of which is stoutly denied by the Babhuns, varies in different parts of Behar, though the different stories agree in the main. The other account is, that, on one occasion, Jarasindhu, wishing to perform some religious ceremony, ordered his Dewan to collect a lakh of Brahmins. This task the Dewan was unable to accomplish; so he introduced a number of persons of other castes, who were invested with the sacred thread and placed before the king as genuine Brahmins. From these spurious Brahmins the Babhuns are said to have descended.

Now we have the following facts:—*1st.* That the Babhuns are only to be found in any numbers in the Maghadhadesha, the country of Buddhism, and everything points to this being the place of their origin: *2nd.* That the word Babhun is the Prakrit corruption of the word Brahmin, and is often used in contemptuous sense to signify degraded and low Brahmins, and would be applied to those who had forsaken the true faith of the Brahmins. *3rd.* That the Babhuns call themselves Goutami Brahmins thus clearly indicating their connexion with Buddha Gautama, and they themselves admit that they have forsaken the original duties of Brahmins, and betaken themselves to husbandry. In other words, that there has been a change in their faith. *4th.* That the traditions shows that all the Brahmins of Behar became degraded and came to form a separate caste: *first*, by eating the dinner of Jarasindhu, the foe of Krishna (a name which we may take, as set down in the legend, for the name one of the earliest Buddhist kings of Magadha), or by performing some religious ceremony for him; *secondly* by some early attempt, on account of a change of religion, to do away with the Brahminical system of caste. *5th.* That all the pure Brahmins now to be found in Behar, came from Gour, Mithila, fKanoui, etc. and there are some Brahmins as Magadha Brahmins. All these theories indicate that after the Brahmins had succeeded in expelling Buddhism, and re-establishing themselves in Behar, they came to regard the Brahmins of Magadha, who had given in, to a certain extent, to the order of things established by Buddhism, and betaken themselves to secular pursuits, with a certain amount of contempt, and placed them in a lower order than their own by interdicting marriages and refusing to partake of their cooked food. Nor did these Babhuns, who appear to have been then, as they are now, the landed, aristocracy of Behar, care very much for the recovery of their Brahminical dignity. Wherever there was no such ready yielding, as among the Buddhist priests of Behar of the day, a certain amount of sacerdotal influence came to be left. This was how, we believe, the Gyalis of Gya succeeded in retaining their power, until, by a process of incorporation, they were invested with a certain amount of quasi-Brahminical authority by the Brahmins themselves. It appears to us, therefore, that the Babhuns are those Brahmins from whom there possibly was a certain admixture of Rajputs who were either converted to the Buddhist faith, or chose to live under the Buddhist system with a changed status.—*The Behar Herald.*



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