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### পদকপতক।

দক্ষিণ চীয়াছে  
পুণ্য আশীষ।  
বিশিষ্ট বস্ত্র।

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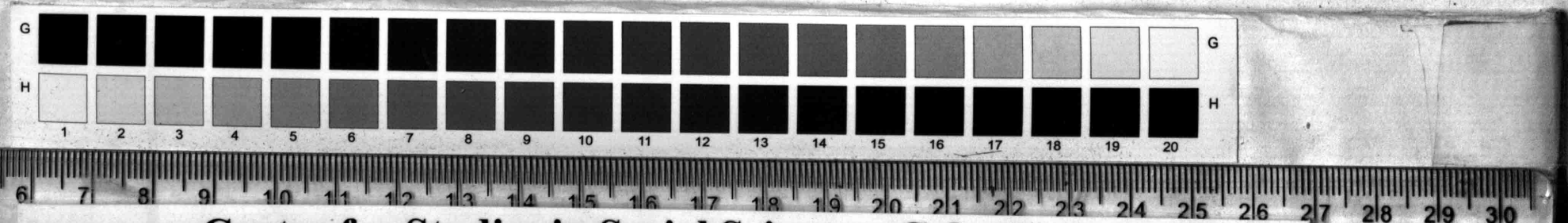
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GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS.

Babu Ashutosh Dutta, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Coll Mymensingh, is allowed leave for one month under article 273 (a) of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him. Mr F W Duke Offg Magte and Dy Coll, Howrah, is allowed leave for twenty one days. Mr H F Samman Offg Magte and Coll on leave acting for him.

Babu Rajendra Chander Shastree, Librarian of the Bengal Library, is allowed leave for two months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Manmatha Nath Rudra, M. A. acting for him. Babu Manomohan Chatterjee, Sub-Dy Coll on leave is posted to the Bhagalpur Division.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

A TOTAL eclipse of the sun, which is a comparatively rare phenomenon, will take place on Monday, May 28, 1900. A joint committee, representing the councils of the Royal Dublin Society and the Royal Irish Academy, has been formed on the initiative of Sir Howard Grubb F. R. S., for the purpose of organising an Irish expedition to visit some of the places in the region of totality, in Spain, Portugal, or Algeria.

A vessel has been designed, says Commercial Intelligence, for the Siberian Railway for transporting passengers and freight cars across Lake Baikal. For more than half the year the lake is frozen, and provision has had to be made for creaking the ice, which will probably be some feet in thickness. The form of the vessel has been designed to meet this requirement, and the lines are arranged so as to offer the least possible resistance to motion through the ice.

AN APPEAL BY OLIVE SCHREINER

OLIVE SCHREINER, the well-known writer on South Africa and sister of the Hon. D. P. Schreiner Prime Minister and Colonial Secretary, addressed, before the actual breaking out of hostilities with the Transvaal, the following appeal to the British nation through the columns of the Manchester Guardian.

"Meetings should be held throughout the British Isles in support of the position taken up by Mr. John Morley in his Arbroath speech if a national disaster is to be avoided. The generous arrangement made by the people of the Transvaal for admitting foreigners to the citizenship of their little State has exceeded all that was anticipated. If their advances are not being met in the same spirit, the conviction is being forced on them that the men for the hour in authority in England have determined to goad them into war and take their land from them.

"By ceaseless misrepresentation and exactions which would mean the surrender of their land, we are to-day driving one of the bravest and most heroic little Teutonic folk the world has seen to despair. We are setting them with their back to the wall and offering them this choice, "your land or destruction." They are prepared to give the only answer possible to a small race under such conditions. "Let England clearly understand what war in South Africa means. The largest empire the world has ever seen, will hurl its full force against a small state and about thirty thousand men including lads of sixteen and old men of sixty, without a standing army or organised commissariat. The entire little people will have to resolve itself into an army of wives and daughters, who will prepare the bread and meat the farmers put in to their saddlebags, when they go out to meet their enemies. To-day the women in the Transvaal are demanding guns that they may take their part in the last stand.

"We may crush this little people with the aid of the Australians and the Canadians, since the British Isles seem unable to crush them alone. We have numbers and wealth on our side; they have the conviction that their God fights with them. Ours is a politician's war, theirs is a people's, but with our vast resources we must literally crush them. They may well sell their lives dearly. At a cost of twenty or thirty millions, and of a heavy loss among our soldiers we may take the land and lower the little flag of his independence, so dear to the Boer, but we shall have placed a stain upon our own that the centuries will not wash out.

England and South Africa will both have lost. England will have lost in honour, and will have cut that cable of affection and sympathy which alone can permanently bind South Africa to her. South Africa will be left torn and bleeding in every part, consumed by bitterness till such time as she is strong enough to rise and work out her own redemption and carve out her own great fortune. Only the international speculator, who, through his persistent misrepresentation by means of the Press has wrought this evil will gain and fill his already overfilled pockets with South African gold.

"It is said the bulk of the English nation have no desire to take this land or independence from the Boer nor to shed English blood and sacrifice English honour in order that a few international speculators may gain command of the Transvaal goldfields.

BENGAL RICE CROP.

THE first forecast of the winter rice crop in Bengal 1899 states that the figures of normal area under winter rice have been revised in the districts of Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dacca, Noakhali, Saran, Purnea, and Manbhum, and, in consequence, the total normal area, for the Province is now returned as 31,244,800 acres, against 30,987,000 acres returned in the final forecast of the winter rice crop of 1898. The area sown with winter rice this year is estimated at 31,349,900 acres, against 31,685,500 acres sown in the previous year. The small contraction in area is due to the swamping of the low lying rice areas by floods caused by excessive rain in the end of June, and in July and August, which prevented transplantation on many lands that had been already prepared for this crop. It is to be noticed, however, that the weather was favourable for sowing on high lands, so that the reduction of the area in low lands was compensated for, to some extent, by the cultivation of high lands not ordinarily grown with rice. In some districts jute supplanted rice, owing to a rise in its price, and a simultaneous fall in the price of rice at the close of last year.

The district returns show that out of the forty-five districts of these Provinces, twelve districts, viz., Midnapore, Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Rangpur, Bogra, Pabna, Dacca, Champaran, Bhagalpur, the Sonthal Parganas, Palmanu, and Singbhum, return estimates of crops above the normal of 100 per cent., six districts, viz., Birbhum, Mymensingh, Chittagong, Gya, Malda, and Manbhum, return normal crops, and twenty-six districts return crops varying from 75 per cent. to below 100 per cent. Only one district, viz., Angul, shows a poor crop of 50 per cent. The returns from Behar vary considerably, those from North Bengal are uniformly high, while the estimates sent up from Central and East Bengal and Orissa are on the whole poor. On comparing the estimates of output for this year with the corresponding figures of last year, it will appear that thirteen out of the forty-five districts report better crops than those last year, three report equal crops; and twenty-nine worse crops.

The rice crop in many low-lying areas has been damaged by excess of rain in the latter half of June and in July and August, and insects are reported to have done some injury in the districts of Khulna, Dacca, Backergunge, Noakhali, and Puri. The weather has, however, been favourable during September, and prospects are good at present. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, it may be estimated that 95 per cent. of a normal output will be obtained, and it is possible that, if favourable showers fall in October and the crop is harvested in fine weather, the output may reach the normal.

AN ELEPHANT ADVENTURE.

"TAWKWE" writes in the Indian Forester an account of an adventure with an elephant, in which the hero (or rather heroine) was a bull terrier. His story runs:—My hunter stopped and pointing to the track of an elephant whispered "To-day" I replied "at present we are after bison and I am not going to tackle elephants with a 12-bore Paradox, in this sweet patch a bison is bad enough, it will give an aged parent and excellent chance of getting something out of the Indian Government, my huge balance in the Forest Officer's Provident Fund to wit, so go on." However, we had only gone about 100 yards, very cautiously, when I was startled by a ponderous sight, we both stopped at once and peering through the undergrowth we saw the immense hind quarters of an elephant about six yards off. The huge beast was nonchalantly pouring dust on his back with his trunk and it was this sound which had attracted our attention. The chance was too good to be missed. I signed to the hunter and we crept back to the coolie with the dog, and told the former what was ahead and that he was to wait with the dog and on no account to let her go. I then crept back to where he had seen the elephant; he was still there, but wishing to find a more vulnerable-looking spot than the root of his tail I started crawling round to the side. I had just got a view of a beautiful gleaming pair of white tusks, when I heard a patter on the dry leaves behind me; looking round I saw my bull terrier, her eyes blazing with excitement, her hair erect, she could see. I was after something and wished to get a bite in. In vain I made a grab at her as she went past, but the rest baffles description. I heard a trumpet, combined with a noise as if a steam mowing machine was at work in that "ponzo." I thought that directly, the terrier found her antagonist was a stone or two above her fighting weight, she would run back to me, and I imagined her running between my legs, with the enraged tusker in full cry, winning tusks down and the picture pleased me not. I looked hurriedly round, the Chins had cut every decent tree down—I have since been absolutely orthodox on the subject of yacuting and the destruction of the forests—the biggest tree was a Yomene (Gmelina arborea), it had been badly felled and had three very decent stool shoots, about 18 inches in girth each. I went up those three sticks quicker than a wooden monkey goes up a string in the strand, and my hunter fled up an adjacent creeper, balancing himself between that and a small tree, looking all the world like a Hula. Then I had the front seat, or rather stand, at a most exciting scene, the tusker seemed terrified and was prancing round like a top, his trunk curled in a tight knot and trumpeting for all he was worth, the terrier making ferocious rushes at him and springing forward to try and get a grip; the tusker would then charge, as the dog retreated, dig ferociously at her with his right tusk, the dog of course being by that time a yard further off; this waltz was coming unpleasantly near my three sticks, so I loosed off into the elephant's head, alas, too high, but it started him off away from the like a runaway locomotive and the terrier shrieking with delight went after him. I breathed a sigh of relief, elephant-baiting is the finest bit of excitement to be got in Asia, but next time I want a heavier gun or safer seat; I was just preparing to shin down my coppice shoots when I heard the din rapidly approaching; that infernal dog had headed the beast and was snapping alongside, the elephant's tusks being pointed straight for my poles. I let drive right and left, Brown Bess roared to my right and the elephant, thank heaven, swerved away to the left, making off this time not to return. We climbed down and after

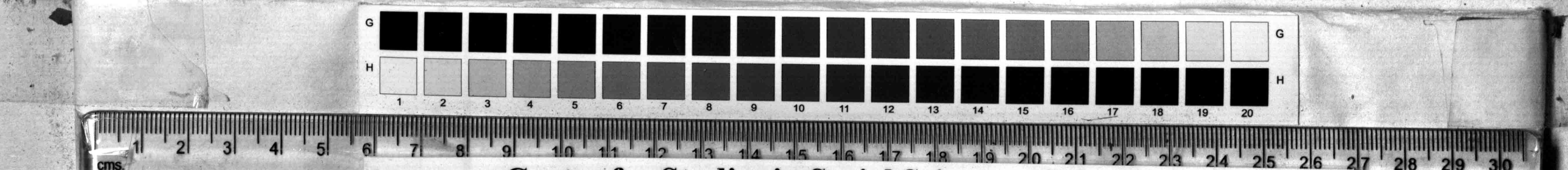
about five minutes the terrier turned up tongue out, fearfully pleased with herself; she had utterly defeated the king of the forest, routed him trunk and tusks. I went back to the coolie, he explained that he had got frightened, climbed a tree and let the dog go, the elephant he never heard of again.

A NOVEL CASE.

A NOVEL case which would be of interest to our readers came up before His Lordship Mr. Justice Boddam of the Madras High Court on Tuesday, in which the father of a Hindu girl wanted her husband to set her at liberty and allow her to go to his house. The petitioner, Mr. Desikalo Ayia, residing at Triplicane, had given his daughter, Amirthavally Thayarammal, aged about 12 years and 8 months, in marriage to O. Narayaniah of Washermanpet in 1894. The girl attained her age in February last, and on the husband pressing to have the nuptials celebrated soon much against the wishes of the petitioner, who was desirous of having the marriage celebrated at least some six months hence, the ceremony was performed on the 2nd March last. On the fourth day after the marriage, the counter-petitioner (the girl's husband) insisted upon his child-wife remaining with him which was accordingly done to please him. It is stated that two years previous to this, there had been a faction in their community on account of a widow-marriage, the petitioner siding with one party and the counter-petitioner, the other; and by reason of this faction, the petitioner refrained from inviting the friends of the counter-petitioner who belonged to the other faction for the marriage. This evidently provoked the counter-petitioner and the members of his family and the feelings between the two factions running very high, the counter-petitioner and his parents began to ill-treat the said Amirthavally Thayarammal. After several unsuccessful attempts at reconciliation, the petitioner on making a personal request to the husband, brought his daughter to his house; but after a lapse of three days she was taken away by force. The petitioner stated that he had heard from the girl during her stay with him that for the last four or five months she had been very badly treated, and that if she were not freed from further ill-treatment, she would commit suicide. Therefore on the 8th September last the petitioner went to his son-in-law's house, but not being allowed to get inside, was at the threshold, when the girl seeing him, cried out from within in the presence of her father-in-law and others that if she were not released from bondage and taken to his (her father's) house, she would put an end to her life. So the father of the girl caused a notice to be given to his son-in-law through Mr. S. Bilgiri Iyengar, Attorney, to set her at liberty and allow her to go to his house. On the other hand, the counter-petitioner stated that the above allegations of the petitioner were totally false and vexatious. In fact, he said, that there was no faction, no ill-treatment on her part as alleged, the petitioner's intention in all this being to have his daughter with him as she was his only child and make him (counter-petitioner) abandon his parents and live with him (petitioner.) The girl was put in the witness-box and examined, but the allegation that she was in bondage and confinement was not proved. His Lordship remarked that for a quarrel between two elderly people, the girl was made a buffer, helping to sacrifice thereby the happiness of a child and to make her life a burden to herself. His Lordship accordingly dismissed the petition with costs.

A CAPE M. P.'S ESTIMATE OF THE BOER FORCES.

A REPRESENTATIVE of Reuter's Agency has had an interview with Mr. Frank R. Thompson, a member of the Cape Parliament, and a well-known authority on all South African native questions, who has arrived in England from Cape Town and the Transvaal. Discussing the present crisis, he said:—"I was in the Transvaal eight weeks ago and in close touch with the leading Boers. I was assured that they do not want to fight, and in this connection it must not be forgotten that a very large section of the Transvaal Boers are in favour of Imperial rule. Large numbers of Boers, determined to remain neutral, had even crossed over into Griqualand West. Numbers of the younger men from the Free State have, too, for similar reasons, crossed the Orange River into Cape Colony. It is a great mistake to suppose that all Dutchmen in the Republics sympathise with their Government. They do not, and I am certain that if it comes to war, one-third of the Transvaal Boers will either remain neutral or leave their country. I must say, however, that I do not even now believe war will break out. I do not think that a shot will be fired. The Boers are past-masters in the art of bluff, but they will give in." Turning to the military position of the two Republics, Mr. Thompson said:—"The stories current, of the immense force which the Transvaal and the Free State could put into the field are Simple Senseless. All told, the Free State could put 6,000 men in the field and the Transvaal 15,000 at the very utmost. The Free State standing force consists of 250 men, 80 of 90 horse artillery, 15 or 20 canons, and two or three Maxims. These are engaged in police work and are known as the Free State Artillery. They have been trained by European officers, and are well armed with up-to-date weapons. The chief garrison is at Bloemfontein, whence they are despatched in small parties of 10 or 15 to do police work on the border. During the past two or three months the Free State has been importing enormous quantities of ammunition in view of an early closing of the Delagoa Bay route. I know the Transvaal and the Free State thoroughly, and I have given 15,000 as the maximum Transvaal force. You may regard 3,000 as a fair number, who may be expected to join from the Northern borders of Natal and the Cape Colony. The Transvaal, I see, claim to put 52,000 in the field, but I do not quite see how they will do that out of a total male population of 40,000. I believe 15,000 to be a very liberal estimate. Quite apart from Imperial troops it must not be forgotten that Natal and Cape Colony can in a very short time raise a force of 20,000 men, who will fight for sentiment, apart from pay. They will prove the best material in the world, and in every respect be equal to the burghers of the Republics."





Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, OCTOBER 22, 1899.

THE PROSPECT BEFORE THE INDIANS.

The Englishman has the following:— We are sorry the Amrita Bazar Patrika has taken our remarks of Tuesday so much to heart. Our contemporary says:—The Englishman ought to hang down his head in sorrow and not jubilate over the extinction of local self-government in the capital of the Indian Empire. It is of small moment to the Bengali Babus whether or not they are allowed to enjoy a privilege which was only a gift, for they are gradually coming to realize the fact that the Bengali nation, that is to say, the higher classes, are doomed to disappear from the face of the earth in the course of the next century. Indeed, three-fourths of the bhadrakols have been already swept off under British rule. We shall explain the situation in a few words in spite of the growing poverty of the nation, we were on the whole making some progress under British rule. But where are we now? Are we going upwards or downwards? The English have been governing this country for over 150 years; they and the rules were coming to know one another. They showed their confidence in the Indians by entrusting some of them with the task of administering justice in the highest courts of the land, and found that this arrangement did not endanger the Empire. They tried them in other ways. The Commissionship of a Division—an executive position next to that of a Local Governor—was conferred on a Hindu gentleman, and he did not in any way betray the interests of the Government. Almost the entire control of the Municipality of the capital of the Empire was placed in the hands of the representatives of the people, and the latter gave satisfaction to successive Lieutenant-Governors by the faithful and efficient discharge of their duties. In short, in whatever branch of the administration were the natives of the soil tried, they were not found to be wanting. Two years ago, however, the people of India were startled to find that they would not only be thwarted in their path of progress, but suddenly hurled into an abyss. Liberty of speech was taken away from them; and what we write now, we do under suzerainty. The little of self-government we enjoyed is gone, and with it our hope for the future. The feeling that now pervades the Indian community is that they must do nothing but sit quiet to await their doom. We are now practically denied the right of struggling or making any effort for our future improvement. Where are we now? We do not find ourselves even in the position we were in the beginning of the British rule, but far behind that; for, the British Government began with the freedom of speech. In the early days of British rule in this country, the people were also left to manage their own domestic affairs and settle their own disputes, but now they cannot appoint or dismiss their own village chowkidars. Twenty years ago we were certainly far better off than now. We were then quite fit to manage our Municipal affairs, but now we are voted incompetent to do that, though the Indians have since made vast strides in education, and received a special training for managing Municipalities. There is no doubt of it that the sedition law and the extinction of local self-government have effected a revolutionary change in this country, after a rule of 150 years by the English,—a change certainly not in the interests of progress or humanity—and a change which means unmitigated mischief both to the rulers and the ruled. That the present editor of the Englishman is a generous-hearted man is evident from the manner in which he has noticed our paragraph which expressed the anguish of our heart. But yet he can hardly realize the real position. We have actually now nothing to do but to sit quiet. Of course, we may whine; we have been whining, the whole nation combined; but, whining produces no effect upon a manly race like the English; it only makes us contemptible in their eyes. Indeed, all that was possible for us to do by constitutional agitation we did to convince our rulers of the retrograde character of the measures thrust upon us during the last two years, but in vain. We must now make no effort to better our condition. We must not speak out freely, when blessed or cursed. If any blessings come they must come of their own accord, or they must not come at all. If any curse comes we must receive it without a groan, though we may, if we like, offer a whining protest. Has not the Government proclaimed over and over again that, as time passes on, the people of this country will get more and more blessings of the British rule? But where is the progress? Taxation has been doubled; the people have been disarmed; famines and diseases are depopulating the country; freedom of speech has been taken away; and, at last, the little of self-government, bestowed on the people as an earnest of the real boon to come, has been withdrawn. Surely, this is not progress. The English are a generous and chivalrous nation. No Englishman should, therefore, rejoice but deplore over the gradual fall of the Bengalis, especially as the latter surrendered their freedom cheerfully and unconditionally to the English people. It is the Bengalis who helped the early English settlers to establish themselves firmly in India. All that, however, has now been forgotten. It should also be borne in mind that, as human beings, Indians have all the instincts which Englishmen themselves possess. If Englishmen love their country, so do the Indians. If Englishmen like to grow as a nation, so do the Indians. The Indians have their hopes and aspirations as has every other nation in the world. And it is quite possible for Englishmen to encourage the legitimate aspirations of the people without in any way endangering or sacrificing their material interests. By this crusade against local self-government, the rulers have evoked a feeling of despair in the country, the intensity of which they can have but a faint conception of. As for the allegation that three-fourths of the higher classes have disappeared from Bengal, it is no doubt a very startling and mournful statement; but yet it is a fact, and it can be at once verified if one will care to visit villages in the interior of this province, which now wear a deserted appearance, but which teemed with bhadrakols fifty or sixty years ago.

GUN LICENSES IN BENGAL.

To the question of the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, intimating that licenses for guns were refused in the Dacca Division, the Government of Bengal volunteered an explanation which, we are glad to see, proves its sympathy with the people. The Hon'ble Mr. Bolton, in his reply, said that, though the Hon'ble member did not ask it, still he would inform him that Government did not approve of this sudden reduction in the number of licenses. It is clear the local officers did it all of their own motion in the excess of their zeal. Indeed, every one in the Mofussil knows what a difficult matter it has now become to get a license for a gun. From the statement of Mr. Bolton, it appears that the Government had no knowledge that the local authorities were refusing licenses in a wholesale manner. The question of Babu Surendra Nath, leading to that suggestion, led the Government to make inquiries, which showed that there was much truth in the suggestion that gun-licenses were being unnecessarily refused. Now the Government, that is to say, the sympathetic Government of Sir J. Woodburn, had no desire to carry the policy of disarmament to any scandalous length. The information, thus placed in the hands of the Government, led it to issue instructions "to the local officers." But for the question it is likely that the Government would not have moved in the matter at all.

Here we have to point out that the representative members have their uses. But for the question of a representative member the scandal would perhaps never have attracted the attention of the Government. What we, however, beg to know is, what does the Government mean by issuing instructions to local officers? We ask this question, because the grievance is not confined to the eastern districts only, but is almost universal. Will any Hon'ble member request the Government to furnish a return showing the number of gun-licenses issued in every district, or will the Government be pleased to supply this information of its own motion? As far as we are aware, the necessity for obtaining gun-licenses is a source of considerable oppression in the Mofussil. Licenses are oftentimes refused in a most despotic manner; and to obtain one, one has to go through a tedious and somewhat expensive process. Now, as the object of the disarmament measure is not to emasculate the people, the local officers should be instructed never to carry their zeal to any scandalous length.

The Commissioner of Dacca mentions a strange fact; it is that people, if they are in possession of guns, exterminate birds for their plumage. It is quite true that birds are disappearing from Bengal, but the reason is not known, at least to us. In our younger days, the number of birds that flocked in villages was enormous; and now it has become difficult to find any number of them together. But the disappearance of birds has nothing whatever to do with gun-licenses. Hindus rarely shoot birds, for many of them do not eat even water-fowls. The Mussalmans no doubt eat some species of birds, but they can kill only a limited number of them. A Mussalman, if he is not a mischievous lad, will never wantonly shoot a bird which he will not eat. But we are told that birds are slaughtered for their plumage. If that be so, the trade in plumage cannot be a very large one.

The only bird that is killed for its plumage in Bengal is the kingfisher. But the plumage of the only bird that is of value in India is that of the peacock. The feathers of the fowls slaughtered by Mussalmans, are thrown away and never utilized for any earthly purpose. We would very much like to know what the Commissioner means by "the slaughter of birds for their plumage." This must be an industry peculiar to the Dacca Division.

The disarmament of the Indians is a great wrong to the people. It becomes simply scandalous when this policy is sought to be carried out with unnecessary rigour and wantonness. Every Englishman can see, if he has eyes, that the Indians are being day by day emasculated. One of the reasons for this deplorable condition is that they have been deprived of arms. They can now not only carry guns, but even a rusty sword, without a license. Fighting men were abundant even in Bengal fifty years ago. It is true they committed riots, but then the people had some life. But now riots and dacoities have been stopped, and along with this great achievement, the people have been emasculated to such an extent as to make them an object of pity to their fellow-beings in other parts of the world.

The agitation in the Indian press has drawn the attention of the local authorities to the Ahmedabad outrage case, and a police enquiry is being held under the superintendence of Mr. Lambert, the District Superintendent. Says the local paper, the Raja Patrika:—

In absence of witness, of course (as we learn from our personal interview with Mr. Lambert, the Police Superintendent) no active steps are yet taken against any body by the authorities but still it is not a matter of less satisfaction to find that they have and are even still trying to have a clue and we therefore for the present think it proper to remain quiet upon the matter until some further light is thrown by the authorities.

If it is a fact that one of the soldiers left a hat behind him, and that its owner has been identified, we fail to understand what more clue the Police require to bring the offenders to justice.

Now that war has been declared we may be allowed to observe that, Mr. Chamberlain had perhaps no idea that the matter would end in this way. His idea evidently was to coerce the Boers by threats; and war might have yet been averted if they had patiently awaited subsequent developments. But they foolishly took the initiative, and by that offended the susceptibilities of those leading Englishmen who were doing their best to effect an amicable settlement. Englishmen are proud; they have been nourishing their pride ever since the days of Elizabeth; they cannot brook insult or opposition. So even Morleys and Asquiths now declare that all party feelings must be suspended for the punishment of the insolent Boer farmers. Nevertheless it will be an inglorious war, and every Englishman feels it, and, probably, Mr. Chamberlain feels it the most. If the Boers prefer annihilation to submission, British statesmen will find themselves in a false position. And is this to be the result of the Peace Conference? We hope one or two sharp conflicts will bring these farmers to

their senses and lead them to surrender. For, now that the ire of the British nation has been roused, nothing but submission is likely to put a stop to the fate that awaits the two Republics.

We are glad to find that the authorities are gradually coming to admit that the first official report on the disaster, which visited various parts of the Bhagalpur Division on the night of the 24th September, far underestimated the loss of life and property, that had actually occurred. This is what the Englishman writes:—

It appears that the account we gave some days ago as regards the destruction caused by the cyclone of the 24th of September in the Bhagalpur District which was scarcely believed at the time, under rather than over, estimated the damage and loss of life. The facts then given proved to be quite accurate as regards the storm in the Colgong and Sudder sub-division of Bhagalpur, but at that time it was thought that the neighbouring sub-division of Godda, in the Sonthal Pergunnas, had escaped. Recent information which has come to hand from various quarters shows, however, that the damage to life and property was no less in Godda sub-division than in Bhagalpur. The loss of life in Godda is variously reported, but cannot be less than 500. This, with the loss in Bhagalpur, makes a total of no less than 1,000 lives lost in the fury of the great cyclone. The number of cattle lost is probably under-estimated at 10,000. We understand that Mr. H. C. Williams, the Commissioner of the Division, is out investigating the damage done, accompanied by Mr. J. G. Cumming, the Magistrate of Bhagalpur. Mr. C. Fisher, Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Pergunnas, has also joined them and is investigating the damage done in Godda.

Our information is, that the loss of life far exceeded 1,000. According to the Monghyr correspondent of the Englishman, the number of people who died amounted to 2,000. At this critical time, the Bhagalpur public has a duty to perform. They should, after a sifting enquiry, acquaint the local authorities with the real facts and figures regarding the disastrous results of the cyclone. Are they not going to hold the next Provincial Conference at Bhagalpur? Here is an opportunity for the promoters of the Conference to show that they are not merely men of words but deeds also. Possibly they will pass a resolution at the Conference deploring the loss of life caused by the disaster; but let them also remain prepared to relate on that occasion the steps they took to alleviate the distress of the survivors who were left without home and food and whose everything had been washed away by the flood.

The Pioneer alleges that it has received several letters from correspondents complaining against the way the Ranigunge (murder) case was tried, and then moralises thus: "Before we can expect Bengali Judges and juries to behave with rigid impartiality, it will be allowed that we ought ourselves to set the example. With the issue of the Ranigunge case before our eyes, we are surely not entitled to make much outcry about the case at Ranigunge." We admit that there is a drop of fairness in this; and we ought to thank the Pioneer for it; but this apparent fairness makes his writings more dangerous. A blind partisan can never be so mischievous as a half-fair writer. Further on he says: "There is not much to choose between an average native jury and an average European jury." Indeed! The fairness displayed by the Pioneer is only a ruse. This assumption of fairness enables him to beg the whole question at issue and assume that there is a failure of justice in the Ranigunge case, and that the "native" Judges and juries are all bad. That there is a failure of justice in the Ranigunge case is a pure assumption, is it not? What the average European thinks is that since a European had met with death, some "natives" ought to have been hanged, and since no "native" was hanged, there was, no doubt, that a failure of justice had occurred. And to compare the Ranigunge case with the Ranigunge case is in itself unfair. In the latter case there were clear proofs about the crime and the perpetrators of the crime; for it is known that a woman was raped to death, and it is known that some two dozen soldiers of a certain regiment had done this diabolical crime. But in the Ranigunge case, the dead body of a European was found in a tank of scalding hot water, where a mere fall was sufficient to result in death. That was the fact placed before the Burdwan Judge and jury by the prosecution. There was no evidence to connect the death of the European with any one of the accused, and thus it was impossible for the jury to convict any one of the accused persons of murder. Of course, from political considerations, they ought to have done so; for it should have occurred to them that there would be a great outcry amongst Europeans if some "natives" were not hanged. Indeed, we frankly confess that some of them ought to have been convicted of murder in deference to the feelings of the European community and for the purpose of peace; but it requires a good deal of moral courage to convict a man of murder if he is not proved guilty on unimpeachable evidence. The Indians have not, however, that backbone. Yet they could have mustered courage for the purpose of satisfying the European community, but then the practice of sentencing even a dozen men to be hanged for the murder of one, that has recently been introduced here, has made the conviction of accused persons in murder cases a matter of serious consideration. Who knows if the jury had convicted the accused of murder, all the twelve might have been sent to the gallows? To say that the average Indian jury is as bad as the European, is to make a statement which has been proved to be false. There was an outcry against these "native" juries, and there was a Commission appointed to inquire whether the accusation, namely, that they gave perverse verdicts, brought against them by no less a personage than a late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir Charles Elliott, was true or not. It was found that there was not a tittle of evidence to prove the charge. The Indian is a religious and moral man; he has not as yet been sufficiently demoralized to be able to give perverse verdicts when occupying the solemn position of a Judge.

LET us reproduce the words of Sir John Woodburn, when passing the Calcutta Municipal Bill:— Before I close, I should like to say one word, if I may intrude so small a matter of my personal share in this controversy. I trust that I may claim to have been, throughout my service, a friend of India and of the Indians. That is no credit. It is certainly no boast. It is the simple duty of every Englishman in India. But to me it has been a quadrupled duty. Four generations of my name have eaten the salt of India and I am the last. On me it was incumbent to do all that in me lay to help and forward the people of this generous country. The sands of my official life are fast running out. Is it possible that, except under the cogeny of a plain and clear necessity, I should set my hand to a measure which, I know, must hurt and wound those whom I seek to serve?—

Sir John Woodburn is emphatically a good man; and his utterances, quoted above, deeply moved those who read them. But His Honour's words prove, in a most conclusive manner, that this municipal reform is a deep wrong to the people of this country, and that His Honour knows it. Here is then the spectacle of a really good man, doing a vital injury to a nation he loves,—one, to which he expresses his gratitude. How has this happened? It was "a plain and clear necessity" which compelled him to do this. What might that clear necessity be? It was not the good of Bengal. For, then, His Honour would never have assumed an attitude of defence. The clear necessity was perhaps a mandate—a hukum; but a hukum from whom? Not from Lord Curzon, for his Lordship will also probably lay the blame on "clear necessity."

The Pioneer takes that noble-hearted Englishman, Lord Stanley of Alderley, to task, for having raised in Parliament the question of outrages in India by British soldiers. Those who take up such matters, it says, are "a small knot of busybodies, spurious philanthropists, and the dregs of the Irish and Radical parties." In this manner, the Pioneer goes on moralizing and at last comes to state a fact. It complains that "no one calls attention to the growing frequency of outrages committed by natives upon Europeans." Here is a statement that, outrages by "natives" upon Europeans are growing. The Pioneer takes for granted that outrages by "natives" upon Europeans do occur in India. And then it takes also for granted that such outrages are growing in number. But are these statements to be taken as facts? They are however not facts; they are, let us copy the elegant phrase of Lord George Hamilton, "gross falsehoods." If they were facts, the Pioneer would have given instances. Of course, the Englishman complained

about Indian outrages upon Europeans when Mr. Ross of the Mohanpur tea-garden was acquitted. But it was subsequently proved in the Court of Captain Herbert, Deputy Commissioner of Cachar, that Mr. Ross was the aggressor from the beginning to the end, and that his evidence could not be relied on. Then we have the Ranigunge case. That was a case in which, of course, certain "natives," namely, some up-country durwans, dared resent an injury done to one of them by a European. The Pioneer will not be able to shew, however, another similar case where an Indian ventured to hit his hand against a European, during the whole course of its existence. And in this Ranigunge case the finding was that the fray had been begun by the European. The statement that "natives" commit outrages upon Europeans is not founded upon facts; while the statement that Europeans commit outrages upon "natives" is not a myth. The difference between the noble Lord and his critic is this. The noble Lord was trying to remove an undoubted grievance; and the Pioneer not only abused him unjustly for it, but having no case against him, invented a grievance for the purpose. This statement is reiterated in another shape; and the readers of the Pioneer are unblushingly told that "undoubtedly there is all over India a considerable section of the population which is quite ready to murder an Englishman if he can be found in a lonely place." This "undoubtedly" shews that the Pioneer feels that it is making a statement which has no legs to stand upon. An Indian will never commit murder under any circumstance whatever, be the victim a white or a black. Of course, robbers commit murders for gold, and honest men sometimes commit murderous assaults upon those who might have brought disgrace upon their families by dishonouring their female relatives. But otherwise, the Indian is gentle; he abhors bloodshed. If he sees a solitary European he will only do his best to help him, and give him food and drink if wanted. The Pioneer judges the Indians by the standard of other races. The Indians are infinitesimally better than these others. And then we are reminded of the outrages committed by the Indians during plague operations. But that only proves that plague rules were bad and not that the Indians are ferocious. Heaven forgive those writers who malign the innocent, gentle and generous races which inhabit India, and abuse the noble-hearted Englishmen who speak a word in their favour. The Indians are much better than others in many respects, much better than their critics, and they deserve well of their rulers for qualities which are not to be found in people living in any other part of the world. The Pioneer, which has no end of contempt for the Indian press, said the other day that the Indians sent their women to seduce European soldiers! If one compares the tone of an Indian paper with that of an Anglo-Indian like the Pioneer, he can easily see which of them has justice, fairness and sense on its side.

a certain king who said unto his servants, "Go ye into the highways and as many girls as ye shall find bid to the marriage"; and the servants gathered together as many girls as they found, both bad and good, mostly bad. "A perusal of the list of candidates returned at the bye-elections," observes Capital, "will show what we mean."

The editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika says that his head khansama, Nashiram, was fired with the ambition of being a Municipal Commissioner this time and made every preparation to offer himself as a candidate for Ward No. 1. Questioned as to how he could be so bold as to aspire after such a high honour, being only a menial servant, his reply was—"Why should I not, if I had the requisite qualifications? And he delivered himself thus:—"I sought out the place where the Commissioners meet. There I found them all sitting dressed in coats and pants, yawning and twitching their feet. So what I have to do to be a full-fledged Commissioner is to creep into a pair of trousers, encase my body in a Chapkan, protect my feet with shoes, put on my head a cap, yawn and twitch my feet sitting on a chair."

"But you can't speak English and you will have to associate with Europeans?" asked his master, unable to restrain his risible faculty. "I have provided myself against these contingencies," was the prompt answer of Nashiram. "What I intend doing is to say good morning to the Chairman and sit down quite mute. For, I have seen with my own eyes that very few Commissioners open their lips at all. And even if I am asked by any one to speak I will say I have got head-ache. As for the Europeans, I will salaam them profoundly as many Commissioners do, bending their backs in the form of an arch, and thus keep them in good humour. For, the Sahebs like nothing better than salaams, specially when they are made in the right orthodox style."

It further transpired in the course of the conversation that Nashiram having been under the notion that every Commissioner would get a monthly salary of two gold mohurs, had submitted a petition to the Government agreeing to serve on half pay, that is to say, one gold mohur per mensem! Nashiram explained that he was prepared to make this sacrifice to show that it was not lucre but public spirit that had induced him to stand as a Commissioner.

At last, when his master seriously advised Nashiram to give up these wild ideas, the latter appealed to the former in these fervent terms: "For Heaven's sake, sir, don't put obstacles in my way,—don't, please. I will not get another opportunity like this. It is for the salvation of such humble creatures as ourselves that this Municipal Act has been passed. Just fancy, was it possible for men like us ever to become Municipal Commissioners? It is to the kindness of Government that we owe this time fought shy of the honour; almost all their seats are vacant. What matters it if I don't know English? I will not speak at all. And I hear very little talking will either be permitted or necessary under the new Act. The mere raising of hands will quite suffice. I have decided always to raise my hand on the side of the Burra Saheb. In my pants and coat, I shall look grand—just like a Commissioner. And then, as a Commissioner, would I not have the privilege of shaking hands with the Lieutenant-Governor and accompanying His Honor in his river trips? Don't stop me, my good sir, don't, don't."

Perhaps all the above is a hoax; but there is no doubt, that a universal notion prevails in the city that the present Municipality is not for respectable but for inferior classes of people, and the result of the bye-elections, according to Capital, confirms it.

LET us reproduce the words of Sir John Woodburn, when passing the Calcutta Municipal Bill:—

Before I close, I should like to say one word, if I may intrude so small a matter of my personal share in this controversy. I trust that I may claim to have been, throughout my service, a friend of India and of the Indians. That is no credit. It is certainly no boast. It is the simple duty of every Englishman in India. But to me it has been a quadrupled duty. Four generations of my name have eaten the salt of India and I am the last. On me it was incumbent to do all that in me lay to help and forward the people of this generous country. The sands of my official life are fast running out. Is it possible that, except under the cogeny of a plain and clear necessity, I should set my hand to a measure which, I know, must hurt and wound those whom I seek to serve?—

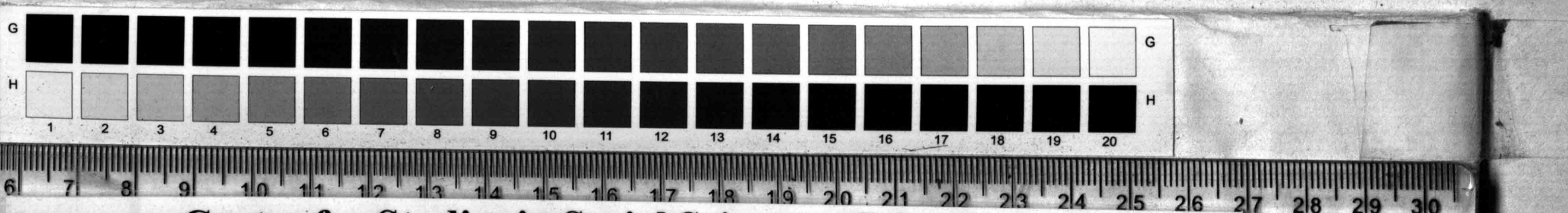
Sir John Woodburn is emphatically a good man; and his utterances, quoted above, deeply moved those who read them. But His Honour's words prove, in a most conclusive manner, that this municipal reform is a deep wrong to the people of this country, and that His Honour knows it. Here is then the spectacle of a really good man, doing a vital injury to a nation he loves,—one, to which he expresses his gratitude. How has this happened? It was "a plain and clear necessity" which compelled him to do this. What might that clear necessity be? It was not the good of Bengal. For, then, His Honour would never have assumed an attitude of defence. The clear necessity was perhaps a mandate—a hukum; but a hukum from whom? Not from Lord Curzon, for his Lordship will also probably lay the blame on "clear necessity."

The Pioneer takes that noble-hearted Englishman, Lord Stanley of Alderley, to task, for having raised in Parliament the question of outrages in India by British soldiers. Those who take up such matters, it says, are "a small knot of busybodies, spurious philanthropists, and the dregs of the Irish and Radical parties." In this manner, the Pioneer goes on moralizing and at last comes to state a fact. It complains that "no one calls attention to the growing frequency of outrages committed by natives upon Europeans." Here is a statement that, outrages by "natives" upon Europeans are growing. The Pioneer takes for granted that outrages by "natives" upon Europeans do occur in India. And then it takes also for granted that such outrages are growing in number. But are these statements to be taken as facts? They are however not facts; they are, let us copy the elegant phrase of Lord George Hamilton, "gross falsehoods." If they were facts, the Pioneer would have given instances. Of course, the Englishman complained

about Indian outrages upon Europeans when Mr. Ross of the Mohanpur tea-garden was acquitted. But it was subsequently proved in the Court of Captain Herbert, Deputy Commissioner of Cachar, that Mr. Ross was the aggressor from the beginning to the end, and that his evidence could not be relied on. Then we have the Ranigunge case. That was a case in which, of course, certain "natives," namely, some up-country durwans, dared resent an injury done to one of them by a European. The Pioneer will not be able to shew, however, another similar case where an Indian ventured to hit his hand against a European, during the whole course of its existence. And in this Ranigunge case the finding was that the fray had been begun by the European. The statement that "natives" commit outrages upon Europeans is not founded upon facts; while the statement that Europeans commit outrages upon "natives" is not a myth. The difference between the noble Lord and his critic is this. The noble Lord was trying to remove an undoubted grievance; and the Pioneer not only abused him unjustly for it, but having no case against him, invented a grievance for the purpose. This statement is reiterated in another shape; and the readers of the Pioneer are unblushingly told that "undoubtedly there is all over India a considerable section of the population which is quite ready to murder an Englishman if he can be found in a lonely place." This "undoubtedly" shews that the Pioneer feels that it is making a statement which has no legs to stand upon. An Indian will never commit murder under any circumstance whatever, be the victim a white or a black. Of course, robbers commit murders for gold, and honest men sometimes commit murderous assaults upon those who might have brought disgrace upon their families by dishonouring their female relatives. But otherwise, the Indian is gentle; he abhors bloodshed. If he sees a solitary European he will only do his best to help him, and give him food and drink if wanted. The Pioneer judges the Indians by the standard of other races. The Indians are infinitesimally better than these others. And then we are reminded of the outrages committed by the Indians during plague operations. But that only proves that plague rules were bad and not that the Indians are ferocious. Heaven forgive those writers who malign the innocent, gentle and generous races which inhabit India, and abuse the noble-hearted Englishmen who speak a word in their favour. The Indians are much better than others in many respects, much better than their critics, and they deserve well of their rulers for qualities which are not to be found in people living in any other part of the world. The Pioneer, which has no end of contempt for the Indian press, said the other day that the Indians sent their women to seduce European soldiers! If one compares the tone of an Indian paper with that of an Anglo-Indian like the Pioneer, he can easily see which of them has justice, fairness and sense on its side.

THE reader is already aware that the plague officers at Belgaum and the people thereof have not been pulling well in respect of the methods adopted by the former in enforcing plague regulations. Indeed, the people were so hard-pressed once that, a few weeks ago, they went to the length of sending a telegram to H. E. the Governor of Bombay, stating their grievances. There were interpellations also in the local Legislative Council on the subject, and the Government reply to them went to show that the people had no cause for complaint. In spite of such replies, Lord Sandhurst was apparently not satisfied with the official reports of the affair. So His Excellency visited Belgaum in person to satisfy himself as to the real situation there. But it does not appear that any good has come out of the visit, for Lord Sandhurst has declared that the plague officials had acted rightly and that the people should not prevent them from discharging their duties. But the following extract from the Belgaum correspondent's letter to the Mahatma, just to hand, leaves no doubt as to the position of the people in that ill-fated town:—

While H. E. was driving home back in company of the Commissioner with the smiling faces and cheering receptions in his mind, his carriage suddenly came to a dead halt and he saw before him, a long line of persons, prostrate on the public road, completely blocking his way. The reins of the horses were at once drawn in and His Excellency inquired the reason why they were rolling in dust. The Jains—the victims of the Plague Committee—could not talk in English so they meekly handed him a small petition written in broken English by one of them. H. E. took up the petition and the carriage wheeled away and the people followed His Excellency to his bungalow. There a patted walla told them to wait outside. They waited for hours outside in expectation of receiving a communication from inside. But hunger and fierce heat soon drove them to their huts and no notice was taken of them. His Excellency in the evening attended the races and the Club. Next day H. E. received a deputation from merchants. The deputation was invited to meet H. E. at P. M. and so the members presented themselves at the door in time. But they found to their surprise that they were told to keep off. At last a European came and conducted them to His Excellency. The first question with which the Deputation was confronted by His Excellency was: "Have you anything further to say than what you have already said in your petition?" The Deputation told His Excellency that the Government seemed from the replies in the Council, to doubt the statements made in their application. Therefore they had come prepared to prove those statements and the reply which they had received was not a proper one. His Excellency said that from the time the measures were criticised in papers, His Lordship instituted inquiries and after his arrival at Belgaum His Excellency made inquiries with many European and Native gentlemen and His Excellency was assured that not a single case of the nature mentioned in the petition had taken place and therefore it was not proper for men of the Deputation to hinder the plague officers working at great risk to their lives. The Deputation said that they had never hindered the officers nor would they hinder in future, but they had done their work with excellent motives. The Deputation then begged of His Excellency to appoint a small mixed Commission of European and non-official native gentlemen to inquire whether the Plague Committee had oppressed the people or not. His Excellency told the Depu-





tation that he did not at all desire to appoint the Commission and asked them who they were. The members said that they were merchants. "Only so few," asked His Excellency. The Deputation said that they were thousands but only six had come on behalf of all the merchants. His Excellency said that only five and twenty persons, educated among them, should not hinder the officers. The Deputation again assured His Excellency to the contrary and asked some relaxation of the inoculation rules. But His Excellency said that he would not and was pleased to retire abruptly. Shortly after His Excellency drove to the station. Many people tried to approach His Excellency with a prayer or a petition but they could not get any admission. The people had vainly hoped that the arrival of His Excellency would put an end to their miseries but they were doomed to disappointment. And the officers at Belgaum suspecting that the people may again try to stop the carriage of His Excellency on the road and present him with a petition or a prayer were on a sharp look-out and the police chased away all people from His Excellency's road. About 500 people after vainly trying to present their petition to His Excellency assembled on the road hoping to attract His Excellency's attention there at last. But the police was wiser. A strong party of the police drove the people away and His Excellency drove to the station without meeting any one on the road. Thus ended the visit of H. E. to this place.

At one time the Bombay authorities saw the way to salvation from plague in the policy of segregation, of disinfection, and of general sanitary overhauling alone. Every body knows with what zeal and energy were these measures enforced in Bombay, and the indescribable misery their enforcement brought upon the people of that Presidency. Our Health Officer, Dr. Nield Cook, thus describes what he saw in the city of Bombay:—

The accepted policy of house-to-house visitation, disinfection and isolation was in full swing. Huts were destroyed, whole streets unroofed, partitions pulled down, and holes knocked in the walls to admit light and air. Disinfection was carried on a wholesale scale, whole quarters were accommodated in camps, and the scavenging was the best I have seen in any Eastern town. The administration was admirable, but the practical result of all this expenditure of money and energy and harassing of the people was very small.

Dr. Cook next describes how plague was driven from Calcutta, where there were no search parties, as a rule, no segregation, and where the standard of cleanliness was far below that of Bombay. "In the one case," says he, "plague raged in spite of drastic measures; in the other, it subsided without them." In Bombay these drastic measures have been, to a considerable extent, given up, and in their place, inoculation has been introduced. But it seems, inoculation has created as much misery in Belgaum as the policy of segregation and search parties did in Bombay. Judging from the description given above, people seem to think that they have been only cast from the frying pan to the fire. We are really surprised at the treatment accorded to the wretched people of Belgaum by His Excellency the Governor. As their *ma bap*, it was his duty to listen to their grievances, remove them, and not to fly from them, as he is said to have done. And then, has the efficacy of inoculation been satisfactorily established? If it is a prophylactic, how is it that it has failed to expel the disease, though it is now being practically forced upon the people of affected parts? If inoculation is of only doubtful benefit, why should people be practically compelled to resort to it against their will? It is no argument that because segregation and disinfection have failed, we should therefore adopt inoculation. The efficacy of inoculation should first be established on a sure basis, and then, and not till then, should it be introduced so extensively.

ASSAM is a less advanced province than Bengal, but it is in the hands of one of the most enlightened rulers that India has ever seen. No wonder, therefore, that Mr. Cotton should not feel quite satisfied with the clumsy and uninteresting manner in which administration reports are prepared by his subordinates. He lays down the lines upon which reports are to be written in future; and indicates the points which should claim the first consideration. The Indian press, we are told, has little or no influence upon the general mass of the people in Assam, though some of the Calcutta papers are, no doubt, read by the educated Assamese. Mr. Cotton is, however, apparently of opinion that the Assam authorities should utilize the Indian papers for the purpose of administering the affairs of their province, as far as that is possible. This shows that Mr. Cotton is not only a broad-minded Englishman, but his political insight is keen and far-reaching. The Indian press is the pulse of the nation. The rulers, in spite of their two hundred years' residence in this country, are yet strangers here. If they want to know the currents and under-currents that permeate through Indian society they must resort to the columns of Indian newspapers. It is quite true that these papers now and then handle the officials rather roughly and publish reports which are not absolutely correct. But with all its shortcomings the existence of the Indian press is a dire necessity in a country, which is governed by foreigners who are not in touch with the children of the soil. They may do without a press in England, which has its Parliament and other self-governing bodies; but they cannot do without it in India, where the people have been divested of all political powers and have no voice whatever in the administration of the country.

Never was the usefulness of the Indian press more pointedly brought to public notice than during the Talla riots. A few Mussalman assembled at Talla to prevent the demolition of a so-called Masjid, and defied the police; and the entire European community of Calcutta was overtaken by a dreadful panic, and kept in that state for three or four days together. The Anglo-Indian papers raised the cry of another Mutiny, and the then officiating Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Mr. Stevens, was severely rebuked by them for not having proclaimed martial law in the city. Mr. Stevens, who, like Mr. Cotton, had great faith in the Indian press, took the latter for his guide and paid no heed to the wild utterances of the Anglo-Indian papers. We very well remember how two of our own reporters freely mixed with the so-called Talla rebels, pumped out their

secrets, and published them immediately in these columns for the information of the authorities. These misguided men hurled defiance at the Police actually under the notion that the Sultan of Room (Turkey) had despatched fifty thousand Turkish soldiers to their rescue and that these were to arrive in Calcutta within a week or ten days! These and other absurd notions of the Mussalman rioters were published in the Indian papers, and Mr. Stevens at once came to realize the true situation. Several regiments of soldiers were warned to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Calcutta, but Mr. Stevens stopped their movements and thus saved the Government from a ridiculous and embarrassing position. The Indian press should have been encouraged and never muzzled in the way it has been. It served the purposes of a beacon light to the rulers, but the Sedition Act has practically put it out.

Mr. Cotton might have drawn the attention of his subordinates to another matter. Assam is notorious for coolie oppression cases. We are quite willing to concede that the planters are sometimes horribly misrepresented. Indeed, the tea-planters of Assam deserve well of the whole country for converting jungles—the abode of wild animals—to smiling gardens and for furnishing food to thousands of starving people. It is thus both in the interests of the planters and the illiterate coolies who lie absolutely helpless at their mercy that a thorough and sifting enquiry should be instituted into cases in which the latter are alleged to have been oppressed, and the result published in the official reports for general information. Then, the police and the executive officials have greater opportunities of abusing their powers in a backward province like Assam than any where else. The Commissioners of Divisions should, therefore, be specially instructed to watch the doings of their subordinates and pass censure upon them whenever they are found to exercise their authority in an illegitimate way.

The *Indian Spectator* says: "We believe it was Lord Salisbury who first pointed out, many years ago that a withdrawal of troops from India to a foreign land meant that there were more soldiers in the country than was necessary for its protection." We think, it does not require the keen intellect of a Salisbury to discover the fact that a man can never be a lender when he himself has not more than enough. And then, our contemporary continues: "Since then, Indian troops have again and again been requisitioned, chiefly for service in Africa. On most of these occasions India has had to bear the whole cost of the contingents she had been called upon to provide." It comes to this then that India has to maintain more soldiers than she needs, and that when England takes loan of these troops she has not even the justice to pay for them. In his evidence given before Sir H. Fowler's Committee, Sir Robert Giffen contended:—

"It may be the case, and I fear it is the case, that the Imperial Government unfairly charges a great amount of expenditure to India which ought rather to be borne by the Empire in general. The army in India is maintained, not exclusively for the advantage of the Indian people, but also for the general benefit of the British Empire. It may then be possible to make the deficit in India more manageable than has been represented, and thus avert the supposed necessity for altering the money of India. I should like to put very strongly the impression which I have formed that in this matter, India substantially is not dealt with in a fair manner and that something ought to be allowed for the advantage which the Empire in general gets from the existence of the European army in India, which is not exclusively for the benefit of the Indian people. Sir Robert Giffen estimates the amount to be deducted from our permanent charges at between £3,000,000 to £4,000,000, a very respectable sum which we have been paying for years. As about a couple of millions of men annually die in this country of starvation or from diseases brought on by starvation, insufficiency and unwholesomeness of food and water, the three or four million pounds sterling taken from India, if paid back, would be of immense use to the Government of India, which is always in a state of penury. We may note here the observation made by Sir Henry Fowler the other day:—

"The world has never known so fair, just, equitable and successful a Government as that of Great Britain over India."

And in reply we may say—Sobhan Allah! which means, "God bless you," and which expression is also used when one means to say a very smart thing.

"RANJIT is expected to be a much more rage in society than any of the titled foreigners who have visited America," say the American papers. Ranjit found some difficulty in forming his team; that was overcome, however. When we think that Ranjit, after all, is a Hindu, we are filled with wonder. He, a Hindu, leads an English team, and Englishmen permit the affront! But does not Ranjit commit sedition? Here in India a European will object to serve under an Indian, though the latter may be holding a high post and may himself be a Civilian. We have some Indian Civilian; and what a hard task it is for them to manage their subordinates when they happen to be Europeans! A Civilian writes to the *Pioneer* suggesting the way to put a stop to the growing differences between the Indians and their European fellow-subjects. He has one fault to find with the higher classes of Indians. "How long," says he, "will it be before the higher classes of India realize that the average Englishman has a rooted objection to flattery?" The writer himself has such objection no doubt; for there is a ring of sincerity in his words. But how does he know that the average Englishman here has any objection to flattery? That he has no such objection is conclusively proved by the fact that he is so flattered by the higher classes which, shrewd as they are, they would never have done, if flattery was not agreeable to him. Man has a natural repugnance to demean himself. When he does so, it pains him to assume that attitude. But he has yet to do this to serve his own interests. It is no credit to Englishmen that even higher classes here have to descend to flattery to please their masters. In England Englishmen are taught to hate flattery:—in India they are trained to love it. That the fawning tendency, so frequently met with in an Indian, disgusts some Englishmen we have no doubt. But to say that the average Englishman here, like his countrymen at home, has a prejudice against flattery is disproved by the way Indians are punished for not saluting and not putting off their shoes when visiting Europeans.

OUR Bombay correspondent writes to us under date, the 11th October:—

We lost one of the best men in our part of the country last week in the famous astrologer known here as Madakkal Jyotishi. He was an adept in casting men's horoscopes by only looking at their faces once. He was a remarkably clear-headed, patriotic and courageous man, and received much official attention at Kolhapur during the Rand murder panic. Mr. Tilak was here to see him during his last moments. He died on Sunday morning, a poor man, although he could have amassed a fortune, if he had wished by his astrological skill.

The *Mahratta*, in noticing the death of this astrologer, whom it calls Mr. Kasi Nath, says that during the Rand murder affair a European police official actually went to the latter at Kolhapur and tried to pump out information from him so as to connect Mr. Tilak, with the diabolical deed! Fancy, how the police lost their head during the panic when they sought to implicate a man like Mr. Tilak with the matter and get him hanged if possible!

EVERYBODY knows that it is the third-class passengers who maintain the Indian Railways; for they form 97.12 per cent of Railway passengers, paying 6.80 crores of Rupees, while the first and second-class passengers form only 2.88 per cent of Railway travellers paying the comparatively paltry sum of Rs. 77 lakhs. But look at the treatment which is accorded to passengers who travel third-class. They are treated more as brutes than as human beings; but the authorities are always anxious to increase the ease and comfort of the higher class passengers. The Railway Conference which has just closed its sittings at Simla had before it a number of questions for consideration. These questions for the greater part related to the favoured few who travel first or second class. It is true that there were also questions which referred to the comfort of the third-class passengers but they were few and even those few were practically left where they stood. For example, there was the question of providing sleeping berths in third-class compartments attached to trains travelling long distances. The Conference has decided that as the arrangements would involve additional expenditure, and having regard to the low rates of fare charged, it would not be practicable to introduce this reform. But we have shown above that the entire passenger earning of the Indian Railways is almost due to third-class passengers. Such a state of things would not have been tolerated in any other country. Sleeping berths are a luxury which many can do without, but what of latrine arrangements? This point was not even taken up for discussion.

THE records of the Parbatipur Station-master's case, already published, show how the liberty of the Indian subject is a myth when he happens to incur the displeasure of the police. The Station-master is a respectable gentleman, in the opinion of the Sessions Judge, who acquitted him; yet, he was hauled up as a felon, hand-cuffed and bare-footed, all the way from Parbatipur to Dinagepur, and then consigned in the lock-up on a deliberately false charge of attempting to murder a police officer! The letters of "One Who Knows," which have already appeared in these columns, throw light on some of the intricate points in connection with this case. Our correspondent says that, for some reason or other, the Police bore a grudge against the Station-master and tried more than once to put him to trouble. The unfortunate man was reported against as a *badmash*, and he was also accused of theft. The charges, however, fell through. The cases recently instituted were only a part of the scheme hatched by the police to ruin him. Our correspondent thus relates how they tried to serve their purpose:—

That he was correct in his surmise was proved by the facts that the villagers had actually been taken to the Habra cutchery and that they were made to depose against him (station-master) as would clearly appear from their depositions. On some former occasions people had been taken by the Parbatipur Police officer to the Habra cutchery for the purpose of making them depose against the Station-master. This fact was known to the Station-master. I may mention here the facts connected with one of these occasions. On the 17th July last, Samir Mondal, and others came to Dinajpur to complain against Mathura Babu. On their way back the said Samir Mondal and one Basaratulla Faquir were arrested at Parbatipur Railway Station on the plea that there were warrants for their arrest. This fact has been proved by the Head Constable of the Railway Police at Parbatipur and a signaller of the Parbatipur Railway Station. Samir Mondal and Basaratulla Faquir deposed that they had been kept in the lock-up for the night and that on the following morning they were taken to the Habra cutchery where they were made to make certain statements against the Station-master. This fact could not be denied altogether by Mathura Babu himself. He was compelled to admit in cross-examination, in the case under section 322 I. P. Code against the Station-master, that on the day in question Samir Mondal and Basaratulla Faquir had been taken from the Railway Station but *not under arrest*—a fact most satisfactorily proved by the evidence of the Railway Police Head Constable and a signaller. He says this was done at about 4 P. M. At night they were asked to stay in the Bazar; on the following morning they were taken to the Railway Police Sub-Inspector in connection with the case of theft of a door-frame that had been instituted against the Station-master by Mathura Babu. But the Railway Police Sub-Inspector dismissed them by saying that he had no business with them. Then they were taken to the Habra cutchery. All these facts appear in the deposition of Mathura Babu (*vide his deposition in the Court of Babu Rajani Prasad Neogi in the case under Section 322 I. P. Code*). Now except the criminal portions, all the facts alleged against the Sub-Inspector were admitted by him. It has been very clearly proved that the said two persons were actually arrested at about 4 P. M., on the 17th July at the Parbatipur Railway Station. If the object of the Sub-Inspector had been to take them to the Railway Police Sub-Inspector, they could have been very well summoned by that officer. Mathura Babu was not investigating the theft case.

What a gruesome tale! Villagers were illegally arrested, detained, and threatened by the Police to depose against the Station-master! And to crown all, so accommodating was Mr. Garrett, the District Magistrate, that he left the Police to do whatever they liked, unchecked and uncontrolled! Heaven knows what would have been the fate of the Station-master if the case had not come up for trial before such a shrewd and honest Judge, as Mr. Pope. For, it is rarely that a victim escapes, when he is in the clutches of the Police. We have no doubt that the Government of Bengal have already sent for the records of the case and will pass necessary orders upon the conduct of the local Police in due course.

WHEN Lord Stanley of Alderley raised the question of outrages in India by British soldiers in the Lords, Lord Onslow, the Indian Under-Secretary of State, sought to silence him by the simple epy that "he did not think that the noble Lord had convinced their Lordships that soldiers in India were guilty of more crime than the same class elsewhere or any section drawn from the same class of the population." Referring to this the *New Age* remarks:—

An assault by a soldier in England is a comparatively small matter. It carries no rankling feeling of oppression with it. The soldier stands every chance of getting as good as he gives, tit for tat, on the spot; and if the case come before a Court there will be no suggestion of prejudice against either party. In India, it is quite another thing: there is no instant repayment in kind, there is no equality of the parties before the law, and so the assault rankles, and becomes dangerous. Not only this, but it is impossible for soldiers to commit similar outrages in England that they do in India. For instance, O'Hara and two other soldiers dragged a Mussalman, at dead of night, from his hut, ducked him in a pond, and then deliberately shot him dead. Is this possible in England? Take the Rangoon case. Two dozen soldiers or more raped a respectable woman to death, in broad daylight and in the presence of many of their comrades. Can such a thing be even conceived of in the ruling country? Then these scuffles between soldiers and villagers, that happen here so frequently. As a rule, these scuffles end in the death of one or more villagers, and the final acquittal of the soldiers charged with causing their death. Can any body show one single instance of this sort of outrage in England? It is only men in the position of Lord Onslow and Lord G. Hamilton who have the privilege of declaring before the world that soldiers in England behave exactly in the same way as they do in India.

THEY do things in Madras in a right imperial style. The other day, an executive order was promulgated by the Madras Government to the effect that, an elected Commissioner of a Municipality was liable to be removed, if, in the opinion of the District Collector, his presence was likely to bring Municipal administration into contempt; that is to say, if he showed his independence! And our Madras friends, it seems, have quietly submitted to the *ukase*. We now learn that jury trial has been suspended in the district of Tinnevely. And why? The Government of Madras has this time vouchsafed to give reasons. It appointed a special Commissioner to enquire into the subject; and his decision, which is accepted by the Government, is that all men in the district are unfit to serve as jurors in the trial of riot cases, either by reason of factious feeling or by intimidation! But how do they manage things in England and other civilized countries? Riots surely take place there every now and then—as bloody ones as those which happened in Tinnevely. But is jury trial suspended there "by reason of factious feeling"? When the Alipur jury acquitted all the Shambazar rioters, Sir Charles Elliott, the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, thought to take away the trial of riot cases from the jurisdiction of the juries in this Province. The matter subsequently came before the Jury Commission which sat to discuss the famous Jury Notification of the same Lieutenant-Governor, by which he intended to practically abolish trial by jury in Bengal. The Commission came to the conclusion that, if any class of cases should go before the jury, it was the riot cases. It seems, it never occurred to the Government of Madras that alien Judges, as a rule, are quite incompetent to decide riot cases in this country; and hence the help of the natives of the soil is absolutely necessary for the right understanding of these intricate cases.

THE Politicals in Kathiawar have all on a sudden been inspired by a desire to protect Native Chiefs from the insults of Indian Vakils, as a notification in a recent issue of the "Agency Gazette" would show. The occasion, which has evoked such a tender feeling on the part of the Politicals towards the Princes, appears to be this: A ruling Chief was accidentally accused of fraud in a printed representation, (which was drafted by a barrister) submitted to the Political. Upon this the Political Agent has thought it fit to warn all who draft petitions that the Agency can not permit ruling Chiefs to be referred to with discourtesy. Referring to this circumstance, a correspondent of the *Champion* unearthed an incident, which occurred some two years ago, to show how these ruling Chiefs are treated by the Politicals:—

On the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, there was a reception at the Kathi, held by the Political Agent. The said officer had arranged that a procession should start at a certain hour from the reception rooms to see the illuminations. The order of the procession was this: (1) All Europeans (ladies and gentlemen); (2) Native Chiefs; and (3) Native gentlemen. The order of the procession was not notified beforehand. It had, however, got sent, and before the starting of the procession a large number of the latter—the Native gentlemen—quietly walked away from the reception. The Native Chiefs, of course, could not so freely express the sense of the insult given to them and though they quietly went in the procession, they were certainly not pleased with the arrangements.

We may add several other incidents to the above to show the tender feelings of the Politicals towards the Indian Chiefs. Is not the Jhallowar Prince now a State prisoner at Benares? Everybody now knows, why he was deposed, and every body also knows why the Political, who caused his ruin, was subsequently disgraced and made to resign his post. The position of the Princes is far worse than even that of "Native gentlemen" in British India. They have not even the right to protest against the insulting treatment that may be accorded to them by the Politicals.

SUMMONS, we hear, was granted on the 17th instant by Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate of Bombay, on Mr. G. Parameswaram Pillai, editor, proprietor, and publisher of the *Madras Standard*, on the application of Mr. Kaikhooshrooj N. Kabrajee and Mr. Merwanjee Furdoonjee Murzban, the editor and the proprietor of *Rast Gofar*, for defamation. It is alleged that under the heading, "Our Bombay Letter," in the *Standard*, there appeared certain matter reflecting on the character of the complainants, in connection with a notice served on them by Mr. Chambers, Editor of the *Champion*.

THE *Indian Appeal* of Benares contradicts the statement made by it in a recent issue about a soldier of the Black Watch Regiment kicking a punkah cooly to death.

THOUGH ideal has been the acquaintance of that hoary sage of Oxford, Prof. Max Muller, with India and Indians, though he has never realised the fondest hope of his life—at of visiting the land of the ancient *Rishis* with whom he is so much in love, it cannot be denied that his love is sincere, that the picture he has formed of India from the close acquaintance of years with "the beauties of its literature, the bold flights of its native philosophy, the fervid devotion of its ancient religion," is a true and faithful picture of what India really was and is still meant to be in the history of this old, old world. How Prof. Max Muller first came to be interested in the history of India, is thus described in the second series of "My Indian Friends":— "How I fell in love with India is a very old and a very long story. We have all read of young knights who in a dream had a vision of a beautiful princess, and who did not rest until they had found her, delivered her, and after many hard fights with giants and monsters carried her home in triumph. I had such a vision of India when I was not yet ten years old. . . I well remember, when I was at school, one of my copy-books had a large picture of Benares on the outside. It was a very rough picture but I can still see the men, women, and children as they stepped down the ghats to bathe in the waters of the Ganges. That picture caught my fancy and set me dreaming. What did I know of India at that time? Nothing but that the people were black, that they burnt their widows, and that in order to get into Paradise they had first to be mangled under the wheels of the car of Juggernath."

Well, the copy-book did, no doubt, a great service to India and all Indians should feel grateful to it for having excited the interest of one of the greatest European savants of the age to their mother-land.

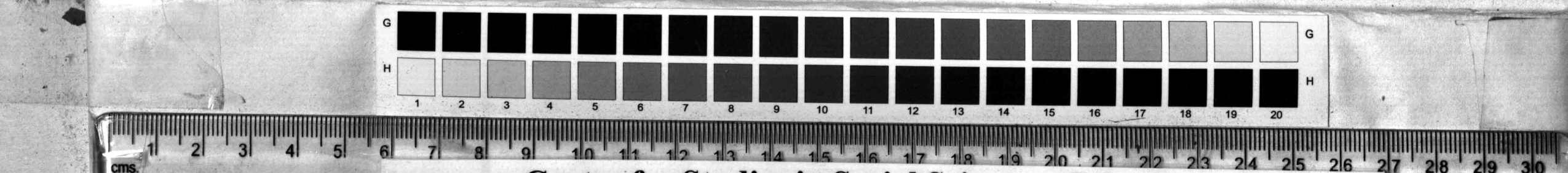
THERE is, says the *Pioneer*, no authentic ground to state that the Maharaja of Patiala will be sending two regiments of Cavalry to the Transvaal to guard the line of communication, or that the Maharaja of Kuch Behar is likely to receive the sanction of the Government of India to proceed to the seat of war as a volunteer. All the same, Government will, we doubt not, appreciate the loyalty from which spring these offers.

A CASE has just been decided by a Full Bench of the Bombay High Court, consisting of Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Candy and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Budruddin Teyebji, which is of paramount importance to the legal profession, inasmuch as it concerns the license of Advocates in pleading the cause of their clients. A rule was obtained by Mr. Bhaishankar upon Mr. Wadia and Mr. Hiralal, to shew cause why their names should not be struck off the roll or why should they not be otherwise dealt with as the High Court deemed fit. The application for the rule arose out of the use by Mr. Wadia of certain words in the course of a criminal trial before Mr. D'Souza, the Additional Sessions Judge of Ahmedabad. The actual words were: "Mr. Bhaishankar, in consequence of long-standing enmity with the accused, has been tampering with the witnesses and getting up evidence in order to ruin the accused." It cannot be denied that very serious was the allegation made in the sentence quoted above. Mr. Wadia claimed immunity by reason of the privilege accorded to an Advocate in the conduct of the client's case, and he urged that in any case he had acted on instructions and without malice. In dealing with Mr. Wadia's offence, their Lordships held that though they did not think, his conduct deserved so serious a punishment as disbarring, yet it was not above reproach. Said the Chief Justice:—

"Here Mr. Wadia made a statement to the Court which, as I have already remarked, he had not proved and apparently did not intend to prove: it was a statement imputing categorically to Mr. Bhaishankar, not merely unprofessional but criminal conduct; that statement, so far as the record discloses, was, in my opinion, not justified, and Mr. Wadia has, in this Court, declined in the most positive terms to express his regret not from any oversight on his part, for, at the outset of his address I was careful to give him the opportunity to make amends, an opportunity which he unhesitatingly rejected. It is under these circumstances that Mr. Wadia has invited us to express an opinion favourable to his conduct. That I must decline to do, for I see nothing in it that calls for commendation. As the license of Advocates has been so much discussed before us I cannot leave this part of the case without reminding judicial officers that the license creates a corresponding duty in them, the duty of keeping the exercise of that licence within its proper limits lest it should grow into a scandal."

This settles the point and ought to be taken note of by every lawyer in the land. The Advocate's license in conducting the case of his client should by no means be curtailed; but then, care should be taken that it is not abused and that undue advantage is not taken of this liberal provision in the law. As to the case of Mr. Hiralal, the attorney, his lordship the Chief Justice made the following remarks:— "I now pass to consider the rule issued against Mr. Hiralal, and it only demands a few words for its disposal. Mr. Anderson in his very temperate remarks has placed the case before us in its most favourable aspect. I do not think that the case is one which calls for the exercise of our disciplinary powers, though I think Mr. Hiralal has been guilty of great professional discourtesy. He has to thank that discourtesy for the position in which he finds himself. The rule against him must be discharged."

His Highness Krishnaji Rao Basabaheb Powar, Raja of Senior Bhar, expired suddenly on Thursday the 13th instant at about 9 P.M. in the capital of the State, Dewas. For some months his Highness had been suffering from acute pain in the chest, and his unexpected death was probably due to heart-disease. He was in his fiftieth year. The deceased Raja was very popular and had won the hearts of his subjects by his winning manners and amiable disposition. The late Raja carried out many good works for his subjects, among which the Ranig Water-works will most usefully perpetuate his memory. The late Raja was the brother-in-law of His Highness Maharaja Scindia who is expected to proceed to Dewas.





Original.

NASHIRAM'S AMBITION.

(Translated from the Anandabazar Patrika.) NASHIRAM has been our servant for quite a number of years...

sions—and I am as strong in English as any ever was. Now, will it please you to advance to me the price of the dress—I'll liquidate the debt from the first month's pay, that I will.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

THE COMING CENSUS.—Mr. Geidt will probably be appointed Census Superintendent in Bengal. OBITUARY.—The death is announced in England of Mr. Farrer, Deputy Director general of the Post offices of India.

THE BOER.

HOW HE HAS CHANGED SINCE MAJUBA. THE boer to-day is not the man he was in 1881, writes Frank Schloesser. Circumstances have changed him mightily.

swift little oribi to the Wildebeest and Koodoo. Then there were elephants, lions, giraffes, buffalo, quagga, and, of course, birds innumerable.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta. Includes a ruler and a color calibration chart.



TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

London, Oct. 17. An armoured train from Kimberley has engaged the Boers at Spysfontein. The Boers lost five in killed and seven wounded, while the British suffered no losses. The rifle and artillery fire of the Boers was equally bad.

London, Oct. 17. The German steamer Kaiser has landed 4,000 cases of ammunition at Port Said for the Transvaal, in order to avoid seizure of the same in the Red Sea by H. M. S. Thetis, which had been watching the Kaiser all the way from Naples.

London, Oct. 17. The Opposition in both Houses of Parliament while deploring the Transvaal war, which Lord Kimberley called almost civil war, and criticizing Mr. Chamberlain's conduct of the negotiations, agreed that the extraordinary ultimatum sent by the Boers left the Government no option, and they promised their hearty support to secure the rapid and effective prosecution of the war.

London, Oct. 18. In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Dillon brought forward an amendment to the Address that the Transvaal war was the result of our claims to interfere in the internal affairs of the Republic and was a violation of the Convention of 1884, and asking that the question be referred to arbitration on the basis of The Hague Conference. The amendment, on being put to the vote, was rejected by 322 against 54. Mr. Labouchere and a few Radicals voted with the minority, but most of the Liberals, including their leaders, voted with the Government.

London, Oct. 17. Lord Salisbury, referring to the future, declared that we must insist upon England's sovereign power being paramount, and upon the white races being placed upon an equality, due care being taken in kindly improving the countless indigenous races. His lordship said he hoped these objects would be consistent with a very large amount of autonomy for the Dutch people.

Bombay, Oct. 18. The alleged poisoning case at Kolhapore came on for hearing on Monday. The Counsel for the prosecution applied for further adjournment. The Magistrate granted a remand for a fortnight intimating that this would be the last time that he would do so.

London, Oct. 18. The calling out of the militia has caused general surprise, and applies to 133,000 men, who will be employed to replenish our denuded garrisons.

London, Oct. 18. The war credit which the Government will ask Parliament for amounts to ten millions sterling.

London, Oct. 18. News from Mafeking is still disjointed and doubtful. The latest, however, indicates that the Boers have been repulsed with heavy loss, but afterwards began bombarding the British position with Krupp guns.

London, Oct. 18. Boer scouts have been sighted seven miles from Glencoe Camp, and an engagement is believed to be imminent.

London, Oct. 18. Sir William Harcourt in the House of Commons to-night strongly criticised Mr. Chamberlain in connection with the Transvaal negotiations, and taxed him with neglecting opportunities for bringing about a pacific settlement.

London, Oct. 18, MIDNIGHT. A despatch from Ladysmith states that the British cavalry engaged the enemy at mid-day to-day at Actonhomes and Besters, and had some casualties.

London, Oct. 18. The Morning Post publishes a telegram from Ladysmith stating that the Basutos have risen against the Orange Free State.

London, Oct. 18. The Times in a telegram from Ladysmith states that the Boers have split their forces in holding the Drakensberg passes, and that there is no concentration in sufficient numbers to warrant any apprehension of an attack in force on the British positions.

London, Oct. 18. A message from the Queen to the House of Commons announces that she is about to embody the Militia and call out the Militia reserve.

London, Oct. 18. Lord Kitchener has left Khartoum and gone southward.

London, Oct. 19. There is no further news from the seat of war. General White telegraphs that the cavalry at Ladysmith and Dundee are keeping watch on the enemy's movements, and adds that steps have been taken to secure Maritzburg and Durban against raids.

In the House of Commons to-night Lord George Hamilton replying to a question said the Imperial Exchequer would defray the whole of the charges in connection with the despatch of the Indian contingent to Natal.

Mr. Chamberlain made an exhaustive speech in the House of Commons to-night lasting for two hours and three quarters, and was greatly cheered at its conclusion. He defended his whole policy and said he had striven to maintain peace with the utmost patience, but had finally come to the conclusion from events and the speeches of President Kruger that war had always been inevitable. The oligarchy at Pretoria, abetted by President Steyn, had consistently endeavoured to undermine our paramountcy, which Great Britain was forced to uphold if she wished to remain a great Power. Constant armaments, Mr. Chamberlain said, had made the Transvaal by far the strongest Power in South Africa and he believed the Empire had just escaped the greatest danger to which it had ever been exposed. He accepted Mr. Kruger's appeal to the God of Battles believing the quarrel to be a just one.

The Daily Telegraph publishes a telegram from Cairo, stating that the expedition under Lord Kitchener against the Khalifa numbers 9,000 men, consisting of Egyptian Artillery, Camel Corps, and the whole of the Sudanese Infantry.

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

There is a general advance being made by the Boers, who are apparently endeavouring to envelope Ladysmith. So far only outpost skirmishes have taken place.

London, Oct. 19. In consequence of an outbreak of scarlet fever in the regiment, the departure of the 10th Hussars has been postponed.

London, Oct. 19. The Reservists have responded to the call made on them splendidly, and over ninety-two per cent. have answered the summons.

The fund in aid of the Transvaal refugees has been largely subscribed, and already amounts to £107,000, of which the Stock Exchange has contributed £20,000.

London, Oct. 19. The Times special correspondent at Lobatsi wires on October 14th that the Boers were round the garrison all yesterday, and broke up the line in several places between Pitsani and Mafeking. They were attacked and defeated by a party from Mafeking, thirty Boers being killed in the engagement. During the night another party of Boers broke up the line a mile to the north, cutting the wires.

The station-master and others at Lobatsi set to work, and have just restored communication.

Advices from Capetown state that all is well at Kimberley, but through communication is almost entirely cut off and there is no means at present of learning anything that is going on north of the Orange River.

London, Oct. 20. An amendment of Mr. Stanhope to the Address, strongly disapproving of the conduct of the negotiations with the Transvaal, resulting in hostilities with both Republics, has been rejected in the House of Commons by 302 against 135 votes.

The Address was then adopted unanimously.

Bombay, Oct. 20. The English mail steamer was signalled to-day at 6-15 A. M. The mails are expected to arrive in Calcutta by special train on Sunday, the 22nd, October, at about 4-43 A. M.

London, Oct. 20. The Boers yesterday captured a provision train between Ladysmith and Dundee. Communication with Dundee is now cut off. It is reported that the captured train contained an officer of the Imperial force and several newspaper correspondents, all of whom were made prisoners.

Skirmishes continue between Sir George White's cavalry and the Boers patrols.

London, Oct. 20. The Boers attacked the British camp at Glencoe in great force at 5-30 this morning, shelling the place from the surrounding heights. The battle is now general.

London, Oct. 20, LATER. A report has reached the War Office that General Symons, commanding at Glencoe, has been wounded. The official strength of the Boers engaged in the attack is put down at 9,000 men.

London, Oct. 20, 1-20 P. M. A rumour published in London states that the Boer position at Glencoe and five guns have been captured.

London, Oct. 20, 1-10 P. M. A despatch received by the War Office, from Ladysmith, dated 11 A. M. to-day, states that the King's Royal Rifles and the Dublin Fusiliers are attacking a hill, near Glencoe, upon which the Boer guns are posted, and have arrived within 300 yards of the Boer Artillery, which is already silenced. Nine thousand Boers are advancing from Halting-spruit, and the Leicesters and 13th Field Battery have gone to meet them.

London, Oct. 20. The police have been withdrawn from Vryburg which the Boers occupied on Sunday.

[Pioneer's London Correspondent.]

London, Oct. 17. All the Cape Volunteer regiments have been called out. Volunteer garrison artillery will replace the Imperial forces at Cape Town.

Martial law has been proclaimed at Mafeking, Vryburg, Waags and Barkly.

[Pioneer's Correspondent.]

London, Oct. 18. The transport steamer Yorkshire embarks the West Surrey at Southampton on Friday, and the transports Roslin, Harlech and Lismore Castle take on board the Devonshire, Yorkshire, Northampton and East Surrey Regiments, forming the first instalment of the Army Corps; together with the second brigade staff, and special service signalling, pay department and medical officers. Ten trains have been chartered to take this force down in Southampton, chiefly from Aldershot.

The second Army Corps instalment including the Staff of the First Brigade, the 1st Grenadier Guards, the 1st Scots Guards, and Goldstreams, together with telegraph and railway sections of Engineers, ordnance, and staff of the line of communications, embark on the Nubia, Gascon, Gorkha, Malta and Pavonia mainly from Chatham on Monday: eighteen special trains have been chartered to convey them to the docks from Aldershot and London.

The Third and Sixth Brigades staffs with the Welsh, Irish and Scots Fusiliers, the Highland Light Infantry, a machine gun section, and an ammunition column embark on Tuesday in the Oriental, Aurania and Haverden Castle at Southampton, the Armenia at Tilbury, and the Nomadic at Albert Docks. Four units will also embark in the America at Tilbury, making a total of 20,000 men, and practically a whole infantry division.

The reservists are already responding readily to the call. The men are coming in very fit, and are being quartered at Woolwich. Out of 3,300 notices issued less than 100 were returned as unaccepted.

After the tension of the days following the ultimatum there is a general feeling of relief now that the inactivity of the enemy has become manifest. Nothing in the nature of a concentration is yet reported, and the fact that the Boers are entrenching the

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

passes points to the absence of offensive intentions and favours our developments.

Further skirmishing is likely along the Bechuanaland frontier; and the want of modern artillery at the Orange River Station is regrettable.

Mr. Chamberlain acknowledges American sympathy, and affirms that the present situation finds its parallel in the overthrow of misgovernment which the States had to undertake in Cuba.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SIMLA, OCT. 18.

At the meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council to be held here on Friday next, a Bill will be introduced to amend the law relating to the exemption from tolls of persons and properties belonging to the Army. His Excellency the Viceroy is also expected to make a statement with regard to the famine.

THE CENSUS COMMISSIONERSHIP.

Mr. Risley, on return from leave, has been appointed to the Home Department, to act as Commissioner of the Census Operations.

MR. TATA'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE SCHEME.

The Directors of Public Instruction of Bengal Bombay and the Punjab arrive here next week to discuss with Mr. Tata, the millionaire of Bombay, the question of his endowment for the foundation of a Central Research Institute.

GRANT OF LEAVE.

Mr. R. N. Roy, Deputy Auditor-General, has been granted privilege leave for one month and twenty-eight days.

THE THREATENED FAMINE.

THE VICEROY'S STATEMENT.

[From our Own Correspondent.]

SIMLA, OCT. 20.

The Hon'ble Mr. Rivaz, in speaking about the scarcity, said that, as in 1896, so this year also they had requested the Local Governments and Political officers in respect of Native States, to supply full reports on the agricultural situation, and that these had now been received and examined in the light of the latest intelligence as to rainfall, harvest prospects and prices. The reports were exceptionally full and clear, and they were under obligation to Local Governments and Political officers for their reports, the chief feature of which was the critical situation. It was difficult to compare the prospects of this year with those of 1896. But one great point in their favor this year was that Bengal and three-fourths of the N. W. Provinces, had fair rains, crops and good prospects for the coming cold weather. With them, ranked Burma, where bumper rice crops were on the ground, Madras where rains had fallen widely and most opportunely, and the Native State of Mysore. To these also might be added Sindh and the South-west Punjab. The second group where the prospects are mediocre, comprises the South Mahratta country, South Deccan, a large part of the Nizam's Dominions, the greater portion of the Central India Agency, the western half of the North Western Provinces and the sub-montane Punjab. In the last three provinces, that is, Central India, the North Western Provinces and the Punjab, much will depend upon the winter crop. The more seriously affected area is unhappily too large, comprising 100,000 square miles in British territory with a population of 15 millions and about 250,000 square miles in Native States with a population of another 15 millions. It comprises the Central Provinces, the whole of Berars, North Deccan, Guzerat, South-east and Central Punjab, as also several large and important Native States in Central and Western India, a large group of States in North Bombay, Baroda, the greater part of Indore, the whole of Rajputana, and some minor States in Central India.

His Excellency the Viceroy in supplementing the remarks of Mr. Rivaz, said that it was a source of great distress to him to have in the first year of his office plague which remained a persistent visitor in the country and in the second, a famine. From the experiences of the last 25 years which witnessed three famines, said His Excellency, all that we are advised by the Famine Commission will be the basis of our action, and these will be the pocket-book for field service with which our soldiers of peace will enter upon the humane and bloodless campaign of fighting famine. Continuing the Viceroy said—"In our own territories we have a four-fold scheme of action. In large towns and villages we will open poor-houses while in country hamlets we will give gratuitous relief. We will employ men on relief-works, and finally we will appoint special officers to strengthen local supervision. It is also contemplated to make tucvavi advances in order to enable the peasant to sow his seed and ultimately to make remissions of rent." As regards the Native States His Excellency said that he intended doing nothing which would diminish their responsibility or slacken their energies, and that in Rajputana the Government was already endeavouring to do much by the loan of officers and by the offer of expert advice. He could further help the Native States with loans from the Imperial Exchequer. His Excellency concluded by calling upon the sons of India to come to her rescue and by local efforts to raise funds for the assistance of their suffering countrymen.

MANY THANKS.

"I wish to express my thanks to the manufacturers of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, for having put on the market such a wonderful medicine," says W. W. Massingill, of Beaumont, Texas. There are many thousands of mothers whose children have been saved from attacks of dysentery and cholera infantum who must also feel thankful. It is for sale by

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

Miscellaneous News.

LALGOLA, OCT. 17.

On the 9th October last, our benevolent Zemindar, Rao Jogendra Narayan Roy of Lalgola, gave rice to five thousand beggars and on the following day (i. e. 10th Oct.) he distributed clothes to almost nearly 17 thousand beggars present on the occasion. The Rao Shabeb himself managed the affair so well, that there was no disorder during the distribution, which commenced at 11 A. M. and ended successfully at nearly 3 P. M. The Police arrangements were also good.—The health of this place is not good now. It rained heavily day before yesterday. The cold has already set in here.

CHANDPORE, OCT. 8.

The civil courts have closed here for the long Dusserah holidays, and the town now presents a deserted look.—As elsewhere in Bengal there were heavy showers in this part of the country this year which caused considerable damage to the crops. It is feared that the out-turn will not be quite half of the yield of other years. Already there has been a rise in the price of rice.—Babu Charu Chandra Mitra, our popular second Munsif, is coming here after the holidays, and this is glad news indeed. During the short time that he has been here he has become extremely popular and is already a terror to wrongdoers. Lately there was a sensational case before him in which the whole Shaha community of the locality was interested, and the learned Munsif's decision in a delicate question of their social customs has given universal satisfaction. In another group of cases between the "Dar-ijaradar" of Rajah Binoy Krishna of the Sovabazar Raj, and the tenants of Pergana Gangamandal, the manager of the Rajah, Babu Gobind Chandra Raha, was cited as a witness. On his disobeying the Court's orders the 2nd Munsif had to adopt the somewhat drastic measure of calling upon him to show cause why he should not be committed to the criminal Courts for contempt of court. The learned Munsif has once for all shown that before the Queen's Court all are alike.—The whole Mahomedan community is under immense obligations to our young and energetic Sub-divisional Officer, Maulvie Ahmed, through whose exertions the town will soon have a beautiful mosque.

Indian News.

AFTER three months' continuous dry weather very slight rain fell in Lahore on Thursday.

The papers applying for the discharge of Private Sullivan, Royal West Kent Regiment, have not been returned, and it is expected that this will not be granted, but that he will be transferred to another regiment. Sullivan has supplied to the Commissioner of Police to be recommended for a position in the Calcutta Police, and has received the promise that his best endeavours will be made in his behalf for getting him employment, provided his discharge is obtained. Sullivan, who is still under police surveillance, has been recommended by the Commissioner of Police to receive Rs. 250 of the Government reward offered to any person furnishing information in the Rangoon outrage case.—Advocate of India.

Mr. J. W. S. DRACUP, Acting Third Presidency Magistrate of Bombay had before him at the Esplanade Police Court, on the 16th instant, a case in which a young Gunner, named Alfred King, of the 26th Eastern Royal Garrison Artillery, stationed at Colaba, is on his trial for having, it is alleged, committed an indecent assault on a European child, about eleven years of age. King till last week was acting Bombardier and was Assistant School Master in the Royal Artillery School at Colaba. He acted as School Master in charge of the same institution in place of School Master Wright (who comes from the Royal Irish at Mhow) from the 21st April last and handed over his acting post on the 3rd instant. Since that date he reverted to his substantive appointment as Assistant School Master. On the 7th instant he was placed under arrest by the Military authorities and on the 11th was reduced to Gunner for misconduct and put into the guard room, where he was detained till last Saturday afternoon, when he was made over to the Civil authorities for prosecution on a charge of committing an indecent assault on the complainant, who is a pupil of the school in which King was employed. Inspector Morris, of the Colaba Division, prosecuted. The accused was undefended. Complainant was put into the witness-box and gave a detailed account of the assault alleged to have been committed on her.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade and the Hon. Mr. Justice Crowe of the Bombay High Court, rejected an appeal preferred by the Government of Bombay against the order passed by Mr. E. M. Pratt, Sessions Judge of Sholapur-Bijapur, on the 2nd of May last, reversing, on appeal the convictions recorded against the sentences of six months' rigorous imprisonment passed on Bukokom Tukaram and Tukaram bin Vithu on the 4th of April last by Mr. A. E. Macnochie, District Magistrate of Sholapur. It appears that Baku was the grandmother and Tukaram was the grandfather of a minor girl named Piri under 16 years of age. The charge against the first accused was that she took Piri from Sholapur to Tuljapur to dedicate her to the goddess Ambebai with intent, or knowing it to be likely, that the girl would be employed for immoral purposes; and the second accused with having directed the first accused to do so, and in consequence of which Piri was made an Aradhini Murli likely to be employed for immoral purposes. The District Magistrate found the prisoners guilty of the charges, and sentenced them as above stated, but on appeal the Sessions Judge held that the disposal of the minor took place at Tuljapur and the lower Court had no jurisdiction to try the offence. The Sessions Judge was also of opinion that the removal of the minor was at best a preparation for commission of an offence, and mere preparation was not indictable. Accordingly, the Sessions Judge reversed the convictions and sentences.

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

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

Correspondence.

THE THEODORE BECK MEMORIAL FUND.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The death of Mr. Theodore Beck has caused a most remarkable and widespread feeling of regret throughout India. To few has it been given to achieve a work so unique in its character and to fewer still to bring to it a devotion so self-forgetful and so constant. The work he did, has made itself felt and will continue to make itself increasingly felt in every College and University in India. Education in India must always owe him a deep debt of gratitude. Mr. Beck himself, I believe, would have wished for no other memorial than his work and the affectionate remembrance of his pupils and friends. But it has been felt by many of his friends and admirers that some memorial, more directly devoted to the perpetuation of his name, should be raised. It has, therefore, been decided with this object in view to open a fund to be called the Theodore Beck Memorial Fund. The precise form the memorial is to take has not yet been determined, but it will probably be a building erected within the precincts and for the use of the College in whose service he spent his life.

Subscription may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer or to Nawab Mohsinul Muluk at Aligarh or they may be paid in directly to the Bank of Bengal, Agra.

LLEWELLYN TEPPIING, Aligarh. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Beck Memorial Fund.

A CORRESPONDENT of the "Ceylon Standard" reports that some enterprising book-hawkers at Colombo have discovered a new way of creating a demand for filthy and blasphemous Sinhalese publications. The hawkers get into a crowded third-class carriage and reads the contents of the pamphlets that he carries about for sale. When portions have been read, some of the hearers feel themselves, perhaps, impelled by curiosity to buy copies for their own perusal. The hawkers change carriages at almost every station.

NOBODY WILL STEAL THEM.

THERE are two reasons why the Crown jewels are never stolen from the Tower of London. They are in a strong place, well guarded, and are dangerous things to handle when dishonestly come by.

Most losses of valuables are due either to carelessness on the part of the owners or custodians, or to bribery. Perhaps the burglar's vocation is under no circumstances an absolutely safe one, but not infrequently he chances upon a "Job" which is both easy and lucrative. I do not mention this fact for the unworthy purpose of inducing any of the youth of the land to enter the profession, but solely to throw illustrative light upon quite another theme. Still, there is a relation between them, and we shall hit it after we have talked a bit about the case of Mrs. Mary Rowlands, who lives in Wales.

The lady says that no longer ago than February (1898) she had a severe attack of influenza, followed by bronchitis. At this point we are concerned to know whether the influenza was in any sense responsible for the bronchitis, as cause and effect. If so, why? It is well understood, of course, in England, where influenza is so common, that other ailments do follow it; yet probably, the majority of us have not settled in our minds the reason for it.

At all events, Mrs. Rowlands had a low, bad time. The trouble lingered along, and sometimes, winter does, away down into the period proper for May blossoms. She could not seem to get the better of the throat ailment nor master the lethargy and weakness left her as a legacy by the influenza. Her condition may be likened unto that of a ship which has indeed survived a gale but finds herself stripped of the sails needed to enable her to take advantage of gentler winds.

The lady's hope of getting back her losst strength by taking plenty of solid nourishing food was illusory. Every meal of that kind caused fearful distress in the stomach and acute pain at the chest. Nature distinctly repudiated the solid liquids, such as broths, teas, and milk. It looked as if Mrs. Rowlands must strive at her own table.

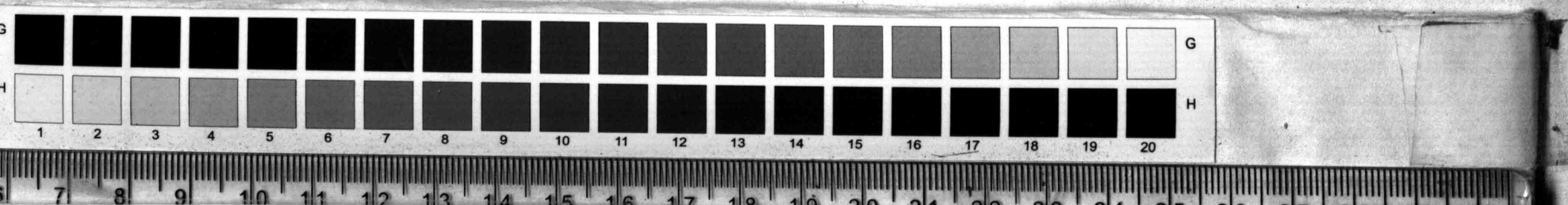
Then came on asthmatic symptoms, so bad she was often obliged to gasp for breath. Between this combination of complaints she got but little rest day or night. Soon after arose a threat of a still more serious disease—a threat happily not fulfilled. I refer to the cold, clammy sweats that broke out upon her, pointing to a fatal declivity. The fear was natural, as grim Consumption with his poisoned dant, often approaches by that same road.

"I became so reduced and feeble," the lady writes, "that my daughter had to nurse me constantly. I could not get into or out of bed without her help. In the house, or to others, I was of no use at all. The doctor who attended me left nothing untried that he knew of; but, in spite of all he did I grew worse and worse.

"Where I should have been to-day, whether in the land of the living or not, who can tell, if a kind Providence had not intervened to save me? In some way my husband heard of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and persuaded me to try it. I began taking it and soon felt better. My appetite returned, and all kinds of food agreed with me. With plenty of nourishment I gained strength rapidly. The asthma and the bronchial trouble vanished, and almost before I could realise it, I found myself in the best of health, and have continued so to be ever since. For my remarkable and unexpected recovery I am under obligation to Mother Seigel's Syrup; and so I tell all whom I know."—(Signed) Mary Rowlands, Deri via Cardiff August 31, 1898.

One thing Mrs. Rowlands says in her letter which I have reserved for this place, namely, that she was dyspeptic. Her system was weakened and her blood rendered impure by indigestion. That is the same point. That is why she was open to the attacks of influenza, bronchitis, and asthma. Her body castle being weak, the precious jewel of health was stolen.

Keep the digestion strong and the blood clean and pure, by the frequent use of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and there will be no soil for the germs of disease to grow in. The system thus guarded, protects the health as the health as the walls and doors of the Tower hold safe the Crown jewels!





THE TEACHING OF ELEMENTARY SCIENCE.

THE CENSUS OF 1901.

AFTER a day of rest the ten sections of the British Association were really eleven, because Section A was split up into Mathematics and Meteorological—set to work with renewed vigour. In three of them, at least, there were eleven papers and reports to be disposed of, and they consequently had to work in the afternoon and barely succeeded in getting to the mayor and mayoress's "At home" in the Connaught Park.

NATURAL SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

The Chemistry section produced the report of the committee on the teaching of natural science in elementary schools. This report is of an encouraging character. The progress in the teaching of science in elementary schools, which was noted in the last report of the committee, was more than maintained in so far as the number of scholars receiving instruction is concerned. Object-lessons have increased marvellously—from 1,079 departments in 1895-6 to 21,882 last year. The increased teaching of scientific specific subjects in the higher standards is the natural consequence of the greater attention paid to natural science in the lower parts of the schools. In fact, the number of children taught specific scientific subjects has increased by more than 20,000, a larger rise than has been recorded in any previous year, and the percentage of scholars examined is 26 1/2 per cent.—a higher percentage than has been recorded since 1882-83.

TEACHING THE TEACHERS.

During an interesting discussion which followed, Sir Michael Foster said that in undertaking the teaching of science in elementary school, a great responsibility had been incurred, and good only could come of it if science were properly taught. Better attention, he agreed, should be paid to the training of the teachers, for to teach successfully was one of the most difficult things in the world. Sir H. Roscoe remarked that it was true that within the last thirty years great advances had been made, but we were now only at the beginning of science teaching. In towns good work had been done, but in rural districts the result were practically nil. There were great difficulties in the way, but they must be overcome. Professor Tilden urged that as much latitude as possible should be given to teachers as to their methods of teaching, and that more attention should be paid to the science of common things. The discussion was continued on the same lines by persons practically engaged in the management of schools, and great stress was laid upon the facts that teachers found difficulty in obtaining good training, and that knowledge of a subject did not of necessity confer a capacity to teach.

DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A report was presented by Dr. Francis Warner on behalf of the committee of which the late Sir Douglas Galton was the chairman, dealing with the mental and physical deviation from the normal among children in public elementary and other schools. One thousand one hundred and twenty exceptional children have been under observation, and the facts shown in the table suggest the need of management and care in training stage by stage, with the object of improving each phase of mental ability and removing individual disabilities. Children with any degree of congenital defect in development usually require medical care as to conditions of the ears, throat, and mouth, also as to eyesight and in general health culture.

THE NEXT CENSUS.

Miss Collet contributed a paper on the subject of the Census of 1901 to the Department of Economic Science and Statistics. It seems that the leading statisticians desire certain concessions, which they cannot obtain. The census could not be effectively obtained and its results usefully compiled unless one man was responsible for the task and in the last census there was good reason to complain of inadequate classification. We had only experimented in census returns for a hundred years and during that period the attitude of the social investigator had undergone a remarkable change. Even fifty years ago the progress in trade and production was being watched with the keenest attention and at the end of the century we regarded the problem of equitable distribution as of even more importance. The welfare of nation was no longer regarded as necessarily advancing along with increased wealth.

We wished now to know how people were housed and fed and served. We wished to know the proportion of skilled and unskilled workers; the proportion earning below 20s. and over 40s. per week, the number of persons to a room and the number of servants to a family; the ratio that organised in their trades, and the proportion of women engaged in industry; also the number and wages of those who would be affected by proposed protective legislation on the extension of the franchise. She was not proposing that more detailed tabulation should be drawn up and published for the whole kingdom. The more detailed tabulation of the cotton trade for instance, needs only be done for Lancashire and Cheshire. There were however, several important trades, such as the building and engineering trades which would have to be done for the whole kingdom. Anyone who had studied the census reports published during the last fifty years must have noticed that as our urban districts had become more numerous and more populous the information concerning them had been less. She herself was in favor of a permanent census department. This proposal might involve

more expense, but the object was worth it, and besides the present system was needlessly expensive for every census large numbers of temporary clerks had to be engaged and taught their work. If we had a permanent census department the officials could keep themselves well in touch with statistical improvement in other countries. Each census should be in the hands of trained statisticians anxious to utilise to the utmost the material in their hands.

There was a good deal of cross-firing in the discussion which followed. It was pointed out that there was need for great caution in desiring minute sub-divisions, for the attempt to obtain too much detail was a fruitful source of error especially when there were no means of checking the sources of the information. Mr. G. Cannon, one of the Secretaries of the section, thought that little good would be done until the Registrar-General's Office recognised that the area of the future was not the person, but the borough and county. Mr. Ferguson, of Ceylon, provoked some laughter by stating that their returns of occupations included not only fortune-tellers, but also snake charmers, monkey dancers, elephant trainers, and devildancers. The general tend of the debate was in favor of a permanent statistical department LONDON UNIVERSITY.

In the same section Sir Philip Magnus read a paper on "The Faculty of Economics in the Teaching University of London," and urged that there was need of further organisation in the teaching of economics. He offered suggestion for a high school of economics including commerce.

EARTHQUAKES.

Professor Milne, the well-known earthquake expert, is unfortunately absent from the meeting, and on his behalf a very bulky report of seismological investigations during the year was presented by Mr. G. J. Symons. There are now twenty-three stations in all parts of the world for registering earthquakes, and it is expected that shortly instruments will be installed in three other places. The first station that at Shide, Isle of Wight, which was established some years ago by Professor Milne, has been working excellently during the year, and the principal analysis of the registers in other parts of the world has been made with reference to the one from Shide, but as many earthquakes have been recorded which did not reach that station, but were common to groups of observatories in other parts of the world, it is evident that if similar analyses are made in reference to other localities, our knowledge respecting the distribution of seismic disturbances will be largely increased.

ETHNOGRAPHICAL SURVEY.

The Committee appointed in 1892 to organise an ethnographical survey of the United Kingdom to-day presented their final report. They do not suggest that the work has been completed, but they have no means to carry it further. It would be futile to ask the Government for a grant, and I understand that in future the work will be proceeded with in conjunction with the new Ethnographical Bureau established by the British Museum and with the local societies.

CENTENARY OF THE ELECTRIC CURRENT.

The town hall was crowded to hear Professor Fleming's address on the Centenary of Electric Current. The President Sir Michael Foster was in the chair. In order to illustrate and explain the working of the Marconi system the complete apparatus was established on the lecture table, from whence a wire stretched to the flag staff outside so that messages could be sent and received. An extraordinary interest attached to the occasion because a congress of electricians is meeting in Como, in Italy (where Marconi was born) under the presidency of Professor Blaserna, to celebrate the centenary of Volta's electric discoveries. The congress was opened by the King and Queen of Italy in person. On Saturday Professor Fleming despatched a telegram to Signor Blaserna, the message being sent across the Channel of the Marconi system saying in effect that the British Association was in hearty sympathy with the congress in celebrating the centenary of the famous discoveries of Volta. A reply was received thanking the Association for their sympathetic message. At the beginning of the meeting two telegrams were despatched from the lecture table. The first was sent to Wimereux, a distance of thirty miles and thence by carriage to Boulogne, to the address of Dr. Brouardel, President of the French Association, bearing "good wishes," across the Channel by Marconi's system. The second was to the Goodwin lightships, a distance of sixteen miles.

Dr. Fleming, in his address, referred at length to Volta's discoveries illustrating the advances made in the development of the electric current by numerous experiments. His lecture was to a great extent technical, and there is little new to be said even with regard to the Marconi system. He conducted an experiment to show that explosives could be fired by means of electric waves without any communication by wire. In conclusion Dr. Fleming proceeded to summarise very briefly the conclusions to which we have been led by experimental research during the last hundred years as a partial reply to the question, "What is an Electric Current?" He held that it is due to certain events or effects happening on the spacefilling ether, the localisation of these events being determined by what we call the conductor. Finally, we are met by a more searching question—viz What are those events, and what is the nature of the effects? The closing years of this century have seen the accumulation and arrangement of knowledge gathered by investigators in many lands affording well-nigh irrefutable proof that electric and magnetic connection with material substance, have their seat in action taking place in an intangible medium, the ripples in which are rays of light and billows the ether waves we are learning to employ.—The Daily Chronicle.

ON the night of the 16th September last, five men came up and boldly asked a house-owner named Oh Poukay of Thetpon village, Minbya township, for a temporary "shake down" in his house for the night. Before he could give his consent, they unceremoniously seized and carried him away to the bank of a river, where they demanded a heavy ransom! After his daughter had brought them money on 3 occasions he was released. The matter was duly reported to the police and, on investigation by Head Constable Mg Htoon Hla U, accused Sein Ban, Tha Hla Oung, Gura, Gna, Mai, and another whose name is not known to us, was successfully arrested and sent up to Court for trial before the Deputy Commissioner.

ALLEGED TORTURE BY THE POLICE.

KUNWAR JUALA PERSHAD, I. C. S., Additional Sessions Judge of Aligarh, is now engaged at Bulandshahr in trying a case which is exciting much interest in the district. The accused, Police Inspector Abdul Razzak, Sub-Inspector Naim Khan, and Mahomed Umar, and four of the Municipal Police of Khurja, are charged with having wrongfully confined and (excepting Naim Khan) with having caused wrongful hurt to thirteen servants of Rai Bahadur Nathe Mal in the course of a police enquiry into the alleged theft from the shop of the complainant of an emerald necklace worth Rs. 10,000 and other valuables.

The prosecution is being conducted by Mr. Chamier, barrister-at-law, the District Government Pleader, and B. Sheo Dyal of Aligarh. Mr. Gasper, of Moradabad, appears for the two Sub-Inspectors. The remaining accused are not represented by counsel.

The story for the prosecution is that on the morning of the June 30th last, an almirah or cupboard in the wall in the room in which three servants of Nathe Mal, named Hukmi, Basua and Harand, had been sleeping was found open, and property valued at Rs. 400 had disappeared. Hukmi was the first to discover the theft and gave information to his master. The valuables were overhauled, and later in the day it was found that the emerald necklace had disappeared from a large iron safe in the same room. A report was made at the Police Station that evening and the next morning an inquiry commenced. Suspicion at once fell on the thirteenth servants of the shop, who were in the habit of opening and shutting the safe and almirah, and in particular on the three servants above-named, who usually slept and had that night slept in the room in question. The police then took the thirteen servants to a ginning factory on the outskirts of the town, and it is said, made them assume the position known as "gadhia baitina" (i. e. lean down and hold their ears with the hands passed under the thighs, keeping the head down so that the blood runs to it), and beat them whenever they let their ears. Hukmi, it is alleged, was also flogged by the Inspector, and on refusing to give information was hung head downwards from a charpoy till he fainted. It is alleged that the Inspector, affecting to suspect Bausidhar, complainant's cousin, who happened to have gone to Bombay on business, threatened to arrest him, and at about the same time asked the complainant to get him (the Inspector) a share in one of the factories. On the seventh day of the inquiry the complainant, according to the prosecution, finding that the inquiry would be fruitless, and was only being used to oppress him, went off to Bulandshahr and asked the District Magistrate (Mr. Radice) to stop the inquiry. This Mr. Radice refused to do, but arranged to pay a surprise visit to Khurja on the 9th. He however casually mentioned this at the club to the Superintendent of Police, who, not knowing that there was any cause for secrecy, mentioned it on the 8th to Sub-Inspector Naim Khan, who happened to be in Bulandshahr. Naim Khan returned to Khurja that evening, and it is said that the servants then remaining in confinement were released forth with, and that then for the first time the police made entries in their diaries that the servants had been beaten by the complainant's brother before the theft was reported. The complainant, finding that the Magistrate's visit would be useless, went in to Bulandshahr at daybreak on the 9th with such of his servants as bore marks of violence, and took them to Mr. Radice, who promptly sent them to the Civil Surgeon for examination. The latter found no less than fifty marks or bruises on their bodies. A local enquiry by the Superintendent of Police followed, with the result that the seven accused persons were placed before the District Magistrate, and were committed by him for trial by the Sessions Court.

The defence is believed to be a denial of the wrongful confinement, and that the injuries found on the servants were manufactured by, or at the instance of, the complainant, or his relatives, in order to satisfy an outstanding grudge.

Some purely formal evidence having been given Janki Pershad, a karinda of Rai Nathe Mal, proved the making of the first report at the thana, and deposed to having seen the thirteen servants taken to the ginning factory and there beaten by the police and to having seen Hukmi flogged by the Inspector and then hung up on a charpoy in the presence of Sub-Inspector Mahomed Umar and beaten by the municipal police men.

Dr. Macleod, Civil Surgeon, detailed the injuries found by him on Hukmi, Basua, and Labua on July 9th. He explained that in giving an estimate of the period that had elapsed from the date of the infliction of the injuries to the date of his examination of the injured persons, he was dependent upon his memory, as his notes made at the time were silent on the point, nor did he then know that the question was material. The witness adhered to the statement made by him to the Magistrate on August 28th, in which he had estimated that some of the injuries had been inflicted as much as seven days before his examination, and others, as recently as the day before. He had had doubts as to the correctness of his estimate, and had indicated those doubts by the use of the words "may," "night," etc.

Asghar Hossen, Head Muharrir of the Khurja Thana, proved a number of entries made by the Inspector and Sub-Inspectors in the police diaries, general and special. It appeared that the diary of July 2nd contained a statement that Hukmi complained that he had been beaten on the first day by one Chunna, whom, however, the police could not trace, and that Hukmi bore marks of beating. The diaries of July 8th contained a statement that the servants had been beaten by the complainant, or his relatives, before the theft was reported, and that Nathe Mal was probably getting up a false case against the police.

Drajer, a Eurasian, manager of one of the complainant's factories in Khurja, deposed to the arrival of the police at the shop on July 1st, and their departure in the direction of the ginning factory. The witness stated that he had seen injuries on the person of one of the servants, named Babua, on July 3rd, and had on July 4th or 5th seen from a distance three men in the custody of police in the ginning factory whom he believed were some of the shop servants.

Tota Ram corroborated generally the evidence of Janki Pershad.

Hukmi, on whose body the Civil Surgeon had found sixteen bruises, contusions and abrasions, was next examined. He described in detail how he had been flogged with a hunting crop by the Inspector, then hung up head downwards from a charpoy till he fainted and on recovering from that was made to sit "gadhia" and further beaten. The witness stated that Sub-Inspector Naim Khan was not present on the first day when the beating took place, and that there was no beating on any subsequent day. He related the circumstances of his release on the evening of July 8th, and of his being taken to Bulandshahr the next morning by the complainant, his master, and there examined by the Civil Surgeon.

The witness was under cross-examination when the Court adjourned.

MR. COTTON'S INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT ADMINISTRATION REPORT.

THE attention of the Chief Commissioner of Assam having been drawn to the form of Supplementary Reports on Miscellaneous Matters, which appears to be deficient in many particulars, the following observations regarding its preparation are now recorded, in supersession of all existing orders on the subject.

This Report was prescribed with the object of furnishing information on points which are not discussed in the Special Annual Reports, but in some respects it is necessary to touch in general terms on matters which have been fully treated in these reports. As now submitted, this Report has become a very perfunctory and uninteresting production; on the one hand, it is ordinarily a great deal too long, and contains many details and statements which are of little use for the purposes of the Administration, while, on the other, it omits to deal with many matters of importance. Such subjects, for instance, as the sanitation of huts, the inspection of boundary pillars, the condition of circuit-houses, dak bungalows, and rest-houses, are now treated at inordinate length, and may well be omitted from this report entirely; or if they are referred to, it should be with decisive brevity. The details given under the head of "Miscellaneous" referring to law classes, and the classification and disposal of records, are also superfluous, and may be omitted. The following are the most important subjects, which, in the Chief Commissioner's opinion, this report should include: (1) Weather and rainfall, (2) Crops and prices, (3) Condition of the people and public health, (4) District tours and inspections, (5) Administrative changes, (6) Immigration and Emigration, (7) Mines and minerals, (8) Manufactures, (9) Trade and commerce, (10) Working of the Arms Act, (11) Working of Municipalities and Local Boards, (12) Communications, (13) Post and Telegraphs, (14) Suits to which Government is a party, (15) Archaeological Remains, (16) Public Opinion and the Native Press, (17) Conduct of the landed gentry, (18) Miscellaneous.

The Chief Commissioner desires that local officers should not consider themselves confined to the subjects in this list, which may be added to or, if necessary, reduced according to circumstances, and that they should include in this report any further matters affecting the well-being of the people which occur to them, and which neither find a place in this list, nor in any other periodical report, and are not proper subjects for a special report and special orders. But, generally speaking, the subjects specified are those to which their attention should be devoted in the preparation of this report. Specific proposals will, of course, be treated separately, as they always have been, and should find no place in the general report, unless they are alluded to for the sake of completeness.

The name of this report should be the same as it bears in Bengal and formerly bore in this province, viz., the Annual General Administration Report. The Chief Commissioner proposes to deal with these reports as they are dealt with in Bengal, and to publish such extracts from them as may be of interest to the public for general information in the Assam Gazette. The dissemination of information to the public is one of the principal objects for which this report is compiled. Mr. Cotton annexes to this Resolution extracts from the General Administration Report, which was submitted by Colonel Henry Hopkinson, C. S. I. for the year 1872-73. It was published at the time by Sir George Campbell, but has been forgotten. These will illustrate the nature of the report submitted many years ago, the only one of the old reports to which the Chief Commissioner has access, and though he does not do more than hold it out as a model which is capable of considerable improvement, it cannot be denied that it compares very favorably with the style of report submitted by local officers at the present time.

The paragraphs on weather and rainfall, crops and prices, and public health, which now find a place in the Land Revenue Report should, in future, be omitted from that report. This will tend to reduce the dimensions of the Land Revenue Report, which is at present far too long. The information contained in these paragraphs is a matter affecting the General Administration, and it will be convenient that they should not be relegated to a Departmental Report, the condition of the people and public health is a most important subject, but no elaborate treatment is required, and such general observations on the subject should be recorded as would naturally suggest themselves to District Officers, who have been living among the people during the year.

Under the heading "District tours" the elaborate statements now furnished are not required. The Commissioner should give some account of his own tour, and state the number of days he has been absent from head quarters, and the same information should be given for District and Sub-divisional Officers. But this section of the report may be confined to these officers, and it is not necessary, as is now done, to record a list of the names of officers who did no touring. Under the heading Administrative changes it will be desirable to allude briefly to changes of personnel due to transfer and other causes, but the detailed statements now furnished are not required. The report should state specifically what officers were in charge of the division and districts and sub-divisions during the year, and the names of the officers who have prepared each report. The statement now furnished showing separate-

ly the number of Mahomedans, Bengalis, and Assamese in Government service should be continued. The elaborate statements of work done, which fill many pages of this report at present, need no longer be compiled. The statistics of criminal and civil work are supplied in the reports prepared by the High Court, and for the rest, the information furnished is, or ought to be, found in Departmental Reports. Nor is the long tabular statement showing the dates of different inspections made by local officers required; the Chief Commissioner will be quite content to receive a statement of the number of inspections and the Commissioner's general remarks on this important subject.

Immigration and Emigration ought always to be an interesting chapter in this province. It is not necessary to repeat the information already furnished in the Labour Immigration Report, but there must always be much to be said on the subject of the Immigration apart from tea-garden coolies. The record of any internal movements of labour in pursuit of profit, or of extending cultivation, should also find a place in this section. The Commissioner has made some suggestive remarks in this year's report, and Mr. Cotton is glad to see that he intends to take the subject up more systematically in future years. In the Chief Commissioner's opinion, the whole question is one which would more fitly be discussed in the Annual General Administration Report, than in the Land Revenue Report, to which the Commissioner proposes to transfer it. The sections on Mines and Minerals, Manufactures, and Trade and Commerce, are important. Under the heading of 'Manufactures' it will not be necessary to repeat what has been said in the special tea report, but a few general remarks on the progress of the tea industry during the year will always be appropriate. Nor are detailed statistics required under the head of 'Trade and Commerce.' The directions in which food-grains and other important staples are moving should be observed.

The section on the Working of the Arms Act is of importance in almost every district of Assam, and in the case of frontier districts and of hill tracts, it will be necessary that it should be treated at some length. The remarks on the working of Municipalities and of Local Boards and on Communications should be of a very general nature. The section on the Post and Telegraphs, which are departments for which the Local Administration is not directly responsible, should be much briefer than it is at present, and the same remark applies to the chapter on the Suits to which Government is a party. The section on Archaeological Remains calls for no change. A Report on Public Opinion and the Native Press is now separately submitted and is treated as confidential, but the Chief Commissioner sees no reason why the subject should not be discussed in the General Administration Report, as has been done in Bengal for the last thirty years, local officers should state in their General Reports what they have learnt of public opinion regarding the working of the Police and the Administration of Justice, including the working of the Civil and Revenue Courts; what has been the effect of the registration system, the effect upon the country of the working of the Forest or other Departments, and the operation of any measures connected with the Revenue Administration which affect the general feeling and condition of the people. These are suggestions only; this section of the report ought to refer to any subject on which local public opinion has been moved during the year.

Elaborate statements should always be relegated to an Appendix, but it is hoped that this report may, as far as possible, be free from such statements.

The Annual Report on "Character of Officers" should always be submitted simultaneously with the Annual General Administration Report, but separately from it, and in a strictly confidential cover.

The Annual Administration Report now prescribed is due from Sub-divisional Officers to District Officers on the 15th May, from District Officers to the Chief Commissioner or Commissioner, as the case may be, on the 15th June, and from the Commissioner to the Chief Commissioner on the 1st August.

SELLS HIS WIFE TO A BROTHER.

MOUNT CARMEL, Pa. Sept. 7.—Because his wife fell in love with another man John Bliha sold her to-day for \$200. The purchaser was her husband's brother, George Bliha. In addition to the woman the purchaser secured a cow, two shoats and a frame house, of which he assumed immediate possession, while the late owner went to a boarding-house.

Eleven years ago John Hebla was killed in the mines, and his pretty young widow became the wife of Bliha. Bliha saved money and purchased a house. Two years ago his wife went to Austria, the home of her childhood on a visit. In two months she returned, and on entering her home she saw George Bliha, a handsome young fellow, with whom she at once fell in love. She induced her husband to invite the young man to board with them. He refused at first, but finally consented.

After a time the young man said he was going to be married. Mrs. Bliha tremblingly begged him to wait until she had a conference with her husband. She told her husband she could not live without his brother, thereupon he remarked that he would be glad to be free. There was a conference between the three, with the result as announced. Bliha thinks he has the better of the bargain.—Inter Ocean.

A DARING dacoity is reported from Nadapuram, Madras, where the dacoits with torches in their hands entered into a Moplah's house, used criminal force on the inmates and forcibly carried away property worth about Rs. 300.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Shwegyin to a Rangoon paper, says that a Karen lately got a frightful mauling from a large bear near Shwegyin. A party had gone into the Kaing jungle to hunt wild pig which abound there and one man thrust a spear into what he took to be a pig, but which turned out to be a black bear. The brute charged the party, seized one man and tore out both eyeballs, bit off his nose and then gnawed a big hole in his face, where the nose had been, large enough to hold a cricket ball! The man is being treated, but it hardly seems possible that he can survive.

