Amrita Bazar Patrika

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পল্লকল্পতরু।

সম্পূর্ণ হইয়াছে

মূল্য ৩॥০ টাকা।

অতিশিঘ্র মুদ্রণ।

অমৃতবাজার পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

গ্রন্থাবতরণ।

বন্ধ্যত্ব ও মাতৃত্ব।

আমার বিতরণের প্রথম গ্রন্থ কাম-শাস্ত্র বিক্রিত হইতেছে; যাঁহারা পূর্ব্বে নাম দিয়াছেন তাঁহাদের আর পত্র লিখিবার প্রয়োজন নাই। [illegible] নাম দিবেন।

কবিরাজ মহিমচন্দ্র গোস্বামী শাস্ত্রী।

১৬৬ । ১৬৮ হ্যারিসন রোড, কলিকাতা।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈতপ্রকাশ।

শ্রীঅদ্বৈত প্রভুর প্রিয় অনুচর ও শিষ্য

শ্রীঈশাননাগর কৃত।

[illegible]প্রভুর লীলা সম্বন্ধে অনেক নূতন [illegible]বং শ্রীঅদ্বৈতপ্রভুর সুমধুর লীলা [illegible]র্ণিত হইয়াছে।

[illegible]আনা। ডাকমাশুল ৴০ আনা॥

[illegible]র, পত্রিকা আফিসে প্রাপ্তব্য।

[illegible]ঘাতের চিকিৎসা।

৬ষ্ঠ সংস্করণ।

[illegible] আনা মাত্র। ডাকমাশুল অর্দ্ধ আনা [illegible]ক-লিখিত-প্রণালী অনুসারে চিকিৎসা [illegible]র্পদষ্ট ব্যক্তি কখনই মরিবে না। ইহার [illegible] প্রণালী এত সহজ এবং পুস্তকের [illegible] এত সরল, যে স্ত্রীলোকেরা পর্য্যন্তও এই [illegible]স্তক করিয়া অনায়াসে চিকিৎসা করিতে [illegible] প্রহকার ত্রিশ বৎসর যাবত এই প্রণালী [illegible]রে অনেক সর্পদষ্ট ব্যক্তিকে নিজহস্তে [illegible]ৎসা করিয়া আরাম করিয়াছেন, এবং অপ[illegible]কেও আরাম করিতে দেখিয়াছেন।

এই সকল কারণে এ[illegible] [illegible]খানি পুস্তক রাখা এবং বা[illegible] অন্যান্য পুস্তকের সহিত ইহা পাঠ ক[illegible] বিশেষ কর্ত্তব্য।

শ্রীগোলাপলাল ঘোষ।

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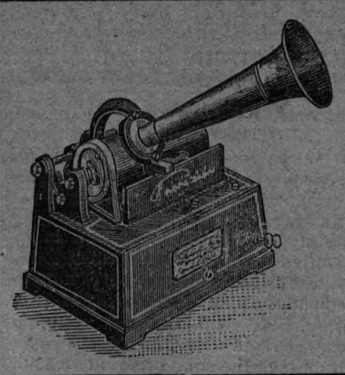

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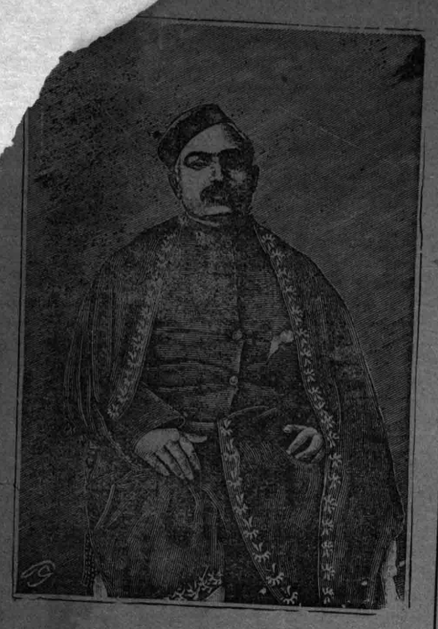

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In the Kaffir campaign and against the Zulus in 1878-9 Buller won distinction as commander of the Forntier Light Horse. He was in charge of a column at the operations in the Buffalo range in the first campaign, and was present at the Battle of Ulundi against the intrepid Zulus. He was thanked in General Orders, and was mentioned some half-dozen times in despatches. At the close of the fighting, Lieutenant-Colonel Buller, as he now was, recevied the Victoria Cross and was created C. M. G.

The V. C. was given "for his gallant conduct at the retreat at Inhlobane on March 24, 1879, in having assisted, while hotly pursued by the Zulus, in rescuing Captain C. D' Arcy of the Forntier Light Horse, who was retiring on foot, Colonel Buller carrying him on his horse until he overtook the rear-guard; also for having, on the same day and in the same circumstances, conveyed to a place of safety Lieutenant C. Evritt, of the Frontier Light Horse, whose horse had been killed under him. Later on Colonel Buller in the same manner saved a trooper of the Frontier Light Horse whose horse was completely exhausted and who otherwise would have been killed by the Zulus who were within eighty yards of him."

But it is upon the Egyptian expedition of 1882-84, and the Nile campaign of the two following years, that the fame of General Buller principally rests. Buller took part in the great battle of Tel-el-Kebir. His name was again in the despatches, and he was decorated for his services. In the Soudan campaign of 1884 he commanded the first infantry Brigade and was second in command of the expedition. At El Teb and Tamai it was Buller's "sangfroid" and skill at a critical moment that did much to save the situation. For distinguished service he was promoted to be Major-General.

Sir Redver's triumphs were yet greater in the Nile campaign. He was Chief of the Staff in those days. Wolseley already knew his sterling quality, and so he was sent to Motemmeh after poor Herbert Stewart was killed at Gakdul on February 16. Buller was to bring the hard pressed column back to Korti, and he did it in triumph. That march across the Bayuda Desert from Gubat will live as a great achievement. In this defeat of the enemy at Abu Kalea Wells on February 16 and 17, and in the conduct of the evacuation of the province of Dongola, Buller had other opportunities which have proved his worth.

In these later years life has been less full of moving incident for the heroic general. He has been concerned in army administration. One of the open secrets of history is that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman intended him to be Commander-in-Chief had not the Liberal Cabinet fallen in 1895.

Now he has once more taken fate in both hands. He has a task, which will be worthy of his highest genius. On December 7 next Sir Redvers Buller will be sixty years of age.

Among old soldiers who took part in the Boer campaign of 1881, there is the story current that Buller, when the English army was lying on the border, frequently crossed into the Transvaal disguised as a Boer, and speaking the language, managed to gain a great deal of information as to the strength and plans of the enemy.

Here is a striking passage about Sir Redvers from a letter written by Sir George Colley from Natal, at the close of the war, which is reproduced in "M. A. P."

"Every one is loud in Colonel Buller's praises, and speaks of him as having made his name in this war, and impressed men with his talent for war, and especially as a leader of irregular horse. Although stern enough in maintaining discipline, his men worship him. He has on several occasions brought men out under fire and saved lines; he is everywhere himself, leader in every charge, rear-guard in every retreat, and seems to combine an admirable military eye and very cool judgment with wonderful courage and dash. He is an old freind of mine, originally a Staff College pupil, and one of whom I always formed a very high opinion, and I am pleased to think that I had something to say to bringing him out here, as he had considerable doubts, and came to consult me when I was last in England."

At the moment when Buller is going out to succeed, with overwhelming forces, where poor Colley failed with a handful, it is interesting to read this tribute of the brave but unfortunate soldier to his comrade and former pupil.

SNAKES IN UGLY MOOD.

FROM AN AMERICAN PAPER, SHEWING HOW THEY LIE.

PORTLAND, ORE., OCT. 1.—A rather rapid young man, who gave his name as Antoine Jondray, and who said he was a descendant of a Frenchman who was present when gold was discovered at Sutter's mill, and who many years ago settled somewhere along the Yakima river, was making himself very numerous and conspicuous about the north end of town yesterday. He said he had returned from the Klondike region several weeks ago, and had been most of the time since at a hot spring in the Cascade mountains, endeavoring to soak and sluice the hoochenoo ont of his system, and, having succeeded in accomplishing this, he had found that he still was not happy, and was now on the back track, endeavouring to supersaturate himself with alcoholic stimulants again. He could not find any hoochenoo in the city, and despaired of ever being able to get enough of the kind of whiskey sold in most saloons into him to restore his mental equilibrium, and so had taken to making the rounds of all the dives he could find, in hope to come across something more potent, sumething more like the favourite Alaska tipple he had been accustomed to.

Late in the afternoon he struck a "blend" which seemed to suit him, and was in high good humor, and favored a circle of friends with a most remarkable snake story, as an incident of his stay in the Cascades.

The spring he visited is on Beaver creek, and he lodged with a settler near by. This settler said there were no rattlesnakes in Beaver creek but there were plenty of them a few miles away in a rock gorge on Elk creek, a branch of Beaver creek. One day the visitor took a notion to go fishing up Elk creek, and find out whether there were any snakes there or not. He went up to the forks and then fished up Elk creek about four miles, without seeing a sign of a snake of any kind. He had filled his basket with fish, and was unjoining his rod to go back home, when he noticed a narrow canyon a little further on, and, thinking this might be the place his friend had spoken of, he decided to go a little further and see if he could find any snakes.

CHASED INTO A TREE.

As soon as he fairly got into the canyon the steep slope which formed the bank of the creek was covered with loose stones, mingled with huge bowlders, and he had gone only a short distance when he found a number of large, vicious-looking rattlers, sunning themselves on the rocks. Picking up a dead limb of a tree, he proceeded to kill several of the largest snakes, with the intention of securi[illegible] their rattlers as curious. Just as he l[illegible] cut the rattlers off one big fellow, [illegible] heard a loud warning rattle a little ab[illegible] him, and, looking up, he saw a monstrous snake on a flat rock at the mouth of a sort of low cave. This snake was evidently a sort of sentinel on guard, and at the loud whirring of his rattles an army of snakes poured forth from the cave and the crevices in the rocks and all made for Mr. Jondray.

The sight of this host of snakes moving down on him convinced him that his only chance for escape lay in flight, and he started at the top of his speed for a large bowlder a few rods distant. He could see snakes coming from all directions, and, glancing over his shoulder, saw that the mail army was rapidly overhauling him, and that unless he could at one bound reach a place of safety on the bowlder he was a goner. The rock looked as if it would be difficult to get on top of, and as there was a not very large chittim wood tree close by it he dropped his basket of fish and his rod, and, with a great effort, jumped and grasped the lowest branches of this tree and drew himself up into it. There he imagined he was safe, and, having recovered his breath, he lighted a cigar and wondered how he was to get out of the scrape.

The snakes swarmed around the tree and attacked his basket, many of them striking their fangs viciously into, it and finally the cover fell open and the snakes began swallowing his fish.

TREE SWELLED AND BURST.

This, however, occupied the attention of only a few of them. Hundreds of others swarmed about the tree ; many tried to climb it, but the butt was too large to allow of this. Finally, a number of them attacked the tree, sticking their fangs into it until they broke them off, when they would retire and give others a chance while all around scores of others lay on the rocks with heads raised and their mouths wide open, as if they expected Mr. Jondray to fall into their jaws.

Things were beginning to look interesting for the prisoner in the tree. He began to feel nervous and scared, and a sort of horrible, musky aroma which rose from the enraged reptiles made him deathly sick. He shouted for help, but no response came, and it was evident that he must play the game out. Presently he noticed that the butt of the tree was swelling from the effects of the venom which had been injected into it from the fangs of the rattlers, and the swelling kept increasing rapidly till it extended to the branches. Soon the trunk burst open, with a report like that of a rifle, and then the limbs began to split, and he saw that in a short time his refuge would be nothing but a mass of kindling wood. He concluded that his only safety lay in reaching the top of the bowlder near by, and, getting himself in position to make a leap for life, he launched himself into the air, and, by great good luck landed safely on the top of the bowlder. Here the snakes could not reach him, and he sat in safety and watched the tree till it lay in fragments on the rocks. One of the limbs rested against the side of the bowlder, and several of the snakes tried to climb it, but it kept splitting and their weight pulled it down.

SNAKES KILLED BY HAILSTONES.

The snakes still swarmed around and appeared to be more enraged than at the start, and Mr. Jondray had about made up his mind that he would have to spend the night on the rock, and perhaps the brief remainder of his existence when a thunder storm came up.

The black clouds shut the light of day out of the gorge, the lightning flashed from crag to crag, and lambent flames played over the surface of the rocks, which were evidently largely composed of iron producing a lurid glare, in which hundreds of snakes could be seen gazing venomously at their intended victim on the rock to whom the scene appeared like one of Dante's least enticing hells. Then the rain came down in torrents, but the snakes never budged. Thunder, lightning and rain had no terrors for them when their danger was up.

After the storm had raged for an hour or so, and night was approaching, a chilly breeze came down from the summits of the mountains and the rain changed to hail. The hailstones were as large as goose eggs, and Mr. Jondray gave himself up for lost. His hat was torn to fragments in a moment, and he was nearly stunned before he could get his coat turned over his head, which saved his life. In a few minutes the rocks were covered with hail, and all the snakes which had not retreated among the crevices of the rocks were apparently dead. Mr. Jondray watched them for a few minutes after the hail stopped, and not seeing one of them wiggle, he slid down from his bowlder and got out of that canyon as fast as his legs could carry him.

He reached home just as night was falling, and next morning started for Portland. He had no more use for hot springs, as his experience on that bowlder sweated all the whisky out of him, and he says he will never have it all sweated out of him again as long as he lives, if he can help it.

From the manner in which he was disposing of whisky yesterday he is evidently bound to inculcate another host of snakes, which will b[illegible] full grown and have their wisdom teeth [illegible] before long.

EXTRAORDINARY VIR[illegible] OF INDIAN PLANT[illegible]

HINDU tradition refers to seve[illegible] possessing extraordinary virtues. [illegible] is a creeper known as *Jyothishm[illegible]* only be found in usually inacces[illegible] and recesses of the mountains [illegible] India and Assam. The creeper [illegible]dinarily be discovered in the day tim[illegible] be interspersed in the surroundin[illegible] getation. Yogins and Sanyasins [illegible] after supernatural strength and pow[illegible] and mind spend considerable time [illegible] the plant. The search should be m[illegible] night time, as then alone the [illegible] be detected—its leaves being p[illegible]cent emitting luminous rays of lig[illegible] name connotes. The searcher consi[illegible] self peculiarly fortunate if he comes i[illegible] the plant. The juice of the plant [illegible] power of reducing to ashes a given [illegible] of molten copper. Copper of the ol[illegible] will have to be used. The powdere[illegible] possesses wonderful medical properties [illegible] to be administered in infinitesimally sm[illegible] with admixture of ordinary drugs suita[illegible] the various chronic diseases that baffle[illegible] nary medical treatment. It is the surest [illegible]nce classifies leprosy [illegible]cting the blood, the fl[illegible]ses, and says that the two form[illegible] curable but not the last. It is also said th[illegible] the copper dust prepared as aforesaid has th[illegible] power of converting baser materials into gold. One will only have to drop a pinhead full of the dust into melting copper to convert it into gold. Even if this be an unrealizable statement the plant is certainly worth possessing [illegible] account of its medical virtues.

The plant possesses much fire element and some of those that give up worldly concerns take to a systematic eating of its leaves. The brain organism will thus be purged of its gross substance and so illumined that the person's knowledge will be simply superhuman. Some ten persons, it is said, once took to eating the leaves. The internal heat was so unbearable that eight of them died from its effects but the remaining two were those known as Madhusudana Saraswathi—the author of "Siddhantha Bindu," and Gadadhara Bhattacharji—the author of several well-known works on logic—works that are unapproachable to this day, and serve as monuments to which human intellect can soar.

Another plant of note is Rodanti. It is a small bushy plant, the twigs and leaves converging into the form of an umbrella over its trunk or stem. The name implies a weeping plant. The leaves continuously let fall pearly drops of water from their ends so as to moisten a line of circumference around the central stem. The searcher after the plant takes with him a jar or bottle of quicksilver and, making a circular channel in the line of the watered circumference, pours the same into the channel and covers it with earth. It is allowed to remain so for three days and nights, and when the covering of earth is removed it will be found to be a solid silver-like bar, a small piece of which is enough to convert melting iron or copper into gold. I write these lines not in the spirit of realizing any dreams of alchemy, but in the hope that any forest or itinerant officer or person whose business or inclination leads him far into forests and mountain fastnesses, happening to read these lines may, if he chance to come across the plants answering the above description, put the matter to the test and be unselfish enough to give out to the public the result if successful.—*Theosophist*

A LONDON wire says :—Neither in South Africa nor in England before the war did any suspicion exist that the Boers were supplied with siege artillery ; on the contrary, it was loudly stated that they were wofully deficient in this circumstance, and the deficiency was attributed to their somewhat primitive mode of warfare, and utter disinclination to undertake any fighting which would necessitate either exposure or deliberate and open attack. It now turns out that they are fully equipped with seize artillery of the newest pattern and the most powerful calibre, and complaints are loud and deep here of the remissness of the authorities in not learning this in time.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, NOVEMER 12, 1899.

THE CHAPRA CASE.

A FAIR WARNING TO GOVERNMENT.

MANY eminent Englishmen have assured us that India now enjoys a better rule than it ever did before. The Indians who alone can give an authoritative opinion on the subject, do not agree in this view. They do not doubt the good intentions of the rulers; and they do believe that the most ardent desire of British statesmen is to make the Indians, not only contented, but happy and prosperous, under British rule. What the Indians complain is that this desire of British statesmen in regard to India, has not been fulfilled. Their complaint is that the method under which they are ruled is faulty, and that, therefore, a seething, wide-spread, and deeply-felt discontent prevails in the country.

The Indians prayed for the privilege of local self-government enjoyed by even the smallest of all the other countries under British rule. But this prayer was rejected, and they were put under the charge of officials vested with enormous powers. You must not govern yourselves; the officials would do that for you. That was the decision of the rulers of this country. But what, if these officials, enjoying such large powers, oppressed the people? To this query the Government always replied that British officials were incapable of doing wrong, and if any black sheep were found amongst them, he would be punished with exemplary severity.

Well, that was the tacit contract between the Government and the people. The Government invested the officials with extensive powers, and the people complained to the Government if these officials oppressed them. If it is conceded that one of the duties of Government is to afford protection to the people, then surely the duty of the authorities is to prevent their subordinates from oppressing the people.

eviously some notice used to be taken
vagaries of officials. But now scarcely
ch notice is taken. This policy
tervention with officials in their
with the people, was introduced
Charles Elliott. When some men
employ of the late distinguished
lawyer, Dr. Troylukhya Nath Mittra,
ted illegally and violently by a Civilian
ate, Babu Troylukhya was thanked by
rles Elliott for not letting the news-
know anything about the case. The
hat Sir Charles Elliott followed was
an official was found fault with by the
or their representatives, he must be
ed. If he is found fault with again and
he must be protected again and again.
t, the more an official is attacked, the
e is to be protected by the Govern-

t the officials alone; let the Government
to deal with them,"—that is the best
ption of Sir Charles Elliott's policy.
ow is the Government to know of the
ies of an official if the press is not
itted to bring them to the notice of the
rnment? This was what Sir Charles
tt could not be made to understand.

at policy has now been adopted by Mr.
on,—we ought to have said Sir J. Wood-
n, but we are assured that His Honor does
t meddle with such affairs at all.

Our contention has always been that there is a God Whose ways are peculiar; that if a moral wrong was done, the wrong-doer could never escape punishment. If the officials were not kept in check, we contended, they would bring disgrace upon the Government. But the Government did not listen to this sound and friendly advice.

Let us describe shortly the situation. English youths, not sons of noblemen, but of the middle classes, that is to say, youths not used to be treated with undue respect by their fellows in their country, are imported into this country in the midst of "colored" people, for whom they naturally have a feeling of contempt. They are so young that they require a tutor to keep them straight; but they are let loose with almost dictatorial powers upon the Indian society. Yes, dictatorial powers. For if an official does a wrong, the Government is, as a rule, found to support it. The large powers with which these youths are invested naturally make their heads dizzy; and they are led by impulse to commit indiscreet acts. Their failings would never have reached the ears of the Government but for the Indian papers. The most important duty of the press in this country is to bring such vagaries to the notice of the Government.

The Government ought, for the sake of the officials themselves and the protection of the people, to take note of official vagaries when brought to light. If they do so, this healthy check will improve the Service as well as increase the happiness of the people. If they do not exercise this healthy check, the authorities, instead of doing any good to their brother-officials, only demoralize them.

Do you think that the scandalous proceedings at Chapra would have been possible if the Government had maintained a proper supervision?

MR. T. C. HODSON OF MANIPUR.

WE have received the following extraordinary letter from a leading gentleman at Silchar:—

We have simply been staggered to read in the *Assam Gazette* in its issue of the 28th October that Mr. Hodson is to be deputed to Manipur as Assistant to the Political Agent. This Mr. Hodson, it will be remembered, made himself quite famous by his doings in Manipur for which he was ordered to be degraded and transferred by Mr. Cotton not a couple of months ago. The circumstances of his case are extraordinary enough to bear repetition. One Brajanath Bandopadhya, a trader in Manipur, instituted certain criminal proceedings there against four persons who were residents of Lukhipur in the Cachar district, named Chaitanya Charan, Dharma Charan, Raydhan and Brindaban Das. They had, or thought that they had, very good reasons for not personally appearing in the Court of Mr. Hodson, before whom the case was pending and they applied for permission to appear through agent. Mr. Hodson, it should be mentioned, is a Civilian who joined the Civil Service on the 30th October 1895 and first arrived in India on the 11th December of the same year.

He was, as Assistant to the Political Agent and Superintendent of State in Manipur, exercising civil and criminal powers which it would be difficult to define. In fact, we are not aware of any limitation to his powers as the Indian statutes have no force in Manipur. Quite recently he sent a number of persons to the gallows for the murder or supposed murder of one man.

It should also be mentioned that the criminal case against Chaitanya Charan and others was in connection with an Indian rubber Mehal and was more of a civil nature than anything. Mr. Hodson would not, however, dispense with their personal attendance. They thereupon applied to the Chief Commissioner for a transfer of the case from the file of Mr. Hodson. The Chief Commissioner did not order a transfer of the case but granted permission to the petitioners to appear by agent. They accordingly duly empowered one Nabin Charan to act as their attorney. Nabin Charan, on the strength of this power-of-attorney, applied in writing for a copy of the petition of complaint and also prayed for a commission to examine some witnesses residing at Lukhipur. On verbally intimating his intention to Mr. Hodson he was instantly turned out of the room. When his petition was placed by the Bench clerk before Mr. Hodson, Nabin Charan was called in, and then sent to the jailor with a written order by Mr. Hodson directing the jailor to flog him. A *chaprasi* from Mr. Hodson's Court took the man to the jailor who carried out the order of flogging.

The *chaprasi*, it would appear, told the jailor, that the Saheb's verbal order was that the man was only to be warned and not flogged. But the jailor refused to accept the *chaprasi's* assurance in preference to the written order which he duly returned to Mr. Hodson with the remark "executed." It was now the jailor's turn and he was forthwith sent for and flogged for having disregarded the verbal message conveyed through the *chaprasi*.

Nabin Charan then came to Silchar and swore to an affidavit detailing all the above circumstances and submitted a petition to the Chief Commissioner. Mr. Cotton then called for an explanation from Mr. Hodson. We have not been furnished with a copy of Mr. Hodson's explanation, but are informed on good authority that far from disputing the statements contained in the affidavit, Mr. Hodson attempted to justify them. Mr. Cotton now directed the immediate transfer of the proceedings from Mr. Hodson's file and his own transfer from Manipur, putting him at the bottom of the list of his grade. Mr. Hodson was posted to Sylhet and placed under Mr Porteous, one of the strongest and most conscientious of officers in the whole province.

Mr. Hodson, however, obtained leave forthwith before reporting himself at Sylhet; and we now read in the *Gazette* that he is to be posted to Manipur on his return from leave. We feel that it is simply unnecessary to repeat what we said before, that the punishment that was inflicted on him was grossly inadequate. The whole of the Indian press (the Anglo-Indian press would not, of course, notice such cases) was unanimous in demanding whether a mere transfer to Sylhet with temporary stoppage of promotion was enough punishment to Mr. Hodson for what he had done.

The answer which Government has now thought fit to give to this query is clear and unequivocal: *Never do aught in India calculated to lower the prestige of any British officer, be the enormity of his conduct ever so great.* Who will presume to say after this that our Mahomedan brethren are not perfectly right in the position they have chosen to adopt, *viz.*, not to criticise any action of Government? Who can say that the writings in newspapers in Mr. Hodson's case have not had to do anything with the reversal of Mr. Cotton's previous orders? The Indian press demanded a modification of the orders: and well-modified they have been,—only unfortunately "Ram has understood the thing the wrong way", as we say in Bengali.

We do not know how it has been brought about. We refuse to believe—and we have good reasons for it—that Mr. Cotton has had anything to do with the rescinding of his own order. We know this much that Mr. Hodson proceeded to Simla as soon as the Chief Commissioner's orders were passed and that he remained there the whole time of his leave till the obnoxious order was set aside. The Government has, however, omitted to do one thing. A retransfer of the criminal proceedings to the file of Mr. Hodson would give the matter a finishing touch and we have no hesitation in recommending that this be forthwith done.

The writer is a little sarcastic here and there. But fancy the injustice of the arrangement. The atrocious character of Mr. Hodson's proceedings must be admitted by all. A duly-authorised agent,—an apparently respectable man,—appeared before him with the request that a commission might be issued for the examination of certain witnesses. All that Mr. Hodson was required to do was either to grant or reject the application. What he did, however, was simply astounding. He ordered a peon to take the man to the jailor. To the jailor he sent two different sets of order—one written and the other verbal. The jailor preferred the written to the verbal order, and caused the man to be flogged. He was perfectly justified in taking the step; but Mr. Hodson, on his part, flogged the jailor for doing what it was his duty to do! In short, Mr. Hodson disgraced two respectable men for ever, not that they committed any offence, but because he was in temper!

Even a less liberal-minded ruler than Mr. Cotton could not possibly have ignored such conduct as this, on the part of a responsible officer like the Assistant Political Officer of Manipur. Mr. Hodson was, however, very leniently dealt with. He was simply transferred to Sylhet to learn the work of administration under an able and experienced District Officer. But the decision of Mr. Cotton, we are told, has been upset, apparently by the Government of India, and the nominal punishment, inflicted upon the offending officer, withdrawn! May we enquire in whose interests has this action been taken? Will Mr. Hodson gain by the arrangement? On the other hand, is it not likely that he will be encouraged to commit yet more unjustifiable acts and place the Government in a still more awkward position in future? There is no doubt also that by re-posting Mr. Hodson to Manipur, Government has not served the interests of the public.

There is a grim humour in the cancellation of the order of Mr. Hodson's transfer which must strike every body. Mr. Pennell, Judge of Chupra, has been punished by being transferred to the worst district in Bengal for having done a most noble and just act. The whole Indian press is praying for the withdrawal of the unjust order of his transfer, but Government has closed its ears with molten lead against this universal cry. Mr. Hodson, on the other hand, committed acts which can never be approved of by any man having a drop of humanity in him. The entire Indian press condemned those acts, and the Local Administration marked its sense of displeasure by removing him to another district. But lo! while Mr. Pennell is on his way to the penal station of Noakhaly, to expiate for the sin (?) of administering justice impartially, Mr. Hodson is re-transferred to Manipur with a note of triumph for administering *injustice* in an outrageous manner!

Some of the sentiments expressed by Lord Curzon in his Bombay speech, published in another column, are very noble. They show unmistakably that the heart-felt wish of His Excellency is to give protection even to the meanest Indian subject of the Queen-Empress, placed under his charge. The Viceroy will, however, see that many of his subordinates are not helping him in carrying out the divine mission with which he has been entrusted. May we venture to hope that His Excellency will send for the papers of the Pennell and Hodson cases, and pass such orders upon them as he deems fit?

WE take the following from the Bombay *Champion* of Nov. 5:—

We print in this column, as we have no room elsewhere a letter from a cloth merchant residing at Belgaum. Of course we publish the letter with all reserve. If Bajapa Parpa Baja was treated in the manner he alleges under the circumstances he relates, then there is a case for the strictest enquiry against the officials concerned. And we venture to suggest to Lord Sandhurst, if this case has not been brought to his notice, that some means should at once be taken to ascertain the *bona fides* of this complainant as a preliminary step to a complete investigation:—

"This morning I was sitting in my shop in Khade Bazaar when at about 8 o'clock a police peon came to inform me that Capt. Johnstone, the Chief Plague Superintendent, had gone to my house and asked me to go with him and open the door which was locked. I at once went with him and removed the padlock from the door. Capt. Johnstone himself went into the house and personally inspected. There was nobody in it. Then he came out and asked the supervisor how many persons were living in it, and it was suspected that four men were occupying the house since the 18th. Capt. Johnstone asked me where were the rest of the inmates. I said, "in the huts. I too live there and come to my shop from there; no one lives in the house." Without giving a thought and determining whether my statement was correct or that of the supervisor, the sahib held me by the neck and thrust me off. I had a very narrow escape from a dash of my forehead on a stone. This treatment was a mystery to me, but being one of the merchants of the city I believe this was only to torture me out of a feeling of vindictiveness; however, to proceed with the account of the incident, the door was relocked, a seal put on it, and I was ordered to accompany them to the health camp. I said I had committed no fault, but have come at once leaving my shop open and my customers there; if I am wanted I would make arrangements about my shop and return. While I was attending to the customers two police peons came up and asked me to go to the health camp. I said to them, "Show me a written order and I will go." I presume they reported the matter to Capt. Johnstone, since he came with five more peons and all the seven dragged me out of the shop, and, without giving me any time to close my shop or arrange my clothes, forcibly took me to the health camp. On the whole the officials are wreaking vengeance on the merchants. I never lived in the house nor did any of my family. We were all living out of the town and only came to our shop in connection with our business. When I reached the health camp, Mr. Cappel, the Commissioner and Plague Authority, came up, and the first question put to me by him in Hindustani was, "Are you not a merchant? Has there been no case against you to-day?" "Alright," I said, "Sir, I live in a hut. Capt. Johnstone, without making any inquiries, has sent me here. Kindly make inquiries and give me redress." Mr. Cappel said, "Whatever Capt. Johnstone does is alright." Later on, Mr. Peacock has allowed me to go out for my meals. From this action I fear I shall not be set free from the health camp since the whole is a got up affair and done only with the object of taking vengeance and torturing us. This is only bringing an obloquy on the justice and system of the British Government. Some of the plague officials here have become hostile towards the people. Some of the European plague officials seem to be feeling that they have the support of His Excellency the Governor; that His Excellency was convinced that they would never be heard. While, on the contrary, the people of Belgaum are a cunning set. If a criminal action was to be brought against a European official for oppression sanction from the Indian Government is necessary, much time is lost and much money is to be spent; all this has resulted in making the European officials arrogant. There is no help but God alone, He must protect us.—Yours, etc.,

Bajapa Parpa Baja, Cloth Merchant, Belgaum.
24th October 1899.

Now here are definite charges brought against particular plague officers. And how ugly the charges are! The man committed no offence whatever, and yet he is alleged to have been treated as if he were one of the worst of felons. Need any body wonder after this, why people in the Bombay Presidency preferred plague to plague-measures? Of course, the Belgaum plague officers may have their own version; but, as long as the allegations are not disproved so long we have no right to reject them, coming as they do from a respectable party. Those who know Lord Sandhurst speak highly of the natural goodness of his heart. But the unfortunate people, placed under his charge, were given no opportunity to test it. If a free and innoce
man could be dragged from home and
dealt with as a criminal, what becomes
vaunted liberty of the subject? In th
ning of the outbreak of plague in th
Presidency, greater atrocities
under notice were no doubt
wives were actually snatch
their husbands and da
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wards. Instances were
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THE case of Mr. Fernandez shows that the Bombay Governor's subordinates are too strong for him. A little enquiry would have satisfied Lord Sandhurst that Colonel Wray, the Political Agent of Kolhapur, and Mr. Fernandez were not on the best of terms. Indeed, the Colonel had gone the length of causing the Sanad which enabled Mr. Fernandez to practise as a pleader and earn a good deal of money, cancelled by the State authorities. His Excellency should therefore have received the statement of the Political Agent with some reservation, when the latter raised a cry of murder. As a matter of fact, the entire Indian public was taken aback when they were told that, Mr. Fernandez had been charged with having attempted to poison the Colonel with mixing powdered glass with his bread. The announcement at once brought to the recollection of many the Baroda incident in which another Resident, Col. Phayre, had charged the late Mulhar Rao Guikwar, with having poisoned him by surreptitiously throwing diamond dust into his cup of lemon sherbet. Col. Phayre gravely assured the Government of India that he was absolutely sure that there was poison in the sherbet, for it had a "coppery taste." It was thus for the first time that the world came to know that, not only was diamond dust a subtle poison but that it tasted like copper. Col. Wray did not eat the condemned bread, and so he could not say how the powdered glass tasted. But his assertion is no less original than that of Col. Phayre that powdered glass is a poison which kills man! All this might have been a good joke if poor Fernandez had not actually been hauled up on a charge of attempted murder. The Government of Bombay was dragged into the matter and the case was made to assume gigantic proportions. Mr. Fernandez was consigned to prison and many remands were obtained by the prosecution for further investigation. This meant terrible sufferings and immense pecuniary loss to the accused. The Kolhapur State was made to spend money like water and some of the best Bombay Government detectives were employed to help in the enquiry at the cost of the State. At last it was discovered that the prosecution was labouring under a hallucination and that Mr. Fernandez was as innocent as a newly-born babe; and Col. Wray had no option left to him but to withdraw his charge and the Court had no help but to acquit the accused! Now, all this humiliation and scandal might have been avoided if Lord Sandhurst had only asserted his authority a little. By the way, would any notice be taken of the unjustifiable conduct of Col. Wray? If a private person had brought such a serious charge against another and had then withdrawn it, he would have rendered himself liable to be prosecuted under the law. Are Political Agents amenable to this law? Col. Phayre, we remember, was punished, after the Baroda fiasco, by being stationed at Aden.

BUT for the patriotism and strong sense of justice of some of the members of the Chapra bar, the facts of the case of Nursing Sing would never have seen the light of the day. The initiative was taken by Babu Jagannath Sahai, a pleader of considerable practice, both civil and criminal. When he took the extraordinary step of swearing to the correctness of the allegations of the poor constable against Messrs. Corbett and Simkins, and the extraordinary conduct of the Deputy Magistrate, the officiating District Magistrate and the District Police Superintendent, Mr. Pennell was bound to take notice of the case. When the case came before Mr. Pennell for trial, it was most ably conducted by Mr. M. Huq, a rising Mahomedan Barrister of Chapra. Mr. Huq showed considerable skill in his arguments so much so, indeed, that it provoked some strong remarks from Mr. Twidell, the officiating Magistrate, who evidently smarted under the fearless and unanswerable remarks of the counsel. Both Babu Jagannath Sahai and Mr. Huq are entitled to the gratitude of their countrymen for the prominent part they took in connection with this memorable case.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Englishman*, who calls himself "A True Briton," thus delivers himself on the subject of the employment of Indians in South Africa:—

Not only do I consider the idea of sending native troops against the descendants of Europeans abominable, but I believe such a thing might be fraught with future consequences to us in India of a most serious nature.

The writer ought to have styled himself "A
Brutal Briton," for his sentiments are a litt
brutal and not certainly of a "A True Brit
He libels his countrymen by the
ments he utters in their name. He
marked distinction made betw
Indian and the European,
Indian sepoy and the British s
not see much difference betw
and a European, except t
possibly fight better.
for the Indians have
opportunity. But if th
between an Indian
none whatsoever
a British soldier
Indian sepoy
here not th
reason
emplo
was
su
th

We fear eventually the
will have to send some
on the plea that the
scruples in entertaining the
savages for military purpo
soldier is more valuable t
sepoy; and if the Indian se
taken to the front, the severe
ed by the English would have
by both British and Indian troop
there is any particular objection to th
being employed in a war with the
we hope, a further contingent of British
will be taken away from here. That wil
great gain to India in many ways. Wha
have to prove is, that India can be denud
a considerable portion of British troops,
are now such a burden upon this poor cou
The Transvaal war has done us this se
that, it has proved conclusively that we
at least ten thousand British troops in e
of the number we need.

WE apprehended mischief from the re
the Viceroy to the Delhi Municipal ad
and we regret to find that our fears wer
quite without foundation. It will be re
bered that, Lord Curzon characterised the I
address as "a model" one, because in it
inhabitants of the Delhi Municipality a
His Excellency for nothing and complaine
nothing, but on the contrary expressed s
faction at the existing order of things.
our humble judgment, His Excellency
only a little sarcastic when he com
mented the Delhi people in that w
and we said so in one of our recent issu
For, we could hardly persuade ourselves
believe that a liberal-minded ruler like Lo
Curzon would feel any real annoyance if su
addresses were made a vehicle for convey
some local grievances to His Excellen
attention. The generality of the people
seems, have taken the Viceroy at his wo
and complaints have reached us from s
quarters that when His Excellency v
those places, the addresses of welcome t
presented to him will be prepared afte
"model address" of Delhi. For instance
Benares corespondent writes to us under
Nov. 6:—

You have already published a leader
Viceroy's Delhi speech in which he spoke w
the municipality for not voicing any complaint
speech is doing some mischief. The Viceroy
at Benares on December 15th and the muni
is going to vote an address. A draft of that
was prepared yesterday, but it is a perfectly co
document. It does not even touch upon one
of local interest, much less of pointing out
ces, although there are so many of the
address has been made purposely so becaus
been thought that H. E. does not like
"awkward things." You might state this f
in the *Patrika* and point out the evils that th
which perhaps meant otherwise, is creating.

Let us repeat what we said the o
These Viceregal tours are the only c
when the people find an opportunit
quainting the supreme ruler with th
and grievances. Nothing should be
deprive them of this little privilege w
have been enjoying from the beg
British rule in this country.

THE Whipping Bill is before th
Legislative Council. The following
of our Dacca correspondent ought
the serious attention of the Ho
bers:—

There is a Bill on the legislativ
extending the operations of the W
I shall presently give you the rep
which will go to show the danger o
One Mohim was charged along wi
with the theft of a small quanti
sugar. There was absolutely
against this man, save and
admission of a co-accused who
at the instance of Mohim
person he had committed
theft. The Joint-Magistrate of
on this admission alone, conv
and sentenced them to s
The sentence was in
Mohim thereupon fi
before the Session
tion set aside, ju
character. T
case was ar
as the V
clined
the s
Th

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

ennell had been, he left nd him. This is what our ent writes :—

hupra judgment has evoked general is stern independence and love of Pennell was for sometime Additional remember that in a case of arson, in rth's people were complainants, and os people were accused, Mr. Pennell rence for acquittal to the High Court, e verdict of the Jury, the majority of whom conviction. The High Court acquitted used and gave Mr. Pennell high compliment s very able letter of reference. We shall, indeed, very glad to hear that Mr. Pennell's transfer to akhali has been cancelled.

What a pity that such a model Judge, of whom ery Englishman ought to be proud, should e in the black book of the Government, for dministering justice in a right English style! We hear that Mr. Pennell has left Chapra and on his way to Noakhaly. Here is an opportunity for Sir John Woodburn to gain the olden opinion of his people by re-considering his order with regard to the transfer of e late Chapra Judge. Of one thing we can sure His Honor. By cancelling the transfer der of Mr. Pennell, he will not injure but enance the prestige of the Government in public timation.

RUMOURS of a coalition are circulated by papers hostile to the British. This letter ppears in the *World* (New York) :—

"I have just had a letter from an unprejudiced merican in South Africa in which he tells me that England goes to war with the Transvaal there are ninety chances out of a hundred that she will lose outh African possessions. My friend is very well informed on inside matters down there and insinuates hat Kruger has been promised assistance from rance and Russia, whose commercial interests in e country are large.

"All the Americans and all the foreigners except e Englishmen, he says, are on the Boers' side, d the majority will fight with them. He has cently returned from a visit to the chief of the sutos and he says that powerful tribe will help Boers if it comes to light. England is powerbut if she does not have the good-will of the llions of blacks in the country I would not give cents for her chances of winning the fight."

But how can either Russia or France go to th Africa without a navy? The British is free; and neither France nor Russia has means of sending troops to South Africa. n again, England is invincible on the sea.

RE is a para taken from an American :—

LADY CURZON AND THE REPORTER.

harming little story comes from India, illustratly Curzon's native kindliness of heart towards f her compatriots who come in contact with hat great empire in which she is the Queen's tative. At the Calcutta races held this sumoung newspaper man, an American, formerly er of the *New York Herald*, and now occupyditorial position on the Calcutta *Englishman*, necessary to come in contact with Lord Secretary in order to obtain some details of gal visit. Approaching the viceroy's box nd-stand he entered into conversation with ry who haughtily declined to give the in- Lady Curzon was sitting close by, appamused listener. Suddenly turning, the re- : "Lady Curzon, won't you help a n in distress?" "Yes, certainly," she re- a smile. "Are you an American? What ble?" Explanations followed, and after in which the vicerine questioned him his work and prospects, the reporter left ails of what he required, to the unutterment of the starched secretary.—*Leslie's*

is charming no doubt, but it may ans to come out to this country in rs. There is, however, no harm in y are not likely to claim a share services of this country.

---

h troops and white men in are now realizing the folly of native population with injustice. hite population may be said to in the hands of these natives, cannot move a step. that the British mule driven by the natives, the enemy's camp hief they can do. affairs in South been obliged eaders have means om the that be-

That is to say, "that was my original intention but I am now dying of hunger. Huzur is the *ma pap* of the Saran district. I am but Huzur's subordinate. As you are pleased to order so will I act. What I want is that there be this favour shewn to me that my services under the Sirkar remains secure. When the sahibs have beat me what can I do."

Then the District Magistrate retired to his private room and had a judgment of about ten pages written out. In short, the case was withdrawn, and the withdrawal was granted.

In the interests of Messrs. Corbett and Simkins themselves, the enquiry ought not to have been allowed to be dropped. We think, the Government ought to take up the subject and institute a fresh enquiry.

THE orders of the Government of India have now been issued with respect to the conduct of the Civil officers who were concerned with the recent Rangoon Outrage case and of the apathy and negligence displayed by whom in the investigation of the case it was known that Government proposed to take serious notice. We understand that an expression of severe censure from the Government of India has been conveyed to the Commissioner of the Pegu Division, the Commissioner of Police at Rangoon, the Cantonment Magistrate, and the District Magistrate.

IN 1898-99 the Government of Madras expended a sum of 9·87 lakhs of rupees on the administration of plague measures,—4·06 lakhs from Provincial Funds, 3·26 lakhs from Local Funds, and 2·53 lakhs from Municipal Funds.

A BIG landslip is reported to have taken place at Karakulam near Trevandrum, on the Nedumangad Road. A portion of a hill with huge rocks and high trees slipped on the 24th instant, destroying a big tank and a large area of paddy fields.—*Travancore Times.*

PATNA NAWAB'S ESTATES.—The estate of the late Nawab Bahadur Welayet Ali Khan has been taken charge of by the Commissioner of Patna on behalf of the Court of Wards. We hear a sum of about Rs. 57,000 was found in cash in the strong room besides many gold and silver articles.

CARPETS FOR THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The Central Jail, Bhagalpur, has completed and despatched the three handsome large carpets, ordered by the Government of India. They will be hung on the walls of the Indian Court at the Paris Exhibition. All three are copied from famous Oriental (Persian and Kashmir) patterns.

LADY SARAH WILSON, a daughter of the 7th Duke of Marlborough, and wife of Captain Gordon Wilson, of the Royal Horse Guards, after volunteering to go to South Africa in the capacity of a nurse, has been appointed one of the war correspondents of the *Daily Mail*. She is with her husband who is on the staff of Colonel Baden Powell at Mafeking.

SOME ruffians placed a number of stones on the Nilgiri Railway line about a mile from Connoor, with the result that the train was derailed and all but precipitated over a great precipice. The train was fitted with most powerful brakes, and if it were not for the prompt action of these, it would most certainly have never been heard of again.

THE DARJEELING DISASTER.—The Darjeeling Relief Fund started under the auspices of the Deputy Commissioner now amounts to Rs. 26,639-9-8. The chief donors have been Native, among whom, H. H. the Maharaja Scindhia of Gwalior contributed the larges individual amount, Rs. 3,000, the Maharaja of Cooch Behar coming next with Rs. 2,500. The European community too have not held back, though their individual donations do not run up very high. The Darjeeling Rescue Fund, too, is swelling little by little.

A CALIGRAPHIC CURIOSITY.—From Mr. Edward O'Sullivan, late of the Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians) 11, Williams Lane, Calcutta, says the *Englishman*, we have received an excellent specimen of microscopic hand-writing, 1,000 words being neatly and clearly written on a piece of paper much smaller than an ordinary post-card. Mr. O'Sullivan affirms his ability to do even better, and for a very reasonable remuneration is prepared to reduce to the minutest proportions any literary or printed matter which may be sent to him.

FIRE AT CHANDPUR.—A fire broke out on Tuesday at Chandpur, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd unsiff's Court being burned down. The Court s were in charge, but no regular police. t known how the fire originated. The broke out in the 1st and 2nd Munsiff's then the 3rd Munsiff's Court and private house took fire. Nearly were burned. The Munsiffs late hour at night superin- made to combat the flames hatever was possible.

dent, reported by the rds another illustra- g in the Kangtung the 7th ult., be- gang of about le an attack t town of swords ffered oke nd

Calcutta and Mofussil.

A DARING ROBBERY.—A daring robbery took place in Patna, the owner day, a coachman while driving back home was caught hold of by several ruffians who assaulted him, robbed him of all he had, and then drove away in the carriage; the owner of the carriage having given information to police, enquiry is being made. No clue of the offenders has been got yet.

ROBBING A JUDGE.—On the night of Wednesday last, a daring robbery was committed in the house of the Hon'ble Justice Sale. Mr. Justice Sale at about 10 o'clock at night put four diamond rings and a gold watch worth about Rs. 6,000 in a drawer and went to bed. Next morning he found that all the jewellery were disappeared. A vigorous police enquiry is going on.

SECRETARY TO THE B. I. ASSOCIATION.—At an unusually largely-attended meeting of the British Indian Association held yesterday, Maharaj-Kumar Prodyat Kumar Tagore was, on the motion of Maharajah Bahadur Sir Narendra Krishna K. C. I. E., President of the Association, unanimously elected Honorary Secretary. We congratulate the Association on having been able to secure the services of the young Maharaj-Kumar for such an important post. The Association was at its zenith when Maharajah Bahadur Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore, K. C. S. I. was its Secretary. By following in the wake of of his illustrious father, the Maharaj-Kumar will, we dare say, raise the Association again to its original position.

THE BHAGALPUR DISASTER.—A Bengalee correspondent writes to *Indian Engineering* from Dohad under date the 27th October: "I proceeded by tonga to report my arrival at Kaira. I noticed men and women, even girls and boys, hanging on the trees collecting leaves; they were eating the soft leaves, reserving the old leaves for the cattle. All the trees on the public road are without a single leaf, and even the tender branches are cut off by the poor famine-stricken people, who are selling their cattle at from 4 to 8 annas a head. All the fields are dry and without grass. I saw some people who are living skeletons waiting for death. This is the present state of this place, and I do not know what will happen afterwards."

P. W. D.—Rai Sahib Gopal Chunder Daw, Hony. Asst. Engineer, Northern Drainage and Embkmt. Div. is granted privilege leave for 2 months and 7 days. The services of Mr. E. Arundel-Smith, Asst. Engineer, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Genl (Education) Dept. of the Bengal Govt. for the C. E. College, Sibpur. Mr. H. H. Stevens, Asst Engineer, is transferred in the interests of the public service from the Eastern Sone to the Arrah Div. Mr. G. T. Huntingford, Asst Engineer, is transferred temporarily from the Eastern Sone to the Darjeeling Div. Mr. B. K. Finnimore, Ex Engineer, has been granted furlough for seven months in extension of that previously granted. Lieutenant E. G. Farquharson, R. E., Offig. Ex Engineer, Chota Nagpur Div. is, on return from leave, attached to the 1st Calcutta Div, until further orders.

HINDU HANDBOOKS.—Professor Max Muller, dealing with the subject of Gnan and Bhakti in his work on the "Life and Teachings of Ram Krishna" remarks:—"This difference between Bhakti (devotion) and Gnan (knowledge) is fully treated by Kesori Lal Sarkar M. A., B. L. in his interesting little book, the "Hindu System of Religious Science and Art." About the companion volume to the above, "The Hindu System of Moral Science," the Professor writes:—"I think your book will be useful as showing that your philosophers have not neglected the study of ethics * * * that one who follows the principles of Geeta can never go for wrong." Regarding this last book, Professor E. B. Cowell remarks:—"It is an altogether new point of view to a Western reader." The books are to be had of S. L. Sirkar M. A., 121 Cornwallis Street, Calcutta, and the price is one rupee each.

CROP PROSPECTS IN BENGAL.—There were scattered showers in various districts in the week, which were specially useful in Angul, Puri, Singhbhum, and Saran for the sowing of *rabi* crop. The reports from all divisions except Patna, Orissa, Chota Nagpur, show that the winter rice will be an excellent crop, and that the less important *rabi* is being sown under favourable conditions. All the districts of the Patna division have good, or middling crops, except Shahabad, and though test works have been opened in the Khurda Division of Puri, yet prospects are now much brighter there and in Angul. Only in Chota Nagpur is severe scarcity apprehended, the untimely cessation of the rains having ruined the rice crop and endangering the sowing of the *rabi*. In Manbhum, however, an average crop of rice is expected. The price of common rice is lower in Puri, Hazaribag, and a few other districts; elsewhere it is stationary. Cattle are generally in good condition, and fodder is everywhere plentiful.

THE DARJEELING RESCUE PARTIES.—At a meeting held at the Darjeeling Town Hall on Friday last, Mr. Earle, Deputy Commissioner, read a note in which appeared the mention of three rescue parties. The third party consisted of the following constables:—(1) Jit Bahadur Chetri; (2) Manbeer Damoi; (3) Dilak Singh; (4) Tigbir Limbu; (5) Karandhaj Lama; (6) Karanda Limbu; Harat Bahadur Lama; (8) Juslal Limbu; Sharwan Chetri; (10) Jaiman Thappa; hir Newar; (12) Kaloo Gooroong. rescued Mrs. Cowie, her nurse and and Mrs. Cox and her five child- paside, which was on good ed in imminent danger. As mour to the effect that some party were among those assistance I may say ively proves that this en the case as Mrs. until after 3 A. M. assistance was were effected, was at its ness, and s. The the ill,

CALCUTTA VITAL STATISTICS.—The total number of deaths registered in Urban Calcutta during the week ending 28th October was 245, against 294 and 269 in the two preceding weeks and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 18. There were seven deaths from cholera, against nine and nine in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquenium by one. There were 35 deaths from plague, against 39 and 35 in the two preceding weeks. There was one death from small-pox during the week against nil in the previous week. There were four deaths from tetanus, against four in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 54 and 17, respectively, against 70 and 37 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 27·4 per mille per annum, against 27·9, the mean of the last five years.—The total number of deaths registered in Suburban Calcutta during the week ending 28th October was 203, against 208 and 149 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 23. There was one death from cholera, against one and three in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by three. There were 25 deaths from plague, against 13 and 18 in the two preceding weeks There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There were two deaths from tetanus, against four in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 46 and 32, respectively, against 49 and 39 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 49·2 per mille per annum, against 43·4, the mean of the last five years. The general death-rate of the combined area is equal to 342.

THE VICEROY'S TOUR.

THE Viceroy arrived at Bombay at 2-30 on Wednesday, and was met at the Station by Major Owen, Militaty Secretary to the Governor, Captain Young, A.-D.-C., Mr. Woodburn, Plague Commissioner, General Ventris, Captain Goodridge and other officers. His Excellency, who met with a cordial reception drove to Government House, escorted by the body-guard.

The same afternoon His Excellency accompanied by Lord Sandhurst drove to the Parel laboratory, distant five miles. This building, formerly Government House, has been used for the past two years for plague purposes and preparation for vaccine, and inoculation is now carried on under the direction of Mr. Bannerman. The processes were explained to His Excellency who showed the greatest interest. Lord Sandhurst to-night entertains the Viceroy to a dinner.

The Viceroy, accompanied by Lord Sandhurst and their respective Staffs, will arrive at Kirkee by 7-20 P. M. train this morning. The Viceroy's visit will be a private one, and will last for three days. No special programme has as yet been drawn up. It is expected that the Viceroy will utilize the opportunity to make himself acquainted with various methods in use in combating plague. A visit to several plague hospitals and camps in Poona and Kirkee will be made afterwards. A reception of plague volunteers will take place in the Council Hall.

"GAZETTE OF INDIA."

THE privilege leave for one month and twenty-eight days granted to Mr. R. N. Ray, Offg, Dy. Auditor General, is commuted to furlough for six months with effect from the 18th of September, 1899.

The following promotions and reversions of officers of the Acct. Dept. during the month of September, are notified:—

With effect from 4th September, 1899: Mr. W. S. Adie to officiate in class II, Mr. A. H. Anthony to revert to class III, Mr. G. C. Ray to revert to class IV, Mr F. D. Gordon to officiate in class V, instead of in class IV, and Mr. J. S. Chakravarti to officiate in class VI instead of class V, of the Enrolled List.

With effect from the same date: Mr. F. J. Atkinson to revert to class II, Mr. H. Oung to revert to class III, Messrs. J. A. Robertson and K. B. Wagle, to revert to class IV. Rai Nritya Gopal Basu Bahadur to revert to class V, and Mr. R. Waterfield to officiate in class VI, instead of in class V of the Enrolled List.

In consequence of the grant of privilege leave to Mr. L. E. Pritchard:—Messrs. J. A. Robertson and K. B. Wagle to officiate in class III, Rai Nritya Gopal Basu Bahadur to officiate in class IV, and Mr. R. Waterfield to officiate in class V of the Enrolled List.

With effect from 18th September, 1899.—Mr. F. J. Atkinson to officiate in class I, Mr. H. Oung to officiate in class II, Mr. G. C. Ray to officiate in class III, Mr. F. D. Gordon to officiate in class IV, and Mr. J. S. Chakravarti to officiate in class V, of the Enrolled List.

Mr. F. C. Harrison is appointed to be Accountant General, N. W. P. and Oudh.

Mr. K. L. Datta is posted as Asst. Acct. Genl., Bengal.

The following appointments in the Postal Account Department are notified:—Messrs. E. H. Burke and J. A. O'Brien to be Dy Comptrollers, P. O. Mr. J. O'Byrne to be Asst-Comptroller, P. O.

Plague News.

PLAGUE IN CALCUTTA

THURSDAY'S plague returns reported 6 cases and an equal number of deaths:—2 and 2 in ward No 1; 2 and 2 in ward No 5; 1 and 1 in ward No. 8 and 1 & 1 in ward No. 13 The total mortality was, however, very high being 86 as against 67, the mean of the last five years, wards Nos. 1, 3 and 22 showing the greatest number of deaths.

BOMBAY RETURNS.

THE plague attacks on Thursday numbered 17 and plague deaths 13, the total mortality being 129. Last year it was 86 as against 89 in 1897.

POONA FIGURES.

THREE cases and four deaths occurred in the Poona city, the total mortality being 13. In the district there were 23 cases and 21 deaths.

POLICE COURT.—NOV. 10.

(*Before W. A. Bonnaud, Esqr., Offg. Chief Presidency Magistrate.*)

(*Before Nawab Bahadur Syed Ameer Hossein C.I.E., Northern Division Magistrate.*)

FIRING A GUN IN A THEATRE.—Inspector Preo Nath Mukerji, at the instance of Babu Amarendra Nath Dutt, proprietor of the Classic Theatre, charged a young man named Probodh Chander Chakerburtty, under section 286 I. P. C. with doing a rash and negligent act by means of explosive articles, under the following circumstances:—Last night, the proprietor of the Classic Theatre had arranged a special performance for the entertainment of the members of the *Sangit Samiti*. *Nirmala* was put on the boards, and while the performance was going on, accused who had got his access into the theatre premises in the company of the *Natya Samaj* actors of the *Sangit Samiti*, went out, took his gun, which was a foot in length, from the durwan with whom he had kept it when he had first entered into the theatre premises came back and slowly wended his way towards, the green-room where the female actresses changed dresses. From outside he shoved his gun half inside the green-room through the venetians and fired it. Fortunately no one was there at the time. The loud report alarmed everybody and Babu Amarendra Nath Dutt, with two of his men, promptly went to the spot, arrested the man with the hot gun in his possession and made him over to the police. Babu N. L. Dey appeared for the prosecution and Babu Tarini Charan Ghose for the defence. Accused on being questioned by the Court said that one Sarat had taken that loaded gun from him and fired it, but subsequently pleaded guilty to the charge. His Worship sentenced accused to pay a fine of Rs. 10, in default, to undergo two weeks' rigorous imprisonment.

ABOUT Rs. 18,000 have been sanctioned for strengthening and protecting the bun structed for the protection of the milita ing at Fort Sandeman.

A HUGE mackerel was recently ca American fishing smack off Newp mackerel weighs 552lb., and was 10ft. Close upon a thousand diners could first course from this mackerel.

CAPTAIN A.C. CLARK LLOYDS, Surv on Sunday at Bombay at the age of had been in Bombay for 33 years, was nent Freemason, and helped to estab local Artillery Corps. The funeral was attended.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of the Pun companied by Lady Young, the Hon. M Mrs. Dawkins and Suite, arrived at Kap on Tuesday evening. The Raja accom by Mr. Anderson, Commissioner of Jul met his honour two miles from the where the Raja took a seat on the left Lieutenant-Governor's carriage, and dr Kapurthala. On arrival a salute of 15 was fired and a guard of honour Imperial Service troops presented arms.

A BOER, who lives at Wynberg, in Colony, is the husband of an English pee He is Mr. Pieter Pieterse, who in 1892 mar the widow of the eighth Earl of Stamf This lady was a Miss Solomon, whose moth was an African native. She married th Eighth Earl of Stanford (before his accession to the title) as his third wife. As her husband succeeded to the Earldom of Stamford without the estates, she has always resided in South Africa, although she retains the title by courtesy.

PARIS will greet her visitors next year not only with a world's exposition but with an exposition of worlds. The Deloncle telescope, far and away the largest ever made will reveal wonders in the heavens of which astronomers have hitherto hardly caught a glimpse. The planet Mars will, it is hoped, be made to yield up its secret. The much discussed question of whether the planet is inhabited will in all probability be settled definitely; and the meaning of those mysterious canals with their curious ovals and circles will, it is expected, be conclusively arrived at. The first of the above illustrations indicates all that science has yet discovered on Mars, and the second is a reproduction of Antoniard's elaborated map of the planet.

WHEN arrangements were being made for the imperial hunting season in Prussia this year a petition was received from five hundred Lithuanian girls asking to be allowed to form a guard of honour to the Kaiser. Every Lithuanian girl is a skilled horsewoman, and those who sent in the petition were the pick of their country. "We make one condition," wrote the petitioners. "Our Duke" (meaning the Kaiser) "must have no other bodyguard. During the time of stay in our country we want to be his soldiers." The proposal was provisionally accepted. The homes of these cavalry Amazons are in the district which lies far in the north of the empire, and are of the race that became famous under the Jagellons.

PRIVATE SULLIVAN, of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, who is still under police surveillance, has been recommended by the Commissioner of Police to receive Rs. 250 as the Government reward offered to any person furnishing information in the Rangoon outrage case. So far the papers applying for Sullivan's discharge from the regiment have not been returned. It is expected that this will not be granted, but that he will be transferred to another regiment. Sullivan has applied to the Commissioner of Police to be recommended for a position in the Calcutta Police, and has received a promise that the best endeavours will be made in his behalf for getting him employment, provided his discharge is obtained.—*Rangoon Times.*

NOT A SURPRISE.

It will not be a surprise to any who are at al amiliar with the good qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, to know that people everywhere take pleasure in relating their experience in the use of that splendid medicine and in telling of the benefit they have received from it, of bad colds it has cured, of threatened attacks of penumonia it has averted and of the children it has saved from attacks of croup and whopping cough. It is a grand, good medicine For sale by*

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

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

TRANSVAAL WAR.

THE BOER FORCES UNDER. ESTIMATED.

(*From the Pioneer's Correspondent.*)

LONDON, NOV. 7.

I HAVE the highest authority for stating that the military authorities have practically decided to raise another Army Corps for service in South Africa. I am also able to state that the Queen has written to Lady White sympathising with her husband's trials in the present critical position and assuring her of Her Majesty's undiminished confidence. I believe this message has been conveyed officially to Sir George White through Lord Lansdowne.

A portion of the press, on the other hand, grows more critical, and it is now assumed that no satisfactory explanation of the affair at Nicholson's Nek is forthcoming. The *Times* military critic, moreover, points distrustfully at the manner in which the casualty lists have been published since the disaster: while a Russian Colonel, writing in a Petersberg paper, characterises the present situation as extremely dangerous, since it involves a tactical encompassment, and he blames the British authorities for neglecting to ascertain before-hand the topographical conditions and the character of the enemy's force. At the same time the *Cape Mail* affirms that the enemy has been under-estimated throughout. According to this writer 36 trains, each conveying 300 burghers, left Pretoria in single day for the frontier. The Glencoe force must have been 9,000 strong, and the *Mail* believes that the total fighting strength of the Boers is not less than 50,000: this including 25,000 at Ladysmith and Colenso 4,000 on the Zululand border, 5,000 advancing Burghersdorp and Cape Colony, 4,500 at Mafeking 2,000 on the northern border, and

lause has been elicited here by l efficiency displayed by the s, and the public generally are ait events calmly.

ports are expected to arrive at ore the 15th instant.

Office have published nothing situation at Ladysmith since except Sir George White's h and the list of casualties. The apers have been barren of news ek except such as is contained egrams, the rest being a mass and contradiction. The editors the War Office daily to protest thless censorship and the authori- th the assurance that once Lady- ved and the campaign fairly start- be no dearth of news.

Nov, 8.

aritzburg telegram to the *Times* lay states that native eye-witnesses l there report that in Thursday's enemy were cut to pieces by the ussars, and Dragoons, helped by the ayonets. The enemy had displayed ag, and then as usual treacher- olley on the troops advanc- infuriated our men, who charged, up the enemy without the r which they howled. The camp were captured and sold in Ladysmith. ported that many prisoners were taken, e enemy's casualties were very great, men, as the Kaffirs say, went through the my like water.

Next morning three cavalry regiments left adysmith and overtook a portion of the com- ando sent against Colenso and cut it up bad- y, the remainder flying.

The above news is entirely from Dutch and is confirmed by native witnesses.

ARTILLERY IN ACTION NEAR COLENSO.

BOER INVASION OF ZULULAND.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MAFEKING.

LONDON, NOV. 8.

Reuter wiring from Estcourt on the 6th says that a force with artillery started for an unknown destination, but firing has been heard in the direction of Colenso.

General French has gone to Capetown to command the Cavalry. He left Ladysmith by the last train prior to the investment of the town.

A Boer Commando has invaded Zululand and is looting.

THE CZAR AND CZARINA IN GERMANY.

LONDON, NOV. 8.

The Tsar and Tsaritza have arrived at the Palace at Potsdam from Darmstadt and were affectionately greeted by their German Majesties.

Count Muravieff, Foreign Minister, accompanies the Tsar on his visit to Germany.

ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

LONDON, NOV. 8.

An Ang'o-German agreement has been concluded, subject to the approval of America, whereby Germany acquires the Samoan Islands except Tutuila which America gets. Britain obtains the Tongas Savage Island, Choiseul and Isabul of the Solomon Islands.

Under the agreement ceding Samoa to Germany the latter renounces extra territorial rights to Zanzibar whenever other Powers renounce theirs.

THE FIRE AT KIMBERLEY.

LONDON, NOV. 8., 11 A. M.

The fire at Kimberley is reported to have burnt itself out. Fortunately, beyond the destruction of the grass for some miles round, no damage was done.

The fund started in Paris in aid of the contingent of French and other Continental Volunteers it was intended to despatch to help the Boers, now amounts, after extraordinary efforts, to a sum sufficient to equip twelve men.—*Englishman*

THE NATIVE ACCOUNTS EXAGGERATED. PREPARATIONS OF ANOTHER DESPATCH.

LONDON, NOV. 8, MORNING.

An armoured train found Tugela bridge intact on Saturday, and the Boers seemingly a considerable distance off.

The native accounts possibly exaggerated Friday's fighting, but it appears that the com-

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

mando advancing on Colenso was severely smitten.

It is understood that preparations are actively proceeding for the despatch of another division to South Africa.

A SMART ENGAGEMENT AT BULWANA. BOMBARDMENT AT MAFEKING.

BOMBAY, NOV. 8.

A *Bombay Gazette* cablegram states tha General Brocklehurst disabled a Boer gun a Dewdorp.

Simultaneously a smart engagement occurred at Bulwana.

The British losses were eight killed and twenty wounded.

News from Mafeking states that there was a terrific bombardment on Wednesday, three hundred shells being thrown into the town in thirty-six hours. Our losses are unknon.

THE POSITION AT LADYSMITH.

LONDON, NOV. 9.

An official despatch from Ladysmith, dated Tuesday, says that all was quiet on Sunday and Monday, and that the enemy had recumed the bombardment that day, but no damage was being done.

LONDON, NOV. 10.

All correspondents agree that the native stories of the fighting on the 2nd and 3rd instant are baseless, though General White's activity somewhat checked the surrounding movements of the Boers.

The armoured train from Estcourt on the 6th, however, found the Boers occupying Colenso.

CAPETOWN, NOV. 9.

General Buller today received a pigeon post message from General White, stating that Boer bombardment with heavy guns at long range is taking place daily. There are only a few casualties so far, and no serious harm has been done to the entrenchments, which are daily growing stronger. Provisions are ample.

General White mentions that the Boers fired nto a flag of truce, and Major Gale, of the Royal Engineers, has been wounded.

LONDON, NOV. 9.

The ordering of the *Roslin Castle*, wi h General Hildyard and troops on board, to Durban is regarded as showing that the relief of General White is the first consideration.

A siege train of thirty Howitzers and 1, 136. imen has been ordered to embark at Devonport

The steamer *Goth* sailing tod-ay will take on the *Persia's* troops at St. Vincent.

The cruisers *Terrible* and *Thetis* are at Durban.

LONDON, NOV. 10.

The following telegrams are published in the *Times*:

LONRENZO, MORQUES, MONDAY.

Delagoa is full of Secret Service Police who are getting information of the movements of the Imperial Troops.

The wire from Delagoa to Pretoria was not cut or broken by the recent hurricane.

The principal Transvaal agent here is the agent to a steamer Company.

A Commando of 750 men is near Kamatipoort.

Women also are leaving Durban for Pretoria with news, passes being too easily granted at Durban.

I understand that a commando from Colenso is marching on Greytown.

I learn also from English sources that Johannesburg is stripped of guns and denuded of men and the police are composed of Russian Jews.

REITSIDINO, MONDAY.

A despatch from Aliwal North emphasises the growing Basuto discontent.

Lagden is acting splendidly and Lerothodi is willing to accept his advice.

Colesberg is qutie.

The destruction by the Boers of the second bridge at Achtertang is obviously a defensive measure.

MONTENO, MONDAY.

Attempts to destroy portions of the Western Railway line between here and De Aar have been frustrated by the admirable precautions, and repairing arrangements.

The telegraph has stopped north of Burghersdorp—*Pioneer's Correspondent.*

THE FICHTING AT LADYSMITH.

WRECKING OF THE FREE STATE RAILWAY.

LONDON, NOV. 9.

The *Times*, in a telegram from Maritzburg dated the 6th instant, says that later accounts of Thursday's and Friday's battles around Ladysmith modify the previous details of the engagements, which were, however, successfu to the British.

The concentration at De Aar and Queenstown is now complete.

The Boers have completely wrecked the railway into the Orange Free State, and the British have to rely entirely on their own transport.

It is believed that Generals Buller and White are in constant communication, though nothing is published.

The Gordon Highlanders embarked at Liverpool to-day for the Cape.

ANOTHER DIVISION MOBILISING.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE SITUATION.

LONDON, NOV. 9.

At the Lord Mayor's Banquet at the Guildhall to-night, Lord Wolseley announced that orders have been given to-day for the mobilization of another Division for service in South Africa.

Lord Salisbury in his speech said the present situation in South Africa was grave, but this was the only part of our relations with other nations to which any apprehension was applicable.

Great Britain, his Lordship said, would brook no foreign interference, and he had not heard that any interference was contemplated.

It was impossible to forecast the future of

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

South Africa, but we seek no gold field and no territory, but only equal rights for all races and the security of the Empire.

His Lordship then dwelt on the happy relations existing with America, and also on the Samoa agreement with Germany with whom our present relations were all th t could be desried.

The Transport Roslin Castle arrived at Capetown and has been ordered to Durban.

An official despatch from Ladysmith dated Tuesday says that all was quiet on Sunday and Monday and that the enemy had resumed the bombardment that day but there was no damage being done.

BOMBARDMENT OF LADYSMITH RESUMED.

KIMBERLEY AND MAFEKING SAFE.

BOMBAY, NOV. 9.

A *Bombay Gazette* cablegram states that General White reports by pigeon post that the bombardment of Ladysmith ceased on the 4th and 5th November.

It was expeeted that the bombardment would be renewed on Monday, the 6th.

Some of the wounded and civilians have been removed from the encampment.

The Boers have sent in 99 wounded from Dundee all well.

Kimberley was safe on November 5th, and Mafeking on the 27th October.

It was reported from Capetown on Monday that some of the Gordons wounded at Elandslaagte declare that the Boers opened fire on them after showing four white flags.

They admit that their conspicuous kilts caused the loss of many men.

News from Pretoria is that Mr. Kruger is in good health and quite unmoved by the course of events.

After his official duties are discharged he smokes placidly on his door-step.

The Transport *Persia* with a squadron of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons has been towed into St. Vincent, having been found close to the rocks with her shaft broken and other damage.

Her Majesty the Queen has written to Lieutenant Egerton's mother condoling with her in her bereavement.

The Cruisers *Furious* and *Pelorous* have one to the Cape.

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The Gordon Highlanders embarked at Liverpool to-day for the Cape.

The Emperor William and Herr Von Bulow had a long conversation with Count Muravieff yesrerday.

The Emperor Wiliiam has prohibited all German officers either on the active or unatthched list from proceeding to the Transvaal.

BOMBAY, NOV. 9.

Tsar and Tsaritza have left Potsdam on

LONDON, NOV. 9. 12 A. M.

Great indignation is being manifested in England at the glaring acts of Boer treachery now being brought to light.

In several cases the enemy raised the white flag, only in order to get our men at a dis- their homeward journey.

A large squadron will assemble at Spithead on the 20th instant, to welcome the Emperor of Germany.

advantage.

News now comes from Ladysmith that a number of Boer artillerymen visited our lines under a flag of truce, disguised as ambulance drivers, only in order to spy out the position of our batteries.

The papers contain instances of many acts of individual heroism during the recent fighting.

Lieutenant the Hon. R. L. Pomeroy, 5th Dragoon Guards, saved a trooper at eminuo risk of his own life,—*Englishman*.

LORD WOLSELEY'S SPEECH.

MAJOR TAUNTON KILLED.

BOMBAY, NOV. 10.

A *Bombay Gazette* cablegram says that General Lord Wolseley, speaking at the Guildhall said a Second Army Corps would be mobilised if necessary.

Major Taunton of the Natal Carabineers has been killed and nine troopers wounded.

(*From I. D. News Correspondent.*)

FEELING IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, NOV. 9.

The utmost indignation is being felt and expressed in all parts of the country, owing to the persistent reports received from the seat of war, of gross treachery by the Boers.

These statements are not limited to the treacherous conduct of the enemy in the action near Ladysmith on the 2nd instant; but it is deliberately stated that they have in more than one instance fired on the white flag.

The experience of the war of 1881 is addu to give colour to the reports; and th vestige of sympathy for the Boers ha destroyed in consequence.

A good illustration of the feel country at the present juncture, is in the somewhat sudden action Conservative Associations remptorily called upon M of Parliament for Cardiff owing to his uncompro war. His constitu with him on this to take the f doubted goo directions, The wave which pitat de

TELEGRAMS.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

As in Cardiff so in every other part of the country, and it is safe to say that no other war of the century has been so genuinely and so universally popular.

Great stress is being laid on the forthcoming visit of Kaiser Wilhelm to England, and the statement made to-day, that he will be accompanied by his Empress has given great satisfaction. The most elaborate preparations are being made to invest the occasion with the utmost importance, and impart to the welcome an unequivocal heartiness.

Political critics affect to see in the chronological sequence of the visit of the Tsar to the Emperor of Germany, and that of the latter the Queen of England, an *entente* among the three great powers, which will prevent the Boer War becoming the excuse of a great continental conflagration.

The action of the Emperor William in prohibiting German officers, whether active or unattached, from taking service with the Transvaal, though belated, is welcomed as a change in German opinion to England from one of opposition and distrust to that of thpasymy and support.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

SHOOTING BIRDS BY SOLDIERS IN MUTTRA.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

MUTTRA, NOV. 9.

Notwithstanding the prohibitive orders of the Government of India European soldiers from the Muttra Cantonments come to shoot beasts and birds at Radha Kund and other adjoining places, thereby wounding the religious feelings of, and causing intense excitement among, the inhabitants. We earnestly draw the attention of Government to this state of things and pray for a remedy.

BOMBAY, NOV. 9.

A *Bombay Gazette* cablegram gives further details of the bombardment of Mafeking.

The British loss was slight, despite the terrible cannonade which the Boers maintained.

Under cover of their artillery fire, the Boers advanced in the open to attack the town.

When they got within shot range the Maxims opened a searching fire before which the enemy turned and fled.

Their losses were terrible.

INTIMATE STRANGERS.

Suppose a man to have lived fifty years without ever having seen the reflection of his own face. Now lead him before a mirror and let him have a look. He will, of course, recognise the outlines and general appearance of his body; but his *features* will be as new and strange to him as those of a person he has never before met. Yet he has worn that mask all his life; has touched it with his hands times beyond counting; has by means of it expressed the feelings and passions of half a century; has heard its peculiarities remarked upon by others—yet, bone of his bone and flesh as it is, the glass presents it to his gaze as a novelty. Fortunately Nature has so made us that we are commonly satisfied with our looks, otherwise this man might curse the hour he first beheld his own countenance.

On a page of a book which lies on my table this bright morning is a picture which—were it published without title or description—probably most of us would not understand; yet the original is vitally important to every human being. No mirror throws back its structure to the eye, nor has the owner ever laid hands on it. Nevertheless its name is daily on our lips, and on its faithful performance of duty largely depend our efficiency and happiness.

Still, people are continually alluding to it in words of wailing and complaint. They find no end of fault with it when it goes wrong, and when it goes right seldom pay it the compliment of doing good work. "The way of the world", you remind me; "alas! the way of the world."

For example, here is one who says that in the early part of 1890 she began to suffer from a bad stomach and indigestion. Now the stomach tries to be good and not bad. It makes constant and mighty efforts to accomplish its task and so furnish the rest of the body with health, strength and beauty; but it often fails dismally, and then its owner characterises it as a "bad" stomach.

Now who, or what is accountable?

Continuing, our correspondent adds: "I had no relish for food, and after eating I had pain at the chest and sides. Whatever kind of food I took nothing agreed with me. I made use of various medicines in hopes of relief, but none of them did me any good. At last a neighbour, Mrs. Tyrell, told me how she ha benefited—having had the same compla by Mother Seigel's Syrup, and reco ed me to try it. Somewhat encou what she said, I procured a bo remedy, and soon found that it re nothing else had done. I could food agreed with me, and I way. Since that time—now have kept well, taking an Syrup when I seemed suffered from the sa Seigel's Syrup had case. You are like of this st beth Naulty burn, Dun

This of "m law al

THE DURBHUNGA

THE foremost among the Behar that matter the foremost in Bengal, is, the Durbhunga House. A few words to its history cannot but interest our A very common mistake is to suppose t Durbhunga family belongs to the Khatriya because it bears the surname of Singh! Durbhunga Rajas are, however, Brahmans caste of the Srotriya sect. It is said that in th early part of the sixteenth century there lived a learned and pious Brahman priest of the name of Mahesh Thakur. He was the spiritual guide of the Rajas of Tirhut. One of his disciples named Raghu Nandan happened to attract the notice of the great Akbar and as a reward for his vast learning and intellectual accomplishments the Emperor bestowed upon him the zamindari of pargana Hatti lying within the jurisdiction of Tirhut. With a self-sacrifice unknown in those avaricious days, R ghu Nandan, though extremely poor himself, transferred the estate to Mahesh Thakur, saying that the learning for which he received it as a reward was entirely due to the teachings of his master. This parganna Hatti became the nucleus of the Durbhunga estate. Mahesh Thakur the founder also received the title of Raja from the imperial court of Delhi. He died in 1558 (A.D.) and the estate decended from father to son, or from an elder to an younger brother, until we come to the time of Raghu Singh, who ascended the Gadi in the year 1700 (A.D.) In his time, Muhabbat Khan, the Moghul Governor of Behar, confirmed to the family the hereditary title of Raja, at the same time leasing to him Sarkar Tirhut, comprising the present districts of Mazafferpur and Durbhunga, on condition of his paying an annual revenue of one lakh of rupees, though the total rentroll of the new zamindari exceeded seven lakhs. The great wealth which Raghu Singh accumulated excited the cupidity and jealousy of another Moghul Governor. Probably a successor of Muhabbat Khan, who confiscated his property and carried off his family as prisoners to Patna, the Raja himself flying for his life. In a very short time, he, however, found means not only to be restored to favour, but also to receive fresh grants of large landed estates, on condition that he should "do justice, relieve distress and put the country in a flourishing condition." Narendra Singh, who ascended the Gadi in 1740, received a further addition to the estate from Nawab Ali Vardi Khan, on condition of his regularly paying the dues of the Government and supporting the interests of the Moghul Government." A further addition was made to the estate in 1776 by the grant made by Shah Alam, of Dharmpur in the District of Purneah In that year also, Madhu Singh, the then Raja for the first time came in contact with th British Government of Bengal. The East Ind Company made a temporary settlement wi him of the revenues, but, subsequently, duri the Decennial Settlement, serious disputes aro the Raja refusing to have any thing to do w the management of the estates, alleging grave injustice has been done to him by British authorities. The estates were, theref farmed to outsiders, the Raja receiving Malikana or proprietary dues. But after sev trials, which ended in failure, the estates given back to him. Chhatar Singh, who suc ed to the Gadi in the year 1808 was inv with the title of Maharaja Bahadur by the B Governement. On his death in 1839 litig ensued between his two sons, the elder Singh and younger Bisdeo Singh, the claiming a full half share of the states. Ult ly the High Court decided that, accord custom, the law of primogeniture shou vail in this family the eldest suc to the Gadi, the younger sons re sufficient landed property for their tenance. According to this decision, M Rameswar Singh enjoyed, during time of his late brother, the reve pargana Bachor. This estate original ed a profit of 1½ lakhs of rupees, bu the good management of the Maharaja it is now worth 3 The Maharaja has thus alre trative capacity of a hig accomplishments also ance of the high repu has won both in E *Herald.*

THE Lieute vinces wa afternoon than he

I P

CHEST MAN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

STORY OF HOW HE MADE HIS GOLD.

only man in the world ever reputed to rth £200,000,000 is the Anglicized Ger- Alfred Beit, whose address, if you care now, is simply Cape Town, or Kimberley, Johannesburg, South Africa, or Park Lane, London.

Mr. Beit is yet on the right side of fifty, having been born in Hamburg in 1853, and has made his fabulous fortune in the last twenty-four years.

It is all very like a fairy-book story to read of a man worth two hundred millions, but it seems like a Christmas spectacle to read that what has made him so rich is not land or railroads or factories or shops, or wheat corners or oil fields, but just gold and diamonds.

The very things that stand for riches came to him in the first instance not as a result of riches but their cause. Alfred Beit was a well educated merchant's son in Hamburg, destined to go into the office, where he would learn to check and supervise accounts relating to shipments and receipts of goods to and from the ports of the earth ; to inherit a comfortable income from a staid old shipping business; to cultivate a family, a taste in music, a proper regard for beer, and go to his fathers a respected but very little known German merchant.

But about the time he was going into business and giving up the duels and other delights of student days, there was a sudden commerce with the young South African town of Kimberley which promised such development that his firm considered it wise to send a representative into this new marvel land to examine and see if the resources of the country justified the big credits the traders in all sorts of stores and machinery were demanding from Hamburg merchants.

Diamonds, wealth in its most concentrated form, had been found in the Orange River country in 1867, and in 1870, or possibly a year earlier, reports came of even greater diamond mines found in Kimberley to the northwest.

There was a rush to the country from all over South Africa, and soon from all over the world, but it was not until 1875 that the slow-moving, conservative Hamburg firm of which the elder Beit was a member felt the tremendous impetus of the new trade strongly enough to induce them to send out and investigate.

That sort of work required the vigour and health and activity and perhaps, enthusiasm of a youngster, and so Alfred Beit, then twenty-two years of age, was outfitted with credit, with arms, with letters of introduction, with careful instruction and a paternal blessing and set sail for Cape Town, thence by bullock team —for the railroad was not yet built—across Cape Colony, the Free State, Transvaal and so into Kimberley.

He found a city of madmen. Thousands had rushed in, taken up or bought land, worked the wonderful blue or yellow clay filled, as is a pudding with fruit, with the dull stones which could be cut and polished into the jewels for which the world would give fortunes.

There was chaos in the laws, chaos in the manner of working mines, chaos in the trade which competition had already nearly ruined ; there were enormous losses from theft ; the "I.D.B. business"—illicit diamond buying—has grown to scandalous proportions, and altogether the young German saw a state of affairs which if not remedied would compel him to report unfavourably on the credit of the new districts.

e was cool headed, a man of orderly busi- methods by inheritance, and he saw that could not very easily be too much of a thing, even diamonds.

undertook then a work which is usually uted wholly to Cecil Rhodes who did not o the district until some years afterwards, ork of the first combining and then sys- zing the diamond mining industry.

is not to say that Rhodes did not have hand in the ultimate close-corporation ; but young Beit was first in realize that diamonds might s to be profitless to mine ; t buying up of scattered first to see that there dreams of avarice only nds should be kept would be freely old standard

hich is a rs mine bonds and ne

party in the work being independent of the other. It is for the Government in some respect to supply the general lead, lay down a plan of campaign and regulate the procedure. On the other hand, where you have a people as susceptible and sensitive as are the inhabitants of this country, they want the moral authority and personal backing of influential members of the native community behind them. I am glad to find in the short experience I have had this morning, and in the evidence given me by this very meeting, that the Government can look with confidence to receiving that support. I am sure I only speak the thoughts of Lord Sandhurst when I say how grateful he is to all those members of the native community who have joined these volunteer committees, who have gone in out amongst people, have taught them the true aspect of affairs, have collected subscriptions and have, in fact, endeavoured to bring the good will and wishes of the Government home to the hearts of the people, and equally am sure, I im speaking the views of those gentlemen when I say that throughout it has been a source of strength and help to them to have had over them a Governor as sympathetic and a body of workers as active and self-sacrificing as those who now, for between two and three years, have been engaged in plague operations in this place. The campaign against plague, I know from experience, if it is to be successful, cannot be a campaign of compulsion. It can only be a campaign of moral suasion, and that moral suasion can best be exercised by the system of co-operation that I have described. It has been a pleasure to me to go round through these hospitals and buildings and I am glad to see them comparatively empty and hope they will not be filled again. None of us can prophesy with regard to plague. It seems to defy alike diagnosis and prognostications, and it is possible that as you have now suffered for two or three years you may suffer again in the future. But your machinery has been improved; spirit and heart seem to be growing in your people and should further trouble await you I think you have machinery and courage with which to meet it. While I am speaking I should like to include in the words of compliment and thanks I offer not merely the officers of the Government, nor only the volunteer workers, but the whole staff. There are numbers of young military officers whom we have lent for the purpose of combating the plague, and I believe they have carried through their work with the skill and discipline that you associate with the character and duty of a soldier, but who at same time have been by no means lacking in the sympathy and kindly feeling that is expected of them as men. Then there is the staff of nurses, both recruited in this country and brought from home, many of whom have rendered invaluable service.

I can only say from the bottom of my heart that I wish you all good fortune in the bitter struggle in which you are engaged, and hope that a better day is dawning for you, and that out of these calamities some good may arise, as has not unfrequently happened when suffering falls ; some good, both in improved and better sanitation and the better building of the city, and above all, and I rate this as more important still, some good in the tightening of all those bonds of sympathy and co-operation which should always unite all sections of this great community. It has been a great pleasure for me to meet you here this morning (Loud applause).

With regard to the second His Excellency observed :—

When I landed in this City in December last, I did not then anticipate that within less than 12 months I should again be a visitor in your midst ; still less could I have anticipated the circumstances under which I now come. Parts of India were then suffering, and Bombay in particular was suffering from an epidemic, which, although it appeared in some measure to have abated its force, was far from eradicated. Since then that epidemic has again burst out with renewed virulence, both in Bombay and still more in other parts of this presidency. Further, as if to intensify the affliction under which the people were weighed down and leave no source of misery unexplored, famine has fallen upon many districts in the Northern part of this presidency through which I have just been travelling, and although most fortunately it does not affect this immediate part of the country or this city, it must yet be a source of great anxiety to your rulers and must make them look forward with trepidation to the next period at which their annual accounts will have to be squared. If we were to accept the saying as of general application, that those whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, we might draw the conclusion that the Bombay Presidency was very dear to Providence, such has been the range and duration of its sufferings throughout this period. No impartial observer can fail to have been struck by two ts, firstly, by the resigned and pathetic pa- displayed by the mass of the people ; and , by the activity and zeal with which al Government aided by patriotic of representative citizens has en- cope with its almost herculean indicate the sympathy of the ndia with the woes of the admiration of the efforts rward for their amelio- e upon this informal entlemen, it seems dia cannot and gree wash its ultimate re- hich passes ay be re- ead of in hat

the discharge of his pleasant duty ; for, gentlemen what is the task upon which he and you are alike engaged and one of the inaugural steps in which we are commemorating this afternoon. I take my description of it from words that have fallen from Lord Sandhurst's lips just now. You are endeavouring to provide this great City of Bombay with the conditions which will make life here for the poorer classes sanitary, decent and wholesome. You want to bring the fresh breezes of the sea into the congested lungs of Bombay, to destroy the microbes of fever and pestilence that prey almost unchecked upon the constitution of the overcrowded, enfeeblen population. You wish to make your city not merely beautiful without but healthy within. It is for these purposes that all these vast works of removal of old buildings and erections, of new ones, of providing open spaces, of cutting wide and airy streets, of destruction and reconstruction and reclamation are designed. It is a scheme proportionate in conception to the magnitude of the problem. It may probably, I hope, prove to be proportionate in the execution to the necessities of the case. Lord Sandhurst will, I am sure, bear me out when I add that the Government of India has from the start, two years before I joined it, evinced a much more than platonic interest in your scheme. We have supported you in your appeals to the Secretary of State, and have surrendered a large area of valuable property for the purposes of the contemplated improvements; have passed special legislation in order to assist financial operations and add to the credit of the Trust, and we have lent the invaluable support of credit of the Government of India to your Municipal loan. I feel, therefore, that I am only carrying out with certain hereditary fitness an obligation which has been passed on to me by Lord Elgin's Government, it being present at the successful inception of the portion that the scheme which the support of himself and his colleagues helped to launch into existence. I said a little while back that it was the right and proper thing that Lord Sandhurst should play the leading part in the ceremony of to-day. It must gladden his heart as he draws near to the close of his official connection with this Presidency to feel that all attention and labour to the care, that he has devoted to his city, and these proposals should begin to fructify in his time, and that before he leaves these shores the new Bombay will have started into being a city not of palaces and towers, not of merchant-princes or nobles, but of toilers and sweaters who drink only of the dregs of the cup of human happiness and to whom at least we should endeavour to secure that their scanty beverage is not bitter but sweet. To few Governors, if to any, has it fallen to pass through such a fiery ordeal, such a seven times heated furnace of trouble and trial and affliction as has attended Lord Sandhurst during the past few years in Bombay. Such trials, if rightly met, broaden sympathies at the same time they steel the nerves of the man who is by temperament both humane and brave. I am sure that there is not an individual in the Bombay Presidency, European or native, who does not know that in Lord Sandhurst they have had a Governor whose sympathies have always been with the suffering, whose courage has remained Inflaxible in the face of any calamity, however dire. He will leave behind him a record of arduous work, honourably and conscientiously performed, and what is not given to any but few to enjoy, a place in the affectionate regard of the people. I have the advantage of knowing and of having worked for many years as a colleague in Parliament of the new Governor who in a few months' time will take his place. The Parliamentary career and public reputation of Sir Stafford Northcote and the name of his father who was one of the most liberal minded and successful Secretaries of State whom India has ever had, would in any case have ensured him a favourable reception in India ; but through personal acquaintance, I have the honour to claim with Sir Stafford Northcote, entitles me to assure the people of this Presidency, that they will find in their next Governor a man of ripe experience and much sagacity, who will worthily sustain the traditions of his predecessors in respect both of sympathy with the people and sound judgment in administration. I hope that when next I visit Bombay, I may find that the schemes which Lord Sandhurst has so energetically started may be far advanced on the way towards completion and that I may see this fair city with smiles on her face and no longer with tears in her eyes. (Loud cheers.)

WAR NOTES.

(Cuttings from London and foreign papers by last mail.)

"THE Transvaal forces, all of whom are mounted, are a huge guerrilla mob of 20,000 men. Their ammunition is generally without an official stamp. It is said that they have a few dum-dum bullets. It is also said that their German cartridges, which were defective, have all been recalled and fresh ammunition made in America substituted.

Most of the men wear ordinary clothes and bandoliers, but thousands of them have khaki uniforms and it is difficult to distinguish them from British soldiers. Discipline, as the British understand it, is non-existent. The volunteers loot at will.

The burghers declare that they will treat captured British privates well, but will shoot all officers, all the men who took part in Jameson's raid, and men from Natal and the Cape Colony. Women, children, and unmarked citizens will doubtless be treated well.

The Boers are undoubtedly fiercely keen to in fighting. Only the stiffness of their hor- om the fatigue of their journey or a lack ies will delay their crossing into Natal Thursday or Friday.

oubert has 15,000 men between Volksrust, with whom he will The burghers from the Orange the plan, the two columns ng all palaces held by the ding Ladysmith.

Transvaal. Comman- burghers any more No private pro- ners, including eld their pos- Boer levies, means of forts, he

arrangements are practically nil and their transport service is little better.

A dispatch to the *Standard* from Cape Town says that the military authorities think the British policy has outstripped the preparation for a campaign. Three months must elapse before a properly equipped army crops can be brought to the front. Meanwhile the British must act on the defensive.

Thousands of Kaffir miners are being sent from the Rand into the northern districts by the government to obviate the possibility of a clash between them and the whites in case of hostilities.

The Uitlanders resent commandeering at Mafeking and crowds jeer the recruiting parties. A German corps was loudly hooted as it was departing. Most of the Boers were intoxicated when they left the town. They are without tents.

There is much anxiety lest the Orange Free State seize the coal consigned to Cape Colony from the Free State mines. This would cripple the railway service and also the navy, which rely on the Dundee coal fields for supplies. The native miners have abandoned these fields. As warships must be employed to carry dispatches from Natal to the Cape Colony and *vice versa*, it is most important that there is no scarcity in the supply of coal.

Vienna, Oct. 6.—The "Extrablatt" prints a curious story, which it declares is founded on information received from London court circles. The story is that Queen Victoria declared last Sunday in the presence of her family and Prime Minister Salisbury that she would sooner abdicate than consent to war with the Boers.

Berlin, Oct. 6.—In anticipation of the arrival of Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands at Potsdam, the Pan-Germanic league of Leipsig resolved to send her an address, in which she is described as the representative of a severely tried sister race. It is expected that the young Queen's visit will be made the occasion of other pro-Boer manifestations

On Oct. 2 the Paris *Figaro* printed a statement that Queen Wilhelmina was going to Postdam for the purpose of asking the Emperor William to initiate a movement for mediation between Great Britain and the Transvaal.

London, Oct. 10.—A dispatch from Johannesburg to the London office of the *Standard* and *Diggers News* says that sixty-six mining companies have suspended operations, and that seventeen are working.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Mail* says he has been informed by two Portuguese representatives at the Geographical Congress that Portugal is bound by her alliance with Great Britain not to interfere in the affairs of the Transvaal.

The vastness of Great Britain's military preparations has not fully realised by the public until the War Office announced that 25,000 reserves had already been summoned to rejoin the colors. General Sir Redvers Buller will command twice as many British soldiers as the Duke of Wellington, the conqueror of Napoleon, ever saw collected on one battle-field.

The reasons back of this lavish display of force are undoubtedly a resolution to make the Boer campaign short and decisive, probably a fear of a native raising, and possibly a conviction of the advisability of showing Europe that Great Britain is prepared to resent any reaction resulting from the prevailing continental ill-will.

If fighting begins at once the Wa Office expects to hear of Boer successes, as thevation number the British three to one. An inistian. of the Transvaal is impossible before Chrısivat- Meanwhile, Boer raids into Natal and Cape Colony are unavoidable.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* prints a dispatch from Johannesburg, dated last Friday, and sent by way of Cape Town, stating that the position of the British troops is critical. The mismanagement of the War Office is obvious, and unless strong re-enforcements are sent reverses are certain.

The London edition of the *Standard* and *Diggers News*, a Boer organ, publishes the following dispatch from Johannesburg, dated yesterday :

It is expected that 30,000 burghers from the Transvaal and the Orange Free State will be on their respective borders this evening (Wednesday). Should the hostilities be protracted there is much fear that the Zulus, Matabeles, and Basutos will rise against the whites and massacres will follow. The Zulu chiefs have been summoning their tribesmen from the Rand for weeks past.

A distinctly serious and ugly statement comes from Newcastle to the effect that armed Kaffirs are accompanying the Boer forces. This would be an absolute breach of the conditions supposed to govern warfare among civilized nations and presages scenes worse than even the gloomiest forecast.

It is reported that another Rand shipment of bullion to the value of £ 1,000,000 is in danger of confis ation by the Transvaal authorities.

Cape Town, Oct. 5.—The Boers who are occupying Laing's Nek followed the exact course the Transvaal troops took in the last war. This move gives them practical control of the whole of that side of Natal. If the British troops cannot force Laing's Nek they must make a wide detour to Wakkerstroom and attack the Boers in the rear.

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THE COMIN[G] METE[ORS]

IT is pretty generally kno night of the 13th instant an two or three nights there will be exceptional display of falling stars. In connection a chart and table of instructions for observers has been prepared at the Government Observatory, Madras. The instructions are those of Mr. E. C. Pickering, Director of Harvard College Observatory, and run as follows:—

Each observer is requested to devote his attention to the region within 25° of the radiant point and included in the map, and to send the following date regarding his observations :—Name of observer, location of station, post office address, time of beginning and ending of observations, interruptions by clouds or other causes, conditions of sky, as clear, hazy, passing clouds, etc. The observations most desired are those required to determine the frequency of the meteors. They are of extreme simplicity, and need only care, system, and perseverence. Once an hour, or better, once every half-hour, observe and record the time during which ten meteors appear. This is most easily done by nothing the time by a watch and at exactly the beginning of a minute, looking at the sky, giving it undivided attentio and counting the meteors seen, not includin those seen outside of the region covered by th map. If great numbers of meteors appear, may be better to count a larger number, as 2 or even 50. If the interval between th meteors is long, the number to be counte may be reduced. These observations shou be repeated until dawn, or over as lo an interval as possible. Between these observ tions, the observer may rest, or may mak special observations of individual meteors. Thus when a meteor is seen, record the hour and minute, the brightness on a scale of stellar magnitudes—2 equals the brightness of Jupiter or Sirius ; O. Arctuus or Vera ; 2, the Pole Star ; 4, the Pleiades ; 6, the faintest star visible ; the colour, B=blue, G=gree Y=yellow, W=white, and R=red, the cl L=Leonid, if path prolonged would through the centre of map, N=other Thus L5Y. 12h 26m indicates magnitude 5 yellow in colo 12h. 26m. Find by trial befo seconds are required to Again the path of each met marked on the map by n in relation to the adjoining can be done equally well elsev not be allowed to interfere count mentioned above.

INDIAN NEW[S]

LATEST news from the fro everything is quiet, and the Mullah Powindah has been co up, and the Mullah himself has Valley.

NEWS of a double murder has from Mirab Khel. A sowar be detachment there ran amok, sowar and the Jemadar. The culp his trial. The motive is not kno

THE Hon'ble Sir Arthur Trevo and Mr. F. R. Upcott, on the the sitting of the Railway Roving will visit Morvi in connection wi railway scheme.

ORDERS have been issued for mental occupation of Torawari, the proposed new cantonment in the Mi ley, by one battalion of Native Infa the head-quarters of two squadrons o Cavalry, and two guns of a Native M Battery.

RIOTING is reported from Sinhora, zabad District, as the outcome of a dis between zemindars as to some maujba la There was something like a battle, th hundred men armed with sticks and stones having assembled, and in a fight which en three men are reported to have been killed and eleven injured. The affair is being investigated by the local authorities.

THE Bombay High Court reopened on Monday on the termination of the October vacation. Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Chief Justice, with Mr. Justice Candy, and Mr. Justice Parsons, with the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade, presided in the two Courts on the Appellate Side, while there were three Courts on the Original Side, presided over, respectively, by Justices Budroodin Tyebji, Russell, and Crowe.

LORD AND LADY CURZON appreciated the services of three officers who were on special duty during their Excellencies' stay at Delhi and presented each of them with a suitable souvenir. Captain Watkins-Wynn, Royal Artillery, was presented with a set of turquoise and pearl studs ; Captain Conway-Gordon, 3rd Bengal Cavalry, a pretty diamond scarf-pin ; Mr. Cocks, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, a handsome silver match-box ; the Hon. Mr. Fanshawe, C. S., was the recipient of a beautiful Boar's head inkstand.

THE Indian Police are warned to look out for two Americans who are at large, and for whose arrest very handsome rewards are offered. Dr. J. G. Hopkins stands charged with the murder of one R. R. Evans on November 1st, 1898, in the County of Thomas, United States. A reward of $1,500 is offered for his arrest—$500 from the State, $500 from the County Commission of Thomas County, and $500 from Mr. James F. Evans, brother of the deceased. The other man "wanted" is Alba M. Kent, junior, who is charged with obtaining a sum of $10,000 from the Union Trust Company of Jamestown, New York, by forged endorsements. A reward of $200 is offered for his arrest. The money was drawn on the 8th of May last, and the accused has decamped in the company of a young woman of prepossessing appearance, aged 22, deserting his own wife to whom he had been married only six months.

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's Resolution, the fact that the
of excisable articles diminished in
portion than the revenue derived
was noted as a satisfactory proof that
pted principle of raising a maximum
enue from a minimum of consumption
been carefully kept in view. The figures,
the current year, however, show that it is not
ssible to secure this condition at all seasons
r under all circumstances. In the year under
review the increase in consumption was pro-
portionately larger than that in the revenue,
and the reason is thus explained by the Board.

"The rates of quantitative duty levied on these articles remained unchanged, but the amounts which the vendors engage to pay at the commencement of each year for the privilege of sale did not increase in proportion to the s which were ultimately sold. The of each of these articles had heck during the previous year, be expected that the vendors rience of that year, would offer for the shops during the year The license fees operate as a en fluctuations in revenue, and ned by the vendors by an unfore- in the consumption of one year y the lower fees which they pay years.

nent giving the gross excise re- past five years shows that coun- tinue to bring in the largest reve- the chief increase during the year er this head. Taking the percen- ue under each head on the total ue, country spirit stand first with a of 44-8, followed by hemp drugs m (18-7) tari (7-4), *pachwai* (2-9), 3). This order is the same as that ding year, except that pachwal and hanged places, the revenue from the ing exceeded that from rum during ar.

lements for the current year, as made end of May last, show a marked in- Rs 7,33,102 as compared with the d this has been shared by all s in the province. The most marked curred in the Chota Nagpur Division 463), followed by the Patna (Rs. 2,05, Presidency (Rs. 1,08,213) Divisions. provement is undoubtedly owing to the on of scarcity and the bountiful harvests past year which have resulted in the set- ent of a larger number of licenses and en- ed fees during the current year.

Country spirit forms the chief source of excise revenue in Bengal. Its manufacture and sale are carried on under two systems— the fixed duty or central distillery and the system. The central distilleries are maintained by Government; stills are worked within them by distillers, and the liquor is passed out, after the levy of the distillery fee and the duty, for sale at licensed shops. The distillery fee, which is levied at the rate of 2½ annas per London-proof gallon, except in certain metropolitan districts where the rate is 1 anna per gross gallon, is taken as a contribution to the cost of the establishments and as rent for the use of the premises. Duty is levied at varying rates, ranging from Re. 1-14 to Rs. 5 per London-proof gallon for different districts. Outstills, on the other hand, are licensed at monthly fees, no separate duty being charged. The central distillery system is in force throughout the rdwan Division, except in certain wild s of Bancura and Midnapore, and also out the Presidency, Dacca, and Orissa s, with the exception of the hilly tracts k along the frontier of the Garhjat d in the Sonthal Pargannas district. Patna Division and the districts of , Bhagalpur, and part of Hazaribagh, stem of central distilleries and outstills tained, the areas served by the distilleries ng defined, and outstills being placed at such stances as to minimise the risk of smuggling of outstill liquor into those areas. In the Rajshahi and Chittagong Divisions, in the Chota Nagpur Division, except a small portion of Hazaribagh and Manbhum, and in the Districts of Purnea and Malda of the Bhagalpur Division, the outstill system alone is in force.

Of the total revenue from country spirit, Rs. 31,05,315 was contributed by central distilleries under the three heads of license fees (Rs. 10,73,628), still-head duty (Rs. 19,67,440), and distillery fees (Rs. 64,247), and Rs. 29,92,478 by outstills, the former showing an increase of Rs. 3,65,252 and the latter of Rs. 1,51,529 over the receipts of the previous year. The number of outstills sanctioned rose from 2,096 in 1897-98 to 2,104 in the year under review, and the number settled from 2,018 to 2,076 while the number of shops sanctioned for the sale of distillery spirits fell from 1,199 to 1,190, and the number settled from 1,93 to 1,186.

Before the re-introduction of the distillery system generally in Bengal, the revenue from country spirits was (with the exception of one year, 1883-84) highest in 1887-88 (52 lakhs), after which it began to decline, till it stood at 45 lakhs in 1890-91. In 1891-92 it commenced to rise steadily till 1896-97, when it reached Rs. 60,80,000. In 1897-98 it receded to Rs. 55,81,000, owing to the famine, but made a complete recovery during the year under review, the figure standing at nearly Rs 60,98,000. In last year's Resolution, reference was made to the relative consumption of outstill and distillery liquor in different districts of the Province and the proportion of revenue brought in by vend license fees compared with duty, which had led the Government of India to infer a widespread prevalence of illicit distillation and sale and the smuggling of outstill liquor into distillery tracts. The Supreme Government suggested the adoption of certain measures to safeguard the excise revenue from country spirits, and the matter has been engaging the attention of the Board and the Local Government. The final conclusions of this Government are held in abeyance, pending a further report from the Board. Meanwhile, as an outcome of this correspondence, an experiment is being tried in the districts of Bankura and the Sonthal Parganas, which have a bad reputation for illicit dealings, by which distillery liquor is coloured red in order to facilitate the detection of outstill liquor when smuggled into distillery areas.

The rules forbidding the opening of shops in a bazar, on high roads or close to places of public resort, seem to have been carefully observed, due regard being given to public opinion in the matter. During the year a liquor shop in the 24-Parganas an outstill in Mongyr and three tari shops in Hooghly, Howrah and Shahabad respectively, were removed in deference to local opinion a liquor shop in the 24-Parganas and to outstill in Jalpaiguri were closed at the instance of mill manager and the managers of tea estates; in Midnapore the site of a pachwai shop was changed on the complaint of a missionary, and in Angul an outstill was transferred from the interior of a village to a place outside.

The supply of country rum is derived from Sibpur near Howrah, from Sakri in Darbhanga from Shahjahanpur in the North-Western Provinces, and from Aska and Arkot in Madras. More than three-fifths of the demand is supplied by the Shahjahanpur distillery. The revenue from rum fell from Rs. 4,14,665 to Rs. 3,15,613 in the year under review, the quantity consumed having declined from 77,979 gallons London-proof to 50,053 gallons London-proof. Neither the Board nor the Excise Commissioner have as yet been able to trace the real cause of the striking decline in consumption, and the Lieutenant-Governor will await with interest the special report promised by the Board.

The excise revenue from imported liquor, which consists exclusively of fees for wholesale and retail licenses, rose from Rs. 2,91,635 to Rs. 3,06,350. Nearly one-half of the total revenue was collected in Calcutta.

No duty is charged on tari, the sap of the palmyra or date tree, but revenue is derived from license fees for the sale of both fermented and unfermented tari. The number of licenses for the sale of the fermented liquor during the year increased from 13,233 to 13,253 and for unfermented tari from 1,568 to 1,872. The total receipts rose from Rs. 10,14,265 to Rs. 10 28,219, the bulk of the increase occurring under fees for fermented tari.

This liquor, brewed from rice, forms the favourite beverage of the aboriginal tribes found in the Burdwan and Chota Nagpur Divisions, the Sonthal Parganas, and the Western half of Murshidabad. Another variety, prepared from millet (*marua*), is much drunk in Darjeeling. The revenue is derived from license fees for sale and for home-brewing, and these fees together yielded during the year a revenue of Rs. 4,46,444 against Rs. 3,70,843 in 1897-98, nearly three-fourths of which was collected in the Burdwan Division. The total number of licenses for sale rose from 1,592 to 1,606, and the number of licenses for home-brewing rose from 7,911 to 8,655.

The revenue from ganja is derived from license fees and duty which varies according to the quality; thus "chur" pays a duty of Rs. 9 per seer, "round" Rs. 7-8, "flat (small twigs)" Rs. 7-4, and "flat (large twigs)" Rs. 6. In Orissa, however, the rates are Rs. 7-8 for chur, Rs. 6-4 for round, Rs. 6, for flat (small twigs), and Rs. 5 for flat (large twigs). Flat ganja (large twigs) which pays the lowest rate of duty seems to be most in favour.

Bhang, which is also known under the name of siddhi and sabzi (dried leaves of the hemp plant), grows wild in many parts of Bengal, and is collected for sale chiefly in Monghyr, Bhagalpur and Purnea. The number of licenses for the sale of bhang rose from 330 to 351, and the revenue increased from Rs. 64,083 to Rs. 67,240, but the consumption fell from 966 maunds to 965 maunds. The revenue from majum, a sweet preparation of bhang, amounted during the year to Rs. 1,493 against Rs. 1,482 in 1897-98, charas, or to the resin exuding from the unseeded female hemp plant, is the essence of ganja in its greatest purity and strength, and is imported into Bengal from the Punjab. The consumption remained nearly the same as in the previous year, viz., 20 maunds, while the revenue increased from Rs. 19,932 to Rs. 22,058.

Excise opium i. e., opium offered for the sale in these Provinces as distinguished from provision opium prepared for export, is supplied to licensed vendors from the district trearsuries at prices vayring from Rs. 17 a seer in the Patna Division to Rs. 33 a seer in Orissa.

The quantity of methylated spirit, which is either imported or methylated locally, issued during the year fell from 6,448 to 65,619 gallons, but the revenue remained almost stationary viz., Rs. 4,611.

The number of arrests for offences against the Excise laws increased from 3,634 to 3,830.

The arrest of 1,510 persons was effected by the Police, while arrests by Excise officers numbered 2,320, the parcentage of convlctions in the cases instituted by Excise officers being 89·2 against 85·7 in those instituted by the Police. There was an increase in the number of arrests for illicit distillation and in the number of persons convicted, the figures being 459 and 405 against 248 and 210 in the previous year. For this increase, the Sonthal Parganas are mainly responsible. The amount of fines imposed for breaches of the Excise laws and rules was Rs. 71,909, of which Rs. 52,533, or 73 per cent., were realised.

A sum of Rs. 58,098 was distributed in rewards to Police and Excise officers and informers against Rs. 53,615 in the previous year.

The year was marked by the introduction of uniforms for the officers of the Bengal Excise Department. All officers not above the grade of Sub-Deputy Superintendents in charge of Distilleries are required to procure uniforms at their own expense, those for menial servants being provided at the cost of Government.

INTERESTING ITEMS ON THE WAR.

LITTLE fear may be felt for the garrison at Mafeking, when it is remembered that in 1881 about 60 members of the 60th Foot, under a 22-year old Lieutenant, Mr. Walter Long, kept 6,000 Boers at bay for 84 days, in fact, until peace was proclaimed. The Boers then used cannon, whilst the gallant men of the 60th relied upon their rifles.

AMONGST those who will have sons engaged in the war is the Secretary of State for War. His eldest son, the Earl of Kerry, is in the Grenadier Guards, and his younger son, Lord Charles Fitxmaurice, is a Lieutenant in the 1st Dragoons (the "Royals") now *en route* to the scene of operations. Both young men are keen soldiers, but from every point of view their departure must be a great source of anxiety to their parents. Failing Lord Lansdowne's two sons, there are no heirs to the family title and honours; so these are precious lives.

A CORRESPONDENT at Pretoria says: I learn on the best authority that the Transvaal Government received an offer six weeks ago from a wealthy European adventurer to supply a fleet of completely equipped torpedo boats with full complement of officers and men for the purpose of blowing up the British troopships as they arrived off the coasts of Natal and Cape Colony. The offer was curtly rejected, the Pretoria Government refusing to even consider it. The originator of the scheme was only twenty-four hours in Pretoria, and left immediately on receiving the reply from the Government. He is said to have left at once for Suez *via* Delagoa Bay.

ACCORDING to a despatch from Washington, Major Arms, an officer of the United States Army, on the retired list, has conceived the remarkable idea of organising a filibustering expedition to the Transvaal. The gallant Major is unable to see that there are any practical difficulties in the way of his enterprise. The expedition will proceed to the Transvaal nominally as a mining party. They will help the Boers, but incidentally they propose to pick up some of the numerous valuable mines which they expect to find derelict owing to the general confusion caused by the war. It is said that the Major is recruiting frontiersmen, cowboys, miners, etc, on "partnership" terms.

COLESBERG, which is now said to have been occupied by an advanced guard of the Boers, is in Cape Colony, about 18 miles from the Orange Free State border, and on the direct line to Naauwpoort and Port Elizabeth, from which last town it is about 288 miles distant. Naauwpoort is a Junction, where the branch, about 75 miles long, from the Port Elizabeth Railway strikes across to De Aar on the Cape to Kimberley line; Rosmead Junction is some ten miles south of Naauwpoort; and from it a branch strikes eastwards to Stormberg Junction on the railway, which runs from the Port of East London to Aliwal North on the Orange Free State border. The evacuation of Rosmead and Stormberg thus implies among other things the cutting off of railway communication between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth and East London; while the Boers at Colesberg are within seventy miles of General Forestier-Walker's arge force at De Aar.

PRESIDENT Kruger, with all his obstinacy, does not appear at any time to have deceived himself as to the strengh of England, whatever deprecatory views his burghers held. A Cape correspondent relates that one of his staunchest country friends asked him why the Transvaal did not begin hostilities at once. The President looked at him and said:—"Are you prepared?" "Certainly," said he, "I have gun, horse, and eight days' rations, as required." "Have you got three month's food? "Yes, I think I can hold out with what I have for three months." "Have you six months' food?" said the President. "Well, I could hardly hold out for six months." "How about twelve months, then?" "No, that I can't do," said the country visitor. "Well, why are you talking about war then? Do you know that the British have already imported six months' food for their people into the country, and have not begun to ask money from their Volksraad or any expenses?"

LADYSMITH, where a portion of Sir George White's forces are encamped, derives its name from the wife of General Sir Harry Smith, whose marriage was a romance of the Peninsular War. The following is the story as it has been unearthed by a home paper: One evening two young officers in a Spanish town which the British troops had occupied were visited by two young and beautiful Spanish girls of high degree, who begged their protection in the alarming circumstances under which they were placed. It was, of course, given with the utmost gallantry, and in a very short time Captain Smith found himself desperately in love with one of the young ladies, who in due time became his wife. The marriage proved a most happy one, and long years afterwards, when Sir Harry then Commanding the Western District, was paying a vist to the late Lord Mount-Edgcumbe, a lady who noticed Lady Smith's open admiration of her husband, said: I really believe that she thinks that, having seen her Henriquez on Aliwal (his famous charger), one might die happy."

DUEING the present campaign in South Africa the war correspondents are receiving a higher rate of remuneration than was ever paid in any previous campaign. Not only are they being paid a big salary, but in some cases a handsome amount is given them for their literary work as well as the right to issue it in book form afterwards. Thus, in one case, that of Mr. Winston Churchill, of the "Morning Post" the sum of £800 is paid him for his letters alone, whilst all his out-of-pocket expens in South Africa are paid as well as a s which is nearer £3,000 than £1,000. W is also considered that every telegram ed from the Cape is sent at the rat per word, and in some cases whilst on Friday one cable urgency rate of 12s. per word the amount spent by news war news can be derived ally suppose that wars newspapers, but the papers actually lose a big campaign order to maint tation for en

No from A

GOLD IN THE ALPS.

GOLD has long been found in the Alps. As far back as Roman times there were gold mines in the valley of the Anza River and in the Lepontine Alps. The latter are now in the hands of a German Company, which is working them regularly. Hardly one of the mountain streams is free from gold, but in many the quantity is too limited to be worth extracting. In the neighbourhood of Ossola there is hardly a valley that does not hold at least one gold mine.

The precious metal is found sometimes in the sand of the streams and at other times in gold-bearing quartz, with forty or fifty grains of pure gold to the ton.

In one of the largest of the plants over two hundred workmen are employed, and the quartz is crushed by a machine made in the famous Krupp works. It runs through thirty tons a day, using the water of the River Ovesca as motive power.

While it is true that the amount of gold produced annually is not nearly so great as produced annually is not nearly so great as that which comes from California and South Africa, the sum of the production is constantly increasing from year to year, and the Alps may yet supply a considerable part of the world's supply of precious metal, especially on account of the economy with which the machinery can be operated by the numerous mountain streams.

THE FISHING FROG

OF all the creatures with which nature has populated the tropical seas, there is none quite so curious and repulsive (with the possible exception of the octopus) as the fishing frog, or sea-devil. It is quite common in Cuban waters and grows to be a monster of huge proportions. The head comprises nearly half the body, and the mouth, stretching almost from ear to ear, is fortified with rows of sharp-pointed teeth, that may be raised or depressed at will, according as the prey is entering or striving to escape from its place of captivity. On the crown of the wide, flattened, and toad-like head are three long spine or filaments, which move in the water like so many gently waving plumes. Two of these are placed near the nose, and the third just back of the eyes. The forward filament is tipped with a glittering bait-like appendage, which looks like a trolling spoon and the fishing frog utilizes this contrivance of nature to its own advantage in the following ingenious manner:

CAN SWALLOW ITS OWN BULK.

Not being a rapid swimmer and, therefore, unable to chase swift and active fishes, rhe creature buries itself in the seaweeds and mosses on the bottom, and other fishes, attracted by the motion of the plume, when sufficiently near, are sucked into the distended jaws and devoured. The stomach is distensible to an extraordinary degree, and one specimen lately harpooned and cut open discovered other fishes therein nearly equal in bulk and weight to the fishing frog itself.

There is, at the present time, walking around Guantanamo, a Cabun deep sea diver, who had a fearful experience a sport time ago with a fishing frog or sea devil, that seemed bent on making mincemeat of his devoted carcass. The native in his canoe was fishing off the coast with hand lines in deep water, when suddenly he came to grief in a most remarkable manner. A Jamaica sponger and crew lying close by heard a yell, and turned just in time to see the native go tumbling heels over head backward into the water. He came up in a moment, went down again, and then the watchers knew that something was wrong. A small boat lay handily alongside, and into this two men jumped and quickly rowed to the spot. Meanwhile, the Cuban, with a long knife, was plunging away right and left going under every few seconds, but always bobbing up again and emitting a yell every time he got his head out of water.

CAUGHT IN HIS OWN TACKLE.

The Cuban was snared in the coils of his own tackle and an enormous fishing frog, with a head as large as an ordinary flour barrel was making things lively at the other end of the line. The half drowned diver managed to cut himself loose by skillful handling of his fishing knife and the frog making a fierce lunge at the same time tore himself free and sank out of sight.

It seems the Cuban had succeeded in striking a good sized drum fish and when the prize was near the surface the fishing frog came darting up from the bottom and with one gulp swallowed drum, sinkers, bait and all. The startled native lost his head, got tangled up and was pulled overboard He might have been there yet had not the spon chanced to be so conveniently near.

THE *Japan Mail* says:—There is any room to question the fact that siderable quantities is being found The locality is the extreme no province in the neighbourho It is called Eashi—not, h known port of the same kaido. We cannot le of the precious meta ed, but undoubted quantities, an trying their a Police. to the great of his are

WHITE

TWO men met on L "Hello!" ejaculated o Tom?" The other man sho "No, not ills not physically ill, white mice"

"Great heavens" gasped his friend didn't know you ever drank enough that!"

"It wasn't drink, Jack, it wasn't drink. come with me. Let me tell you all!"

When they were seated at opposite sides of a small table the afflicted man continued.

"Yes, Jack, it's white mice. My boy, Thomas, Jr., got it into his head that he ought to have a pet. He wanted a dog, but the house is small, and the cook is nervous, and so we told him no, not a dog; most anything but a dog, and we finally compromised on a pair of white mice. I brought them home in a nice, roomy wire cage and Thomas, Jr., was delighted. That was two months ago." The speaker paused and sighed feelingly.

"Well," all went finely until about three weeks afterward. Then, one morning, the boy came bursting into my room to inform me that the 'mices had got some lovely little mices.' And so they had; five of them. Luckily, the cage was large enough for the growing family. But—well, in four weeks we had forty-seven mice, in six weeks 160. We gave up trying to accommodate them all in one cage, and so cigar boxes, work baskets, cracker tins, and even the bathtub were brought into requisition.

"Naturally two or three escaped every day and lived at large, feasting in the pantry at night, and begging by our chairs at meal time. They took such a liking to the cook that they got to making her room a sort of meeting-place. The result could have been foreseen. My wife has been doing the cooking now for several weeks. I have got so that I shake my boots from force of habit before putting them on. One morning I found two in my shaving mug. And we have them served up to us at table in the cracker jar, the sugar-bowl, and the cheese dish."

"But why didn't you get cats?" asked his friend.

"Cats? Great heavens! We've had twenty of them. We can't keep them about. They stay three or four days, get so fat that they can't walk, and then crawl dejectedly to the door, accompanied by a frisking contingent of whi e mice! We've tried cats, Jack!"

"Well, then, rat poison; have you tried that?"

"Oh, yes; quite early in the game. The mic seemed to thrive on that poison. We trie traps, too they caught a few: just a dr in the bucket. And all the time they kee right on increasing. We haven't taken census for nearly three weeks now, but moderate estimate would place the numl at about 600. Just now, when I met you was on the way to see a man who has rets; I shall try to get a few dozen go healthy ones. If they don't help—Wh that?" he shrieked.

"What's what?" asked his friend. "Th Why, just a piece of white paper!"

"Oh, I—I thought—Well, I must get I don't suppose you'd care to buy that ho would you? No? Well, good by."

And the man afflicted with white mice dejectedly around the corner, looking ously at every piece of torn paper that ered in the breeze.

A JALGAON correspondent writes: I our of Shri Ram's festival, which began 3rd instant, about 30,000 poor people given a meal of rice, cooked with raw in the bed of the Girna river, where th famine relief work, employing about people. The cost was paid out of lo scriptions from Hindoo merchants. local authorities, including the Collector and the Deputy Sanitary sioner, were present on the occasion.

THE *Rangoon Gazette* records the d lad named Ernest Po Win, a pupil of College, S. P. G., while in the attempting to save a Madras pears Po Win, three other and the servant set out excursion on the river holidays, on the 21st Kyouktan the Madr of dancing, fell boat. One of and the cook Ernest Po succeede putting only th

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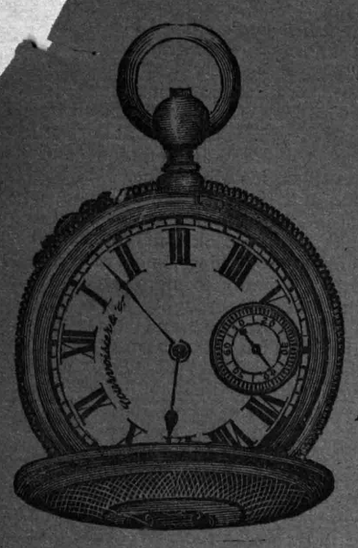

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