

# Anurita Bazar Patrika

BI-WEEKLY EDITION---PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AND SUNDAY.

VOL XXXVI.

CALCUTTA SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 1904.

No. 9.

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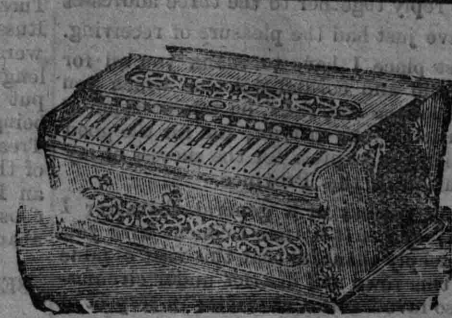
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TO BE RELIEVED IN ONE DAY'S TRIAL.

The Miracle Pill is a wonderful discovery and a sovereign remedy for all sorts of organic and wasting diseases. It specially gives manly vigor to the exhausted nervous system due to overwork and evil effects of all dangerous youthful follies.

Thus it improves the loss of memory, removes dullness of mind, recovers nature and the loss of manhood, the power of retention and makes life enjoyable with blooming healthy children. In short it perfectly clears and enriches the impure blood, gives life to the most important part of human frame the nervous system, and thus makes a new man altogether. Experience warrants us to safely say that all disorders of brain, Spinal cord, generative organs &c. spermatorrhoea, chronic gonorrhoea etc. must be cured by it radically.

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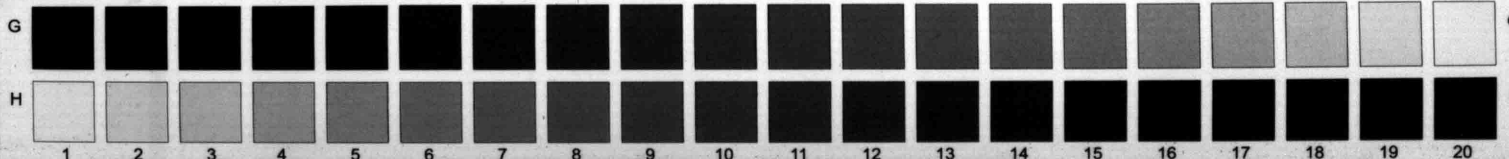


All sorts of gold silver and jewellery ornaments are kept ready for sale, and also made to order at cheaper rates than others. Confident of the superior quality of the articles and moderate prices at which they are sold, I invite comparison and challenge competition. For particulars see illustrated catalogue price 6 annas including postage. Customers buying ornaments worth Rs. 100 will get a catalogue free of cost.

DEAR SIR,—The ornaments which you have supplied to me on order on the occasion of my daughter's marriage have all been of approved design and of neat workmanship. I cannot but too highly recommend the promptitude with which my order was complied with. Thanking you for the same and wishing you success, I remain (Sd.) Kedar Nath Sanyal, Esq. Asst. Commr. Habiganj, Sylhet. Dated 3rd January 1900.

Babu Nityananda Biswas of Rampur-Baitali has executed my orders with great promptness, and the workmanship he has exhibited is highly creditable. He is, as far as I am able to judge, honest and fully deserves encouragement and patronage. He is truly worthy in his dealings with his customers.

(Sd.) Nil Kant Majumdar  
Professor, Presidency College,





## ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN THE U. P.

## THE TEXT BOOKS QUESTION.

The following letter dated the 19th January has been addressed by Mr. S. H. Butler, Secretary to Government to the Director of Public Instruction in the United Provinces:—

1. I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. G-3669-T. C-23 (b), dated the 8th December 1903, in which you make proposals regarding "readers" for vernacular schools.

2. The proposals are the result of prolonged discussion. The "readers" at present in use have been condemned in regard to both matter and language. In sanctioning the preparation of a new series of Government aimed at a double reform. It was desired, in the first place, to make the matter more scientific and less literary (if these terms may be applied to books of this character); it was decided, in the second place, that they should be written (so far as the "primary readers" were concerned) in the common language of everyday life. A general scheme was therefore drawn up and competition was invited. Two sets of "readers" were prepared under the editorship of Mr. H. H. and Mr. Kaye respectively, and submitted to the judgment of a special committee. That committee, while recognising great merits in both sets of "readers," has rejected both as being too difficult, and their opinion is confirmed by you. The Lieutenant-Governor, after careful consideration and communication with yourself and with others, is satisfied that the opinion of the committee must be accepted.

3. This means that the question must be reconsidered and a modified scheme be drawn up; but it does not mean that the labours of the editor have been wasted. The rejected readers not only contain much excellent work, but, by affording concrete examples, they have cleared the way and brought discussion to a focus. So impressed is the Lieutenant-Governor with the value of the work already done as the basis of further work that he has decided to make a grant of Rs. 1,000 for each set of "readers" in recognition of the substantial obligation of the Government to the editors and publishers. I am to ask you to communicate this decision to those concerned. I am also to ask you whether you can meet the charge of Rs. 2,000 from savings in your budget during the current financial year.

4. In deciding what the modified scheme should be the Lieutenant-Governor has found your note, dated the 6th November 1903, of the greatest assistance, and he agrees generally with your conclusions. Two points call for the orders of Government—(1) what should the "readers" contain; (2) how should they be prepared? Neither point can be disposed of easily. As regards the former point, it is easier to say what the "readers" should not be than to say what they should be. As regards the latter point, opinions seem to vary. To some extent the two matters hang together.

5. As regards the general scope and contents of the "readers," it is necessary to remember that there are several stages in vernacular instruction which are more or less cut off from one another. For the mass of children who attend vernacular schools education ends at the lower primary stage; a fair proportion of the children study through the upper primary stage; a small proportion only study beyond the upper primary stage. It follows that each stage must be considered separately with reference to the needs of the majority of the children studying in it. At the same time there should be a connection between the "readers" of the different stages. What is wanted then is a scheme of "readers," suitable primarily to the stage in which they will be used, but also more or less introductory to the "readers" suitable for a higher stage.

6. As regards the agency by which they should be prepared, the choice lies between inviting competition and selecting experts for the work. On the whole it seems better to choose the former method. To write a good book for little children requires genius of a rare order; probably a woman would write such a book better than a man. The Government is not in a position to do more than indicate generally what is required. The Lieutenant-Governor has, therefore, decided to leave the matter to public competition and to stimulate competition by the offer of rewards. It is hoped that in this way there may be some choice for the committee.

7. For the lower primary classes (I and II) one simple "reader" only is wanted. It should be directed to stimulate observation and enquiry on the common facts of everyday life, but only within the range of mind of a little child; it should also include short, simple stories and easy poetry which have a moral tendency. The form should be narrative. The language cannot be too simple. The lessons, the paragraphs, and the sentences must be short.

8. For the upper primary classes the "reader" should be in two parts; for the want of better terms the one may be called general, the other scientific. The "general reader" should contain stories and simple poetry which are interesting and have a moral tendency; the language must be the common language of everyday life; if extracts are included, the language must be simple. The "scientific reader" should be self-contained, but should in a general way prepare the mind for the "scientific reader" in the secondary classes; it should deal mainly with the surface view of phenomena that are within the observation of young children; technical terms should be avoided; the lessons should be short and the language simple.

9. For the secondary classes (V and VI) the present "reader" may be retained (though it should be shortened), and a "scientific reader" should be added. This reader will necessarily be more systematic in treatment than the "scientific reader" for the upper primary classes, but it must be simple. Even at this stage the object is not to teach science so much as to cultivate habits of observation and enquiry, in addition to training the memory. Technical terms should be avoided as far as possible, and the language must be simple.

10. With these general observations I am to sanction the offer of three rewards of Rs. 500 each for the three books adjudged to be the best (provided they come up to a reasonably high standard) in each of the following classes:—

(a) Lower primary reader; (b) upper primary general reader; (c) set of upper primary and secondary scientific readers.

"Readers" (a) and (b) should be submitted in print in vernacular with an English translation, either printed or type-written; "readers" (c) should be submitted in English only, either printed or type-written.

in this case the selected "readers" only need be translated. It will probably be desirable to point a strong and representative committee to judge the books, with a sub-committee to revise the language as laid down in G. O. No. 304, dated 16th May 1903 (published in the "Gazette" of 23rd May 1903), but this cannot be settled now. A sum of Rs. 4,500 has been entered in the budget for next year. Ample time should be given for the preparation of the books, for the matter is not one that can advantageously be hurried.

11. In conclusion, I am to convey the thanks of Government to all concerned—the editors, authors, the committee, and yourself. Sir James LaTouche is convinced that the good work already done and the discussion which has taken place will eventually result in great benefit to the people of these Provinces.

## A HUMAN LIFE SAVED.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Tamluk, Jan. 26.

On Friday last, Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Co.'s steamer on her way back to Calcutta from Ghatal was a scene of considerable excitement and commotion. The steamer had not proceeded far from the Tamluk station when, all of a sudden, the Engine Driver on the Lower Deck ran up to the Serang on the Upper Deck, vociferating, "stop her, stop her." The steamer was proceeding in full motion aided additionally by the strong ebbing current of the Rupnarain, and it was sometime before the steamer could be fully stopped. Meanwhile there was a general tumult and excited ejaculations to the effect that a passenger had dropped into the river. Instantly the whole steamer was up and ran to the rear side of it and saw that a black spot resembling a human head appeared about half a mile off. "He is adrift," "He is still living," shouted some passengers among whom were Babu Chandra Nath Ghose, Sub-Divisional Officer of Tamluk, and Babu Durga Prasad Ghose, Munsif and some pleaders of the same place. They urged the serang to turn the Steamer back and overtake the drowning man. It had been a moment of anxious expectation before the steamer was turned round. The fever and suspense of the passengers can be better imagined than described. The black speck disappeared and again came up when the steamer was just careering to overtake it. And when it came quite close to the spot the life-boat was after some difficulty lowered down, but the drowning man again disappeared. At last the steamer came up to the unfortunate man, who was almost in the last state of exhaustion and was taken over by it to the intense joy and jubilation of all on board the steamer. I must here state that Chandra Babu, our Sub-Divisional Officer, showed considerable energy, alacrity and commendable interest in getting the man saved. When the fellow was taken on board he not only furnished him with clothes and refreshments at his own cost but had him warmed near the fire of the Engine. He deserves our thanks.

## FURLOUGHS TO CIVILIANS.

The following statement shows the number of furloughs which may be allotted to officers of the Indian Civil Service during the first-half of 1904:—

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Total number of Indian Civilians serving under the Government of Bengal on the 1st January 1904               | 222  |
| Twenty per cent. of 222   | 44.4 |
| Deduct number of officers absent on furlough, other than medical furlough, on the 1st January 1904            | 16   |
| Number of furloughs at present available  | 28.4 |
| Number of furloughs which may be expected to be available by the return of officers before the 1st April 1904 | 5    |
| Total number of furloughs which may be expected to be available before the 1st April 1904                     | 33.4 |

## ALLEGED PERJURY.

At the Madras High Court, before Mr. Justice Benson and Mr. Justice Russell, the Public Prosecutor argued a petition, praying for sanction under Section 194 of the Criminal Procedure Code for the prosecution of Valia Puddugakkal, Ammie, of Malabar, for having in it alleged made false statements in an affidavit filed in the High Court and sworn to by him before the Deputy Registrar. The facts briefly are:—Quite recently an application was filed in the High Court for the transfer of a case of dacoity against Ramunni Panikar, among others, from the file of the Second Class Magistrate of Chowghat, Malabar, to the file of any other Magistrate in the district. The application for transfer was supported by an affidavit by the present counter-petitioner, sworn to before the Deputy Registrar, High Court, and in this was contained, among other allegations, that the Sub-Magistrate threatened Ramunni Panikar by saying that he was waiting for an opportunity to teach him a lesson, if ever a case came against him. An enquiry was instituted, and this led to the present application by the Public Prosecutor. Their Lordships granted the sanction applied for.

## Baby Cough Must Never Linger.

NOTHING is more distressing than to see help less little infant suffering with a cough and to be fearful of using a remedy which may contain some harmful ingredient. The makers of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy positively guarantee this preparation does not contain opium in any form or any of her harmful substance. Mothers may confidently give it to their little ones. It gives prompt relief and is perfectly safe. It cures croupers quickly.

Price 1/- and 2/- Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors. If unable to obtain locally, this medicine will be forwarded by Smith Stanistreet and Co. Calcutta on receipt of an order, wholesale agents—B. K. Paul and Co. Abdoel Rahmana and Abdoel Kareem Calcutta.

## L.G. AT MUZAFFARPUR.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Muzaffarpur, Jan. 26.

On the visit of Sir Andrew Fraser to Muzaffarpur on Sunday last he was presented with three addresses, from the Municipality, the District Board and the Tirhoot Branch of the Mahomedan Association.

## THE L.G.'S REPLY.

His Honor replying jointly to the three addresses said:—

Mr. Faulder, Mr. Levinge and gentlemen—I propose to reply together to the three addresses which I have just had the pleasure of receiving. In the first place I have to thank you all for the very kind and cordial welcome which you give me in all the addresses, on this occasion of my first visit to your district, and for the good wishes which you express for the success of my administration of this Province.

One other remark of a general character I may make; and that is that I concur with you in feeling deeply thankful that this visit of mine is paid to this town and district under circumstances of so favourable a character in respect of the health and condition of the people. I am very glad and congratulate you heartily, that you have, both in the town and in the district, escaped a visitation of the plague; and I am even more deeply sensible of the fact that the fears, which were entertained some months ago and which were communicated to me by my friends in Bengal that I might have to undertake the burden of the administration of another famine, have been proved to be groundless. I cannot tell you how terrible a responsibility I should have felt it, and grievous a burden, to have been called upon in the first instance of my administration of this new province to superintend extensive famine relief; and it was a great thankfulness that I saw the signs of this trouble pass away.

I proceed now to take up the addresses separately; and first I will take that which has been presented by the local branch of the Central Mahomedan Association. I am glad to find, gentlemen, that you express yourselves grateful for the action taken by my predecessor, the late Sir John Woodburn, in proposing the Bengal Settled Estates Bill; and I think that you will find that the bill as it is passed into law, will meet the requirements of the case in a very satisfactory manner. There are three points in your address in connection with this bill to which I would briefly refer. The first is the matter of stamp duties, which you regard as having been fixed too high. On this point I would say that it is distinctly undesirable unduly to encourage such settlements. The stamp duties have been fixed in view of all the circumstances of the case; and I am bound to say frankly that I do not consider that there is the least hope of having them reduced, until experience may have proved the expediency of such a reduction. Another point to which I may refer is your proposal that the right of settlement may be generally extended instead of being specially allowed in particular cases. Here also I am bound frankly to tell you that I do not think that your views can be met. Such settlements are really contrary to the genius of modern legislation; and this bill has been proposed only to make it possible to deal with special circumstances in respect of both Hindu and Mahomedan families. It is not I think at all likely that it will be made of general application; and it will certainly not be so made until experience has proved the necessity for its extension. The third point to which I may refer is your suggestion that three generations is too short a period for such settlements: you would propose to extend it to five. I may inform you that the bill has, in some respects, gone further than you would on this point; for by a system of supplementary settlements it will be possible to continue a settlement for a longer period than five generations. That is to say, when a settlement has once been made, the incumbent or the manager of the estate in any generation may propose a supplementary settlement to extend for three generations and as this settlement will be concerned with the estate as it stood at the time of the original settlement, and no encumbrances can have been created since that settlement, the supplementary settlement will be of a simple and formal nature: and the fee to be charged will be a nominal one. As I have said, I think that you will find that the whole subject has been treated in a satisfactory manner in the bill.

The only other point to which the Local Mahomedan Association draws attention is the want of representation of the Mahomedan community on the district headquarters staff of the Provincial service. I think that the Mahomedans should be represented; but the fact that they are not represented at present is due to a mere accident. A Mahomedan Deputy Collector has just been transferred; and I hope soon to be able to send some Mahomedan member of the service here in his place. In this connection, I wish to say clearly that I am strongly of opinion that in our public bodies and in our official service it is very desirable that the different sections of the community should have due representation. I have already pointed out that to make this possible, it is necessary that there should be an adequate number of the members of each section, both willing and capable to act as their representatives. It is impossible to give offices or places of influence to men who are not fit to occupy them. It is impossible to give offices or places described as a truism, but which is in practice often forgotten not by one community only but very generally. I am asked to have a certain community represented on a certain body. I ask that a fit person belonging to that community be nominated; and the demand for fitness seems to occasion surprise. A father brings his son to me, points out the excellent service that he himself has rendered to the state, and asks that his son should be allowed to follow him in office. I ask what are the qualifications of the son; and I am told that his father has taken no trouble to give him a liberal education. It is the father's fault, not mine that I am unable to appoint his son, to a Government service. This is a matter which I desire to impress on all sections of the community that they must make every effort to qualify themselves for any office which they desire to hold. I am glad to think that the Mahomedan community in this Province has awakened to the necessity of this; and he by no means the friend of that community who would seek in any way to weaken their sense of that necessity.

## Indian Notes.

## PROFESSOR LEE AND HIS SUBJECT.

The trouble between Professor Lee and Jehangir Bomanji Petit has been amicably arranged. The bother arose out of an episode at the Framji Cowasji Institute, the details of which have been already published. By mutual agreement the matter was referred to a third individual to arbitrate. His award was against Prof. Lee, who thereupon a pologised. Summons and cross-summons were withdrawn and the episode terminated.

## INDIAN CRICKETERS FOR ENGLAND.

A meeting of the Indian cricket team for England Committee was written a Bombay correspondent under date Jan. 27, held on Tuesday evening. Mr. Justice Russell presiding. The proceedings were conducted in camera. After a lengthy discussion the following resolution was put before the meeting:—"That the finances being in the condition disclosed by the Honorary Treasurers, it is not expedient, in the opinion of the Committee, that the scheme for sending an Indian team to England should be further considered, and that therefore it should be abandoned."

## SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST A TELEGRAPH MANAGER.

A Madras correspondent writes under date Jan. 27:—"The particulars of the charges against Mr. Murray, Manager of Reuters' Telegraph Company, are as follows: In his press copies to the head office in London of receipts and disbursements, it is alleged that he falsely showed monies said to be due by the Government Telegraph Office for repetition which did not find a place in the cash book. According to the statement for December, 1903, prepared by the accused but not yet despatched to the head office, the sum of Rs. 3,262 was said to be due and refundable by the Government Telegraph Office, whereas, as a matter of fact, all the sums due had been recovered by the accused but were not entered in the cash book. There was also a discrepancy of Rs. 1,647 in the accused's cash balance."

## BOMBAY COTTON TRADE.

The Bombay Mill Industry is again passing through a period of acute depression owing to the high prices of cotton and the failure of yarn values to make any corresponding advance in values. As to the present position of the local mill industry our representative on Monday discussed the matter with a well-known mill-owner, who had no hesitation in saying that the position of the industry to-day was much worse than six or seven weeks ago—a state of affairs occasioned by the heavy rise in the prices of cotton and to China on account of the political situation not responding. Fifteen local mills have been entirely closed this month and a similar number are only working a few days in the week and it is only a question of time when these will also be entirely closed. The outlook is a very gloomy one, and if things do not take a turn for the better and very do not too there cannot be the slightest doubt that many other mills will have to close their doors. At the same time it is thought that doors cannot go on for long as at present things that they must adjust themselves. The but at critical situation in the Far East, affecting local spinning mills while the also in silver and the expectations of a further decline is another factor which is of ailing against the industry. Fortunately weaving mills are not so badly off being on a different footing. They manufacture cloth on the Indian market which is responding to the rise owing to high prices asked for Manchester goods.

## THE CARE OF INDIAN LEPERS.

An appeal has been addressed to Indian gentlemen on behalf of their unfortunate fellow countrymen who are afflicted with leprosy. The leprosy in India and the Far East has established its position as one of the most heinous and energetic philanthropic agencies work in this country. It has now thirty years in India, accommodating nearly three hundred inmates, whose doors are open to all persons irrespective of class or creed. But this touches the grunge of the leper problem. The leprosy, and the Mission is urgently need of funds to extend the accommodation in houses in order to meet the demands on them. There is no object to which the public may subscribe which can be greater relief to the most afflicted of fellow creatures. Contributions will be given by Mr. Proctor of Pedder Road, Cum Hill; Mr. Rivers Currie, 1 Upper Wood Street, Calcutta; and the Honorary Organiser, Secretary, Mr. Thomas A. Baily, care of Mrs. William Watson and Co., Bombay.

## SIR HUGH BARNES'S TOUR.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Burma Staff arrived on tour at Aungmye at 2 p. m. on Wednesday. After having visited Bird's Nest Island in morning the party were met by the Deputy-Commissioner and a reception was held at Aungmye, which was largely attended by the people and Burmese ladies and gentlemen of the town and district. An address of welcome was read and Sir Hugh Barnes replied expressing himself and Lady Barnes deeply pleased with all they saw and promised to favourably consider all matters mentioned in the Address. Several officials and non-officials were then presented to His Honor. An arrangement was made to the residence of the Deputy-Commissioner where a collection of nominal and submarine products of the district were inspected. Sir Hugh Barnes then visited the hospital and other public buildings, leaving at five o'clock for Victoria. Lady Barnes has much improved after recent carriage accident at Moulmein and was well enough to accompany His Honor to Bird's Nest Island and to be present at the reception proceedings in the afternoon.

## Imaginary Ailments.

THERE are many who have pains in the back and imagine that their kidneys are affected, the only trouble is a rheumatism of the muscles, or, at worst, lumbago, that can be cured by the applications of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, or damping a piece of flannel with Pain Balm and holding it over the affected parts.

Price 1/- and 2/- Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors. If unable to obtain locally, this medicine will be forwarded by Smith Stanistreet and Co. Calcutta on receipt of an order. Wholesale agent—B. K. Paul and Co. Abdoel Rahmana and Abdoel Kareem Calcutta.

## PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 107 QUASHED.

At the High Court Mr. Jackson, with Babu Dasrathi Sanyal appeared in support of a rule obtained on behalf of one Gopi Mohon Goswami calling upon the District Magistrate of Khulna to show cause why the proceedings under section 107 Cr. P. C. against the petitioner should not be quashed.

It appeared that upon a police report submitted by the Sub-Inspector of Fakirhat Outpost alleging that Sham Lal Ghose and ten others—Amias and Peadas of Babu Lal Gopal Dutta Chowdhury, four-anna shareholder of the Khararia Barazilla estate,—were about to commit a breach of the peace for collection of rent and possession of the kutchery building to the detriment of other co-sharers. Proceedings under section 107 Cr. P. Code were drawn up before the Sub-Divisional Officer of Bagirhat and they were bound down to keep the peace. Thereafter one Sham Lal Ghose, presented a petition before the said Magistrate stating that the servants of Srimaty Kripa Moyee Dassi, who had five-anna share in the said estate, were collecting "lathials" with a view to take forcible possession of the "kutchery" house which was in the possession of Babu Lal Gopal Dutta and that there was a probability of a breach of the peace. The Magistrate referred the said petition to the police with a direction that the latter must see that no breach of the peace might take place. The police reported that there was a likelihood of a breach of the peace and prayed that proceedings under section 107 might be taken against the servants of Srimaty Kripa Moyee Dassi. The Magistrate then passed the following order:—"While Beni Madhab Bose was the Naib upper storey rooms were in his possession. The person who has been appointed Naib in his place may put up in those rooms. If any one offers resistance to its report against him. The Sub-Inspector should go to carry out this order and report whether this order is being obeyed there."

In the meantime one Norotom Bose alleged that he was the manager of the estate and that he having gone to the kutchery was opposed by the petitioner and other servants of Babu Lal Gopal. The Magistrate then ordered the Sub-Inspector to report at once under section 107 if any party attempted to wrongfully dispossess the other. A few days after the police reported that both sides prayed that the Magistrate might settle the dispute as an arbitrator. Upon this the Magistrate ordered that his previous order must be obeyed. The Sub-Inspector was directed to act in strict accordance with that order. Thereupon the Sub-Inspector with a large number of men came to deliver possession of the said kutchery house to Norotom Bose and was ready to break open the doors of the lower storey which was in possession of Babu Lal Gopal, when an objection was raised by the petitioner and one Hari Sing. The party then went away. The Sub-Inspector then prayed that both of them might be prosecuted under section 188 I.P.C. The Magistrate ordered a proceeding under section 107 Cr. P. C. against both of them and directed them to show cause why they should not execute a bond of Rs. 500 each with two sureties to keep the peace for one year. The Magistrate further directed the issue of warrants of arrest with bail for Rs. 500.

Five days before the date fixed for the hearing of the case the petitioner surrendered himself before the Magistrate and put in a petition praying for the withdrawal of the warrant. The petitioner came to court at about 11 a.m. and as soon as the Magistrate finished taking other applications, the petitioner's application was put up when the Magistrate ordered the court Sub-Inspector to arrest the petitioner. His application was refused and he was sent to jail. The following were the order passed by the Magistrate on the petition:—"Proceeding read over and explained to Gopi Mohon Goswami. He should be retained in custody till the case is disposed of. He said to the Sub-Inspector of Fakirhat 'I don't care to obey your Deputy Magistrate's order.' He was immediately taken to the lock-up and was compelled to put off his shoes and was subjected to other indignities and no one interested on his behalf was allowed to approach him. The petitioner then sent words to his muktears to apply to the Magistrate for time under section 526 (8) Cr. P. C. but none of them ventured to make the application. That day at 3.30 p.m. the court Sub-Inspector came to the lock-up and said that the only way to get out of the difficulty was not to raise any objection to the execution of the bond. The petitioner consented against his will and thereupon put in a petition before the Magistrate to that effect. The Magistrate on the same day passed an order directing the petitioner to execute a bond of Rs. 200 with two sureties in Rs. 100 each to keep the peace for one year or in default to undergo simple imprisonment for that period."

The District Magistrate in submitting his explanation said that there was an appeal provided in the law before the District Magistrate but the petitioner ignoring that authority had gone to the High Court and obtained the rule. In his opinion the rule must be discharged. The Deputy Magistrate concerned has submitted that under cl. 4 of section 107 Cr. P. C. he had authority to put the petitioner to jail. He said that it was not a fact that no muktears had been allowed to approach him. The fact that the petition was presented through a muktear offering to execute the bond showed that the petitioner had received advice from his muktears.

Mr. Jackson contended that the District Magistrate was wholly wrong in saying that there was an appeal provided under the law. Section 404 Cr. P. C. provided that there could not be any appeal unless provided under the Code. Section 125 gives power to the District Magistrate for cancelling the bond. The District Magistrate had no other power. He then cited some cases in support of his contention. In conclusion the learned Counsel submitted that the bond was really extracted from the petitioner.

His Lordship in delivering judgment remarked that no proper enquiry was held in the case and set aside the order of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate.

On the morning of the 26th instant a fire was discovered in a bunker of No. 3 hold of the steamer Corn Exchange lying in Prince's Dock. An hour elapsed before the flames were extinguished and 200 bales of cotton and other cargo were much damaged by the fire and water. The vessel was making for Trieste and Venice.



THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 31, 1904.

THE HIGH CLASS AGRICULTURAL  
COLLEGE AT PUSA.—II.

We have discussed the first part of the answer to the Government to the question of the Honble Babu Sree Ram, to-day we shall discuss the second part, which runs as follows:—

"In the second place, the present scheme is far too narrow, if agriculture is to be included among its objects. Moreover, it is believed that the science of agriculture will be studied by natives of India to greater advantage in their own country than in countries where the conditions differ widely from those obtaining here. As I explained in the course of the debate upon the last Budget, it is intended to create a high-class Agricultural College at Pusa; and we do not propose to extend the present scheme so as to include agriculture, at any rate until we know what Pusa will give us."

By the art of agriculture we can improve the yield, and quality of crops. Thus Australia has improved the cultivation of wheat, so that a better quality of wheat is now grown there and the yield is larger there than in any other country. One can easily see how the country will be benefited if we can improve the quality of rice and wheat and increase their yield. Will not that go a great way to put a stop to famines in India?

It is a wonder why agriculture has been so neglected in this country. To Lord Curzon belongs the credit of having first conceived the idea of taking agriculture seriously in India. Up till now the Government has only made the department an object of ridicule to the people of this country. It is now proposed to establish a high-class agricultural college. We must say a few words explaining what this institution should, and should not be.

First of all, it must not be conducted on the lines of the existing institutions for the improvement of the art of agriculture. Now the Agriculture Department is maintained only for show. It is essential that the enlightened Government of India should have a department for agriculture, as it is essential that a mighty king should have a court-jester. It is now kept under the management of Europeans and civilians, very honest, energetic and learned, only ignorant of agriculture. Of course, these officials very naturally try, what they can, to improve the department which is under their care. But their reports are not read, or it read not heeded. And a short time after, when these civilians have got to take some interest in the subject, they are transferred to the Administrative Department.

In the same manner, a few Indians are employed and when they have begun to learn something, they are transferred to another department.

Of course some money is spent, but that money is thrown into water. It is also true some discoveries are made by experiments or good luck, as for instance the good results obtained in Burdwan already referred to by us, but they do not see the light of the day. We hope the high-class agricultural college will be conducted on different lines.

First of all, we must have experts and only experts for the teachers. The idea that prevails now, or seems to prevail now is that, the department is only a good means of providing a few berths for white men, poor and rich. But this idea must be altogether given up. We very much fear that the Director of the Institution is likely to be a civilian. But can any man, who has no knowledge of agriculture direct an institution like the one under consideration, simply because he is a civilian?

The institution must be kept under the control of experts. These experts should be imported from Holland, Belgium, America, and Australia, as also from France. The art is neglected very much in England and experts from England will be of little use. We shall explain presently why we propose to import experts from foreign countries, and not England.

Then, experts also should be appointed, who are Indians. For, it must be borne in mind that experts imported from foreign countries can never be competent teachers of the art of agriculture, as suited to India. The experts imported, who of course are all scientific men, with a thorough training, will have yet first to learn Indian agriculture from Indian experts. When they have mastered Indian agriculture, it is then that they will be competent teachers to run an agricultural institution in this country.

These Indian experts or agriculturists, who have a practical experience, not a scientific knowledge of the art, must be imported from different parts of the country. Vegetables and tobacco are grown with success in Hooghly. Good tobacco is grown successfully in Rungpur. The cultivation of jute is better understood in East Bengal than elsewhere. Fine cotton was grown in Dacca, but now experts who know how to cultivate cotton should be imported from the cotton districts of the Bombay Presidency.

We need also expert cultivators from foreign countries. As for instance cultivators of cotton from Carolina and Egypt; of tobacco from Havana; of cane from the West Indies and Java; of wheat from Australia; of linseed from Holland or Belgium.

In Holland, Belgium, France and Germany there are agricultural chemists, who are not Government servants but maintained by fees from cultivators. The cultivators bring soil from lands to them for analysis and pay a fee for the work done. These experts declare, after analysis, what the soil is fit for, in what way it is defective, and by what process that defect can be removed. The agriculturists abide by these instructions and undoubtedly profit by them. Otherwise these experts would never have been maintained by the people, and we understand that these experts are to be found in almost every part of the countries named above. Well we will have to import such experts if we have to find a really "high-class college," who will have to analyse soil, and teach the students how to do it.

The agricultural implements are being invented in America which have enabled the people of that continent to raise the art to the highest pitch of perfection. If we mean to improve agriculture we must have the implements imported for trial here.

The Government is aware that noxious insects often-times do a good deal of harm to crops. We have to import experts who have made these noxious insects their subject of study.

Suppose that men are trained here as agriculturists, yet it will be necessary for the purpose of making them efficient, to send them abroad in America or Europe, to study how agricultural operations are carried on in those countries. So for the purpose of ensuring success to this noble scheme of Lord Curzon, agricultural scholarships will have to be established in the country.

## NEMESIS AND PARTITION.

By military discipline, a large number of men are converted into something like an inert machine which has no will of its own, and which is moved by the will of a single man. In the same manner, nations are disciplined by statesmen, as for instance the Indians. They are now like a piece of clay in the hands of the Government. Nature has made the Bengalis a nation. The Government is going to create new ones. Thus it prefers to take a few millions of Bengalis, mix them with the Assamese and roll them all into a nation, as physicians mix the different ingredients, powder them in a pestle and mortar and prepare their pills. It will, in the same manner, take the people of Chota Nagpur, mix them with those of the Central Provinces, and create a new mixture, labelled what we do not know.

In Bengal the Government is making these strange experiments of dividing and uniting. But the real rulers of India, the Englishmen at home, are likely to be engaged in a quite different work. Here the Government is selecting its ingredients and preparing its pills, but in England it is the Irish who are taking an active part, and England has been obliged to act in the defensive.

Here the English rulers are bent upon dividing the Bengalis, by putting them under two separate Governments, but in England the same Englishmen, will not permit the Irish to separate themselves from them, and live under a separate Government. The "Englishman" was shrewd enough to refer to this point. Mr. Redmond, the leader of the Irish party in Parliament, in his Waterford speech, uttered this ominous threat:—

"There were some English politicians who believed, or pretended to believe, that by the Irish party's acceptance of the policy of the Land Act they had abandoned, or at least postponed, their demand for Home Rule. It was time to undeceive these gentlemen, and he therefore declared that the movement for Home Rule must come to the front, and they intended speedily to make English politicians of all parties understand that no opposition of any sort or kind whatever, on any other subject, would induce the Irish party to postpone for one hour their insistence upon the restoration of Ireland's right to rule itself."

And the rulers of the Empire in England feel themselves in a helpless position. The present British Government knows very well that it cannot carry on the administration without the support of the Irish party. The latter are intelligent enough to recognize this, and not loath to demand a price for their support.

The "Westminster Gazette," usually very quick to see things in their true perspective, observes that, "Mr. Redmond tells Mr. Balfour that Irish support can only be continued—at a price."

Last Session the Irish party got the Land Act. Next Session they mean to get a Catholic University, and a complete separation from England. Here the Government, though alien in religion, is going to secure the entire control of the University; in Ireland they are, however, going to demand a Catholic Institute, and they expect to get it as a price for their support. And what do the English rulers say in reply? They say that the Irish should remain with them, under the same Government. Are they not 40 millions strong? Why are the Irish going to weaken the prestige and power of the United Kingdom by a division? This is the way the English rulers appeal to the Irish. And this is the way the Bengalis appeal to their English masters here. They beg to remind their English masters that they should do unto others what they would be done by. If union is good for the English, it must be good for the Bengalis also. If separation is painful to the British people, it must be equally painful to the Bengalis. This was the menace that Mr. Redmond uttered:—

"It rested with the Irish party to say whether it should be so, and he declared that that night that those who attempted to shelve the question next session must make up their minds to be struck at as quickly and as strongly as the Irish party could strike. To be quite candid, he thought the time was not far distant when they would be able to get a very effective blow in."

Mr. Gladstone, in a speech said as follows, while condemning an act of England which he considered unjust:—

"It fills me with the greatest alarm lest it should be proved to be grossly and totally unjust. If so, we shall come under the stroke of the everlasting law that suffering shall follow sin, national injustice is the surest road to national downfall."

See how Nemesis is following in the wake of our rulers. They are trying to divide the Bengalis in spite of their heartfelt protests. But while they are dividing Bengal in India, in their own country the Irish are dividing "the United Kingdom," and this in spite of their heartfelt protests. Possibly the "everlasting law," of which Mr. Gladstone spoke, has something to do with it.

## DANIEL O'CONNELL.

THE FATHER OF "MONSTER MEETINGS."

UNLESS they can develop a leader, the Indians will never be able to create a real political force in the country. Parnell was such a leader in Ireland, and before him was Daniel O'Connell. This latter was a great man, for says the writer in T. P.'s Weekly: "To me he is one of the greatest beings that ever trod this earth; as great as Caesar; as great as Napoleon; as great as Bismarck; as great as Gladstone." Mr. Gladstone himself said that "he was the greatest popular leader whom the world has ever seen."

The convulsion into which this country has been thrown on account of the proposed dismemberment of Bengal, and the monster meetings held at Mymensingh and other parts of Eastern Bengal, remind one irresistibly of Daniel O'Connell and his doings. The Irish people, at one time, had a Parliament of their own, as the citizens of Calcutta had an elective Municipality. This Parliament was knocked

on the head, as the elective Corporation of Calcutta was. Calcutta apparently received the blow quietly, but Ireland resented it under the leadership of Daniel. In a short time, the efforts of Daniel created much more inquiet in Ireland than what the partition project has done in Bengal. If village meetings, mass meetings, open air meetings, meetings of Zemindars and Taluqdars, or Hindu Pandits and Mahomedan Moulvies are being held in Eastern Bengal now, the way for this constitutional agitation was pointed out by the Irish patriot, for the purpose of recovering the boon of local self-government, which had been granted to and withdrawn from them. Daniel was the first man to invent such terms as "monster meetings" and so forth.

It may be said that a man like Daniel has no career in India, where the Government nourishes only salams and mediocres, and is exceedingly jealous of all popular leaders; where the Government is irresistible and the people have no political privileges. But Daniel had not also some of the advantages which the Indians possess now. First, Ireland had then a population of nine millions (now it has only four), but India is thirty times stronger in numbers. Then, in some other respects, Ireland in those days, was in a worse condition than India is. When Daniel started, there was not an office in the country that was open to one of his creed and opinion. Every bench, from the Magistrate to that of the Supreme Judge, was packed with his enemies. The Judge on the bench was against him; every jury box was carefully packed with his deadliest enemies.

In order to realise even partially what Ireland was at that hour of darkness, just think that the city of Dublin, of whose population four-fifths were Catholic, was ruled by a Corporation whose members were not only Conservatives and Protestants, but Protestants of a most intolerant type. Or think of the fact that all Ireland with some eight out of the entire nine millions Catholic, had not one Catholic representative in the House of Commons. Add to this that the Catholic population had not yet emerged from social and economic slavery. There was scarcely one of them who, as a tenant, was not the serf of the landlord—strange to him in faith and race, in class, and in interest. The power of wholesale eviction still existed. Conquest in the field and oppression in the laws had done their work; Ireland was then a land of slaves.

Thus, when he started, no Catholic could be a member of a Municipal Council, or of the House of Commons, or of the Judicial Bench. He rose superior to all those obstacles. The working of the penal laws was terrible in its effects when he flourished; but he escaped them by his tact, judgment, and moral courage.

Daniel had, however, to contend not only with his open enemies but also his own colleagues. Anybody who has ever been in the centre of a popular movement knows that the popular leader has the most effective and the most dangerous enemies in his own household. It would be impossible for any popular leader to exist without creating jealousies in his own ranks. Among the prices he no tenure except that of his supreme genius and the affection of the multitude, it is inevitable that others should strive, or think they had the right to strive, for the same supremacy.

And finally, what basis is so insecure for any leader as the tenacity of the affection or the purpose of a multitude. A great popular leader is like a great stage manager. No amount of success in the past can lay the future under any pledge.

It must be said that Ireland also possessed advantages, which India does not. It was nearer the ruling country and several independent states, the rivals of England; it had some sort of social connection with the ruling race; the people were warlike, excitable, liquor-drinking and meat-eating, and had weapons for offence and defence. They were nine millions of the same race, language and religion. So Daniel had several advantages which an Indian leader is not likely to possess.

On the other hand, India being more alien to England than Ireland and peopled by seven times more men than England, and further, it being ten thousand miles away from the ruling country, the British rulers have to pay greater regard to the wishes of the Indians than the protests of the Irish, in spite of the "ferocity" of the latter, and the "gentleness" of the former.

Here is T. P.'s description of Daniel O'Connell:—

"O'Connell, it will be seen, came from a powerful stock. Here, indeed, was a marvel fresh from the hands of Nature. The great height, the massive frame, the nerves of steel, the power to go through gigantic labours, mental and physical, without even a sense of fatigue, the hearty, joyous, exuberant temper—he was one of those darlings of the gods that know neither fatigue nor depression; that laugh back into the face of mother Nature with a laugh as boisterous, fruitful, exuberant as her own. Ridiculous doubts were often cast by political opponents on the physical courage of O'Connell; in reality he was one of the bravest men that ever lived. In that beautifully harmonious frame, with such massive strength and symmetry, there was no room for fear."

I dwell a little upon the wondrous physique of O'Connell because it is indeed, so large a part of him and of his career. He lived in days when the demands upon a man in his position were far greater than they are even in our own days. Imagine a man doing once every year or two a Marathon campaign such as that through which Gladstone went twice in his life; but imagine him doing it, not in smooth-running express trains, running at forty to sixty miles an hour, and from comfortable and princely homes or palatial hotels, but in chaises, running over rough roads, in all kinds of weather; and often amid every surrounding of discomfort and squalor; imagine this, and you have some idea of the kind of life that O'Connell led for nearly half a century."

All his gifts would have helped him very little if he had not a heart,—a heart which over-flowed with the love of his country. He was a patriot,—a true and unselfish patriot,—and therein lay his strength. India has not been able to develop a single patriot yet.

Daniel was the founder of monster meetings, and it is necessary that the people of this country should study carefully the methods that he followed. Let not the Mymensingh people boast that they had been able to gather so many as 40,000 men for a protest meeting. Daniel's meetings were attended by many hundreds of thousands.

Have we permission on this occasion to refer to the great Jhigergacha meeting which was attended by a lakh—more than a lakh of people? This leads us to mention the fact that district and village meetings were first introduced in this province of Bengal through the efforts of the two brothers who founded the "Amrita Bazar Patrika." One of them has gone to his long home, the other is leading a retired life. It was they who first pointed out that India has a mufasil; that this mufasil has a vast population to take interest in the affairs of the country in a constitutional way. It was they who pointed out that mass-meetings, perfectly orderly ones, can be held in this country of a non-drinking and gentle race. Those who attended the Jhigergacha meeting would testify that bigger meetings than the one held at Mymensingh can be organized in this country. Every village within a radius of twenty miles around Jhigergacha was, almost denuded of its male inhabitants on the meeting day.

Popular rumour says that the Nawab Bahadur of Dacca, if not in direct favour of the project of the partition of Bengal, is not opposed to it. And, the Government may consult him into a party and declare that "opinions are divided" among the Indians. If the Nawab Bahadur goes against us, let him declare as he should do, being an honourable man, that if he is not opposed to the project his country is. Let him bear in mind that if he is construed into a party and utilized for the purpose of thrusting this measure upon the country, he will have to share the odium for ever and ever. As for the Government, we have always confessed that the people will immediately give up the agitation if they come to know that it is determined to descend from its exalted position of Judge to that of a party, is it fair to put the opinion of a single man against that of eleven millions? Then again, if the Nawab Bahadur is not against the project, Maharaja Surja Kanta, who is as big a Zemindar as the Nawab Bahadur is, is bitterly opposed to it.

The Government sought, in the days of the Age of Consent measure agitation, to create a party. They got hold of some weak and interested men to give the measure some sort of support. The law was thus passed, and it stands now as a standing folly of the Government of Lord Lansdowne. When the Indigo Commission was appointed, the ryots flocked to the members to relate their grievances. Seeing this, a few ryots were sent by the planters to tell the members that they were very happy under planter rule. But there was an Indian member on the Commission, and a few questions put by him disclosed the fact that they had been tutored to say what they had said. In the same manner, it is quite possible His Excellency the Viceroy may find a few men in East Bengal, where his Lordship intends going, to declare that the partition project had made them happy. But a few questions from his Lordship will elicit the fact whether they believed what they had said, or had been tutored. His Lordship's object is to ascertain the truth, and as he is an intelligent man he will know it, and any attempt to deceive him will meet with sure disaster.

Do our readers know the recipe for the famous Risley Pills? Here they are. Take off eleven millions of Bengalees and five millions of Assamese. Add to them a million and quarter of the aborigines. Mix them well together. Put them into a pestle and mortar, reduce them all into fine powder, and make your pill. Swallow it with a mighty effort. Do not make your face wry because it is better in taste but be thankful for the mercy. The great difficulty lies in the swallowing, for the pill is rather too big for the purpose and may cause suffocation. Avoid suffocation, however, by all means. If suffocation follows the act, do not mind it; for you go to heaven direct. But if you can once swallow it, well, you get all that you desire, a healthy body, a cultured mind, a beautiful wife, and enormous wealth. Of course malicious people say that the inventor is only a quack, but where is the great inventor who has not his enemies?

The letter of the Calcutta correspondent of the "Pioneer," reproduced elsewhere, gives a tolerably fair idea of the situation in regard to the dismemberment question. He raises a point which is always raised by the officials when they have to neutralize the effect of public agitation in this country, and which has been raised on the present occasion also.

When educated middle classes protest against a Government measure which, in their opinion, is obnoxious, they are put down for professional agitators and their voice is ignored. When Zemindars and educated middle classes combine and carry on an agitation, its value is sought, to be minimised by the assertion that the masses are silent. But, if the masses also join the movement and speak out, then they are put down for mere tools either in the hands of the Zemindars or the middle classes! This is exactly the position of many officials in regard to the present agitation. We trust, however, that the responsible rulers will take a more sensible and intelligent view of the convulsion which the dismemberment question has caused. It does not stand to reason that an entire nation, from the highest to the lowest, should be so powerfully moved unless they apprehend some real mischief, from the proposed partition. The Zemindars, as a rule, keep themselves aloof from the so-called professional agitators. The Zemindars, again, thanks to the Tenancy Act and several other rent laws, have now very little influence over their ryots. The combination of these three parties—Zemindars, middle classes and the masses—is therefore now-a-days not a very easy matter. Nay, it is impossible unless a common danger stares all of them in the face. In the dismemberment measure all the three parties see a common danger and thus they have combined. The movement is not the work of the political agitators, or the Zemindars, but is the result of the fear which the measure carries with it, namely, that the Bengalee nation is threatened with disruption, inasmuch as eleven millions of Bengalees are going to be taken away and placed under a separate Government. It is quite true, as the correspondent of the "Pioneer" says, that nearly the same resolutions are being passed at many of the protest meetings, but that is very natural. For, not many arguments can be urged against a

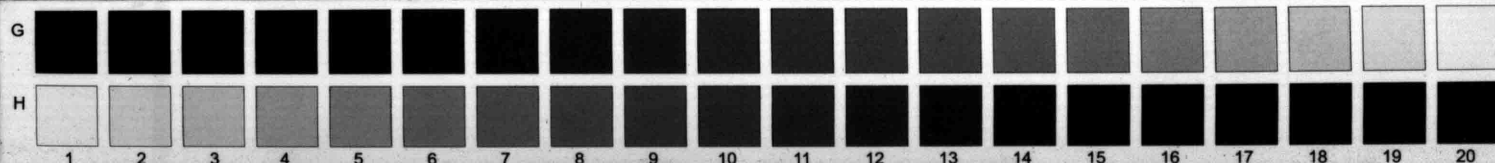
single measure; and when hundreds of meetings have to enter protests against, they have no help but use this limited number of arguments and shape their resolutions accordingly. If the Government have yet any doubt as regards the genuineness of the present movement, then the people are utterly helpless; for they cannot do more than what they have done to prove it conclusively.

The proposed public meeting to be held in Calcutta on the 12th proximo in connection with the partition matter has been postponed. We entirely approve of this wise step; for, when His Excellency the Viceroy is going to Dacca and Mymensingh to see things for himself and ascertain the opinions of the leading men of those places, and demonstration in this connection in Calcutta would have been premature and might have embarrassed the Government. The very fact that the Viceroy is gathering information, goes to show that he has yet kept his mind open with regard to this burning question of the day and has not come to any decision as yet.

As if India is not already bent double by the weight of her military expenditure, there are yet proposals forthcoming of throwing further burdens upon her. No less an authority than General Sir Edwin Collett, recently Military Member of the Viceroy's Council, in a long letter to the "Times," urges the extension of railways in Southern Persia and Afghanistan apparently at the expense of the Indian people. He talks of India, not as the abode of famines and plague but as a land of milk and honey. He describes how the Indian field army could be led at a short notice, in any direction, and that "the example of the despatch of the force to China is sufficient evidence of what can be done to help Imperial interests in the Far East." He, however, forgot to state how copiously had India to be led in order to bring the army to this state of efficiency. And his present proposal is to "increase our military power in India—by methods well known to experts,—and our ability to ship and transport large bodies of troops, so that India may be able to furnish even greater help to Imperial interests in the Far East or in any other direction." But is not India already pumped dry? If further money is squeezed out of the Indian people for military purposes, the result will be more famines of far greater gigantic character than those already witnessed in the country, and which means that the stretch arising out of millions of bareheaded men may make the country uninhabitable. Be it said to the credit of Lord Curzon that he strongly opposed the proposal of increased pay of the British soldier in March 1902, as well as the proposal of stationing a large British army in South Africa at India's cost. It is quite true, his protests against the first proposal were not heard by the Indian Secretary of State, but His Excellency did his very best to save India from this heavy annual charge. In his communication to Lord George Hamilton in this connection, Lord Curzon did not mince matters but said that "British soldiers are already sufficiently well paid in this country;" that "from the Indian standpoint we know of no grounds for increasing their remuneration;" and that the proposal of heavy additional expenditure "must react upon the general financial position and affect our desire to alleviate the burdens of the Indian people." As every body knows this strong protest of the Viceroy was ignored, and a permanent burden of £786,000 per annum was fastened upon India.

There is another proposal in the same direction. It is even more preposterous than the other. The present Ministry is very anxious to secure the good will of Canada, and India must pay for it! This may sound strange, but here it is. Canadian soldiers are not so happy in their own country as Tom Atkins is supposed to be in India. The former have no exciting work in Canada; there are no frontier tribes there to hunt; there are no Attilas and other warlike races to give them a healthy exercise. So they have to lead a very cheerless life and suffer from ennui. Hence it is proposed to bring a number of these Canadian soldiers to India at India's cost and maintain them here at the cost of the same party. Such was the statement made by Sir Frederick Borden, Canadian Minister of Militia, and it has been published in some Canadian papers. This is what Sir Frederick says: "A suggestion to that effect—(the proposal to send a Canadian regiment to India)—was made to me by Mr. Arnold Foster, the Secretary of State for War in England, when I called on him. Mr. Foster thought military service in Canada was rather dull and uninteresting, and, if the suggestion were thought well of, Canada might like to have the privilege of doing something of the kind. Of course the regiment would be sent at the expense of India, which bears the cost of maintaining the British Regulars stationed there. Such a move would give an opportunity to ambitious young Canadians who desire to see service abroad. It would enable some of our young officers and men who are fond of soldiering to get experience, and there is no better country in the world than India for that." Is this not nice? Can impudence go further? We owe the increased pay of the British soldier to the late Secretary of State for War who is now the Secretary of State for India, and which has resulted in saddling India with an annual burden of one crore and eighteen lakhs of Rupees; and his successor, the new English War Lord, is prepared to go even further by serving Canadian interests at the cost of helpless India. We are relieved to learn, however, that though the War Office of England is ready to sacrifice the interests of India to please Canada, Sir W. Laurier and his Cabinet have rejected the proposal to establish a Canadian regiment in India.

Our attitude with regard to the alleged corruption in the Income Tax Department of Calcutta should be distinctly understood. We do not say that there is corruption in the Department or that any particular official or officials connected with it have abused their trust; neither can we say that it is all right in the Department when a considerable number of people, some of them holding high position in society, are prepared to prove allegations of a serious character if they are granted immunity from criminal prosecution, for stating that they had to give bribes under





compulsion. The rumour is that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to dispose of the matter without having all the papers before him. We can hardly credit the information; for, Sir Andrew Fraser is not likely to decide this important question, which has grown into a big scandal, in this off-hand manner. Considering the importance of the subject we think the best course for the Government is to appoint an open and independent commission and thus to sift the matter to its very bottom. In this way, a fair hearing will also be given to both parties—the officials concerned as well as their accusers. While on this subject, we are surprised to hear that an attempt is being made in certain quarters to burk the whole enquiry in the way it was done successfully three years ago, namely, by attributing every one of the numerous petitions of complaint made since March last to "personal intrigue" of certain individual or individuals. On enquiry we learn, however, that it is the Marwari Association which has started this movement under the auspices of no less a person than Rajah Sewbux Bogla and some other highly respectable gentlemen. One of the latter, we are told, is Babu Tara Chand Jallan who, as banian-broker of Messrs. Kerr Taruk and Co., as president of the Marwari Free School, as Secretary for several years of the Pinjrapole Institution and as Vice-Chairman of the Marwari Association naturally commands a great influence in his community. Would it be believed that his position has been grossly misrepresented to the higher authorities by interested parties, and in this way discredit has been sought to be cast upon the whole movement? We have not the slightest doubt that His Honour is too experienced to be imposed upon by representations of interested parties.

The Government or their officers, whether they openly acknowledge or not, are aware of the fact that in the metropolis of the Empire the people are not happy. The chief object of Municipal Institutions is to contribute to the happiness of the citizens. Pure water and pure air are necessities to every nation on earth. They are God's gifts, bestowed with unequalled lavishness upon the human race. Water, especially, is life to the people of a tropical climate. By habit, by custom, by religion, by the climate of the country, the Oriental cannot live without a lavish supply of water. Is it not, therefore, sheer cruelty to deprive the people of the free use of water and thus inflict upon them untold miseries? The Water Works Department, which in the days of Dickens, was called the "blessed department," has now become a terrible engine of oppression. Under the regime of a new law, which is almost draconian in its character, they are denying the people the free use of water. The water supply has of late been diminished to such an extent that ordinarily, not a drop of water is forthcoming during midday. To add to our miseries, meters are being placed in different houses, and extra bills are made out quarterly for excess consumption of water. They say the law allows four thousand gallons for every person, at a rate paid of no more, and so they can charge for excess consumption! Now, can anything be more hard and oppressive than this? Where there is real wastage, by all means put it down with a high hand but do not judge our actual use by European standard and make us unhappy and dissatisfied. This is not all. Not content with exercising their authority with unrelenting hand, the department is pushing their vigor beyond the law. They are putting stop-cocks outside the houses. The Section under which a stop-cock is to be fixed outside a house is 258 of the Act. It is clearly laid down in that Section that the Chairman may require, by written notice, the owner of a house to fix a stop-cock outside, and the expense to be paid out of the Municipal Fund. The department, regardless of the provisions of law, has employed an army of petty contractors, who cut the house pipe and fix the stop-cock in the absence of the owner. The Municipality has no power to cut another man's pipe without his permission, and this is done generally when the owner is gone to his office or business. Every house has a stop-cock, but in a large number of cases the stop-cocks are inside the house. If the Municipality wants the inside stop-cock can be shifted outside, for all that they can demand under Section 258, is the fixing of a stop-cock to the owner outside his house accessible to them. Why then put two stop-cocks and retard the flow of water? Again, if a stop-cock is to be fixed, why should the Municipality patronize a particular firm and forcibly fix their pattern. Glenfield's stop-cock, which is such a favourite with certain Municipal officers, is not a full bore cock. It is so made that water cannot run full bore through it. Its valve is heavy. Many people object to it. Why present a monopoly to a particular firm? Let the stop-cock be made of gun metal and strong. The law does not allow a Municipal officer to stretch his authority to patronize a firm of his own choice. This is not only illegal but bad on principle. The unpopularity of the stop-cock has been enhanced by an arbitrary and illegal order by the Assistant Engineer. He has given order to reduce the size of the stop-cock. Where the bore of the service pipe is one inch, his general order is to put half-inch stop-cock. Under what Section of the Act, he can pass such an order, we fail to understand. From beginning to end, his action is illegal, and to emphasize how far he can push on the illegality, with impunity he has passed this cruel order. We would remind Mr. Greer that not a little of the illegality complained of about his administration is due to the high-handedness of his subordinates, who push their vigor beyond law. In the present case, it is no technical illegality, but a deliberate one, which has been productive of considerable hardship to the people. We anxiously await Mr. Greer's order on the subject.

The announcement will no doubt be received with universal satisfaction that Babu Saroda Charan Mitra received yesterday a letter from the Home Secretary to the Government of India, intimating his appointment as a Judge of the High Court in the place of Mr. Justice Bannerjee, subject to confirmation by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor. Lord Curzon, Sir Andrew Fraser and Sir Francis Maclean have laid the country under deep obligation by conferring the post on Babu Saroda Charan, who has already made his mark in his capacity as an officiating Judge.

The resignation of the illustrious Justice Gurudas Bannerjee is to be followed by a great disaster—that was the rumour. The impression prevailed, that his place would not be filled up, and in this way the Indians would be cleverly and silently deprived of a great boon they enjoyed. Of course, there was no solid basis for this rumour. It was possibly founded upon some such reasoning as this, namely,—here is an excellent opportunity for the Government to deprive the Indians of a boon; the Government is always seeking to the place of Gurudas Babu will never be filled up, at least by an Indian. The second premise of the above argument is unsound. Facts show that the rumour was malicious. We thank the Government again for having appointed a worthy and tried man like Babu Saroda Charan Mitra in the place of Justice Bannerjee.

This reminds us of the complaint made by his Lordship the Chief Justice at the St. Andrew's Dinner. He said that the number of Judges was insufficient to do all the work that the High Court has to do, and that he had therefore recommended the appointment of two more Judges. This declaration of the Chief Justice is before the world. How could the Government have reduced, instead of adding to, the number of Judges existing now after such a declaration from such a party? Of one thing, however, we are absolutely certain. The authorities are going to lessen the value of some work done at present by the High Court, for the sake of economy. It is to be done by making one Judge do what is being done now by two Judges. Thus it has been proposed to make one Judge hear special appeals, and not two as is done now. Now, since there can be no doubt that two heads are better than one, is it not a retrograde step, not to say of the great injustice that such an arrangement will do to the people of this country who pay so well to maintain these courts of justice,—to give them in the place of a superior material an inferior one, for no fault of their own?

Let us examine the reasons which have led the authorities to punish the innocent people of this country in this way. Special appeals are those which have passed the hands of two judicial officers, the subordinate and the appellate courts. Thus, a case is decided by the Sub-Judge and the appeal is heard by the District Judge. Such appeals are called special appeals, and the authorities argue that since in such cases, two Judges had already given their thought, it is not necessary for the High Court again to appoint two Judges to hear the appeals. Now, this argument has a great fallacy for its basis. It is quite true that two Judges examine such cases, but they do not always agree. Thus, take a case decided by a Sub-Judge. The appeal is heard by the District Judge, who is, generally speaking, a less experienced officer than the Sub-Judge, upon whose work he sits in judgment. The District Judge either reverses the order of the Sub-Judge, or confirms it. If he confirms it, then of course there will be no great harm done if it is heard by a single Judge. But what if the appellate court goes against the original one? Here then we see two courts differing, nay, it would not be correct to explain the situation in that way. When the two courts differ, the finding of the Sub-Judge about the facts has to go to the wall and that of the District Judge is accepted. The High Court has now to see which of the two courts had decided the case correctly. And that being the situation, it is absolutely necessary that two Judges should hear the case, at least such cases in which two Judges have differed.

The following appears in the "Daily Paper" of Mr. Stead:—  
"The following delightful bit of baboo English, written by a Bengali clerk, appears in an Indian paper:—  
"Honourable Sir,—Kindly excuse this poor boy's servant from attending on your honour's office, this day as I am suffering from the well-known disease commonly called ache of the anterior economy, and I shall ever pray—your's ever painful, Ra Chandur, P.S.—Oh, death, where is thy sting?"  
There are some mistakes in the above which we, being in Bengal and Bengalis, are in a position to correct. The letter did not appear in any Indian paper or any paper in India. Ra Chandur is not a Bengali, for no Bengali has any such name, nor any other man. And, as for the letter, it was not written by a clerk nor a Bengali clerk, nor is it a letter but the production of a fool, who is foolish enough to think that he is a wit.

Our New York correspondent writes under date the 30th December:—

"I have been under the weather for the passed ten days, thanks to the vicissitudes of our climate, and my own dress imprudences, to have not been able to give the attention to my work as I should wish. I had intended writing you some little time ago on this Tibetan business, for I become more convinced as time passes that there is a good deal more under it all than appears on the surface. The secrecy enjoined by the authorities, and the facts that have come to light at intervals, show that there is some secret work on hand. That the financial ring of which Sir Herbert Cassell, who went up to Darjeeling last summer, is one, who have their finger in it, does not admit of any doubt. The thing is to find out what that is. I am no lover of Russia or Russian methods, and having been much in Russia have had opportunity of studying and feeling what it was to be under her despotism, and I say that knowing what I do, it seems to me that the conquered subject of the Tsar is sometimes better off than one living in a country governed under so-called constitutional principles. Under the first, I would know where I was, under the other you have one day an angel and another day a tyrant, who in their turn are the creatures of your financiers, and commercial rings.

"The whole of the venom let loose on Russia, is due to the fact that she won't allow a gang like the Johannesburg Jews to exploit her gold mines, her railways, etc. for their private profit, but keeps them for her own profit, and it is Russia's support of China that has prevented every mine and other resources of value, falling into the clutches of the foul crew. They have got their grip on England itself now, and if she does not cast it off in time, they will ruin her. It will be a fortunate thing for humanity if they do."

the world will breathe more freely. I mean of course the gang must be overthrown before England can be free.

"As to the possibility of a Russo-Jap war, that of course always exists, but time will do away with the causes if they are not artificially promoted by Jew organs like the "London Times," "Telegraph" and that even worse paper the "Daily Mail." I have just received a statement from China in which the writer says that the "Times" correspondent there acknowledges holding views privately in opposition to those he sent to his paper! That's a nice. I only hope the time may not be far off when such papers will be treated as criminal institutions.

"You will think this a bit of screed, but it is time a few men stood up, and withstood the degradation of the Press, and journalism in the interest of infamous men and policies. Your paper gives me much valuable information. You have a hard battle to fight. But keep courage."

Our correspondent will find that two of the financiers whom he thinks so great enemies of England are dead. The "Pioneer" has the following telegraphic messages:—

It is reported that Mr. Freeman Cohen, who was in ill-health, committed suicide with a razor.

Mr. Whitaker Wright has been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. After sentence had been passed, Mr. Whitaker Wright left the court by a private exit. A cry was heard, when he was found in an adjoining room in a state of collapse, and died a few minutes afterwards. The affair has created an immense sensation. Mr. Whitaker Wright collapsed after receiving sentence, and his dying is ascribed to failure of the heart. Mr. Whitaker Wright died of heart disease.

Mr. Whitaker Wright was intensely agitated and apparently surprised at his sentence, loudly protesting his innocence. While conversing with his solicitor in the ante-room he stumbled and fell unconscious and recovered, death taking place in twenty-five minutes. It is attributed to the excitement of the trial.

## Scraps.

The Amir of Kabul is reported as sending two trusted Sardars to Mecca with gold to the value of £2,000 with a view to the construction of a serai at Mecca and another at Medina for the benefit of Afghan pilgrims.

Mr. Hooper, of the India Museum, has written to the local Press, stating that "Mr. Wellcome, of the firm of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome and Co., London, have asked him to assist by contributing to an exhibition of rare and curious objects relating to medicine, chemistry, pharmacy and the allied sciences.

The latest news from the Tibetan Mission is, it is understood, that all was well with Colonel Younghusband, and that the Tibetans were sitting in their camp six miles away from Tuna. As to the presence of Russians in Tibet, trustworthy news from Lhasa gives an absolute contradiction to the report that any body of them are there, or have ever been there.

The Bengal Government, we learn, have asked the Indian Tea Association for their views on the proposed territorial changes in Bengal as affecting the tea industry in Assam. The Association are consulting its branches in Assam and the Surma Valley before replying. We hope they will weigh the pros and cons of the matter well ere they report their views to the authorities.

The big trade-mark case now being heard at the Calcutta High Court before Mr. Justice Amer Ali is likely to last for some time. In this case, the plaintiffs are Messrs. F. Reddaway and Co. Ltd. and the defendants are Messrs. Schroder, Smith and Co. and the point at issue is the use by the latter of camel-hair in connection with beking, generally known as bebing manufactured by the plaintiffs.

Reuter telegraphs that seven years' penal servitude was passed upon Mr. Whitaker Wright, he had a fit to which he succumbed. As we said the other day the person system as at present obtained is a blot upon civilization and already the people are coming to realize the fact. It is to be hoped that some good result would come out of this tragic incident in the way of remodelling the prison system in a more humane principle.

The Library of the University of Turin, which has been wholly or in part destroyed by fire has been known during recent years as the National Library. It possessed more than 200,000 volumes and about 3,000 manuscripts. There are several other important libraries in the city, but none so large or valuable as the great collection which has suffered so deplorable a fate. An additional cause for regret is that the University to which the Library is attached is, after Naples, the most frequented in Italy. Surely, the loss is irreparable.

Babu Roma Nath Ghose of Pathuriaghata who had an apoplectic stroke with paralysis of left side of body, is his friends will be glad to hear, making hopeful progress towards recovery, although he is by no means yet absolutely free from all danger. He is under the skilful treatment of Dr. Harris and is also being constantly watched and treated by Dr. B. Banerjee, Dr. Durgadas Gupta, Dr. Ashu Tosi Ghose (Electrotherapist), Dr. Kedar Nath Dutta of Shyam Bazar and Dr. Ramesh Chandra Ray of Amherst Street. They are constantly in attendance upon him and Calcutta greatly watches the result of their skilful treatment of the valuable life of Babu Roma Nath Ghose.

The "Times" has the following:—"In distant inaccessible Tibet, a peaceful Mission may at any moment have to defend itself by arms against some outbreak of prejudice or fanaticism." Referring to this the "Statesman" says that it is not at all difficult to make out a fairly reasonable case on behalf of the Tibet Mission; but, as the "Pioneer" puts it, "with all respect for the Imperial idea, this seems to be pressing it a little too hard." The British people after all have their share of that particular 'prejudice or fanaticism' that takes the form of love of country; and, on the other hand, even the "Times" might almost have been expected to admit, in the semi-obscure of an annual retrospect, that some other object than a disinterested ambition to do good to the Tibetans may conceivably have had a little to do with the despatch of the Mission on the road to Lhasa.

The Prince of Arcot has been appointed a member of the Madras Legislative Council in the room of the Hon. Nawab Syed Mahomed, appointed to the Viceroy's Legislative Council.

We understand that the Punjab Government will move up to Simla this summer. The question of the proposed transfer of the summer Headquarters of the Punjab Government from Simla to Dalhousie is still before the India Office for disposal.

The following communiqué issued by the Government will be read with some relief:—"A report has been circulated by irresponsible persons to the effect that the Tibet mission has been told to retire, or it will be opposed by a Russian force, and that further large reinforcements are being sent to support the mission. The Government have no reason to believe that there is the slightest truth in these reports which are believed to be a fabrication. No reinforcements are being sent, nor have any been asked for."

Referring to the Government scheme of technical scholarships, the "Indian Textile Journal" says that the industries would benefit more if competent instructors were imported to teach the workmen instead of sending a few selected men to Europe or America. The writer says that India needs a school for training technical instructors. The Journal concludes:—"One has only to see the Indian artisan taking measurements or sharpening his tools to know where instruction ought to begin, and when it comes to methods of work, we are sure that Japan could give more useful aid to India than any other country in the world, as the two countries have already so much in common."

As the war cloud is on the horizon and may any day burst into a terrific storm, it is opportune that a return showing the comparative cost of the sea power of the nations is published. England stands first with an expenditure of over thirty-five millions, the United States with 16 millions and Russia and Germany with each over 10 millions come next on the list. Japan's expenditure is nearly three millions and Italy's five millions. Great Britain pays at the rate of £3 per ton for the protection of her merchant marine, while Russia's expenditure is at the rate of £16 per ton. Though Great Britain's expenditure on the navy is nearly two and a half times greater than that of any other first class power it is smaller in proportion if regarded in the light of insurance on commerce. Considering the great trade of the United States it is surprising that the tonnage of her mercantile marine fall below Japan's though her naval expenditure six times that of the latter.

This is how an innocent Indian has just escaped from being rigorously imprisoned for 3 years, which means at least social death; if not actual death, to a gentleman. Babu Ashutosh Singh was a cashier in the Panchgachia Colliery under the management of Mr. Bennett. Some time ago, Babu Ashutosh was charged with having embezzled some Rs. 2159. Ultimately he was committed to the Sessions at Burdwan, and the case came to be tried by Mr. Roe, the Sessions Judge. Two of the Jurors found the accused not guilty and another did not express any definite opinion. But Mr. Roe had no doubt about the guilt of Babu Ashutosh. So disregarding their verdict, he convicted the accused and sentenced him as stated above. An appeal was preferred to the High Court with the result that the Hon'ble Judges set aside the conviction and ordered a re-trial and transferred the case to the Hooghly Sessions, where the accused was defended by Babu Bisnupada Chatterjee. The Jury after a protracted hearing returned a verdict of not guilty and the popular Sessions Judge Kumar Gopendra Krishna Dev, agreeing with their verdict, acquitted the accused. The case of Babu Ashutosh is only another instance to show that Mr. Roe is not fit to try cases between Europeans and Indians. He played the same 'role' in the present case as he did in the Rajshaye and Sangrampur cases.

There are in all sixty municipalities in Madras, thirty-three composing the southern group and the rest twenty-seven the northern group. On the 31st March 1903 the councils had a total strength of 938 members. Of this total, 65 were "ex-officio" councillors, 426 were nominated by Government and 447 were elected by the tax-payers and inhabitants. There was a decrease of one in the number of "ex-officio" councillors, an increase of eleven and twenty-three, respectively, in the numbers of nominated and elected members. Including the elected members 213 were officials and 725 non-officials, against 194 and 711 respectively in 1901-1902. There were 160 Europeans and Eurasians and 778 Indians while in the previous year 155 were of the former class and 750 of the latter. There are also municipal councils such as those of Adoni, Cuddapah, Srirangam, Chidambaram and Ellore which consisted entirely of Indian members. In the towns of Nandyal and Kodaikanal the system of appointing councillors by election has not yet been introduced. The elective system was actually in force only in 56 towns. During the year 207 seats were filled by election. Of these, 115 were contested, and it is, indeed, satisfactory that nearly 61 per cent. of the registered number of voters attended the poll. Of the 60 chairmen of the 60 municipalities, 40 were non-officials against 42 in the previous year. The average sanctioned strength of the several municipal councils was 17, but the average actual strength was 16 against 15 in the previous year. The total number of meetings held by the councils was 1,538, or 122 less than in the previous year, while the number adjourned for want of a "quorum" was 152 against 175.

If we are to credit the "Hindu" of Madras Major Fearnside, Superintendent of the Vellore Jail, has got his promotion. It would indeed be an interesting study to know the circumstances under which he has got his lift. The Hon'ble Mr. P. Modaliar heard some very serious complaints against the Major. He made enquiries and was satisfied about their correctness. He then embodied these allegations against the Major in some questions and put them at a meeting of the Madras Council. The result was that the following charges were admitted as true:—(1) that about six months ago, Major Fearnside, in violation of the distinct provision in the Jail Manual in that respect disallowed food brought from outside the Jail for the imprisoned civil debtors by their relations and friends. Besides, he compelled the debtors to cook their own meals in the Jail premises. (2) That notwithstanding the order of the Inspector-General of Prisons passed subsequent to the grievance contained in the

above charge having been taken to his notice, by official and non-official visitors and the imprisoned debtors, and which was to the effect that the Superintendent's procedure was quite irregular, Major Fearnside in a second fit of disobedience disallowed outside food to a Mahomedan debtor imprisoned at the instance of the South Indian Export Company. (3) That not satisfied with having so far brought the orders of the Inspector-General into contempt, Major Fearnside flew in the face of authority by perpetrating the injustice wholesale to all the imprisoned debtors in the Jail, to the careful exclusion of the Europeans and Eurasians imprisoned therein. (4) That as a further step in this course of hardship to the debtors he put those of the debtors who pleaded ignorance of skill in cooking on penal diet and ragi congee. (5) That to complete the misery of the poor inmates of the Madras Civil Jail he curtailed the visiting hours allowed to them, in defiance of the Standing Orders. Every body now feared a terrible punishment was in store for Major Fearnside, and some were so moved at its prospect that sympathy was publicly expressed for him. And by way of punishment, the removal of the Major to Madras was then decided upon. And what does this transfer mean? It means, says the "Hindu," putting him "to a bigger and responsible charge and virtually giving him a promotion." Nor was this all. The Government promised to take further consideration of the conduct of the Major. Perhaps further good luck is in store for him!

## THE HOMNABAD LAND REGISTRATION SUIT.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Gomila, Jan. 27.

In the Homnabad land registration suit in which Nawab Zaddi Buddonnessa Chowdhurani Saheba is the plaintiff and Khan Bahadur Ali Nawab and Shekarid Ali Chowdhuri are the objectors, Mr. Nirmal Chandra Sen, Bar-at-Law, moved the Collector and had the case transferred to the Collector's file. Its hearing commenced yesterday, and Mr. Sen ably opened the case and examined the witnesses. It was then adjourned to the 17th proximo.

## THE KALACHERRA DACOITY CASE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

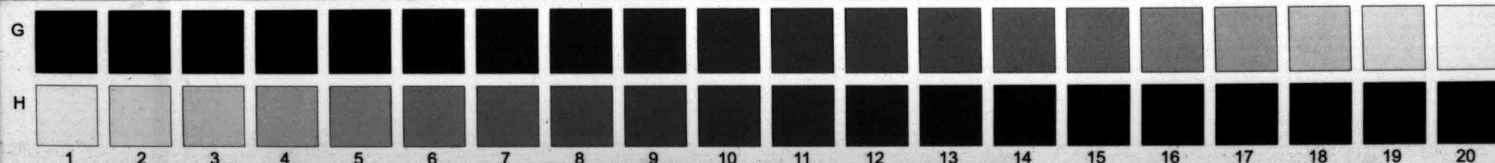
Silchar, Jan. 26.

The Kalacherra dacoity case was taken up yesterday by the Sessions Judge, Mr. Needbould, assisted by two assessors. Babu Hari Charan Das, B.L., Government Pleader and Mr. K. Chanda, M.A.B.L., who had been retained by the Government conducted the prosecution. The Kabules, 23 in number, were at first undefended. But when they intimated the Court that they had no pleader to defend them, for they could not get one to undertake the defence, the kind-hearted Sessions Judge took pity upon them and asked some pleaders present in court to defend the accused. He said he should be very glad if some one among them would do it and that he would furnish them with the necessary copies of depositions of witnesses and all free of cost. Babus Radha Nath De, B.L. and Radha Raman Dutt thereupon undertook the defence on those terms, assisted by Babu Braja Nath Shome. The case was then proceeded with.

Babu Radha Nath on behalf of the accused took a preliminary objection to the effect that the commitment order was bad inasmuch as the consulting Magistrate, Mr. Cammidee, the S.D.O. of Hikalanchi, lately transferred from Tezpur, was appointed to the charge of Sub-division from the 13th January last as appeared from the Notification in the last Assam Gazette whereas the aforesaid order was dated the 11th January preceding. As this defect was not easy to remedy, Mr. Chanda suggested that an urgent telegram should be sent to the committing Magistrate on the point if the English office of the D.C.'s could not help them in the meanwhile. The Judge was also of opinion that the objection should be finally decided. While the required information was being sought for in the D.C.'s office, the examination of Dr. Alexander of Kalacherra, who examined the wounded men, was proceeded with. This witness deposed to the wounds received by Goloko Mohon Shah and 2 others. He had examined them after the dacoity at Kalacherra. He was briefly cross-examined by the defence pleaders. Then the approver Bajid Khan was put on the dock and his examination-in-chief occupied the rest of the day. The objection as to the initial defect already alluded to has not yet been decided.

Now as to the accused. They are 23 in number and kept in hajat in the local jail. Very stalwart specimens of humanity they are. Some of them notably different from the ordinary run of trading Kabulis to be seen in the interior now almost in every town. All are in fetters and are marched to and from the jail under Police guard, about 20 strong, along the streets which are crowded with sight-seers attracted by curiosity of seeing the Kabuli dacoits stalking on with continuous jingling sound. It is indeed terrible thing to see these unkempt, shaggy, high-turbaned and boggy-clothed gigantic figures, loaded with chains, holding their heads erect with non-chalant, dare-devil looks as if hurling defiance at the worst terrors of law, and smirking and grinning at the curious on-lookers now and then, still keeping on their slow move backwards and forwards. To the ignorant and uninquiring their progress looks more like a triumphal march than anything else. In the Court room, a special enclosure has been erected with bamboos to accommodate them, guarded at some paces off by a number of Gurkha Sepoys with fixed bayonets. Even here, where their fate is as it were trembling in the balance, it is a marvel to see the unconcern and apparent apathy with which they contemplate the proceedings of the court. They have full latitude to sit or stand, lounge or lie down within the circumscribed sphere and are remarkably free from the chandestine pokes and shovings of the ordinary police men's batons generally falling to the lot of Indian accused.

Writes a Rangoon correspondent under date Jan. 28:—Rice contracts made with Japan for shipment during the first quarter of this year amount to about 150,000 tons. Some 32,000 tons have already been shipped direct to Japan.





## TIBET MISSION.

## THE POSSIBILITIES OF OPPOSITION.

Chumbi, Jan. 27.

The Lhasa Depon, in an interview with Colonel Youngblood, after asking him again to return to Yatsung, said there would be serious trouble if he did not, or if he attempted to advance. The reinforcements, he said, had arrived at Guru, and the infantry and cavalry were marching from Lhasa and Shigatse. The attitude of the Tibetans is more threatening, and it is thought not unlikely that Tuna Camp may be attacked when sufficient reinforcements are collected at Guru. Colonel Hogge, Commanding the escort, is strongly entrenched. General Macdonald is ready to move a flying column at a moment's notice. The Mission with Colonel Hogge is calmly awaiting proper representatives from Lhasa.

## TELEGRAPH LINE TO PHARI.

Chumbi, Jan. 28.

Snow fell yesterday at nearly all stations above Gnatong. The weather is still threatening. The field telegraph has now been extended to Phari in spite of the enormous difficulties of transport. The line has been carried over precipices worse than those encountered in Tirah or Chitral. The laying and working of the line in the Arctic cold reflects the highest credit on the officers and signalling staff.

## AN ATTACK EXPECTED.

Chumbi, Jan. 28.

The Depon who interviewed Colonel Youngblood is the senior of five Tibetan Generals. The Lamas attitude is said to have been most insolent and provocative. They are apparently confident in their superior numbers at Phari. The rumour is that reinforcements are reaching Guru from all quarters. The Tibetans' camp is eight miles north of Tuna on the direct road to Gyantse. The belief is general that the Mission will be attacked when it leaves Tuna. The Tibetans are said to be short of supplies and cannot remain camped indefinitely. Meanwhile General Macdonald is hurrying up supplies to Phari. The Pioneers are working strenuously on the road up the rocky gorge north of the Lingmangthong plain which is the worst bit yet encountered. The gorge resembled the Khyber, but is much narrower. The rocks are so hard that instruments are blunted. They are even difficult to blast, but the road has been so much improved that ekkas have been pushed up by hand for use on the plateau above. It is extraordinary that the Tibetans did not make their stand here as a few hundred could hold the gorge against an army.

## CENTRAL INDIA.

## THE ALIRAJPUR STATE.

Kuski, Jan. 27.

For 35 years the Alirajpur State has remained under the administration of the British Government, and, consequently, great delight was felt by all classes of the people when it was announced early in January that the Government had been pleased to grant ruling powers in his State to the Rana Pratap Singh, the present Chief. His investiture took place on Monday, and the ceremony was performed by Captain Barnes, Political Agent in Bhopawar, who acted on behalf of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. The Durbar, which was held in a tent and shamiyas erected within the Palace enclosure, was attended by the neighbouring Thakurs of Mathwar and Kathiawar, all the Sirdars and leading officials of the State and the principal Patels, and Tavis of the villages. Captain Barnes, in announcing to the Rana the orders of Government granting him powers in his State, congratulated him on being able to retain as his Dewan so experienced and able an officer as Rai Bahadur Wamanrao Bapuji, who latterly as superintendent and formerly in other appointments, had so long and so worthily served the State. On the strength of his long acquaintance and friendship with the young Chief, he wished him every success and prosperity and reminded him that if he were in difficulty or trouble he could always look to the Agency for advice and assistance.

The Chief replied, expressing his thanks for the honour which had been conferred upon him. His first duty as the Chief of Alirajpur, he said, was to tender publicly his homage and allegiance to his Sovereign, King Edward VII., and to the Government of India, under whose benign rule and protection the State of Alirajpur had enjoyed innumerable blessings and to whom it was under deep obligations. He acknowledged with the deepest and most sincere feelings of gratitude the keen interest, sympathy and watchful care that Captain Barnes had shown him in the past. He was thankful for the training he had received at the hands of Mr. Gunion, Principal of the Dally College at Indore, and to the various Political Agents, who had so carefully supervised the administration of the State since 1869.

On the conclusion of the Chief's speech, Messrs. and Mrs. W. J. T. Simon, Principal of the Dally College at Indore, and the various Political Agents, who had so carefully supervised the administration of the State since 1869, were present and presented to the Chief. The Durbar was closed. In the afternoon the Victoria Memorial Library was opened by the Political Agent. In the evening the town was beautifully illuminated, and a large Bhil dance and a fireworks display terminated the proceedings.

Mr. A. C. Crampton, Executive Engineer, 1st grade, Burma, is appointed to officiate as Superintendent Engineer, during the absence of Mr. J. T. Simon on leave. Mr. W. E. F. Handcock, Executive Engineer, 1st grade, Punjab, is permitted to retire from the service of Government, with effect from the 5th December, 1903. Mr. O. F. Sykes, Deputy Consulting Engineer, Burma, is appointed Engineer-in-Chief of the Coonoor-Dottamund Railway.

## High Court.—Jan. 28

## CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Mr. Justices Ghose and Stephens.)

## SANCTION FOR PROSECUTION SET ASIDE.

The following case hailing from Bhagalpur came on before their Lordships a few days ago and their Lordships were pleased to issue a rule. The rule came on for hearing to-day. On the 9th September 1903, Purna Jha complained in the Court of the Magistrate of Bhagalpur, against Babu Janaki Prasad, a pleader practising at Bhagalpur and several others, alleging that the latter had committed criminal trespass and had assaulted the complainant. The case was tried by Mr. Mirza, Deputy Magistrate, who acquitted Babu Janaki Prasad and others finding the case to be frivolous and vexatious and awarded compensation to the said accused persons under section 250 Cr. P. Code to the extent of Rs. 50. Against the order awarding compensation an appeal was preferred to the District Magistrate, but it was dismissed. Thereafter Mr. Mirza was transferred from the station and Babu Janaki Prasad and another put in a petition before the District Magistrate of Bhagalpur for sanction to prosecute Purna Jha under section 211 I.P.C. That petition was refused by the Magistrate. Babu Janaki Prasad and another then moved the Sessions Judge of Bhagalpur against the order of the District Magistrate refusing to grant sanction. The Sessions Judge allowed the application and under section 438 Cr. P. C. made a reference to the Hon'ble High Court with a recommendation that the said order of the District Magistrate be set aside and that sanction to prosecute Purna Jha be granted. Their Lordships Mr. Justice Rampini and Mr. Justice Handley set aside the order of the District Magistrate and remanded the case to the Court of the District Magistrate. The case thereupon came on for hearing before the District Magistrate on remand, who, however, refused to grant sanction to prosecute Purna Jha. Against this order of the District Magistrate the opposite party moved the Sessions Judge again, who granted sanction to prosecute Purna Jha and another under section 211 I.P.C. Aggrieved by the said order Purna Jha and another moved the Hon'ble High Court.

Mr. P. L. Roy with Babu Dasrathi Sanyal appeared in support of the rule issued by their Lordships and Mr. K. N. Sen Gupta showed cause.

Their Lordships after hearing both sides delivered the following judgment. This rule was granted with a view to revoke an order made by the Sessions Judge of Bhagalpur, according sanction for the prosecution of the petitioners under section 211 I.P.C. It was given on two grounds, first, that the Sessions Judge had no jurisdiction to accord such sanction and secondly, that upon the merits the said sanction could not have been given. The question raised as to the jurisdiction is not altogether free from doubt; but it is unnecessary to express any opinion upon that question. But upon a consideration of the order of the District Magistrate, on the grounds upon which such orders were made, dated 11th August last, after a full enquiry into the circumstances under which the complaint of Purna Jha was made, as also the judgment of the Sessions Judge in the same matter, we have come to the conclusion that this is not a case where sanction for prosecution for the institution of a false complaint ought to have been given. Upon this ground we make this rule absolute.

## AN UNSEAWORTHY VESSEL.

## A WRECK ON THE BHOWNAGGAR COAST.

On the 21st instant, on the Original Side of the Bombay High Court, the Honourable Mr. Justice Budrodm Tyebji disposed of the suit in which Mahomed Ali Mulla Abdul Ali claimed to recover Rs. 4,000, with interest and costs, from the La Gardienne Marine Insurance Company of Paris (carrying on business in Bombay through their agent Mr. Palloji Dadaboy Ayrton) on a policy of insurance. The Hon'ble Mr. Scott, Mr. Jardine, and Mr. D. N. Bahadurji, instructed by Messrs. Captain and Vaidya, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Inverarity and Mr. Lowndes, instructed by Messrs. Little and Co., appeared for the defendants.

The plaintiff, in his plaint, stated that he was the owner of 578 bundles of planks and 700 pieces of scantlings on board a native craft named Luxmiprasad. In May, 1903, the defendants, in consideration of Rs. 40, executed to him a policy of insurance whereby they promised to pay to the plaintiff Rs. 4,000 in case of loss happening to the said goods. About the 8th of May the craft, on proceeding to the voyage, grounded near the village of Dante, in the Bhownagar State, and the goods were totally lost by the perils of the sea, of which due notice was given to the defendant Plaintiff had, from time to time, demanded the amount of the policy for which the goods had been insured, but the defendants now claimed to repudiate their liability to the plaintiff. The defendants had denied the correctness of the material statements contained in the plaint and put the plaintiff to proof thereof. They stated that the country craft Luxmiprasad was not seaworthy at the time of the voyage, and they were not liable to plaintiff for the amount claimed by him. They asked that the suit should be dismissed with costs.

Mr. Justice Tyebji, in delivering judgment, said he had come to the conclusion that the vessel must be held to have been in an unseaworthy state at the time she left Bombay, owing to the rotten condition of her timbers. Regarding the weather, the tinal had alleged that it had been stormy, but on the other hand, the defendants had alleged that only a fresh breeze had been blowing. His Lordship said it was unnecessary for him to go into those questions as he had found that the vessel was unseaworthy. The wreck of the craft could not be attributed to stormy weather, but must be imputed to her inherent weakness. The tinal was not prepared to meet rough weather, for when the rudder broke he had not a spare one on board or the implements with which to construct a new rudder out of the timbers on board. His Lordship dismissed the suit with costs, but directed the defendants to refund to the plaintiff the Rs. 40 paid as premium on the policy.

## Calcutta and Mofussil.

Bank of Bengal.—The Directors of the Bank of Bengal at their last meeting made no change in the rate of interest which remains at 7 per cent.

Plague in Bihar.—Plague is still on the increase in the old town of Gaya. The new town is yet safe, but rats are reported to be dying here and there. Plague has also broken out at Dinapur.

Victoria Memorial.—Active preparations are being made to lay the foundations of the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta site near the Cathedral. It is being fenced in and materials are being collected.

Viceroy's Tour Party.—The Viceroy will be accompanied on his tour to Chittagong and Eastern Bengal by Mr. Miller, Private Secretary, Major Bird, I. M. S., and three Aides-de-Camp.

Viceroy's Tour.—His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General will leave Calcutta by steamer for a tour in Eastern Bengal on the 14th February 1904. His Excellency will visit Chittagong, Narainigunge, Dacca, Mymensingh and Hardinge Chir, and return to Calcutta on or about Saturday, the 27th February.

Courts-Martial.—At a District Court-Martial held at Fort Chingrikhal, on the 14th January 1904, the prisoner, No. 3745 Gunner M. Corcoran, 75th Company, R. G. A., was arraigned upon the following charges:—Committing a civil offence, that is to say, house-breaking; committing a civil offence, that is to say, receiving stolen goods knowing them to be stolen; drunkenness on duty. Finding—Not guilty of the 1st and 2nd charges; guilty of the 3rd charge. Sentence—To be imprisoned with hard labour for fourteen (14) days.

A Jain Meeting.—On Sunday evening last a grand meeting of the Jains of Calcutta was held at No. 3 Roop Chand Roy's Lane to seriously consider the scandalous accusations made against the Jains and their religion in a book called "The Jain Mat Samiksha" edited by an Arya Samajee Sambhoo Dutt Surma and published by Lalla Ram Krishna Agurwala at Lahore. The book when read excited immense indignation and deeply provoked the feelings of all present. After passing three resolutions and appointing an Executive Committee to take prompt and necessary steps in the matter, the meeting dispersed.

Plague Mortality in India.—The figures for the plague mortality for the week ended 23rd January show in general an appreciable decrease from what they stood last week or the corresponding week of the last year. Thus there is a considerable decline both in and outside the Bombay Presidency, as well as in some of the districts of Bengal, notably Calcutta and Patna. The following places, however, show a rise in the mortality returns: Bombay City, Madras Presidency, United Provinces, Mysore State Central India, Dharwar District, Bijapur, Khandesh, Sholapur, Saran and Shahabad.

Dispute in the Oudh Family.—As already reported after the death of Prince Karat-ulain Mirza, grandson of the ex-king of Oudh, a suit has been instituted by Nawab Akbar Begum, daughter of the Monjholi Hozoor of Moorsabad and her son Prince Sultan Hussain Mirza for a declaration that they are the only legitimate heirs of the said Prince Karat-ulain in the First Sub-Judge's court of Alipore. In the meantime the Government of India have recognised Nawab Akbar Begum as the sole widow and Prince Sultan Hussain Mirza as the only son of the said Prince and have granted them pensions whereas they have not recognised one Benazir Begum as his widow or his children. Mirza Jemal Kader Asad Ali or Jegarara Begum as heirs of the said prince and have not granted any pensions.

An Irrate Padi.—A correspondent sends the following to the "Times of Assam":—"Every year during the Uttarayan Sankranti day a Baistar Puj is celebrated over the chowrastra near the Zemindar Cutchery of Mechpara. This year it was also being held as usual when the local padre Mr. Stephen was passing by the road. No sooner did he come to the spot where the puj was being performed, he gave vent to his feelings by denouncing the affair as the worship of the heathens, that the performance of such pujas is sinful and that they had no right to obstruct public road, especially when he pays Rs. 13 every year to the Municipality. Saying the above, the padre jumped over the place in spite of the priests remonstrances and went on his way. A great sensation prevails among the Hindu community here as a great sacrilege has been done to them."

Police Officers Punished.—It will be remembered that Babus Redhoy Nath Neogy and Loti Mohan Bhattacharjee, Sub-Inspector of Police, had been reported against for having on the 1st instant assaulted Private Culbert of the Lancashire Regiment, Fort William, at the Tallyhunge Horse and Dog Show and suspended from service each for a month. As a sequel to that, explanation of their conduct was called for by Mr. Stevenson Moore, the District Magistrate of Alipore from the Sub-Inspectors; but the Magistrate not satisfied with the explanation they submitted, had degraded Babu Redhoy Nath from the 4th to the 5th grade of Sub-Inspectorship, stopped his promotion for a year and fined him Rs. 50 being the pay he would receive during the period of his suspension; and reduced Babu Loti Mohan to the status of a 3rd grade Head Constable without any prospect of promotions for two years and fined him Rs. 30 being his pay during the month of suspension.

An Assanool Sensation.—A correspondent writes from Assanool:—"During the Sreepanchami holidays the railway employees, both Indian and Anglo-Indian, were witnessing a 'nauch' at Dhanbad Station by two dancing girls from Burdwan. Now when the 'nauch' was about to come to an end one of the Anglo-Indians caught hold of the nauch girls and forcibly took them to his bungalow. The people of the 'nauch' party strongly objected but in vain. One Trolakya Nath of the girls' party resisted the aggressors and was, it is said, severely beaten. He thereupon telegraphed to the District Engineer here, who, I understand, has sent it to his subaltern for enquiry and report. One of the girls, it is said, was ill at the time and so released after examination. The other one was detained at the Bungalow whole night. We hope the District Engineer will make a sifting enquiry into the matter and satisfy thereby the ends of justice."

Public Works Department.—Mr. C. B. Lines, Assistant Engineer, 3rd grade, passed the Professional Examination.

Luff Point Scheme.—The Report of the Luff Point Commission is still under the consideration of the Bengal Government, and there will be some time yet before the Report will be published. It is, however, understood that the Commission has reported against the scheme.

Assam Gazette.—Mr. P. E. Cammiade, I.C.S., Assistant Commissioner, Tezpur, is transferred to Haliakandi and appointed to the charge of that subdivision. Mr. E. C. S. Baker, District Superintendent of Police, Lakhimpur, having passed an examination in the Mir language is presented with the authorised reward of Rs. 1,000. Mr. J. T. Rivett-Carnac, District Superintendent of Police, Assam, is granted extraordinary leave on medical certificate without pay to 17th January 1904.

Legislative.—Quite a number of Select Committees are now sitting to deal with several Bills now pending before the Council. The Select Committee on the Official Secrets Bill has practically completed their work but there will be another meeting for the drawing up of the report. The Select Committee on the Universities Bill is dragging a slow course, but two or three more sittings will be required for the final touch of the measure. The Select Committee on the Local Authorities Loan Bill has already been dealt with; the Bill and the report will be ready for presentation at the next Meeting of the Council.

A Magistrate's Order Set Aside.—At the High Court Criminal Bench yesterday before Justices Ghose and Stephens, the rule obtained on behalf of Mr. A. Casperz, Receiver to the Estate of the late Prossono Kumar Tagore, calling upon the District Magistrate of Monghyr to show cause why an order passed by the Magistrate declaring that the gateway leading to the Pirpahar house be kept open, should not be set aside came on for hearing. Mr. Jackson appeared in support of the rule. No one appeared to show cause. Their Lordships in delivering judgment held that the Magistrate was not competent to make such an order. The rule was accordingly made absolute.

An Atrocious Murder at Matla.—An atrocious murder was committed at Matla on the night of Wednesday last under strange circumstances. One Sree Nath Mythee of the locality gave information to the local Thanna to the effect that the Naib of his zemindar had, on the previous night, murdered the informant's servant, one Kartick Das. The Sub-Inspector of Police thereupon hastened to the spot and held an investigation into the matter. But the result of his enquiry brought forth the startling disclosure that it was Sree Nath himself who with the help of another having killed his own servant by cutting through the skull with a sharp axe, went to the Thanna to give the aforesaid information. It also transpired that there was a long standing quarrel between the Naib and the informant, and the latter to feed his grudge against the former committed the act and misinformed the Police. Sree Nath and another were placed on their trial on Friday before Mr. Platel, Joint Magistrate of Alipore, in the course of which the second accused who had a hand in the horrible tragedy, bared his bosom before the court and made full confession of his own guilt while implicating Sree Nath as the principal offender. The trial is proceeding.

Proceedings against a European.—Mr. Gordon Sims, who described himself as a European British subject, and manager of an extensive zemindary in the District of Monghyr, had been ordered by the Deputy Magistrate of the place to be bound down under Section 107, C. P. Code, to keep the peace for the period of one year, and to execute a bond for Rs. 500 with one surety for Rs. 500, or in default, to undergo simple imprisonment for the period of one month. It appeared that on the 8th May last a petition, purported to have been signed by one Shib Charan Thakur, was sent to Mr. E. P. Dixon, the District Magistrate of Monghyr, in which the said Shib Charan stated that Mr. Sims, the manager of Mysammatt Rukminia Koer, was proceeding with the collection of certain mahals, and in consequence of this several persons were opposing him and gathering a large number of men for purposes of a riot. The Magistrate ordered a police enquiry, and upon this report proceedings were instituted against Mr. Sims and others. The trial was made over to the file of the Deputy Magistrate, but Mr. Sims filed a petition objecting to the jurisdiction of the said Deputy Magistrate to try him, inasmuch as he was a European British subject. But the Deputy Magistrate overruled this objection, and after a regular trial passed the order complained of. Against this order, Mr. Sims moved the High Court, but their Lordships declined to interfere in the matter.

Official Secrets.—An illustration.—If further proof was needed of the preposterous nature of the system which is being introduced into the Government offices of converting matter of the most ordinary kind into official secrets, it would be afforded by what has just happened in connection with the opinions recorded by the Calcutta High Court in 1896 and by Sir Henry Cotton in 1897 against the even then proposed transfer of certain Eastern Bengal Districts to Assam. The gist of these opinions has long been known; yet when Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya asked, at the last meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council, for their publication, the Government of India refused on the ground that these opinions "were written for their (i.e., the Government's) information only, and not with a view to publication. It might have been supposed, under these circumstances, that the documents were of such a kind that they could be kept confidential. So far from this being the case, a local contemporary has now published them in "extenso." The matter they contain can do no one any harm. But for the fact that it tells against the favour which happens, at the moment, to find favour in official circles, it would in all probability have been made public as a matter of course. The people of Bengal have been asked to consider whether or not it is desirable to transfer certain Bengal districts to Assam. The view submitted officially to the Government of India upon this subject, seven years ago, by such authorities as the Calcutta High Court and the Chief Commissioner of Assam, is certainly pertinent to the inquiry. Yet, under the Official Secrets Bill, as introduced a few weeks ago, publication would have been penal. "Statesman."

## TELEGRAMS.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, Jan. 26.

Mr. Whitaker Wright died of heart disease. Whitaker Wright was intensely agitated and apparently surprised at his sentence, loudly protesting his innocence. While conversing with his solicitor in the ante-room he stumbled and fell unconscious and never recovered, death taking place in twenty-five minutes. It is attributed to the excitement of the trial.

In the course of his summing up Judge Bigham warned the jury that a verdict of guilty would not imply a similar verdict against Lord Loch and Lord Dufferin as suggested by Wright's counsel, their conduct having been quite consistent with honest mistakes.

Reuter wires from Peking that China has invited the support of the Powers to attempt to mediate between Russia and Japan.

It is declared in a well informed quarter at St. Petersburg that negotiations have reached an impasse, and that the efforts of diplomacy are largely nullified by the mutual distrust of Russia and Japan, each insisting on guarantees; Russia demanding that the south coast of Korea shall not be fortified while Japan refuses to accept a mere general assurance regarding the Chinese sovereignty over Manchuria or the Japanese paramountcy in Korea.

London, Jan. 27.

Reuter wires from Port Arthur that the Russians are preparing to concentrate 8,000 troops on the Yalu River alleging Japan's hostile attitude as a reason.

Mr. Lyttelton, the Colonial Secretary replying to Mr. Seddon's protest against Chinese labour, said there was much that was abnormal in the economic conditions of the Transvaal which called for abnormal measures. The Imperial Government could not refuse to accede to the urgent wishes of one part of the Empire in deference to the wishes of another part.

Mr. Lyttelton has informed a correspondent that Chinese labour was fully discussed in Parliament before the Transvaal Ordinance was sanctioned.

The post mortem shows that Whitaker Wright died from prussic acid.

It is officially computed that sixteen settlers have been murdered in Damaraland and seventy are missing.

The famous library at the Turin University has been burned. Pricelless codices and palimpsests were destroyed. The fire is due to the fusing of the electric wires.

A Bulgarian band of 1,000 men crossed the frontier on Monday near Palanka and exchanged shots with the Turkish outposts and retired. The fourth army Corps at Erzerum is hastily mobilizing.

Mr. Worsley Taylor, member for Blackpool, has resigned owing to ill health.

None of the miners entombed at Harwick have been saved.

London, Jan. 28.

At the inquest held on Whitaker Wright to-day, the jury returned a verdict of suicide.

The Grand Duke Alexis Alexandrovitch to-day presided at a special council at St. Petersburg which was attended by Count Lamsdorff, the Ministers of War and Marine, the Chief of the Army Staff and others, and lasted an hour and a half. It is officially announced that the object of the Council was to find a means of peacefully settling the dispute with Japan, and it is expected that the Grand Duke Alexis will frame a report, which will be submitted to the Emperor to-morrow and a reply probably despatched on Saturday.

It is stated at Vancouver that the Japanese Government has requisitioned twenty vessels of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line.

It is recalled that Mr. Whitaker Wright while in America frequently told the newspaper reporters: "I will never be convicted. In any case, you may take it from me that I will never serve a day of any possible sentence."—"Pioneer."

Mr. Akers-Douglas, speaking at Swansea last night, said the Government would continue to do all it legitimately could to promote a pacific settlement, but if its hopes were disappointed it would fulfil to the letter treaty obligations to its allies.

At the Emperor William's Birthday Audience yesterday, the President of the Reichstag referred to the fact that despite his illness the Kaiser had met the Tsar only just before the recent operation. The Kaiser replied that in case anything serious had been the matter he wanted to leave his son pleasant and neighbourly relations.

A public meeting was held at Westminster last night, which was attended by two or three members of the House of Commons, Sir W. Wedderburn, Mr. Dadabhai Naorojee and a number of peace advocates and Indians. A Resolution was passed condemning the Tibet Expedition.

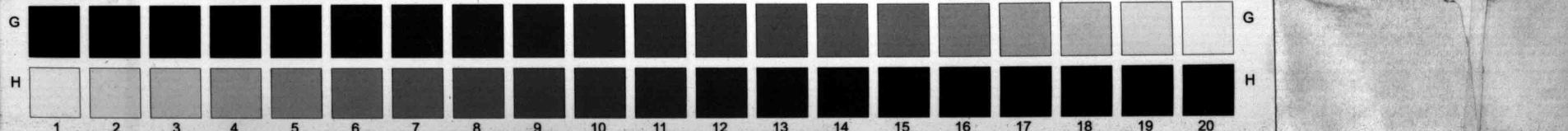
LONDON, JAN. 29.

The Duke of Marlborough, in the absence of Mr. Lyttelton replying to a deputation of the British Cotton Growers' Association which asked for land grants in West Africa, said that every possible assistance would be given to the Association, its objects being regarded as a matter of the greatest importance to the Nation and the Empire.

A the inquest held on Whitaker Wright the jury returned a verdict of suicide.

The Daily Graphic, despite last evening's St. Petersburg telegrams, says it is able to most positively affirm that Russia's reply to Japan was completed on Wednesday and approved by the Tsar. It is not yet despatched, but the substance has been communicated to M. Kurino, the Japanese Ambassador at St. Petersburg, who telegraphed it to his Government by whom it was conveyed to the friendly Powers yesterday. It is cautiously worded but absolutely refuses to reinstate the word China previously struck out in the clause of the draft treaty whereby Russia and Japan agreed to respect the integrity of China and Korea. It is anticipated that the official presentation of the reply will be followed by the withdrawal of M. Kurino from St. Petersburg and the notification that Japan has no other alternative but to take up arms in defence of her interests.

Two men, proceeding by foot from Karachi to join the camp at Jungshahi were crossing the bridge at Jungshahi, at 10-30 p. m., on Thursday night, and when half way across, a goods train caught them up. The men lay flat between the rails and so escaped, one with slight injuries to the right temple and the other had his left ear ripped up 1 1/2 inches. Both are at the Kotri Hospital doing well.





## MR. JUSTICE BANERJEE'S RETIREMENT.

## FAREWELL ADDRESS BY THE VAKILS.

An interesting ceremony took place at the High Court, yesterday evening. When Mr. Justice Gooroodas Banerjee who retires to-morrow was presented with an address by the members of the Vakils Association. At 6 o'clock all the Judges assembled in the Chief Justice's Court room which was crowded with members of the legal profession and the public at large. Mr. Justice Banerjee occupied the seat of honour in the centre being supported by the Chief Justice on his right and Mr. Justice Prasad on his left.

## THE ADDRESS.

Babu Ram Chandra Mitra Senior Government Pleader, said:—My Lord Chief Justice and My Lords Justices of this Court, my brother Vakils and I are very thankful to Your Lordships for the excellent arrangement that has been made at my request for our presenting this address to the Hon'ble Justice Gooroodas Banerjee. With Your Lordship's permission I will now read the address which has been unanimously voted for Mr. Justice Banerjee at the meeting of the Association.

He then read the address which ran as follows:—

To The Honourable Gooroodas Banerjee, M.A., D.L., one of the Judges of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

My Lord,—It is with feelings of the deepest sorrow that we, the Vakils of this Court, approach your Lordship to bid you farewell on the eve of your retirement from the Bench, which you have so conspicuously adorned for the last fifteen years. Your career as a Judge has been characterized throughout by profound learning, great ability, thorough conscientiousness, marked independence, untiring patience and uniform courtesy—qualities by which you have always inspired confidence in the public mind and commanded the respect and admiration of all branches of the profession. Your successful and brilliant career as a Judge is a source of pride to the members of the profession to which you belonged, and will always be an illustrious example to that body. In common with the public, we realise in your retirement a heavy loss to the country. While discharging your arduous duties as a Judge, you have not been sparing in your labours for the advancement of the country in educational and other matters. As the first Indian Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, you secured to the graduates of the University many valuable privileges and you have always worked for the welfare of our youths with singular wisdom and zeal. Your private life has throughout been a model to our countrymen, while your public career in all its phases has been worthy of the highest praise. And now in taking leave of you, we fervently hope and pray, that many years of health and strength may yet be vouchsafed to you to work with greater vigour in the various spheres of usefulness in which you have always moved. We have the honour to be, My Lord, your most obedient servants.

He then said that the Vakils had obtained necessary sanction of the Government of India for Mr. Justice Banerjee's receiving that address.

The address, which was printed on a parchment with a purple border and having a gold fringe, was enclosed in a handsome silver casket lined with gold and suitably inscribed and was presented to Mr. Justice Banerjee.

## THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL'S SPEECH.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. T. Woodroffe, said:—"Mr. Justice Banerjee, this afternoon I learnt that the Vakils Association was about to present this memorial and I and my fellow brothers at the Bar received an invitation to be present. That invitation we most gladly, yet with feelings of the deepest regret, accepted. Upon the tomb of one of the noblest of her sons, whom England has given to India, is to be found inscribed the epitaph 'He tried to do his duty.' No man can have a higher aim, and no man can honestly say more of himself than that. Happy indeed is he if he is able to say it for when the time of reckoning comes we are all conscious, how utterly they failed to discharge the duties imposed on us. But you, my Lord, have tried, and nobly tried and so far as the Bar can see have succeeded in discharging the duties which you took upon yourself. The address which has been read to us describes in no exaggerated language, your character and your ability as a Judge. I will only say so far as my experience goes which extends over the whole time of your Lordship's career as a Judge. Never have I heard a single suitor complain that full justice had not been done to him by Mr. Justice Gooroodas Banerjee. He felt that his case had been listened to with attention, all the arguments weighed and every effort made to understand what it was, and that if the case was decided against him it was rightly decided. You have also shown a character of independence. You have spoken when silence might have pointed out the line of least resistance. You have been throughout your career as a Pleader and a Judge, if I may be permitted to say, most eminently straightforward, honest and conscientious. My Lord I reckon for myself and I think I express the opinion of the Advocates of the Court that we have got to reckon you as one of the dearest friends whom we have made. I remember you, my Lord, when you first began here and we worked together during many years before your Lordship was called to the Bench, and therefore I do feel for myself and for those who share with me the great privilege of having known you, the extreme sorrow which we feel on your retirement. We now bid you farewell and trust that so many of us as remain here will still have opportunities of meeting you."

## MR. JUSTICE BANERJEE'S REPLY.

Mr. Justice Gooroodas Banerjee in reply said:—"Mr. Advocate-General and learned members of the Bar, Mr. Senior Government Pleader, and members of the Vakils Association, you have been pleased to say many good and kind words concerning me with much warmth of feeling and I trust you will excuse me if I imbibing the warmth of feeling about it I say anything which cool reason may not strictly approve. We merit praise the most when we wanted the least, and we are heartily undeserving of it if we actually seek for it. Now whilst there are many who may not stoop

so low as to seek for praise as an incentive for doing their duty, it is only a few who can aspire so high as to be able honestly to say that the inward satisfaction of having done their duty perfectly well places them above all praise. To the former, therefore, good words coming from those whose opinions they value after their work is done, always give gratification. Much as I have striven, much as I may wish, to be one of the fortunate few I feel that I am only one of the ordinary many with the common imperfections and infirmities of man and I must therefore gratefully acknowledge that the very kind words, which you have been pleased to say about me at a time when my work in this Court is over must be a source of great satisfaction to me. But I should ill deserve your kindness if I were to appropriate to myself the many good things you have said as being wholly my due. I am fully sensible of the fact that a good portion of it is attributed to that indulgence with which generous minds view the merits and demerits of others at parting moments. I must also freely own that even of the balance that may apparently stand to my credit for any good work done a large share, a very large share, belongs to you for the help you have always rendered me in doing that work. I must not here forget what the 'Gita' in a somewhat different connection reminds us of when it says 'Deh' by self-conceit we often consider ourselves the authors of work which is really done by the agencies of nature.' I say this not from any affectation of humility but from a conviction of its truth; for though intolerance of inopportune contradiction or impatience of unnecessary delay may sometimes make us look with disfavour upon forensic arguments, it is beyond question that the help which the Bar rendered to the Bench is invaluable. I do not say that the modes in which that help is rendered may not in some cases be susceptible of improvement, but taking things as they are it must be admitted that the value of the help you rendered to us can hardly be over estimated. You spend much of your time to save ours and if you take a one-sided view of things a searching one-sided view from each of the two opposite points of view affords the best guarantee that nothing worthy of consideration has been missed on either side. I have been up to this point addressing you, Mr. Advocate-General and you, Mr. Senior Government Pleader, jointly. Now I wish to say a few words to you Mr. Advocate-General and to the Calcutta High Court Bar, which you so worthily represent. Not having had the honour of belonging to that branch of the profession which you lead I had no reason to expect from you that indulgent consideration of my work which the other branch of the profession, of which I was a member, might show. I, therefore, value your kind words all the more. You have very feelingly alluded to those days when you and I personally had to work together. Let me assure you, Mr. Advocate-General, that looking backwards I recall to mind those hours, as some of the best, the pleasantest, the happiest hours of my life. Your kind words to my mind are also evidence of that friendly relation which has always existed between the two branches of the profession, in this Court and which should exist for the welfare of both. Working harmoniously together, following your best traditions in the past and keeping pace with the progress of time in the future may you all go on helping the efficient administration of Justice, which is one of the highest blessings that the country can enjoy under the British Rule."

Their Lordships then left and the gathering separated.

## THE PARTITION QUESTION.

The Calcutta correspondent of the 'Pioneer' writes to that paper under date 24th January:—

It would be a matter of some difficulty to say how deep or far reaching the feeling is against the proposal of the Government of India to form a new Province in order to relieve the pressure upon the Bengal Administration. That the opposition is strong among the more influential classes of native society is perfectly clear: the difficulty is to test the opinions of the people themselves in Eastern Bengal and the Chittagong Division. Reports of scores of meetings appear in the newspapers, but there is such a family likeness in all the resolutions passed that the Government may well doubt whether these expressions of popular opinion are spontaneous. The agitation is unquestionably being run in a business-like manner, and it must make itself felt outside Calcutta and the large towns. But it would be most interesting to know what the small zemindars and the ryots think of the scheme, if indeed, they have any thoughts on the matter. They form the great bulk of the population, and it is their interests that should be paramount after all.

I am putting this side of the question not with any intention of supporting the Government plan of reconstruction, the weak points in which have been indicated in your columns; but because in this case we have yet another instance of the great difficulty of getting at the true feeling of the people as a body when any reform is impending. The districts officials are doubtless attempting to discover how the current of sentiment is setting; but they cannot make special visits to the hundreds of villages under their charge and record the local verdict in each instance. They must, of necessity, generalise to a great extent in formulating any conclusions arrived at, and a liberal 'margin of error' must be allowed whatever results of their labour may be. The views of big men such as the Nawab of Dacca and the Raja of Mymensingh can be set readily enough; and it may be incidentally mentioned that both of these landed magnates, to use a western expression, do not favour the scheme. Their influence is very considerable, and their tenants are therefore likely to follow the lead given.

Here in Calcutta there is no doubt as to what the feeling is. The British India Association, a very powerful body, have taken the subject up, and a public meeting of protest is to be held on the 12th February. The names which appear on the Special Committee formed to ensure the success of this gathering are those of responsible gentlemen, such as the Maharaja of Darbhanga, Sir Jotendra Mohan Tagore, Raja Peary Mohan, etc., while the services of some of the best Congress ora-

tors have also been secured. There is thus a joining of the Conservative and Radical sections of the community, and we are likely to see the matter discussed from various standpoints. The answers given to the Viceroy's Legislative Council on Friday to a long string of questions, put to 'draw' the Government, will stimulate the Committee to action; for there was a distinct refusal on the part of the Home Member to furnish information and documents for which his opponents categorically asked. Some capital is certain to be made out of this; and the more so as it was stated that the highest judicial authorities were not to be consulted at present. It is impossible, however, to believe that the ordinary procedure—followed, it should be noted, on a previous occasion when the transfer of the Chittagong Division only was under consideration—will be departed from now. The Government must mean that at this stage of the proceedings the time is not ripe to take a judicial opinion. Later on they may ask the High Court for its views, just as the Lieutenant-Governor is requesting public associations to express theirs now.

This short review of the official position should serve to show that whatever scheme may emerge from the present controversy, the territorial changes to be eventually made will not be immediately carried out. The four Local Governments concerned have still to express their opinions, chief among which will be that recorded by Bengal itself. Then the matter will have to be dealt with again by the Government of India before a despatch can be sent to the India Office, and finally the Secretary of State in Council will have his say. Months will be consumed in this procedure, and as the Viceroy will leave Calcutta at the end of March, for a short tour before proceeding Home early in May, it is obvious that the final disposal of the question must hang over until next cold season. There is no urgency in the case, though it is never politic to leave controversial matters hanging for an indefinite period.

## The Market Report.

## GRAM.

Imports have fallen off greatly and the stock very small. Demand for local requirements being very fair the market is very firm and some transactions are reported having taken place, for local use, at the following rates, viz:—

|        |                     |
|--------|---------------------|
| Patna  | Rs. 2 5 0 to 2 8 0  |
| Sahore | Rs. 2 0 0 to 2 5 0  |
| Dessi  | Rs. 1 14 0 to 2 3 0 |

## PEAS.

There is no demand for export both on account of the quality having become very much inferior and the new crop being not very far off. Prices are almost nominal.

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| White Peas          | Rs. 2 5 0 to 2 10 0  |
| Green Peas          | Rs. 1 14 0 to 2 0 0  |
| Khesary             | Rs. 1 6 0 to 1 7 0   |
| Rahar Peas          | Rs. 2 8 0 to 2 10 0  |
| Lentils or Mashoori | Rs. 1 14 0 to 1 15 0 |
| Koolti              | Rs. 1 7 0 to 1 8 0   |

## MAIZE.

Except a few small lots of very much inferior and wevelled quality aggregating not more than 25 to 30 Tons at the highest there is no stock at all in the market. There are pretty good demands for really good quality Maize from Europe but no business has resulted for reasons stated above. There having been no demand in the beginning of the season for export here and the importers having lost largely on what they brought out in the beginning of the season, holders of stock in the Moffussil have disposed of their stock locally and now there is nothing available anywhere in the upcountry. The sellers are very firm and are asking Rs. 1-15-0 to 2-0-0 per Maund loose at which rates however they can only undertake to sale small quantities deliverable within 2 or 3 weeks. No business is reported.

## MYRABOLLAN.

During the week under notice a few small lots of average quality from Hazaribag and Midnapur were imported and were eagerly bought by a shipper at Rs. 1-5 to 1-6 per maund hoomka. On account of absence of stock there has been nothing doing for the garbled quality and the prices are nominally as follow at which the market closes firm. There is still some moisture in the ready lots—

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| No. 1 Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-2 per B. Md.     |
| No. 2 Rs. 1-4 to Rs. 1-8 per B. Md.   |
| No. 3 Rs. 0-12-0 to 0-13-0 per B. Md. |

## LINSEED.

Market, since the last report, has undergone very little change and the import has decreased very much. With the prospects of the new crop being favourable the market here is flat and small transactions are reported at Rs. 4 to 4-0-6 per maund for ready and Rs. 4-3 to Rs. 4-4 forward.

## RAPESEED.

The tendency of the market, owing to a limited demand, is downward and the import has fallen off greatly—only small lots coming mostly to the K. P. Dock to fill up previous orders. Market closes quiet at Rs. 3-10 to 3-11 per maund loose for Kazzia sorts and Yellow Bold grains at Rs. 4-2 to Rs. 4-4 Nominal.

Rye Rs. 3-9 to 3-10 per maund loose. Nominal.

## WHEAT.

Market continues nearly in the same state as before and there is very little to report. Tendency of the market, on account of the prospects being fair up to now though rains are wanted badly in some districts, is downward and the closing quotations are as follow:—

Cawnpore or Club No. 2 Rs. 2-15 (ready) and Rs. 3 (forward).

Fyzabad Rs. 2-14 (ready) and Rs. 2-15 (forward).

Gangajelly (hard red) Rs. 2-11 to 2-14.

Jamally (soft red) Rs. 2-9 to 2-11 (Nominal).

## POPPY SEED.

There is nothing doing in this article and the market closes quiet at Rs. 4-3 to Rs. 4-4 per maund (nominal). Import nearly nil and stock extremely limited.

## TIL SEED.

Imports are nominal and there are small transactions to report for export. Market closes quiet at Rs. 3-8 to 4 per Bazar Maund loose.

## RICE.

Imports are daily increasing and within the market is showing a decided sign of coming down, though some fair transactions for export to the West Indies in Ballam sorts and Raree and other inferior sorts for South African ports, are reported—the rates at which market closes duly are as follow, viz:—

## BOILED RICE.

BALLAM.—Aughrani Rs. 3-2-6 to Rs. 3-3 per Md. loose.

BALLAM.—Better sorts Rs. 3-5 to 3-7 per Md. loose.

GIRBI.—Rs. 2-13 to Rs. 2-14 per Md. loose.

KHAIRE.—Rs. 2-11 to Rs. 2-13 per Md. loose.

KAZIA.—(Backergunge) No. 1 Rs. 2-8 per B. maund Wt. loose.

KAZIA.—(Backergunge) No. 2 Rs. 2-7 per B. maund Wt. loose.

JABRA.—No. 1 Rs. 2-13 per B. maund Wt. loose.

JABRA.—No. 2 Rs. 2-12 per B. maund Wt. loose.

JABRA.—No. 3 Rs. 2-11 per B. maund Wt. loose.

PEGU.—Rs. 2-9 to Rs. 2-10 per B. maund Wt. loose.

SOLOI.—Rs. 2-10 to Rs. 2-11 per B. maund Wt. loose.

RAREE.—Market is quiet again. Fair import and smaller demand have made the market come down other rates are as under:—

CHATTI.—Rs. 3-4 to Rs. 3-8.

UNCHATTI.—Rs. 2-14 to Rs. 3-2.

NAGRA.—No. 1 Rs. 3-12.

Do. No. 2 Rs. 3-8 to 3-10.

Do. No. 3 Rs. 3-8.

SYLHET.—Rs. 2-15 to Rs. 3-4.

KAZIA.—(Orissa)

Cuttack Rs. 2-3 to Rs. 2-6.

Chanbally with 6 to 10 per cent. of paddy at Rs. 2-1 to 2-2.

MIDNAPUR.—Rs. 2-6 to 2-10

OMANDPUR.

Kazla No. 1 Rs. 2-7 to 2-8.

Do. No. 2 Rs. 2-5 to 2-6.

Jabra No. 1 Rs. 2-8 to 2-9.

Do. No. 2 Rs. 3-10 to 4.

WHITE OR UNBOILED RICE.

There is nothing of importance to record this week, though some transactions have already made in the Table sorts. Imports continue fair. The rates are nearly stationary—

Seeta No. 1 Rs. 4-7 to 4-14.

Do. No. 2 Rs. 4-7 to 4-10.

Clean Gross. No. 1 Rs. 4 to 4-4.

Do. do. No. 2 Rs. 3-10 to 4.

Old Hard.—Rs. 5-6 to Rs. 5-8 (Nominal).

## BROKEN RICE.

Since last week there have been several enquiries from the European ports for white sorts but owing to sellers remaining firm no transaction reported. Market closes firm at Rs. 2-5 to Rs. 2-10 for white sorts and Rs. 1-4 to Rs. 1-6 for brown quality.

## NUXVOMICA.

Imports are still not fully up to the mark and the fact of there being a fair demand for export the prices have been fully kept up. A few transactions are reported at Rs. 2-14 to Rs. 2-15 per Bazar maund loose.

## TAMARIND.

There being no demand from foreign ports for some time past and the new crop being closed at hand the sellers are very anxious to get rid of their accumulated stock at a considerable sacrifice. The prices are nominally as follow at which the market closes extremely dull.

5 per cent. of seeds Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 2-10 per Bazar Maund.

10 per cent. seeds Rs. 2-7 to Rs. 2-8 per Bazar Maund.

15 per cent. seeds Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-2 per Bazar Maund.

Stock about 8000 to 10000 Maunds mostly of inferior quality.

## DRY GINGER.

There being no demand for export and the quality having been wivevelled the market is very dull. The sellers are very anxious to sell their stock at considerable reduced rates without success and the prices are nominally Rs. 9-12 to Rs. 10 per Bazar Maund hoomka, and Rs. 10-4 to 10-8 Pucca bags.

## INDIA RUBBER.

A few lots of Sadya, Tipura, and Lachimpore qualities arrived in the market and were eagerly bought by the shippers at prices varying from Rs. 124 to Rs. 130 according to quality. There is a stock of about 24-25 bags only in the market at present and about 100 bags more are expected within a day or two.

## SALTPETRE.

With a good import the market is showing a decidedly downward tendency and the prices are a little easier;

Calcutta Washed.—5 per cent Rs. 6-10 to Rs. 6-11.

Ditto Refined.—5 per cent Rs. 7-1 to Rs. 7-2.

Cawnpore 5 per cent Rs. 6-11 to Rs. 6-12.

Furrackabad Rs. 6-12 to Rs. 7-2.

## CASTOR OIL.

The market continues dull and there is very little done in this article. The rates are nominally as follow:—

No. 1 Rs. 10-8 per maund f. o. b. Calcutta a packing charges at the rate of Rs. 5-1 per case of 2 Mds.

No. 2 Rs. 6-14 per maund f. o. b. Calcutta and packing charges at the rate of Rs. 5-1 per case of 2 Mds.

No. 3 Rs. 6-11 per maund f. o. b. Calcutta and packing charges at the rate of Rs. 5-1 per case of 2 Mds.

## MUSTARD OIL.

There being no demand for export and the local requirements also being very small the market is extremely dull and the prices are as follow at which only small local transactions are reported—

No. 1 10-2 per B. Md. loose.

No. 2 9-4 per do. do.

## LINSEED OIL.

Raw Linseed oil including packing and delivered from the seller's godown at Calcutta is quoted at Rs. 1-8-0 per Gallon.

## CASTOR CAKE.

Owing to a fair demand for shipment to Assam and Cachar Tea Gardens for purposes of manuring the market has gone up a little and the prices are as follows at which the market closes firm.

No. 1 Rs. 3-14-0 per bag of 2 Mds. f. o. b. Stock limited.

Average Rs. 3-12-0 do do do do

Stock limited.

## MUSTARD CAKE.

Market is very dull and there has been nothing doing for export since the last week. We may quote 0-14-0 to Rs. 1-2-6 per Maund loose, according to quality.

## SHELLAC.

The market is very much irregular and the enquiries and demands from London and Continental markets are mostly of speculative character. We quote however as follows, viz:—

Superior T. N. Rs. 104 to 105.

Usual T. N. Rs. 103 to 104.

Orange. Rs. 107 to 109.

## BUTTON LAC.

There is very limited demand for export but as the stock and imports are limited the market closes firm at the undermentioned rates.

No. 1 with 15 to 20 per cent Resin Rs. 105 to 107.

No. 2 with 15 to 20 per cent Resin Rs. 103 to 104.

No. 3 with 15 to 20 per cent. Resin Rs. 98 to 102.

Inferior sorts Rs. 85 to 90.

## STICK LAC.

Market is a little weaker in sympathy with the Shellac and Button Lac markets. The rates are as follows with small transactions.

Kishmi Rs. 65 to 66.

Rangin Rs. 52 to 53.

The above rates are for stuff free from dirt, dust and sticks.

Seed Lac Rs. 110 to 112.

## BORAX.

Market continues unchanged the rates are nominally Rs. 12-8-0 to Rs. 13-0-0 per Bazar Maund weight, loose.

## HEMP.

There is very little change to record though the London and Continental markets are dull. The sellers here are however sticking to their former rates which are nominally as follows, viz:—

Allahabad Rs. 3-0-0 to 3-4-0.

Benares Rs. 4-0-0 to 4-4-0.

Jubbulpore Rs. 8-4-0 to 8-8-0.

Bengal sorts Rs. 9-0-0 to 10-0-0.

Roygurrh Rs. 6-12-0 to 6-14-0.

Cuttack Rs. 3-0-0 to 4-4-0.

## JUTE.

Imports and deliveries are fair and the market closes steady at the following rates.

Serajunge Rs. 4-7-0 to 5-15-0.

Dacca Rs. 4-7-0 to 5-14-0.

Naraingunge Rs. 4-8-0 to 6-1-0.

Northern Bengal Rs. 4-3-0 to 5-14-0.

Dowrah Rs. 4-2-0 to 4-7-0.

BAILED JUTE.—Home market is steady at £13-7-6 and the local buyers at Rs. 31-8-0 per Bale.

## COTTON.

The report of the American and Egyptian crop being short, the market here is very high and the sellers are unwilling to give way. Speculators and dealers hold large stock which they intend holding on till they get their ideal rates. Prices are as follows, viz:—

Fully Good Rs. 23-8-0 to 24-0-0.



## THE CHEAPEST OPTICAL STORES.



Perfect "ebble" Spectacles in Gold, Silver, Gold filled Nickel and Steel, &c. at the cheapest rate. The Maker, Gold from Rs. 24 upwards, Silver Rs. 10; Solid Nickel 6-8 Gold filled 12-Steel 5. Glass Glasses, of all descriptions. A trial order solicited. H. Laha, Optician 8, Goe Bagan Street, Calcutt

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It permanently cures Nervous debility and Dyspepsia with their attendant evils, Loss of manly vigour and Seminal weakness due to youthful indiscretion, excesses of youth or old age. It restores Failing powers and the power of retention Physical Vigour and youthful energy. It prevents Early decay and arrests the decay of age.

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It is the only and best friend of the OLD

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Late physician, Rampur Sadar Hospital, No. 30 Cooolah Street, Calcutt

## CHARGES AGAINST A POLICE INSPECTOR.

Their Lordships the officiating Chief Justice of Madras and Mr. Justice Russell have delivered judgment in a criminal appeal preferred by R. Janna Rau Naidu, Inspector of Police in Fornamulla, Cuddapah District, against his conviction and sentence by the Sessions Judge of Cuddapah to five years' rigorous imprisonment for having wrongfully arrested, hand-cuffed, and confined seven persons, and having taken illegal gratification from five of them, offences under Sections 220 and 161 of the Indian Penal Code. The appeal was argued for two days by Mr. John Adam, assisted by Mr. K. S. Gopalatharan Aiyar, High Court Vakils, who contended that the accused was justified, if not bound, to arrest the persons, and that after the arrest the accused did release the men within 24 hours, taking surety-bonds from them. The learned counsel submitted that the allegations of the prosecution witnesses as to their having been hand-cuffed and otherwise harshly treated were untrue, and on the evidence no enmity or malice was shown and the evidence as to the fact of bribery was discrepant and given by persons who, according to their own statements, acted the part of go-between. Their Lordships, in accepting the finding of the Sessions Judge, observed that the proceedings of the Inspector were high-handed and irregular as shown by the fact that respectable persons who could have given security at the very time of arrest were unnecessarily marched four miles to the Police Station, hand-cuffed and kept in the lock-up for a number of hours during the time he carried on negotiations to get them bailed. There was no reason why all the prosecution witnesses

should have combined in a conspiracy to work against the accused. Their Lordships, however, reduced the sentence to three years' rigorous imprisonment.

## THE BIRTH OF "THE DAILY PAPER."

[The Daily Paper, Jan 6.]

## THE STORY OF YESTERDAY'S BOOM.

Over two hundred thousand papers pointed, and the office showed up with telegram from indignant and plaintive agents in all parts of the country asking why their papers were not let to hand. Such, in brief, is the record of yesterday.

A minute and a half to seven o'clock yesterday morning the first number of "The Daily Paper" was placed in my hands, and in a few moments the three Hoe presses were in full swing, reeling off papers to supply the demand manifested in the long lines of vans, newsboys, and cyclists who waited outside anxious for the first instalment of the latest corner in the journalistic world of London.

The earliest parcels to be sent off were those that were despatched to Birmingham. "The Daily Paper" has taken a depot opposite the railway station, where yesterday it found a warm welcome from those who have found a warm welcome to its coming. The seen anxiously expecting its coming. The long line of Pickford's vans, loaded up with papers, rattled off through the dim and misty streets to all parts—North, South, East, and West—hurry to the depots where our Messenger Girls were eagerly awaiting the arrival of the first parcel of newspapers.

What a drive it was! Our office had been simply loaded up with orders, which poured in by every mail on Saturday, necessitating the employment—sorely against my wishes—of a large staff on Sunday for the purpose of sorting them out and arranging them in districts, so that every subscriber might be sure of receiving his on Monday morning. But despite all efforts, it was impossible to cope with the flood of orders, and I must apologise to many a subscriber in various parts for failure to supply the first copy in time, in spite of everything having been done that mortal could do. Every order has to be entered and acknowledged, and the address duly allocated to the particular depot, and from thence to the particular messenger girl whose duty it is to deliver the paper to it.

When the project of "The Daily Paper" was propounded, and I declared that 200,000 of the first number would be wanted, even my most sanguine friends looked at me with amazement. But yesterday we did better than that, and would have done better still if our printing facilities had been able to cope

with the demand. A desperate effort was made in the morning to secure additional printing facilities. A set of plates was hurriedly carted off to a friendly newspaper office, and there was some hope that we should have been able to secure another 25,000 copies an hour by the aid of the extra machines.

Nearly all the depots in London were served before ten o'clock. There were two exceptions—one at Balham, the other at Wimbledon. The Balham parcels, by some inexplicable mischance, were left at the Stratham depot, and remained there till afternoon, to the no small indignation of the Balham subscribers, and to the dismay and chagrin of the girls who were kept waiting, not knowing what had happened to the papers they were expected to deliver. At Wimbledon much the same thing happened, but there the chagrin of the girl messengers was intensified by the fact that the cyclists were able to supply the boys who sold the paper in the streets, and laughed at and chaffed the girls who were waiting at the depot for the paper which did not arrive.

Such disappointments are, however, inevitable at the beginning of things, and I can only make apologies to my readers, throwing my all upon their merciful consideration. The sale in the streets was continuous throughout the day. About a quarter of a ton of paper was received at "The Echo" office counters from street sellers. It is as yet too early to know exactly how things have gone, but the street sale, about which information comes in earliest, was most gratifying. It exceeded by four times the estimate which had been made by the head of the department. The Strand at one time seemed almost white with "Daily Papers." This, it may be said, was a phenomenal result, due to the ingenious way in which the paper has been advertised, and to the curiosity excited by a paper of so novel a character. No doubt a certain allowance must be made for the fact that it was a first day's sale; but the orders from the depots for to-morrow show an increase upon those of yesterday, and the general opinion of all those who handled the paper is that it only needs to be known in order to secure a growing and steady circulation.

To all our friends who have assisted in bringing about this result, I return my hearty thanks, nor must I forget my indebtedness to all those who, in the composing or in the machining rooms, have laboured with such loyal zeal in order to give the new paper the best send-off possible. That the first number was full of shortcomings no one knows better than myself, but after all "The Daily Paper" is now a living fact, and every day that it lives will, I hope, show an improvement.

## SIR F. BARNES AT MOULMEIN.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma arrived at Moulmein on Monday morning. In reply to an address of welcome, presented to him by the Moulmein Municipality, His Honour hoped that the new dredger, recently acquired, would be a permanent benefit to the Port, and would increase the facilities for its trade. He complimented them on the progress made in the water-works scheme, which, it is expected, will be completed next autumn. He hoped the Municipality would prosecute with equal courage and determination the work of sanitation and conservation, and promised to carefully consider the question of maintaining certain Municipal roads from provincial revenues. Reference was also made to the projected completion of a road to the Siamese frontier, and to the commencement of the Pegu-Moulmein Railway, expressing a hope to see, before his tenure of office expired, a railway station at Martaban.

## SLIPPERS PROHIBITED.

A novel notice now adorns the Court House verandah wall of the Head Quarters Magistrate. The notice, which appears in type-writing, is to the effect that people with slipper will not be allowed inside the Court room and any transgressor violating the order will be prosecuted for contempt of Court. It is understood, however, that women with slippers are not liable to be prosecuted, though in the notice it does not appear so. In Burma such order sounds somewhat discordant. To sensitive ears the sound produced by slippers is no doubt jarring and to sensitive sight the uncouth appearance is repugnant, but more so to some officials, whose ears and brains are overworked in hearing and sifting the relevant and irrelevant arguments of the opposing advocates, and whose eyes are constantly taxed in pouring over huge masses official records, law and blue books, consuming the proverbial midnight oil. The sensitiveness, however, does not appear so acute when the softer sex is concerned and in Burma the sound of slippers in long procession of "weaker vessel" in wedding is more harmonious than the melody of the fictitious "music of the spheres" to even persons gifted with fine sense of hearing. No doubt then that the melody carries its effect everywhere. "Arakan News."

The weather at Quetta has been so maintainedly wet and cold during the past fortnight that for the first time in many years the parade service for troops in garrison was countermanded. On Sunday the temperature inside the barracks was forty degrees. The general health of the garrison however, is unusually favourable.

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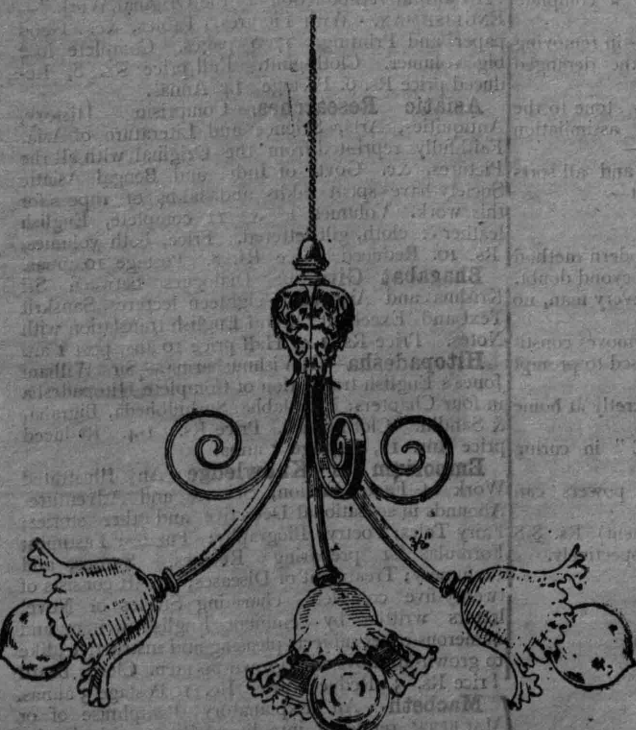
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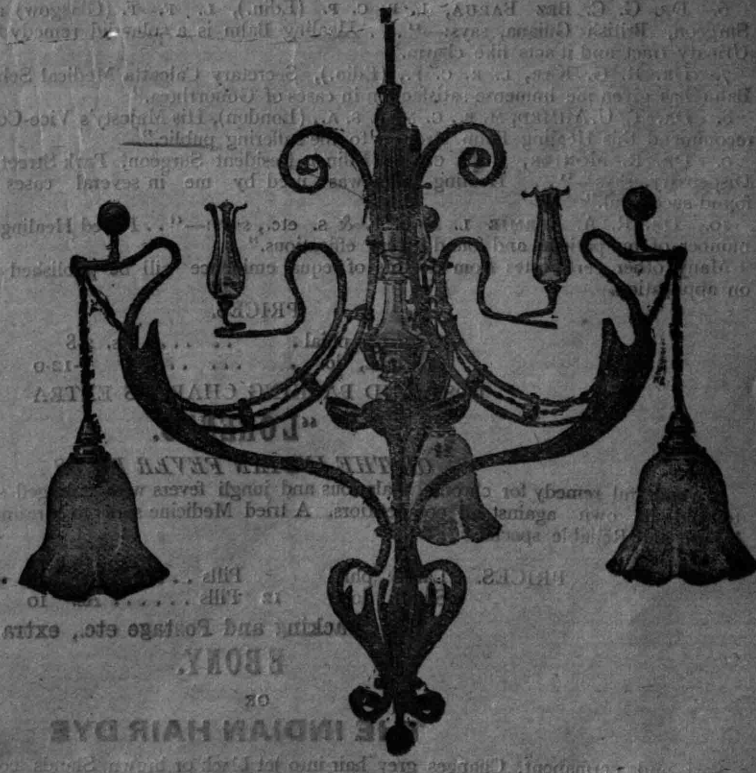
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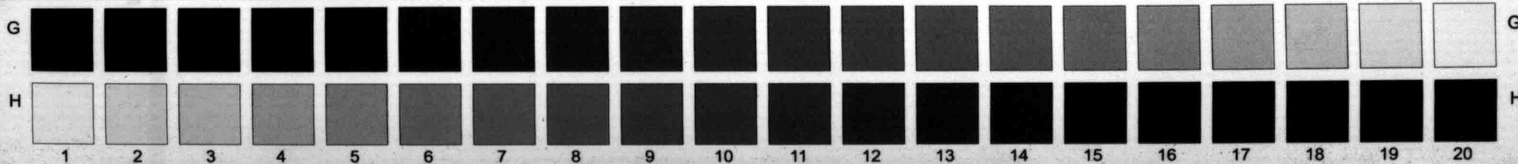


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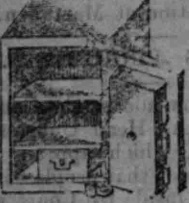
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DR. TARINI CHARAN DUTT, Graduate of the Medical College, Bengal (G. M. C. B.) and retired Assistant Surgeon, writes—"I have much pleasure in testifying to the efficacy of your 'Santan Rakshak' which is being used by many respectable persons in case of difficult labor and threatened abortion with satisfactory and unexpected results."

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DR. J. CHOWDHURY, B. A., L. M. S., Superintendent of Vaccination, Calcutta Corporation, writes:—"I have great pleasure in testifying to the efficacy of your 'Santan Rakshak'. The bottle which you gave me for trial was used with most satisfactory and astonishing results in several cases of prolonged labour amongst my friends. I freely recommend it to the public."

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9. DR. R. MONIER, M. B. C. M. (Edin.), Resident Surgeon, Park Street, Government Charitable Dispensary, says:—"... Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhoea and was found successful."

10. DR. R. A. FERMIE, L. R. C. P. & S. etc., says:—"... I used Healing Balm for Gonorrhoea in a number of my patients and found it very efficacious."

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IT relieves the patient promptly from the most distressing symptoms and rapidly restores the affected organs to their normal and natural healthy condition.

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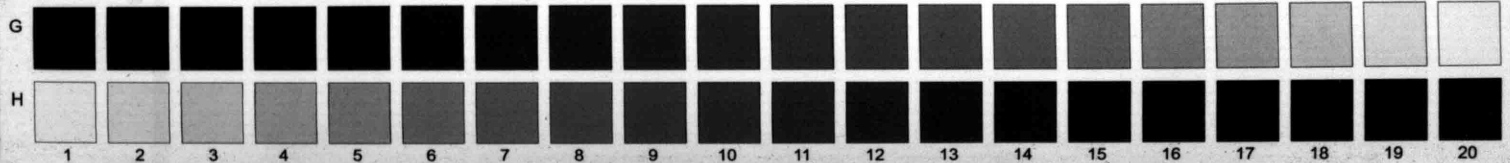
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## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

The following arrangements are sanctioned consequent on the deputation of Babu Sarat Chandra (Brahmachari, M.A., Assistant Head Master of the Patna Training School, to act as Head Master of that institution:—

(1) Babu Revati Nandan B.A., an Assistant Master in the Patna Training School, to act as Assistant Head Master of that institution, vice Babu Sarat Chandra Brahmachari.

(2) Babu Ram Prasad, B.A., a Sub-Inspector of Schools under the District Board of Patna, to act as an Assistant Master in the Patna Training School and in class VIII of the Subordinate Educational Service, subject to the consent of the Board.

The following arrangements are sanctioned consequent on the absence, on leave, of Babu Radhika Prasad Lahiri, an Assistant in the office of Director of Public Instruction:—

(1) Babu Surendra Nath Sinha, B.A., Head Master of the Chhapra Zilla School (class IV), to act as an Assistant in the office of Director of Public Instruction.

(2) Babu Tridokya Nath Ghosh, B.A., Head Master of the Balasore Zilla School (class II), to act as Head Master on the Chhapra Zilla School.

(3) Babu Bishnu Charan Bhattacharyya, B.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Malda (class III), to act as Head Master of the Balasore Zilla School.

(4) Babu Satkari Chandra Ghosh, B.A., Head Master of the Birbhum Zilla School (class III), to act as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Malda.

(5) Babu Abinash Chandra Sen, B.A., Head Master of the Hooghly Branch School (class IV), to act as Head Master of the Birbhum Zilla School.

(6) Babu Tarak Nath Sarkar, B.A., Head Assistant to Director of Public Instruction (class I), to act as Head Master of the Hooghly Branch School.

Babu Rangopal Mukherjee, Sub-Inspector of Schools, Midnapore (class V), is appointed, to act as Additional Deputy Inspector of Schools, Midnapore.

Babu Prakash Chandra Mazumdar, M.A., an Assistant Master in the Hindu School (class V), is appointed to be an Assistant Master in the Ravenshaw Collegiate School.

THE MILK SUPPLY.  
AN INTERESTING PROJECT FOR BOMBAY.

The condition of the milk supply of Bombay is such as to call for the earliest possible attention on the part of our local Government; it has been freely discussed in the pages of the "Indian Municipal Journal," and although some of the disclosures may have seemed to certain of our readers incredible they have not provoked a single denial, official or otherwise. The life of buffaloes in crowded stables in the heart of the town is unnatural under the best available conditions, and we can only suppose that it has been allowed to continue because our Corporation could suggest no change for the better.

The suggestion comes at last from Mr. J. N. Tata of Bombay, whose public spirit, local knowledge and habit of carrying out undertakings through successfully, give his proposals a special claim on our authorities.

Mr. Tata has observed that an area of 616 acres of land, at present unoccupied and swampy, lying to the north of Bombay, in Bandra, Santa Cruz, Mahim and Dharavi, is capable of being reclaimed and put to use as pasture land. It can be made to produce a class of vegetation which he has found to be eminently suited for the feeding of milch cattle. He has therefore asked the Bombay Government for a lease of this land for 99 years and also for a lease of the waters of Mahim creek to be used as a fish preserve, for which purpose it appears to be very well suited. The area of this creek is 575 acres; its connection with the sea is through three arches of the Lady Jamsetji Mahim Causeway, and it is proposed to control these openings so that fish can only go in without being able to return to the sea. This will not only increase the supply of fish that is at present obtained, but will also offer an opportunity for the study of the habits and life history of local fishes that has hitherto been lacking. It is expected that the reclamation of these 616 acres of swamp, which at times emit offensive smells, will benefit the health of Bombay, but the period during which the wind blows from the north being less than seven per cent of the year, it is doubtful if the exhalations affect the city to any appreciable extent, as they must arrive in very dilute form and more or less oxidised.

The project to convert the existing useless swamp, lying so near to Bombay, into useful pasture land, leaves no room for doubt; it is not only feasible but it offers the earliest possible opportunity to the cattle owners of our city to transfer their beasts to a locality where the conditions of life will be much more favourable than they are at present to health, and consequently to the production of good milk, butter, etc.

Mr. Tata includes in the scheme, accommodation for the cattle awaiting slaughter at the Bandra abattoirs. These animals at present have no proper place in which to recover from the effects of their journey by rail from the interior. They are let loose on waste ground which affords them neither proper rest nor nourishment, and they are frequently killed before they reach the best condition for slaughter.

Another advantage of the proposed pasture farm is that the scale on which operations may be conducted will ensure that buildings of the most suitable kind are provided and that all the operations of the establishment are under competent supervision. Healthy animals and wholesome food will offer the best assurance as to the quality of the milk and other dairy products, and a distributing agency in Bombay will offer a final guarantee to the public that these products have not been tampered with.

A large dairy farm only nine miles from the fort of Bombay with frequent communicating trains should, with fair management and cheap land, be a successful undertaking, and once in operation it should have a wholesome influence on the public taste for unadulterated milk. We hope soon to see the preliminaries completed and the project put in hand, for it is only necessary to refer to the statistics of infant mortality in Bombay in order to be reminded of the importance of a supply of good and pure milk.—"The Indian Municipal Journal."

## RAILWAYS IN EUROPE.

The length of completed European lines (including British and Irish system) in 1903 was 185,032 miles, as compared with 181,871 miles in 1902. The German Empire had the largest extent of line in operation last year, and Russia ranked second, while France came third, the Austro-Hungarian Empire fourth, and Great Britain and Ireland fifth. The number of locomotives on the Mediterranean in 1885 was 900; in 1903 the total had risen to 1,572. Similarly the number of passenger carriages increased from 2,806 to 3,882, the number of vans from 548 to 1,095 and the number of goods trucks from 15,232 to 30,171. On January 2nd the North Emperor Ferdinand commenced the payment of a dividend of £2 2s. per whole share for the second half of 1903. The indebtedness of the Western of France to the French Treasury stood at the close of 1902 at £13,478,000. The revenue of the Madrid, Saragossa, and Alcantara to December 9th last year was £3,877,551, as compared with £3,814,899 in the corresponding period of 1902. It is stated that the Italian Government is not at all eager to develop an extensive State system of lines; Italy aims more at the establishment of a thoroughly economical system of working than at the introduction of costly Socialist schemes. The increase of revenue on the American and Canadian system in November, as compared with November, 1902, is returned approximately at 2,563,393 dol. This is a smaller monthly increase than for some time past, the progress made in October having been 3,741,251 dol.; in September, 4,444,982 dol.; in August 6,213,370 dol.; in July, 7,587,083 dol.; and in June, 8,471,355 dol. The Pennsylvania authorities have decided to introduce a new form of girder rail in streets in which a Belgian block pavement is in use. The new rails will weigh 141 lbs. to the yard. The revenue of the Northern of France to December 9 last year was £8,840,760 as compared with £8,667,720 in the corresponding period of 1902.

## SUIT FOR WRONGFUL DISMISSAL.

## JUDGES DISAGREE.

At the High Court, on Wednesday, the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Hill and Mr. Justice Stevens delivered judgments in the appeal of Hall and Anderson vs. Caroline Elizabeth Cutler.

In this case, it will be remembered that Mrs. Cutler, who was a dressmaker in the employ of Messrs. Hall and Anderson, used for damages for wrongful dismissal. The case was heard by Mr. Justice Ameer Ali, who held that Mrs. Cutler was entitled to recover in that action, the damages being her salary from the date of her dismissal up to the termination of her agreement less all earnings made by her by the business she had set up. The Court also awarded her a refund of her passage money under the contract namely Rs. 720 and costs on scale No. 2. Against this decision on Messrs. Hall and Anderson appealed on the following grounds:—that the Judge had misconceived the effect of the evidence adduced in the cause; that the judgment and decree were against the weight of the evidence so adduced; that the Judge had omitted to consider and give effect to the most important facts proved in the hearing; that the Judge had excluded evidence which he ought to have admitted and admitted evidence which he ought to have excluded; that the Judge ought upon the evidence to have held that the defendants were justified in terminating the plaintiff's services under the circumstances and in dismissing her and he ought to have dismissed the suit with costs; and that the judgment and decree were erroneous in fact and bad in law and ought to be reversed.

Their lordships delivered separate lengthy judgments. The Chief Justice, after reviewing the facts of the case, said that upon a review of the whole of the evidence he did not think there was sufficient to warrant him in disturbing the judgment of the Court below. In his opinion the judgment of the Court below was right and the appeal ought to be dismissed with costs. Mr. Justice Hill regretted that he was unable to agree with the learned Chief Justice as to the merits of this appeal. He had given the matter his most careful consideration and the conclusion he had come to was that the decree of the Court below was unsustainable on the evidence and ought to be reversed. His lordship was of opinion that the appeal should be allowed and the suit dismissed with costs in the lower Court and in this Court. Mr. Justice Stevens also regretted that he was unable to concur with the judgment of the learned Chief Justice. After a lengthy review of the facts and evidence his lordship said that he would allow the appeal and dismiss the plaintiff's suit with costs in both Courts.

The orders which were being placed in India and Burma for food grains for Japan continue suspended. There has been practically no business done for the past fortnight.

At the Madras Police Court on the 26th an application was made for the arrest of Mr. A. H. Murray, Reuter's agent, on a charge of defalcation. A bailable warrant was issued.

A Lahore correspondent writes under date Jan. 26:—Rainfall has been unusually heavy everywhere over the Frontier Province, the amounts ranging from 1 to 5½ inches. A break is now required.

Dr. J. A. Dowie, who is better known as "The Modern Elijah," after touring in Australia, will arrive in Colombo, and conduct a brief "visitation," after which he will proceed to India, and embark for Europe at Bombay.

Levuka was the former capital of the Fiji Islands, and lies on the east coast of the small island of Ovalau in 17d. 45 S., 178d. 47m. W. It has a good natural harbour, protected by a barrier reef about a mile from the shore, there being two passages allowing ships to enter and leave. Suva is the present capital and chief port of the Fiji Islands, on the S. W. coast of Viti Levu, the largest island of the group, whose peculiar formation gives rise to three rivers disproportionately large for an island not half the size of Wales. The white population of Suva numbers some 800 souls. A hurricane in the Fiji Islands is by no means an unusual phenomenon, some part of the group being visited by cyclones at intervals of about four or five years.

## MUNICIPAL OFFICER CONVICTED.

## IMPRISONMENT FOR BRIBERY.

At the Mazagon Police Court, Bombay, on Saturday afternoon, Mr. P. H. Dastur, Second Presidency Magistrate, disposed of the case in which Elias Ezekiel, a Sub-Inspector in the Municipal Health Department, was charged by Police Superintendent Sloane with receiving from Jusab Jacob, a landed proprietor in Morland Road, a bribe of Rs. 50. Mr. Leslie Crawford, Municipal Solicitor, appeared for the prosecution on behalf of the Municipality; while Mr. Velinkar, pleader, defended the accused.

The Magistrate said the accused, who was employed in the Municipality as an assistant sanitary inspector in the Health Department, was charged under Sections 161 and 163 of the Indian Penal Code. The facts of the case were briefly these: One Jusab Jacob owned a chawl situated at Morland Road. The Municipal Commissioner gave him a notice requiring him to do certain petty repairs to his chawl. This work was not done and a summons was issued against Jusab. He came to this Court and asked for time to do the work. Time was granted, and during this interval it was alleged accused went to Jusab, and asked him to pay him money in order that the case might be withdrawn and the work reported as done. Jusab agreed to pay Rs. 50, and asked him to call at his chawl in Morland Road on 30th October. This being arranged, he also asked Mr. Sloane to be present at his house at the appointed time and witness the payment of the money to the accused. Accordingly Mr. Sloane and Mr. Mirza of the Police, accompanied by two witnesses, went to his house and remained concealed in an inner room and saw the accused visit Jusab and received a bundle of notes from him, and assure him that he would not be troubled any more. After the accused left the diwankhana, the witnesses also went to the passage, and Mr. Mirza stopped the accused and asked him to produce the notes, which he did, saying at the same time he did not want them. The accused when asked to give his name and address, gave him name Jacob Moses, and his address, as Jacob Circle, which, on further inquiry, were found to be incorrect. These were briefly the facts. Now under Section 161, Indian Penal Code, the points that were to be considered were: Was the accused a public servant? Did he as such public servant obtain Rs. 50 from the complainant as a gratification other than legal remuneration? Lastly, did he receive the money as a gratification for showing the complainant a favour in the execution of his official functions? The defence was that the accused, who was an assistant inspector in the Health Department of the Municipality, was not a public servant under Section 21 of the Indian Penal Code. But under Section 521 of Act 3 of 1888, every Municipal officer or servant appointed under that Act was to be deemed a public servant within the meaning of Section 21 of the Indian Penal Code. The High Court had now decided on a reference made by this Court, that the local legislature had the power to amend the Indian Penal Code, so that the accused was a public servant under Section 21 of the Code. Mr. Awerth had argued on behalf of the defence that the prosecution had not proved in this case the appointment of the accused made either under Sections 74, 77 or 79 of the Municipal Act, or his name appearing in the schedule.

After discussing the evidence, the Magistrate decided the three points in the affirmative and convicted the accused of the offence under Section 161 of the Indian Penal Code. In view of the decision arrived on the first charge, the Court thought it unnecessary to deal with the offence under Section 163 of the Indian Penal Code, which was the subject matter of the above charge. In the first place, the facts were the same, and it being one and the same transaction, the latter offence was merged into the former, and there need not therefore be a separate finding on that head of the charge. Moreover, it was an alternative charge framed against the accused in case the High Court held that Section 21 of the Indian Penal Code did not apply to the present case. The Court, therefore, acquitted the accused on the second charge. Before concluding the judgment, the Magistrate wished to remark about the system of issuing notices and prosecuting parties in Municipal cases. It appeared that ostensibly all these notices emanated from the Commissioner and purported to have been signed by him, but really they were issued at the instance of every subordinate officer of the Municipality, and it was therefore no wonder they should be tempted to be corrupt. It appeared to the Court all such notices ought to be issued under the head of the department concerned was satisfied that a building was insanitary, and the repairs were urgently necessary. If that were done there could be no chances of the public being unnecessarily harassed, and the Municipal subordinates becoming corrupted. With regard to the sentence to be passed upon the accused the Court admitted he had hitherto borne a good character, and his connection would mean ruin to him, but at the same time this sentence being meant to be a deterrent to others, it was not right that the Court should punish the offence with a fine only. It was difficult to detect such cases, and even if detected to prove them on account of the numerous subtleties about law of accomplices. Accused was sentenced to five months' rigorous imprisonment.

Mr. Velinkar said as the accused, who had a large family depending on him, might be given the alternative of a heavy fine.

The Magistrate, in refusing the application, remarked it might be a hardship in an individual case, but the object of the law was to deter others.

Mr. Velinkar next applied that the sentence might be made simple instead of rigorous. This was also refused, and the accused was removed in custody.



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## Correspondence.

## INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

## TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—I have read with great interest the letter of Babu Jogendra Chandra Ghosh about industrial and scientific education in your issue of the 25th instant. In the interests of industrial education as well as of high education I must say, that unless a scheme like the one proposed be carried out there is but little hope of progress for us. Every serious work requires serious efforts. The raising of small subscriptions from large numbers of men is sometimes done among us Mahomedans and I do not see why, when the stake is so great, Hindus and Mahomedans will not combine and carry out the scheme. I and many of my Mahomedan friends are prepared to accord our fullest sympathy and co-operation in the great work.

Calcutta, Jan. 27.

Serajul Islam.

## JOBBERY IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

## TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Before taking up concrete instances to show the nepotism that pervades the Education Department, allow me to say a few words as to the way the great man at its head treats his subordinates—not petty school masters and clerks for they are nowhere under the autocracy, but the big guns, I mean the Inspectors of Schools. Mr. Pedler is his own minister. It is not for him to consult any body. He is there to issue mandates and the Inspectors, with their myrmidons to carry them into execution. Once I had a talk with an Assistant Inspector of Schools, who remarked that in some cases, in recent years, the orders had been practically issued first and then the subordinate officers were required to shift for themselves in obeying them as best they could. The huge sham of the Guru Training Schools is an instance in point. It is a scheme hollow to the core and takes the intelligence and energy of even best of the poor "subordinates" in working it out successfully. It is literally a mandate to make bricks with straw. If Mr. Pedler had condescended a little to consult the officers on the spot about the matter before arriving at his conclusion, matters would have assumed quite a different aspect at the present moment.

And as in great matters, so in small, Mr. Director Pedler never consults any body—no, he never does. Will the Behar Member in the Bengal Legislative Council be pleased to see how by his nepotism Mr. Pedler is going to ruin the Patna Training School and at the same time wound the feelings of a number of deserving officers by overlooking their claims to promotion? Was the Inspector of Schools, Patna Division, consulted in making the recent changes in the School? Did he approve of the arrangements now made? Was no Behar Head Master available for the Behar Training School? Was there no better Bengalee available for the Head-mastership? You will at once see, Sir, from the drift of the questions how arbitrarily Mr. Pedler has acted on the present occasion.

Since writing the above I have come across a rumour that strong representations have been made to Mr. Pedler in connection with the "scandal" as it is dubbed, and rightly too I believe. But whether the protest has been entered by the Inspector of Schools or the aggrieved parties or the Behar public is not yet known to me. But is there any use going to the wrong-doer himself for justice? The proper party now to go to is the Bengal Government. The interests of the public had been sacrificed to favouritism; the Inspector has been grossly insulted, though indirectly, by being neglected; and, as for the injured "subordinates," why, their lot is to

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suffer in silence, specially when their own earthly providence is pleased to overlook them. High hopes were raised in some breasts, by the recent changes in the Director's office in Calcutta, and men looked forward to a time when even-handed justice would be meted out to the poor subordinates without fear or favour; but, alas! the millennium is yet a far way off. Nepotism is as much rampant under the new regime as it ever was under the old. Bankipur.

PUBLIC OPINION.

## LANDLORD, TENANT AND MUNICIPALITY.

In a recent suit for rent at Ootacamund a tenant claimed a right to deduct Rs. 24 spent in clearing waste and brushwood from the house in obedience to a Municipal notice, directing him to do so under threat of prosecution for disobedience. The Sub-Judge of the Nilgiris, in the course of his judgment, made the following observations, which are of interest to both owners and occupiers of house property in Ootacamund:—"In the present case I entertain no doubt that, whatever may have been the obligation of plaintiff, as the landlady, to the Municipal Council to comply with its requisition in the matter of the removal of noxious vegetation, if addressed to her agent residing at Ootacamund, as it should have been in the first instance, there was none such as between plaintiff and defendant. Under the English law, a landlord, who is not bound by express covenant to that effect, is under no obligation to repair in the least degree. The duty to repair necessarily arises out of the relation existing between the parties, but such duty devolves, as we have seen, upon the tenant and the landlord is not bound to repair, unless he expressly agrees or covenants to do so. Plaintiffs did not covenant to repair, nor has any local usage been proved in this case. Hence it follows that the alleged repairs were not such as plaintiff was bound to make on the requisition of defendant. The case for defendant was presented in another aspect also, namely, that defendant was entitled to recover the cost of removal by virtue of Section 30 of the Indian Contract Act. I doubt even if this claim is sustainable, for the reason, 'inter alia' that the Municipal notice was illegal, inasmuch as it was served on defendant without, in the first instance, the owner being proceeded against, as required by law, and defendant was not bound to comply with it. The evidence shows that plaintiff's Agent, residing within the Ootacamund Municipality to the knowledge of the Municipal Council. It is not necessary, however, for me to record a definite finding on this point as no set-off has been pleaded by defendant and the Court fee paid thereon. I find that the sum of Rs. 24 spent by defendant over alleged repairs cannot be deducted from the rent."

## Dysentery.

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**FOR INDIGESTION.**



**THE A. B. C. OF RAYS.**  
AND THE NEW ANARCHY OF SCIENCE.  
No one, I think, can nowadays open a scientific paper, or take part in the discussions of a scientific society, without becoming conscious that physical science is at present in a state of anarchy. Everywhere "the old faiths" are being "revised," and generalisations, which were at one time reverently spoken of as the very bed-rock upon which our knowledge of the universe rested, are now dismissed as "working hypotheses," whose falsehood has been already demonstrated. So, in chemistry, "laws," like the independence and, so to speak, the originality of the eighty or more elements have gone by the board, as has the notion that the solution of a substance in water produces only the same substance in a greatly extended condition. In electricity, the dogmas of the earlier physicists have been turned upside down, and—to take only one instance—we now know that a glass rod, instead of being, as everyone thought, impervious to electricity, under certain circumstances may become a better conductor of it than a copper wire. In more general matters the change of view has been even more complete, and laws once thought fundamental, such as the Conservation of Energy and the Indestructibility of Matter, are treated as theories which, like the Ptolemaic explanation of the revolution of the sun round the earth, once helped men of science to co-ordinate their ideas, but are now as extinct as the dodo. But out of this litter of broken idols and exploded theories there has emerged a new study of the greatest practical importance to the world, which may be called the knowledge of radiations, or, in shorter language the science of rays.

**THE DISCOVERERS OF RAYS.**  
It is hardly too much to say that ten years ago the only rays of the sun. Clerk Maxwell had, indeed, given to the world his theory that light was an electro-magnetic phenomenon caused by vibrations in the ether, but the proof was very abstruse and mathematical, and most people still preferred to look upon electricity as a fluid that could be poured into things, like beer into a jug. Then came Hertz, and showed that the sudden discharge of a highly-charged conductor would produce oscillations, which were what have been called "true rays of electrical energy." Then Dr. Röntgen, who proved that a discharge in a high vacuum could give rise to rays capable of passing through metal, flesh, and other substances opaque to light; and then Dr. Gustave Le Bon, who does not hitherto seem to have received half the credit that is his due, but whose pioneer work on what he called "black light," published simultaneously with Röntgen's discoveries, first gave the hint that nearly all substances in ordinary air are capable of emitting invisible rays that will penetrate bodies hitherto supposed to be solid. Later, M. Becquerel announced that such rays, as these were most powerfully emitted at ordinary temperatures by the rare metal uranium, and M. and Madame Curie, going further discovered the even rarer metal radium. Since then, all these different rays have been tracked, distinguished, and stored without finality being reached. Nearly every week brings some new discovery or some new theory concerning them, and it may safely be said that the problems concerning them are those about which the scientific world is most agitated at the present moment.

**WHAT IS A RAY?**  
If now we were to ask what a ray is, we should probably be told that a ray is a vibration in the ether. This ether is, of course, the extremely thin, apparently elastic, and certainly imponderable medium in which we live without knowing it, like fish in the sea. It has long been thought to exist in the outer "lantern" spaces between us and the sun—else the sun's light would never reach us—and the discoveries of Röntgen and Le Bon show that this universal medium must exist between the molecules of all substances. And now research has made another great step forward, and has found that inside the molecules, the atoms, or so-called indivisible particles into which matter is, theoretically divided, are themselves complete worlds, composed of infinitesimally smaller bodies or corpuscles, revolving in the ether within each atom round a nucleus, probably made like the vortex ring which about cigarette smokers can make with their mouths. These corpuscles make a ray by communicating movement from one to the other, in the same way that a chain of small links lying on a table will make waves in itself when one end is violently shaken after the fashion of children "making snakes" in a skipping rope. The process is not different from that by which the set of the tide produces waves on the sea shore, or whereby sounds strike our ears in waves of atmospheric air. How substances like radium manage to keep up an apparently never-ending succession of the jerks giving rise to such waves is however, a very difficult nut to crack.

**THE SCALE OF RAYS.**  
The analogy thus suggested between these vibrations in the ether and waves of sound is a good deal closer than at first appears. Disregarding for the moment certain rays, such as the cathodic or those inside a Crookes' tube, which are claimed by some electricians as streams of very finely-divided matter, we find that all rays may be expressed in one great scale, in which their different characteristics correspond to different wave-lengths. Thus, the shortest wave-length in the ether yet discovered is that of one of the ultra-violet or actinic rays, which, although invisible to human eyes, yet impress a photographic plate. These take up three octaves, and then come an octave of light-waves varying from violet through blue and green to yellow and red, which together make up the sun's light as perceived by our eyes. Then follow seven octaves of infra-red or heat waves, and five others whose characteristics are yet undiscovered, before we come to the long series of twelve octaves of Hertzian waves used in laboratory experiments, followed in their turn by the still longer waves used in Transatlantic wireless telegraphy. In the whole of this scale each octave of rays has exactly double the wave-length of the one preceding, and these length range from the ten-thousandth of a millimetre of the shortest ultra-violet ray up to the enormous waves of electric energy, each over a thousand feet in length, sent out by Mr. Marconi from his station at Poldhu.

**THE LAST THING IN RAYS.**  
If every ray of this vast scale were observed, there would still remain measured, however, there would still remain plenty of work to be done before a science of rays could be systematically organised. Every few weeks bring to us from the Continent some new discovery in radiation phenomena, and new series of rays are leaping to our ken and new series we can classify them. Leaving quicker than we can deal with in another article, we may just glance at the very interesting days just discovered by M. Blondlot of Nancy, which he calls the N. days. There, which are thrown off by, among other things, the ordinary incandescent gas burner, have the curious faculty of reinforcing the action upon the eye of any bundle of light rays, so that a brick exposed to the sun's light, wrapped in black paper and held near the eye, will materially increase the apparent brilliancy of any light looked at. Besides springing from sources of visible light, these N rays are also developed immediately upon the compression of wood, glass, caoutchouc, and several other substances, and are spontaneously and permanently emitted by certain substances, such as tempered steel and crystallised sulphur. Their exact wave-lengths have not yet been authoritatively measured, but it is probable that they will be found to fall either within the seven octaves of the infrared, or the five unknown octaves in the scale above given. Not unconnected with them, probably, is the very latest ray discovered up to the time of writing, which is said by its discoverer, M. Charpentier, to be emitted by the human body every time a muscle is contracted or a nerve set in action. This new ray will cause a fluorescent screen already roused to activity by a morsel of radium to increase in brilliancy, so that the action of nerves and muscles may be followed on the screen as in a magic-lantern projection. If this last ray answers the expectations, its discoverer it may revolutionise the science of rays.

**ASOKA INSCRIPTIONS IN MYSORE.**  
AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY.  
The discovery by Mr. Lewis Rice, Director of Archaeological Researches in Mysore, of the Asoka inscriptions in the Chitaldrug District, may be described without exaggeration, says the "Times of India," as a discovery of an epoch-making character in the annals of Indian archaeology. In the second of two volumes dealing with inscriptions found in the Shimoga and Chitaldrug Districts of the Epigraphia Carnatica recently issued by the Mysore Government Press, Mr. Rice tells the story of how he came upon this, which is certainly his most lucky find during the many years he has devoted to Archaeology. The discovery was on the point of being missed. He and his party were much fatigued with a long period of travel and he had spent his last rupee. But fortune, as he says, proved more favourable and the inscriptions of immense historical value were published to the world. Prior to 1892, when the discovery was made, the farthest points in the south in which Asoka inscriptions were known to occur were Girnār, in Kathiawar, and Jangada, in the Ganjam District of the Madras Presidency. The Maurya inscriptions now discovered are three in number, and are all in the neighbourhood of Siddapura, in the Chitaldrug District. Two of them, though much defaced, yet retain enough of legibility to show that they were probably copies of the third which is in a fair state of preservation. This last is engraved on the top of a great boulder of gneiss and is in the "Brahma lipi." Mr. Rice points out that a very remarkable fact about the inscription is that the engraver's name alone at the end of it is in the "Kharosthi" character, written from right to left, a character only found in inscriptions in the extreme north-west of the Punjab. He surmises that this indicates that the official who wrote the inscription had been transferred from the extreme north to the extreme south of the Empire. The rock on which the inscription is engraved is well known in the neighbourhood and the people of the surrounding villages believe that it is invested with medicinal properties. For various diseases of man and beast a draught of water which had been poured over the rock used to be given to the patients as a cure. The authenticity of the inscriptions has not been questioned, but it cannot fail to be noted that their tone is rather more aggressive than the one of the other inscriptions of Asoka which we are acquainted. Indeed, Mr. Rice himself seems to feel that it is necessary to enter into an explanation of this obvious difference of tone. The inscription is believed to show that the Maurya Empire extended over at least the northern parts of the Mysore country.

The Asoka inscriptions, assigned to the third century before the Christian era, are the oldest in Mysore. Next in order of time, Mr. Rice places the Satakarni inscription on a stone pillar at Malavalli, in the Shimoga District. This monarch belongs to the dynasty of Salivahana, who ruled over the whole of the Deccan, and whose name a Hindu era has been founded and is still used. Also in the Shimoga District is the engraving on the Salagunda pillar, "than which," says Mr. Rice, "no more important or interesting inscription has been discovered in Mysore, whether we regard its contents, its style, or its execution." The inscription, in fact, is history containing an account of the origin of the Kadamba line of Kings who played a prominent part in the annals of Karnataka. It includes some useful information about several contemporary States and references to the Premara country, the Guptas, and the Satakarni, Brahminism, Jainism, which was once the dominant creed in Karnataka, and Buddhism, which began to spread during the time of Asoka, have all left their traces, in these permanent memorials mostly of religious charity. Patriotism, too, has had its votaries, but it is rather a crude kind of patriotism, as the following incident commemorated in one of the sculptures shows. A man named Tuluva Chandiga made a vow that he would not let the nail on his finger grow, in order to avert some agreement about a certain fort, to which he was opposed. But the ruling chief, not caring for this man's opposition, made a grant of the fort to somebody, whereupon Tuluva cut off his finger and climbing up a high pillar fell on a forest of spears and killed himself. There is a deliberate coolness about the manner of the Indian martyr which gives it an appearance almost of malignancy. In other countries martyrs go to the stake protesting some high principle which appeals to the whole race of humanity. Here, with the object of attaining for oneself a place in the other world, a person undergoes austerities of the most cruel kind. One of the inscriptions in these volumes narrates the story of a king who went out to conquer his neighbours. He fell ill while on the expedition and believing his end had come he had himself conveyed to the banks of the Tungabhadra. After bathing in the river and giving away much gold in charity, "he waded in until the water reached his neck, and amid the din of the waves and of all manner of musical instruments deliberately drowned himself." Mr. Rice has brought his researches up-to-date, and two at least of the inscriptions recorded in these pages are of very modern origin. One of them records that on the 24th December, 1885, at sunrise, the late Maharaja of Mysore visited a village in his dominions. The Patel of the place who set up the stone bearing the inscription expresses the hope that the Maharaja will make arrangements for the better management of the local temple. When wind and weather have done their work on it for about half a century and some letters of the inscription have become effaced, it will be nothing surprising if the religion or superstition of the rural population of two generations hence claimed it as an immemorial relic of an incarnate god. Of the other modern inscription we may leave Mr. Rice to speak. "This is the fine, Arabic and Persian inscription of the Bijapur Sultans already referred to above. When the sluice of the tank below was repaired in 1883 by the Bombay Government, this stone was brought down from the hill and built in over the sluice. And across its face was inscribed the fact in Kannada, an example unfortunately not wanting in other parts of the sacrifice of bygone art and sentiment to modern bald utility."

**SOCIETY OF ARTS PROGRAMME.**  
The following programme has been settled for the Indian Section of the Society of Arts: February 11th—"Our Commercial Relations with Afghanistan," by Colonel Sir Thomas Munford Holdich, R.E., K.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.B., Member of Council; the Right Hon. Sir J. West Ridgeway, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.I.E., will preside. March 10th—"China Grass: Its Past, Present, and Future," by Frank Birdwood, B.A., Professor Sir William Ramsay, L.D.S., F.R.S., will preside. April 28th—"Industrial Activity in Calcutta," by Frederick Grover, A.M. Inst. C.E., M.I.M.E., May 12th—"British-gown Tea," by A. G. Skanton. Tuesday, May 31st—"The Economic and Industrial Progress and Condition of India," by J. E. O'Connor, C. I. E., late Director-General of Statistics, India.

**LOWER BURMA CHIEF COURT.**  
A curious, though interesting, point was raised on Monday concerning the number of Judges appointed by the Government of India to the Lower Burma Chief Court. In a recent notification in the "Burma Gazette," Mr. Justice Fox was put on special duty prior to proceeding on leave, Mr. Justice Bigge being transferred to the Appellate Side after returning from leave, while Mr. Justice Chitty remained on the Original Civil Side. To-day Mr. Justice Chitty could not attend Court through indisposition. Mr. Justice Fox appeared in Mr. Chitty's place to dispose of the cases on the latter's board, whereupon Mr. Eddis, Barrister-at-law, intimated that the question had been raised by the Rangoon Bar as to whether His Honour, being placed on special duty by the Government, could legally sit and dispose of cases. Under the Burma Courts Act there could not be more than four Judges. If the constitution of the Lower Burma Chief Court judiciary were to consist of more than that number, the sanction of the Government of India was necessary. Mr. Justice Fox replied that the question had been considered by the Chief Judge. His Honour, after pointing out that Mr. Chitty was unable to sit to-day, informed Mr. Eddis that he was not on special duty to-day and might not be to-morrow, and that Mr. Chitty was an Officiating Judge. Counsel pointed out that that made five Judges, whereas the Act provided for not more than four. Mr. Fox then proceeded to dispose of the cases on Mr. Chitty's board, the point raised remaining unsatisfactorily determined so far as legal practitioners were concerned.

**ALLEGED CHARGES AGAINST AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER.**  
The case against E. C. Gradinger, on a charge of theft was proceeded with the other day before Mr. Azizuddin Sahib Bahadur, Senior Magistrate, Black Town (Madras). Ramadoss, a clerk in the Company, further cross-examined, stated that accused and Mr. Jenkinson quarrelled about the possession of the Office (No. 34, Broadway), and the former forced open the lock and secured the door with a lock of his own. This was prior to the formation of the Company. The quarrel was about Rs. 1,000 which Mr. Jenkinson wanted to be returned to him, and accused him. But afterwards on the intercession of the clerks, the quarrel was made up and accused promised to pay the Rs. 1,000 as soon as he should get it. Subsequently, however, Gradinger again quarrelled and went away from Madras. During the absence of the accused the premises of the Company the mean while a complaint was made to the police against Gradinger for the alleged theft of certain electrical appliances. But the property was what the accused had brought with him, and he had not as yet parted with it to the newly started company. In fact the Company had not been properly floated at all and there were no shareholders in it, and consequently accused fearing it might all end in a crash did not part with his property on vague promises, being paid for it. Here the Court was interrupted by receipt by post of an anonymous letter: His Worship remarked that writing such a communication was a bad practice in this Presidency town, and if the writer could be traced he could be charged for contempt of court. The letter was destroyed. The case is proceeding.

A Palmanair correspondent writes to the "Madras Mail":—"On Tuesday evening last, whilst a number of men of the 6th and 23rd Batteries, R.F.A., were bathing in a tank quite close to where the Batteries are encamped here at Palmanair in the North Arcot District, one of the men, Shoeing Smith Kennedy, of the 23rd Battery, R.F.A., was heard to call out for help. A number of men at once proceeded to his rescue, but before they could reach him he sank and his body was not recovered till almost an hour afterwards when life was extinct. The deceased was buried with military honours the following evening in a small cemetery just outside the Camp."

**ALLEGED POISONING.**  
Bankura, Jan. 22.  
The following account of the sad and sudden death of eleven persons at a time from the effects of hard drinking is really very astounding, but the circumstances under which it happened is much more puzzling.  
Sanpura is a small village, situated on either bank of the rivulet called Darkeshwar, under the jurisdiction of thana Indush, in district Bankura. The Indush-Katlooper public road running through the heart of this village gives it the character of a little town as it were. That the civilization of the day has made its appearance into this remote village is evident from the presence of a grog-shop in a most prominent part of it.  
Now, since a few years an Exhibition (Mela) is held here every year on the last day of the Bengali month of Poush. As in every Mela in Bengal, the lower order of people take part in the proceedings of this Mela. On the 30th Poush last a band of eleven friends of the neighbouring villages and all belonging to the Bagdi caste came to Sanpura to enjoy the Mela.  
After having enjoyed the views and viands of the Mela they made their way to the grog-shop to make a capital holiday of the day. There they entertained themselves to their fill and started back for home. But as ill luck would have it not a soul returned until their parents, wives and children. Ten of them died on the way and one only—the stoutest amongst them—managed to drag himself with difficulty to the yard of a roadside cot. On being queried by the people there as to the cause of the deplorable condition he was reduced to, he said that he belonged to a party of friends who went to the Mela and drunk liquor as much as could be purchased with the money they then had with them, but it availed not—they were not intoxicated and they wanted more and began to call the shop-keeper names. The shop-keeper in wrath

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and disgust gave them some more liquid substance which they drank but little. Nevertheless it made them quite hilarious and jovial and they then marched back home but ere they could reach it the companions died. And with these words this poor fellow too gave up the ghost. The matter is now in the hands of the Police.

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