





## THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

## TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES.

The Paris correspondent of the "Times" states:—A gentleman having business transactions with Russia, who is consequently interested in obtaining accurate information, tells me that the quantity of provisions for the troops in Manchuria is inadequate to their requirements, and it is difficult to supply the deficiency in the country. The reinforcements proceeding daily to the front have to take their own supplies for the long journey, while provisions for the army already at the front or war have to be forwarded along the same overland route. All this contributes to the congestion of traffic and delays the arrival of fresh troops. He informs me that forged rubles have already been introduced into Manchuria on a large scale. A change transition between the winter and summer as is the case in certain parts of Europe, where before the snow has completely melted on one side of the road flowers are in bloom on the other. My informant has heard that as soon as the hot weather sets in sickness among the troops will create a serious difficulty for the Russians.

These considerations alone impose certain precautions on army contractors, which, although he gave me no details, will be easily conjectured by those conversant with military affairs. I have no doubt, too, that all those contracting business with Russia are obliged to reckon to a certain extent with the internal situation of the Empire. It is a constant subject of conversation among prominent Russians themselves outside their own country, at all events among those who divide their time between St. Petersburg and Paris. The special correspondent of the "Mail" at Kharbin telegraphs thus under date February 23:—

"The last traveller's train has left for the south. In future the post and passenger cars will be added to the military trains and will thus arrive at Port Arthur with the latter. Traffic northward is going on with regularity. After a few fine days snow is beginning to fall abundantly."

## THE BOMBARDMENT OF THE CHINGPING.

## A Lively Experience.

Shanghai, Mar. 4.

A correspondent writes as follows in the Celestial Empire:—

The U. K. and M. Co.'s steamer Chingping arrived here last evening from Dainy, via Oboe and Wei-hai-wei, and by an eye-witness on board we were favoured with the following particulars with regard to the bombardment which the vessel was subjected to:—

We left Chingangtao on Tuesday, the 9th at 11 a.m. bound for Port Arthur with a cargo of about 1,100 tons of Kaiping coal and had a fine run across the Gulf. All went well until we were among the Russian battleships, torpedo boats etc. At about 8-10 a.m. on the 10th we heard a loud bang and we thought that the Russians were firing blankshots at us to bring us to. We were not aware at the time that hostilities had commenced between Japan and Russia. When the Russians fired the first shot, the engines were stopped, and hardly had we stopped when another shot was fired. The Chingping was then turned round and in so doing another shot was fired and I saw the shell drop in the water about 40 yards from the ship, and judging from where I was standing the shot must have passed within 10 feet from our bow. Needless to say I felt very uncomfortable, and so did everybody on board. I dare say. After we had turned round I saw the sailors on a Russian Volunteer boat training one of their guns on our ship. I came then to the conclusion that their intention was to sink us right away. But no, we were spared for a little more excitement.

We let go our anchor a short distance from a Russian battleship and were allowed to remain quietly at anchor until midnight of the same day, when the Russian forts opened a hot fire. I surmised that they were firing at some Japanese ships though I could not see any signs of their presence. About three minutes after midnight small shells began to drop and explode very close to us, and we had a very anxious time of it. Our ship was struck 7 times: the last shot entered the forepeak, the second went through the ship's side passing through two passenger cabins, three bulkheads, the linen locker and finally landed in the engine room. The third shot entered the native galley and must have exploded there as it made two holes in the bulkhead, one large hole in the second bulkhead, and five holes in the third; then it passed through the European galley and through another bulkhead and bent an angle iron in the engine room and dropped on the floor there. The fourth shot went through the chart room; the fifth through the ship's side just above the water line near the No. 3 hatch and must have lodged itself in the cargo of coal. Two shots also struck the ship's rigging, one of which setting fire to the fore trysail. The above is the number of times the ship was struck, but I cannot say which was the first or last to strike us, as one could not be thinking of such details when one was being bombarded by powerful guns without any means of defending himself. The shot which entered the native galley made an awful rattle and completely wrecked the place which was strewn with the remnants of pots and pans which adorned the galley. The shot that went through the five bulkheads smashed up two steam pipes and deck water service pipe. The firing in my opinion lasted from 11-30 p.m. till 10-30 a.m. on the 11th instant. On the following morning we were ordered to proceed to Dainy where we arrived in the same afternoon. A boat was sent out to pilot us in but she was blown up by one of her own mines. We were quite ignorant of the boat being blown up

There is no DANGER whatever from lockjaw or blood poisoning resulting from a wound when Chamberlain's Pain Balm is promptly applied. It is an antiseptic and destroys the germs which caused these diseases. It also causes wounds to heal without maturation and in one-third the time required by the usual treatment. Sold by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdoel Rahaman and Abdoel Kareem, Calcutta.

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as we steamed into Dainy not knowing where the mines were and it makes one shudder to think how near we were to being blown up; anyhow, we arrived in Dainy quite safe, which seems nothing more nor less than a miracle. We remained at Dainy until the 22nd and after discharging, our ship was taken out of the harbour by Russian officers. The officers and the whole of the crew of our ship were shut down below and guarded by Russian soldiers with fixed bayonets and loaded rifles which I presume was to keep us from seeing where their mines were laid but I am sure nobody on board wanted to see their mines and we were only too pleased to get away from Dainy as we were in a great state of uncertainty while at Dainy. When we got outside the harbour the Russian officers and soldiers left us and we were allowed to take charge of our ship and breathe fresh air once more. We arrived at Wei-hai-wei at 9 p.m. on the same day and enjoyed a comfortable night's sleep which I think was the first since we left Chingangtao. While in Wei-hai-wei we were visited by the Commander and officers of H. M. S. Rinaldo.

## WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT OF A FAR- EASTERN WAR ON THE UNITED STATES.

It is possible that, before this number of the "Weekly" meets the reader's eye, a war will have been begun between Japan and Russia. In that event it will become a matter of obvious importance to calculate the bearing of the contest on our national interests. It may help to clarify our ideas on the subject if we divide the question, and ask, first, To what extent, if any, would the United States be affected if the war should be localized, or, in other words, confined to a duel between the two original combatants; and, secondly, how would the situation be modified, from an American view-point, if France and England should be drawn into the conflict? It is plain enough that, within the region which should become the actual theatre of hostilities, the distribution of imports from the United States might be temporarily interrupted. That is to say, at certain points the commercial privileges conceded to us by treaty with Korea, on the one hand, and with China on the other, might be suspended until the field of military operations should be moved. Such transient obstruction to traffic is, of course, inseparable from the prosecution of a war. So long, however, as fighting should be restricted to the Korean peninsula, which is likely to witness the first collision, our trade with the treaty ports of Newchwang and Mukden in Manchuria would be unimpeded, provided, of course, the Japanese should not undertake to institute a blockade of the first named "entrepot," that is a measure which Japan desires as she is of securing our friendly neutrality, may be relied upon not to adopt, so long as no opposition is offered by Russia, to the exercise of authority by Chinese officials in that place. Only in the event of an expulsion of the Russians from Korea, and a subsequent march westward of a triumphant Japanese force, might it become, from a strategic view point, needful for the invaders to occupy Newchwang as well as Mukden. Even then the commercial privileges granted to us by treaty with China would be respected by Japan, so far as such respect would be compatible with military necessities.

We see, then, that our ordinary commerce with Korea and Manchuria might be exposed to some interference in the event of a war. It is probable, however, that any loss arising from this source will be much more than offset by the extraordinary demands for ammunition and food-supplies that would be forthcoming from both combatants. Even during the last few weeks, the purchases made on account of the Japanese and Russian governments are valued at many millions of dollars. Such purchases, however, have been merely precautionary, and are insignificant, compared with those which would have to be made after war broke out. Our geographical position would assure to us the profits accruing to the principal purveyor. We need not point out that our centres of industry and commerce on the Pacific coast are much nearer to Manchuria and Korea than is any European seaport. To the United States must both Japan and Russia look for quick and cheap supplies of breadstuffs, means, and military stores. It is also to be borne in mind that a war between Russia and Japan would be likely to be a long one. In the case of each combatant, the need for the commodities that we could furnish more easily than any other neutral, would, with every month, become more urgent.

In France and England should be drawn into the war, the former as an ally of Russia, and the latter as a friend of Japan, the tremendous advantage derivable from our neutral position should be evident. The navy of France is second in strength to that of England alone, and whatever might be the outcome of a battle between French and English battleships, there is no doubt that the swift-sailing cruisers of France would quickly drive a large proportion of England's commerce from the seas. For the vast ocean traffic thus renounced by England, we should have no competitor but Germany. It would be strange if, with such an opportunity, we failed to regain a considerable part of the carrying trade which we possessed before the civil war. It is also manifest that our sales of food products to France and England, were those powers drawn into the contest of the Asiatic mainland, would be immensely multiplied.

All that our Government need do in order to avoid any impairment of our national interests through the threatened war in the Far East is to adhere unwaveringly to the policy of strict neutrality which is commended to us by the traditions of a hundred years.—"Harper's Weekly."

ONE OF THE TRIUMPHS OF MODERN SURGERY.—By applying an antiseptic dressing, ointment, balm, and like injuries before an operation sets in, they may be healed without maturation and in one-third the time required by the old treatment. This is one of the greatest discoveries and triumphs of modern surgery. Chamberlain's Pain Balm acts on this same principle. It is an antiseptic and when applied to such injuries causes them to heal very quickly. It also allays the pain and soreness. Keep a bottle of Pain Balm in your house and it will save you time and money, not to mention the convenience and suffering which it meets.

Sold by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdoel Rahaman and Abdoel Kareem, Calcutta.

## Mofussil News.

Nowgong, Mar. 21.

At Bilehri, a small Native about two miles from Nowgong, a woman threw her new born son under the bridge of the river Barai thrusting a rag into its mouth. The child is yet alive through God's mercy. The child is sent by the police to the hospital and the case is under investigation.

Ranaghat, Mar. 22.

On the 15th March last the Maharaja Bahadur of Coimbar and party came to Ranaghat to do "Ashirabad" to the second son of Babu Hemendra Nath Pal Chowdhury, Zemindar, as the bridegroom-elect for the Maharaja Bahadur's second daughter. We understand that the marriage ceremony will be celebrated within a short time.

Bankipur, Mar. 23.

much knowledge of the great havoc plague has been doing in Bankipur. Anybody who stirs out at any time of the day is sure to see even now dead bodies mutely carried to the Ganges, which strikes more terror to the bystanders than when they are carried with the pious exclamations of "Ram Nam Sath Hai."—Though very few of the gentry have left this place this year, cases of theft have not been inconsiderable. In about a fortnight the Calcutta papers do not seem to have 3 cases have occurred in Purandarpore. The last one was the most daring and the most mischievous. Last night a gang of about half-a-dozen ruffians broke the house of a Kahar, dragged his wife to the street, beat her severely with a lathi, gave her bad cuts in her body with a sharp instrument and then scammed off with silver ornaments she had worn. The most amusing part of the story is that all this was perpetrated only a few miles from a police constable, who was on the wide-awake and making himself comfortable on the "pharash" of a local peder. The cries of the suffering woman woke up her husband, who was sleeping in a separate room, and others of the neighbourhood, but none dared approach, for fear of their very lives. The gentleman above referred to, disturbed from his sleep by her heart-rending cries, came down stairs and finding the constable so situated, demanded of him help in capturing the culprits. The constable however would not stir for fear or what God only knows. So he went single handed to the spot: and happily succeeded in dispersing them.

Matari, Baran (Nadia), Mar. 10.

The village Matari was at a time a very flourishing one. But such is the irony of fate that the condition of the village and that of its inhabitants has now been reduced to the worst condition possible. The inconvenience and sufferings of the people are beyond all tellings. And there is not the remotest possibility of these being remedied unless the authorities cast a benign glance upon the sufferers. The only existing Kachcha road for want of proper repairs has come to such a deplorable condition that the traffic on it will soon stop.—The scarcity of water prevails here more or less throughout the year but it is keenly felt by all in this season. The condition of the Jheel "Harna" the only reservoir of water for the village is generally very bad. It has silted up in many places. The knee-deep water, it now has being very filthy and filled with insects is quite unfit for use. But there being no other source of water near at hand the villagers are compelled to drink the water which rather may be called poison, and consequently fall victims to cholera, malaria, dysentery and other troublesome diseases. Sufferings of the people will be more intensified from April when the "Harna" will be totally dried up. It is true that there are a few old tanks in the village. But their condition is worse than the "Jheel." Maharaja of Krishnagore, Babu B. N. Pal Chowdhury of Ranaghat and Babu P. C. Roy of Chandipur, the zemindars of this Mouja. Their combined effort may save their poor tenants from the hands of death, by digging new tanks or reclaiming the old ones.—We applied to the Magistrate of Nadia for the establishment of a Charitable Dispensary here. The Civil Surgeon, at the request of the Magistrate, came personally to inspect the sanitary condition of the village. He was moved to see the miserable condition of the village and its inhabitants and with kind and sympathising words assured us that he will try to remove the difficulties.

Gaya, Mar. 22.

"An example is better than precepts" is an adage which requires no demonstration. The social Conferences and the Kayasth Conferences have been holding their sittings year after year, but till now they have not been able to make a bold stride towards improvement. They have been making long speeches and moralising over curtailment of marriage expenses and all that, but the leaders of national thought have not been able to set a noble example yet worthy to be followed by the society at large. Babu Nand Kishore Lal, M.A., Vakil and a Zemindar of Gaya, although does not profess to be the leader of the Kayasth Conference, has the moral courage to publicly send his youngest brother, Babu Purneshwar Lal, M.A., to England the other day for to qualify him for the Bar. Till now only 2 persons preceded him from the most backward province of Bihar—Mr. Sinha of the Allahabad "Kayasth Samachar," and Dr. Ganesh Prasad. But I dare say no public demonstration was made in the case of either of them nor was their departure, in any sense of the term, public. It only became known to their parents and to the public at large when they had already reached their destination. In the present case, however, Babu Purneshwar Lal himself expressed a desire to go to England and his brothers, friends and relations freely gave him the required permission. On the eve of his departure from Gaya, Babu Sital Prasad, Rai Bahadur, one of the leading men of the Kayasth

NOT A MINUTE should be lost when a child shows symptoms of croup. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears will prevent the attack. It never fails and is pleasant and safe to take.

Sold by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdoel Rahaman, A. Kareem, Calcutta.

Community, invited many friends to a dinner party at his house on Saturday last—notable among them being Munshree Shunker Lal, a big Zemindar and the oldest influential Kayasth of this District. After a sumptuous dinner, the entire party drove to the railway station to bid Purneshwar Babu God speed. There was the usual parting scene which was most heart-rending. Purneshwar Babu, like an obedient brother, bowed before his elders, touched their feet, embraced his equals, bade salaams to his juniors and amid a chorus of blessing of them his train steamed off at 10-45 p.m. The Kayasth public was quite alive to the necessity of sending boys to London to compete with their brethren of other castes, without which no improvement could be expected, but somebody was wanted to begin and show the path. All of them were afraid of the rules of society and wanted to see an example set. This arduous and most responsible act has been done by Babu Nandkishore Lal, who has taken no doubt a big jump into the unknown.

## AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Various matters of agricultural interest formed the subjects of papers that were read in the different sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the recent meeting held at St. Louis. A paper on the function of forestry in the new agriculture directed attention to the circumstances that from one-third to one-half of the forests of the United States belong to farmers, and that their interest in forestry is primarily concerned with the maintenance of wood lots in a productive condition. Improvement in farm management was the subject of a paper which urged the desirability of improving the social and educational conditions of farmers, in order to make their living surroundings more pleasant and to retain the most active and progressive boys upon the farm. The problem of arranging a rotation of crops and of making combinations of profitable crops was discussed. At description was given of the methods followed at Minnesota Agricultural College in teaching farm management; the students are required to prepare plans for the laying out and management of their home farms with the proposed crops for a period of ten years in advance. The adoption of a definite system of farm management with a simple system of book-keeping, it was contended, would enable farmers to estimate accurately the profits accruing from various lines of work and to abandon the production of unprofitable crops. In a paper on agricultural economics, it was stated that the chief problem in agriculture is how to secure the largest net return from the land. The productive efficiency of the farmer was to vary as greatly as the fertility of the soil, and it was urged that theoretically the degree of efficiency of the farming should be regulated to the productivity of the land. The lack of such an equilibrium was held to be responsible for the dissatisfaction of the farmer and the attempt to better his condition by making a change. This was considered to be reflected in a general way in the ownership of land. It was shown from the census returns that the percentage of land-owning farmers in the United States has been declining for the last 20 years, the causes of this decline varying according to the locality. In some districts the great advance in the price of land has brought about an increase in the tenant system; in others the decline in the productivity of the soil has necessitated the amalgamation of farms into larger areas under the ownership of fewer individuals, with tenants. Land is sometimes retained for sentimental reasons long after it has become so unproductive as to render other occupations necessary for the support of the family. Professor Curtis, of Iowa, who is well-known in this country, in discussing the economic functions of live stock, dwelt on the relationship between live stock and the maintenance of soil fertility, and urged the advantages to the soil, and from a business point of view of associating crop-growing with animal production. Animal by-products, which were at first used solely as fertilizers, have nearly all been found to be valuable feeding stuffs for farm animals. They are now first fed to animals, and subsequently returned to the soil as manure. The hope was expressed that when diversified farming and animal industry are properly combined, the use of artificial fertilizers may become unnecessary. An interesting outcome of the meeting was the establishment of a new organization under the name of the American Breeders' Association; it comprised two sections, the one for plant breeding, the other for animal breeding.—"Times."

Major Magaki, of the Imperial Japanese Cavalry, has been recalled to Japan from Aldershot. He has been for the past year going through a course of instruction in the British method of training cavalry, as carried out by the First Cavalry Brigade, commanded by Major General H. J. Scobell. Major Magaki has been attached to the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars, who gave him a hearty greeting on his departure, as he has made himself most popular with all ranks.

Among the questions to be dealt with at a meeting of the Senate of the Punjab University on the 30th instant, are the Budget estimates of the Oriental College and Accounts of the University for 1904-05, the report of the Government auditor for the year ending 31st March, 1903, recommendations of the Syndicate regarding the nomination of certain Fellows to the Faculties, the nomination of certain Fellows to the Syndicate by the Faculties of Medicine and Civil Engineering, the nomination of oral examiners for the Science and Arts Faculty examinations of 1904, the courses of reading in Oriental classical languages for the several examinations of the Oriental and Arts Faculties for 1906 and those for the Oriental Titles Examinations of 1905, the recommendations of the Arts Faculty regarding the courses of reading in English for the Intermediate and B. A. Examinations in 1906, the Revised course in Persian for the B. A. Examination, the recommendations of the Medical Faculty regarding the Syllabus for the Preliminary Scientific Examination in Botany for the L. M. S. and M. B. Examinations, and certain recommendations made by the Syndicate regarding proposed changes in the regulations.

## MATTERS COMMERCIAL.

Mica royalties in Government forests in the Sonthal Parganas declined by Re. 7,386 in 1902-03 owing to indifferent trade and other causes.

Up to the end of January the total area leased for irrigation from Government canals in Bengal was 778,935 acres as against 768,762 acres for the corresponding period of 1903.

Earthnuts—the cultivation of which is confined almost entirely to the Madras and Bombay Presidencies—returned in 1902-03 a total area of 468,545 acres and a total outturn of 40,933 tons.

The Mirzapur stone quarries in the United Provinces, whose resources are greatly in demand now in most parts of the country for building operations, are being made more accessible by improving the road communications leading to them.

Mining operations for asbestos are in progress in the Ajmere-Merwara district in Rajputana, a Bombay European firm being among the concessionaries. The industry is a new one in that part of the country and its development will be watched with interest.

The Marwar Stone quarries in Rajputana are providing a profitable source of income to the state, their outturn according to the latest report was 381,000 maunds of stone, giving a net profit to the state of about Re. 17,000 exclusive of stone issued for state purposes.

In the United Provinces the hemp plant is now being grown for the purposes of export and the establishment of local presses for baling hemp, which has followed on cultivation, would appear to indicate that those concerned in the trade hope to develop the industry so as to establish it on a permanent basis and so make it profitable.

Among maps of commercial interest in process of preparation at the Survey of India Department in Wood Street is one of the Bengal coal fields. The last edition was published several years ago, so that the new one ought to be of interest in view of the great development that has taken place in the industry during the past decade or more.

The total irrigated area from Government canals in the United Provinces of the present season's "rabi" or spring harvest had up to the end of February amounted to 1,976,209 acres as against 1,865,776 acres for the corresponding period of 1903. Sugarcane and "other food grains" still show a decrease in area compared with 1903, but this is more than counterbalanced by very large increases under wheat and barley, aggregating to as much as 224,777 acres.

By the new process of "drum" tanning now being pursued at Cawnpore at some of the tanneries it has been found that leather so prepared is proof against decomposition and is admirably suited for ornamental work, such as book-binding. The tan liquid used in the process is believed to be a patent. In Cawnpore the manufacture of "safeda" or white leather is from sheep skins only, while in Lucknow it is made out of goat skin and is a well-known industry there.

Mineral exploitation in the Bikanir State of Rajputana is receiving a good deal of attention at present, especially in connection with the development of the coal resources of the state. The Pallana Coliery is turning out a profitable source of revenue and its output of coal is increasing unusually. Its consumption is, however, at present confined to the Jodhpur-Bikanir Railway and the State Public Works. A new seam of coal has recently been discovered at Chaneri. Its thickness is about 4 feet and it will be worked in due course.

The final report on the Assam mustard crop of 1903-04 returns the total area at 171,444 acres as against 174,719, the total acreage of the crop of 1902-03. The season has not been favourable to this year's crop owing to heavy rain and floods, but notwithstanding this, the present crop's area is in considerable excess of the averages of the preceding five and ten years, due to gradual recovery from the shortage of area which followed on the earthquake of 1897. For the Province as a whole the outturn is estimated at 12 annas and the crop is expected to be somewhat better than that of last year and the average of the preceding ten years.

Two industries in the United Provinces are now using large quantities of the methylated spirits turned out from the local distilleries. The Meerut soap works used it in the manufacture of transparent soap and a firm of chemical manufacturers in Benares for the production of sulphuric ether. An important change has been made in regard to the conditions under which methylated spirits may be purchased or possessed in the United Provinces. Rules and license forms have been put in force to restrict the sale of these spirits to specially licensed vendors to regulate their use by persons requiring them for industrial or scientific purposes; and to restrict possession by private individuals to quantities not exceeding one gallon.

NO other Liniment will heal a cut or burn so quickly as Chamberlain's Pain Balm. No other affords such prompt relief from rheumatic pains. No other is so valuable for seated pain like lame back and pains in the chest. Give his liniment a trial and become acquainted with its remarkable qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by

Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdoel Rahaman and Abdoel Kareem, Calcutta.



THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika

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THE AWFUL RESPONSIBILITY OF  
THE RULERS.

It will strike even the most indifferent observer of events that official logic, official morality, official conscience and official sense of justice in this country are not exactly the same that guide the affairs of ordinary human beings. Take the case of the Universities Bill. There is no doubt that the whole nation, for whose alleged benefit it has been passed, is opposed to this measure. It is quite true that the Government secured the support of two Indian members in the Council. But, His Excellency will pardon us for saying that it was scarcely generous on his part to parade their names in his speech; for, being in the unfortunate position of Government nominees, they would have acted ungratefully according to their light if they had not voted with the donors of their seats. No one will have the hardihood to deny that the measure has been thrust down the unwilling throats of the entire educated classes of the country. If the Bill had been in the hands of a body of ordinary human beings, they would never have cared to take the awful responsibility of passing it against such universal protests; for, being only mortals and not gods, they were utterly in the dark as regards its "profound effect upon the future of the Indian people."

The responsibility of the Indian Government in regard to such measures is still more awful as they are aliens and not in touch with the people. Past experience shows that the rulers have committed every now and then serious blunders in the matter of legislation by ignoring public voice. Hundreds of Acts have been repealed within the last 50 or 60 years. This proves conclusively the proverbial ignorance of the rulers as regards the conditions of the country and their utter incapacity to legislate for the people without the help of the latter. And yet every Viceroy, nothing daunted by the failures of his predecessors, would continue to do the same thing without at all realizing the grave responsibility of his action.

Nobody has ever doubted the ability of Lord Curzon and the Hon. Mr. Raleigh. But what do they know of the intellectual needs of the people to venture to introduce a change in the educational system which, in their opinion, may be "reform," but which the entire people regard as the greatest blow dealt to the progress of high education in this country? The conscience of ordinary men would have from such a responsibility recoiled, but the official members, from the highest to the lowest, felt no qualms of conscience in taking the responsibility of the measure upon their shoulders.

Lord Curzon, in his closing speech on the Universities Bill, complains that, "a great many hard and bitter things have been said of the Government in the discussion of the last few years." Surely it can never be a pleasant task for anybody to abuse another. That the people are not perverse and find no pleasure in vilifying the Government will be quite evident from the fact that they idolized a Viceroy like Lord Ripon, who is an Englishman, and not a Bengalee Babu. Nay, they also idolized Lord Curzon himself when His Excellency sought to protect the helpless natives of the land from the aggressions of British soldiers and violent tea-planters. If they now say hard and bitter things of the Government, it is not they but the Government who are to blame.

Like Lord Ripon, Lord Curzon, if he had chosen, might have earned the fervent gratitude of the people. Lord Ripon won the hearts of the Indians, not because he conferred any substantial boon upon them, but because his policy was to avoid all measures which evoked the opposition of the people. If Lord Curzon had followed this policy, not only would his memory have been gratefully cherished by the three hundred millions, but he would have acted up to the golden rule, namely, that the voice of the people being the voice of God, those responsible rulers who respect popular voice obey the voice of God. Lord Curzon, however, elected to go against the voice of the people of this country, though he has never mixed with their leaders and thus absolutely knows nothing as to what would benefit or harm them; and no wonder his measures should call forth bitter feelings in the country.

Here is a specimen to show the way the officials rebut a charge. Mr. Gokhale said that the Universities Bill had been passed practically unheard, and Lord Curzon replied:— "Alone of all of us he (Mr. Gokhale) also has made the discovery that this Bill involves a condemnation of the educated classes in India without a fair hearing. Without a fair hearing! They have been talking for five years. We have given to their representations a hearing unprecedented in length and in consideration."

There are no two opinions with regard to the generosity of the Government in one respect. It will not only allow the people to talk and write but also to attack. Nay, the Government will go even further than that. It will invite the views of the public bodies and leading men of the country and thank them for the expression of their opinion. It will always keep its ears and eyes open, and hear what everybody says and read what every newspaper writes. If you go on agitating a question for five years, it will go on listening for five years; the only thing which it will however not do is to pay any attention to what you say or write, or only take so much of your advice as will suit its purpose.

What Mr. Gokhale meant to say was that the voice of the educated Indians was totally ignored, as it produced no effect upon the deliberations of the Government. The reply of the Viceroy is—"why, we have done the greatest honour possible to the educated classes; for, have we not been listening—with molten lead in the ears, we fancy—to their voice these five years?" So Lord Curzon thinks that the Government confers an eternal obligation upon the people by permitting them to criticize its measures, and condescending to hear and see what they say and write. What does it matter to them if their criti-

cisms do not influence the deliberations of the Government and they have simply to cry in the wilderness?

In answer to another observation of Mr. Gokhale, the Viceroy remarks:—"His second argument, which, I think, rather an ungenerous one, is that the control of the Universities ought not to be placed in the hands of those whose interest in this country is only a temporary one. Only temporary—yes, but there is many an Englishman who gives 35 years of the best of his life to this country, and who is willing to work himself even unto death for the sake of duty to an alien people. Are the Indians quite confident that there would be many of them willing in the converse case to do the same?"

Is it necessary to point out the fallacy of this sort of argument? If an Englishman gives 35 years of the best of his life to this country, it is surely not on account of the love that he bears to its people but for the princely pay that he gets. Can His Excellency show a more highly-paid service in the world than the Civil Service of India? The members of the service, besides their princely salaries, enjoy compensation allowance, princely pensions and generous leave rules. Why should not they, therefore, stay here, for 35 years, or even 50 years, if they could do so for, the more they can stay here, the more money they make.

If, in return for these advantages, they do some work for the people, they deserve no thanks. Unfortunately, their main work is to extort salaams from the people and not to do them substantial good. Can His Excellency lay his hand on his breast and declare that they are not mere birds of passage in this country; that they are here not merely to make money; and that they have any interest in the abiding good of its people? And yet, in the hands of these men, will be entrusted the education of the children of the soil! May God forgive those who are responsible for this unnatural arrangement! Nobody questions their excellent intentions; but, arsenic will not cease to do its deadly work, whether you administer it with good or bad motives.

## LOAN OR TAXATION?

If the Government imposes any fresh taxation, there is a chorus of universal protest. Every one, however, seems to take it quietly if fresh loans are contracted, and the permanent debt of the Government is increased. But, is there any difference between the two? We do not see any. Indeed, the payment of interest of a debt means the same thing as the payment of an additional tax. The Government of Lord Curzon is credited with having not only imposed no fresh taxation, but remitting a portion of its last year. Yet the real fact is that, we are not better off than what we were five years ago; perhaps we are in a worse condition.

As we pointed out loan of two crores of rupees was contracted last year. A fresh loan of six crores and seventy-five lakhs is also going to be contracted this year. So within two successive years eight crores and seventy-five lakhs of rupees have been added to our permanent debt. The Budget Statements of the first three years of the present Government are not just now before us. But, if we remember aright, several crores more were borrowed during those years. However, let us confine our attention to the loans of the last and the current years only, which, as stated above, amount to eight crores and seventy-five lakhs.

Now the remissions of the Salt Tax and the Income Tax last year resulted in the reduction of public burden to the extent of £1,393,000 or two crores and ninety lakhs of rupees. So the position stands thus. The Government relieved us of two crores and ninety lakhs last year; but, it has added eight crores and seventy-five lakhs to our permanent debt. If you deduct the former from the latter the result is five crores and eighty-five lakhs. Which means that the interest of a permanent debt to the tune of five crores and eighty-five lakhs at three-and-half per cent, amounting to a permanent tax of about 21 lakhs per annum, has been fastened upon the people.

The remissions of the Salt and the Income Taxes have not thus improved our position in the least; on the other hand, a heavy permanent taxation in the shape of interest of five crores and eighty-five lakhs has been imposed upon us. It is quite true that, as usual, the plea of the Government for contracting these fresh loans is to construct railways and irrigation canals. But, the profits of these so-called reproductive works are not of the slightest benefit to the poor Indian tax-payers. It is the Railway and Irrigation Companies and the Government of India who enjoy the good results of these costly undertakings. The lot of the Indian tax-payer is to pay the interest of the enormous sums borrowed, and the profits accruing from the public works constructed with these loans go into the pockets of English Companies, or the coffers of the Government of India to enable the latter to increase military and other expenditures in which the people are not at all interested.

Here is another important point. It is quite inexplicable to us why should the Government borrow at all when the Finance Minister shows a large cash balance every year in the Budget Statements? In every civilized country, first an estimate is made of the expenses that are to be incurred during the coming year. The amount of expenditure is voted. If, during the course of the year, somehow or other, the expenditure exceeds the income, then the excess amount is raised either by taxation or loan. If, on the other hand, it is found, at the end of the year, that the expenditure has fallen below the estimate, and that some money has been saved, the saving is credited to the account of the next year.

In India quite a novel practice is followed as regards savings. It is found that the expenditure has exceeded the Budget grant, the usual course is followed, and the deficit is met either by a loan or by fresh taxation. But, if, at the end of the year, some money is saved, the saving is made over to the credit of the cash balance, and not to meet the expenses of the coming year, as is done in other countries.

The arrangement of the Government of India with the people is not only peculiar but also somewhat amusing in its nature. "If there is any deficit," says the Government ad-

ressing the people of India, "you should certainly make it up; but, if there is a saving, it is all mine, and must go to swell my cash balance!"

The annual savings of the poor people of India are thus practically lost to them for ever. These savings mainly form the bulk of the cash balance, and what the Government does with it nobody knows.

The taxation in India, the poorest country, is higher than it is in England, the richest in the world. That being the case, why are the savings in India credited to the cash balance, and not to the account of the forthcoming year, for the purpose of affording relief to the over-burdened tax-payers? How is the cash balance utilized? And, lastly, why should the Government borrow money when there was a surplus in its hands?

When presenting the Budget Statement, the Finance Minister often makes an announcement to the following effect: "We expect to open the coming year with a high cash balance." As a rule, a cash balance of not less than fifteen crores of Rupees remains in the hands of the Government. This being the state of affairs, under what law—divine, moral or economic—were two crores of rupees borrowed last year, and six crores and seventy-five lakhs are proposed to be borrowed this year? Already the permanent debt of India has grown to a fabulous sum and not a year passes without the addition of a few crores more to it. This loan business resembles an operation upon a patient suffering from laryngitis. It gives the Government some breathing time no doubt; but it shows also the desperate condition in which it has been placed. It is a palliative resorted to for temporary alleviation, but which is bound to aggravate the evil hereafter.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT  
SITUATION BY A STORY.

In days gone by, a Pasha of Cairo formed the idea of developing himself into either a second Harun-al-Rashid or a second Harun-al-Rashid, and the imperial heroes of Mussulman literature; and despoils in the East generally adopt one of them for their model. It was thus the Pasha wanted to be a second Harun-al-Rashid or a second Shaharjadee.

He argued the matter thus. Harun and Shaharjadee could chop off the head of any man they liked; he had also that privilege. Why should he not then make an attempt to be like them? He wanted a Shaharjadee to tell him stories, and a Dinarjadee to act the part of a go-between. Shaharjadee got a Shaharjadee and a Dinarjadee; why should he not be equally fortunate? Of course he will have to wait, but so had Shaharjadee to wait. He had to cut off the heads of many wives, possibly he will have to do the same. So he was impatient to begin work.

His first obstacle was his principal wife. If he was to be the hero he must begin by cutting off her head. And for that purpose, it was necessary, the wife should prove faithless, nay, not only prove faithless, but allow herself to be caught red-handed in her crime. The programme was this—the wife must be faithless and he must surprise her in the arms of a gallant, and who must be a black and ugly slave. He would have then to cut off the heads of both, and proclaim that he would marry a girl in the evening, and cut off her head in the morning; and in this manner would not permit any of his wives to prove faithless to him.

The would-be Shaharjadee or Rashid had no definite idea as to the feeling of his wife towards him. Perhaps she was faithless; perhaps she was not. But he was sure of one thing; he knew that if his wife proved faithless, he would never be able to catch her in the act; for he knew, she was by far more intelligent than he. What is to be done under the circumstance? In despair he had to throw himself at the mercy of his wife. He opened conversation with her in the following strain:—

Pasha. I am a devoted husband, and you must oblige me.

His wife. In what way?

Pasha. You must go astray, and prove unfaithful to me.

Wife. I see this is the result of Hasheesh or Bhang; you have taken too much of it to-day.

Pasha. No, my dear. I am perfectly sober. You must make love to a black slave, and you must oblige me by giving me an opportunity to surprise you in the embrace of your lover.

Wife. And when you have thus surprised me, you will cut off my head, is it not?

Pasha. Yes, exactly. How intelligent you are! (And he kissed his wife in admiration.)

Wife. I will never permit any one to sever my head from my trunk.

Pasha. Well, I can kill you by the bow-string, but that would not be regular. In the history it is distinctly laid down that the faithless wife with her gallant, and not a chaste woman, was cut into two by the sword.

Wife. I have no desire to die in either way.

Pasha. Well, dying is nothing. I assure you, I have seen men killed hundreds of times. Of course the fools whose head I had to cut off always objected; but, as I said, all is over in a few minutes. I assure you, your sufferings will be very little.

The wife still objected and the Pasha got disgusted. Of course he could have killed her even then and there, but that would have not been in proper form. His programme was that the wife must go astray, fall in love with a black slave, and he would cut the heads of both at one stroke. What could the poor Pasha do? He bemoaned his sad lot, and condemned the selfishness and perversity of his wife, and of the whole womankind.

Those who have any doubt as regards the story told above should know that we have an important witness to testify to it, and he is Captain Marryat.

If Eastern despots take Harun-al-Rashid for their model, their conferrers in the West take Napoleon for their purpose. To be a Napoleon, however, is more difficult than to be a Rashid. Rashid had only to cut off the heads of his helpless wives, but Napoleon had to conquer the world. Lord Lytton was fired at one time with this sort of ambition. But his programme was modelled more after Alexander than Napoleon. Napoleon, only the process of the Macedonian hero was reversed in his case. Alexander sent an expedition from Armenia which reached India crossing Afghanistan; Lord Lytton sent an expedition from India which was meant to reach Armenia through Afghanistan.

Mr. Risley, however, took Napoleon for his model. Napoleon partitioned countries and created new ones, and Mr. Risley resolved to do the same thing. Like the Pasha of Cairo he first wanted to secure adherents. The Pasha sought the help of his wife, and Mr. Risley sought the co-operation of the Bengalees. Mr. Risley told the latter that he would only sever the head from the trunk for a great object, and they must agree to this arrangement. The perverse Bengalees, like the perverse wife of the Pasha, objected to the programme. They said that they had no desire to be cut into two.

To return to the Pasha. Failing to induce his wife to sacrifice herself for his pleasure he sought story-tellers from the bazar. Since he could not procure a Shaharjadee he intended to make these story-tellers act the part of the former. One of the story-tellers told him the fate of an Empire. The story was this. An official had declared that a mole in the face added to its beauty. And the editor of a newspaper fiercely assailed this view. Thereupon other officials came forward to side with their brother official whom we may style the prime-moliste. Sure enough, other newspapers in the same manner joined their brother journalist whom we may style the prime-moliste. In this manner the battle began. As days passed, the battle became more and more fierce. Finally the country was divided into two parties, viz., molists and no-molists. Old books, scientific and literary, were ransacked for precedents. And in this manner a vast literature was created.

Newspaper editors were obliged now and then to issue two or three or half-a-dozen editions of their papers. The ministry had to resign and another supplanted it. In a few days, this new ministry again was supplanted by another. Riots occurred and created confusion in all parts of the Empire, and every branch of business was suspended. A lucky discovery, however, put a stop to this widespread and long-continued struggle. A wise man announced a theory to the effect that a mole in the face was or was not an object of beauty, according to the taste of the individual. In short, this theory laid it down that a mole was a beauty to some, and not so to others. The promulgation of this theory caused the excitement to subside.

As we all know, the partition question, raised by Mr. Risley, has cost the country a good deal of trouble, expense and time. We hope somebody would come forward to announce a theory to the effect that the partition of Bengal is good according to Mr. Risley and his official supporters, but it is not so according to his opponents, and that it is, therefore, meet that the project should be shelved, and the wanton waste of energy and the wanton creation of public misery and excitement, caused by the controversy, allowed to die out.

"SHAIKH WAZIR ALI KHAN, late Sub-Inspector of Bhal Police, whose hard case we have in re than once noticed in these columns wants our advice as to the further course he should adopt to get a hearing from the Government. Says he: 'Failing to obtain a reply to my memorial to the Government of India on the subject of my grievances, I sent another reminder. I do not know what fate it will meet. I have very little hope of being reinstated, but I do not know why a fair treatment would be denied to me after I have served Government faithfully for more than 17 years.'

We understand that, Mr. Handley, Chief Judge of the Small Cause Court, goes to the High Court in the place of Justice Harrington. Now that we have got a good and conscientious permanent ruler like Sir Andrew Fraser, we trust, the jobbery of the last year will not be repeated. If His Honour will be pleased to enquire into the matter, he will find how Babu Lal Gopal Sen was put aside and replaced by a European; and in this way, not only was a great wrong done to this deserving Sub-Judge, but to the whole Hindu community; for there is not a single Hindu Judge in the Small Cause Court. We fervently hope, this arrangement of 1902 of appointing Babu Lal Gopal Sen will be followed and justice done to all parties.

We published the other day the recent statement of the Punjab Government, throwing further light on the deplorable calamity that had occurred at Mukowal in the Gurdial District (Punjab), as the result of inoculation. Says His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:—"The Mukowal disaster was reported on the 6th November, and, in order to guard against the risk of any further calamity, Sir Charles Rivaz felt it imperative to issue orders for the immediate and entire cessation of all inoculation."

It is all very good on the part of Sir Charles Rivaz to stop all inoculation after the Mukowal disaster. But may we ask, why the experiment was at all allowed which was fraught with danger to human life, that it was a dangerous experiment, the subsequent result showed. Some body ought to be held responsible for it. The Government, however, makes none responsible, though the experiment resulted in the loss of human lives and a large amount of public money. Our readers are aware that fifty plague doctors were imported from England on princely salaries. Besides, elaborate arrangements had to be made to carry on the operations. All this must have cost a large amount of money. It is only to try an experiment that all this was done. Who can after this deny that India is a land of dangerous experiments?

We have some experience of the accomplishments of several Europeans in charge of the petty agricultural institutions now existing in the country. When they first come, several of them cannot distinguish a Dhan (paddy) from a Gohun (wheat). The Government has already recruited some agricultural officers from the European community to the Punjab Agricultural College. Who are they? What are their accomplishments? Have they passed any examination? Have they ever studied in any Agricultural College? We think the Government should supply this information to the public. The motion, that the old traditions of British rule in India namely, that the interest of individual Englishman ought to be of greater consideration than that of the country, are being followed in manning this Agricultural College, should be removed by the Government by

describing the qualifications of the Europeans already appointed. There is another notion which prevails all over the world, namely, that England is backward in agriculture, and that it is day by day getting more and more backward in that art. So, if the Government must needs have European experts, let these be imported from countries which have acquired proficiency in agricultural matters. There is no doubt that a college like the one contemplated ought to be put in charge of experts, and the nationality of the Professors should not come into calculation at all.

The land-holders and other men of means here must do some business to help themselves and their fellows. In England those holding the highest positions in society do it. Lord Rayleigh, who has just received the Kaiser's Order, "Pour le Merite," is not only a most distinguished scientist, but quite the most notable milkman that London possesses. "Lord Rayleigh's Dairy" is a sign, that he who runs may read in Great Russell-street, close by the Museum, and it is there that the milk from the magnificent herd of over a thousand cows is sent every day from the scientific peer's country home at Tilling Place, Witham, in Essex. But a peer, who is much more regarded in India than even Lord Rayleigh, is also doing the same dairy business. And who is this peer? He is Lord Ripon! The Marquess is the owner of something like twenty-two thousand acres at Studley, Royal, near Ripon, part of which he farms himself. All the milk sold by his lordship, however, is not the product of his own cows, for it is his custom to purchase milk in large or small quantities from the cattle keepers of the district. It is put into a huge patent separator, and the cream is extracted. The milk that remains is disposed of, whenever possible, through Lord Ripon's own shops in North-street, Ripon, and in Leeds. The quantity that remains over is utilised for cattle feeding. A milkcart bearing the legend, "The Most Noble the Marquess of Ripon," plies regularly between Studley and the little cathedral city, and the meanest cottager can buy a haphorth of his lordship's milk if he choose.

We are surprised to hear from the "Lribune" that the Punjab Government is going to appeal against the decision of the Magistrate in regard to what is called the Sairajjung case—a case which created a good deal of sensation. It may be in the recollection of the reader that sometime ago a vernacular paper in the Punjab published something against the official conduct of Sairajjung, Police-Inspector of Mooltan. The authorities took notice of it and the Police Inspector had to bring a libel suit against the editor to vindicate his character. The case assumed the form of something like a State prosecution. Subsequently the trying Magistrate decided in favour of the accused. The matter ought to have stopped there. But no, that is not to be. The Government has now declared in favour of the Mussulman Police Inspector in an open manner, as its present intention clearly implies. We hoped that the result of the trial case would have a salutary effect upon those of our rulers who would not scruple to waste public money for the purpose of teaching a lesson to those whom they do not like. But we are quite mistaken in our supposition. In the Mooltan case, if Inspector Sairajjung thinks that he has not obtained justice, let him seek to establish his innocence by every means. But, may we ask on what grounds of justice and equity, can the Government be a party to a private case, and waste its prestige and public money to help it? It is a private case between Sairajjung and an editor, and the parties should be left to themselves to fight over their own case or come to an amicable settlement.

Sometime ago, a correspondent from Cuttack sent us an account of an extraordinary procedure on the part of a high official there. The allegations were so serious, that we did not think it proper to publish them without inquiry. So we wrote to another gentleman of the locality to inquire and let us know if the story of our Cuttack correspondent was correct. In reply he writes us to say that the "facts of the case are all true." The story is furnished to us as follows:—

On the 26th inst., at 4 p.m., one of the constables of Balasore Police force, was performing puja in the front of the Sadar Treasury. The constable's name was from 8 a.m. in the morning. So he did not go far off to perform his puja as he stated that he was to perform his puja at 7 a.m. after which he was to perform sentry duty and that it would be convenient for him as it was close by. The constable used to perform puja by putting two coals inside his ears so that his attention might not be diverted by external noise. The custom of the Treasury guard constables is to remain always close to the Treasury and as it was not office time he did not think it improper to perform puja there. It so happened that while the constable was thus engaged, the official in question came there and called him, but as the constable was deeply absorbed in puja, he apparently did not hear him called and hence gave no response. At this the official grew angry and thought that the man had gone mad and drove him off the Treasury guard. Subsequently at 3 p.m. the man was summarily tried by him and sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment."

We are told that the constable has moved the High Court against these summary proceedings. We are further told that there are several instances to show that the official in question maltreated his subordinates for omitting to salute him. We hope His Honour will be pleased to make an enquiry into the matter.

The other day we related how the Nobel scholarship came to be founded. Having discovered dynamite and smokeless powder, Nobel thought that he would by these terrible engines put an end to war in the world. His grief, however, knew no bounds when he found that his inventions were converted into curses instead of blessings by wicked nations. He made about £2,000,000 by his two inventions and he bequeathed the whole of this amount for the endowment of the famous Nobel prizes which are of the value of about





## High Court.—Mar. 25.

## CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Amir Ali and Pratt.)

## AN ILLEGAL SENTENCE.

Babu Prosonno Gopal Roy moved in the matter of a conviction under section 341 I.P.C., by the Extra Assistant Commissioner of Sikkim. It appeared that there are two bazars known as Sildanbi Bazar and Derby Bazar. One Amu Sing complained to the Extra Assistant Commissioner to the effect that while he and other persons were going to Sildanbi Bazar he was pushed by one Abdul Mia, the petitioner in the present case towards the road leading to Derby Bazar, which was recently opened. The Extra Assistant Commissioner after recording the evidence and hearing the case, convicted the petitioner Abdul Mia under section 341 I.P.C. and sentenced him to two months' rigorous imprisonment on the 1st of this month. It being found that the sentence was not such as could legally be passed, the maximum sentence being one month's simple imprisonment, a reference was made to the High Court to reduce the sentence passed by the Extra Assistant Commissioner on its legal limit. On Babu Prosonno Gopal Roy moving in the matter and mentioning that there was a reference made, their Lordships ordered the petition and the reference to be heard together. It was contended by the learned Vakils that the Magistrate had introduced in his judgment matters not borne out by the record, the evidence showing that beyond a push given by the accused, nothing further happened, for which the petitioner's conviction under section 341 I.P.C. was not sustainable. At any rate the sentence of imprisonment was wholly severe. Their Lordships delivered judgment that they would not interfere with the conviction. The case would be adequately dealt with if a sentence of fine of Rs. 20 in default of one week's simple imprisonment, was passed and they ordered accordingly.

## APPEAL BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Mr. D. Swincoe, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, moved on behalf of the Local Government for the admission of an appeal in the case of Emperor vs. Gour Charan Dass. It appeared that a dacoity was committed in the house of one Bholai Dass. The police after making an enquiry arrested one Gour Charan Dass. Thereafter the accused was placed on his trial before the Sessions Judge of Purneah. The trial was held with the aid of assessors. While the case was being tried, the learned Sessions Judge, without taking the opinion of the Assessors, acquitted the accused under section 289 Cr. P. C. Their Lordships after hearing the case ordered the records to be put up with the case.

## A CASE OF RIOTING.

Babu Prosonno Gopal Roy moved for the admission of an appeal preferred by Ananda Das and three others, who were convicted by the Sessions Judge of Kungpore sitting at Jalpaiguri, under Sec. 147 I.P.C., for rioting and sentenced to 2 years' rigorous imprisonment, one of them being also convicted under Sec. 325 I.P.C. for causing grievous hurt and sentenced, in addition, to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment. It appears that there is a channel of water called Panali Dara, on both banks of which there are jote lands held by one Nilesuari Dasi. The Dara together with the jote lands belongs to the Chakrajat estate of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar. In April 1900 a notice was issued by the managers calling for bidders to take settlement of the aforesaid Dara which was in the khas possession of the Maharaja. On the 5th August of that year, Nilesuari applied through her amokhtars to obtain settlement, with two stamp papers for Patta and Kabuliati. On the 13th August, this petition with stamp papers was forwarded with a report and recommendation to the manager's office. Nothing further appears to have been done until the 29th Nov. when the report was made that the applicant for settlement objected to pay any rent unless she was put in possession and granted a Patta. On this report, an order was passed on the 6th December to have the Patta and Kabuliati executed without delay. The Kabuliati was not to the Tehsildar signature of the applicant. The Kabuliati was not executed and after the lapse of some time, a fresh notice was issued calling for bidders to make settlement of the aforesaid Dara. Ananda Das then obtained settlement in October 1903, grew paddy on the silted up portion of the Dara and while he put up a bar in the Dara where the water was deep to catch fish. A riot took place and both sides were sent up. The story for the prosecution in the present case was that the Panali Dara was all along in Nilesuari's possession and the accused attempted with the help of the Zemindar's people to oust her. The Sessions Judge and the two assessors with whom aid the trial was held, convicted the appellants as stated above, one of the assessors was however of opinion that Ananda Das had acted "bona fide."

It was contended before their Lordships that the case made before the Sessions Judge was totally different from the case as set out in the First Information, that the learned Sessions Judge had discarded evidence which ought not to have been so discarded, that he placed erroneous constructions upon the documents put in on behalf of the defence, that there were material discrepancies in the evidence given by the prosecution witnesses, and that at all events the sentence was severe. Their Lordships after hearing the learned pleader admitted the appeal and also gave permission to put in Wakalatnama on behalf of another prisoner who had not signed the Wakalatnama and therefore not appealed.

## A COW KILLING CASE.

Babu Monomotho Nath Mukerjee, moved on behalf of one Kamauddin Gorapi and five others for the issue of a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Faridpur to show cause why the case against the petitioner, which was pending before Babu B. K. Goswami, a Deputy Magistrate, should not be transferred from the file of the trying Magistrate to that of any other European Magistrate either in Pabna or in Kushtia.

This case was commonly known as the cow killing case. The prosecution story of the

case was that a large number of Mahomedans, including the petitioners, had killed a bullock in an open place near the house of a Hindu gentleman in order to wound the religious feelings of the Hindus. An information to this effect was lodged at the local police station. A police enquiry was held and the police submitted a report in which they recommended the prosecution of 17 persons under Secs. 298 and 504 of the Indian Penal Code. The report was placed before the District Magistrate who sanctioned the prosecution of the persons mentioned in the report. Thereafter Babu B. K. Goswami, a Deputy Magistrate, held a local enquiry. Thereafter, on the prayer of the complainant, five other names were added in the list of the accused persons. Summonses were issued against the accused. The case is now being tried by the said Deputy Magistrate.

The learned Vakils submitted that the case being one involving religious considerations there had been a high state of party feeling in connection with the said matter and the witnesses who had actually seen the occurrence refused to give evidence inasmuch as they believed that the trial of the case by a Hindu would surely end in a conviction.

Their Lordships after hearing the learned Vakils issued a Rule on the terms set forth in the petition.

## A RULE ISSUED.

Mr. Dunne instructed by Babu Rajendra Chandra Chakrabarty, Vakils, moved on behalf of one Ananta Mohanta and others, who were convicted under section 379 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced to a fine of Rs. 10 each by the Deputy Magistrate of Ranaghat. The subject of the theft was a few coconuts worth a rupee only. The garden from which the coconuts were alleged to have been stolen was claimed by the complainant one Budree Das Mohanta, as belonging to him under a deed of gift. The complainant was at one time a Mohunt of the image Jagalkishore jointly with the accused. The defence was that the garden was debottor of the image Jagalkishore. The learned counsel contended that the conviction under section 379 was not legally maintainable, as the accused did the act not with any dishonest intention but in the exercise. Of the bonafide claim as regards the title of the property. Their Lordships after hearing the learned counsel ordered a rule to be issued in the terms of the petition.

## A RULE GRANTED.

Moulvie Samsul Hudah and Babu Jadunath Kanjial, vakils, on behalf of Babu Ghonesyam Biswas moved for a Rule on the District Magistrate of Hooghly to show cause why the order of Kunar Girindra Narayan Deb Bahadur, Joint Magistrate of Hooghly, binding the petitioner to keep the peace for six months and to execute a bond to the amount of Rs. 25 should not be set aside for absence of evidence on the point.

The petitioner is a Government servant and belongs to a respectable family. He was insulted by a tenant of his brother-in-law, whereupon he lost his temper and gave a slap or two. Before the Joint Magistrate he admitted what he had done, and on his own confession he was convicted under sec. 323 I. P. C. and fined Rs. 25. The Joint Magistrate then proceeded to remark: "The accused seems desperate, and he should be bound down to execute a bond to keep the peace for six months, and execute a bond for the same in Rs. 25. This remark was founded on no evidence on the record."

Their Lordships directed a Rule to be issued in the case as was prayed for.

## CIVIL BENCH

(Before Justice Irvine &amp; Harrington.)

## THE ARBITRARY ACTION OF

## A MUNSIF.

Babu Jadunath Kanjial, Vakils, moved their Lordships on behalf of the petitioners Rammal and Sona Ram for the issue of a Rule calling upon the Sub-Deputy Collector and Munsif of Barpeta (Assam) to show cause why his order of the 2nd February last sanctioning prosecution of the petitioners under Sec. 193 I.P.C. for perjury should not be set aside. The petitioners were defendants in a suit which was originally instituted in the Court of the Sub-divisional Officer of Barpeta vested with the powers of a Munsif. He transferred the suit to the file of Babu Sarat Chandra Lahiri, Sub-Deputy Collector, who was also vested with the powers of a Munsif. This was done on the 8th December last. On that very day the petitioners objected and applied for time to move the District Judge. This petition was rejected on the ground that their pleader could cite no provision of the law in support of their application. The case was adjourned for hearing on the 11th December, on which date the petitioners filed a fresh petition stating that it was the District Judge and not the Sub-divisional Officer who could, under Sec. 25 C.P.O. transfer a case to his file, and that as the plaintiff used to go to his house while the case was pending and his son was a principal actor to a theatrical party with which the Munsif was connected, he was threatened by the plaintiff's son that the case would be decreed, and hence it was prayed that he would retransfer the case to the Court in which it was originally filed. Thereupon the Sub-Deputy Collector got enraged, examined the petitioners and the plaintiff and two Mukhtars regarding the contents of the petition and finding certain contradictory statements inquired as to who drafted the petition, who was present at the time, and who read it over and the like, sanctioned a prosecution of the petitioners under Sec. 193 I.P.C. for perjury and forwarded the records of the case to the Sub-divisional Officer and 1st class Magistrate for trial. It was contended by the learned Vakils that the Sub-Deputy Collector and Munsif had no jurisdiction to try the case and the whole proceeding was "ultravires" that when the petition was admitted there was no necessity to examine the petitioners; that the discrepant statements were trivial, unimportant and entirely unconnected with the suit itself; that he could not grant the prayer for a retransfer he had no business to look into the merits of the petition; and that he acted the part of a prosecutor who was apparently enraged against the petitioners for the statements made in their petition. Their Lordships granted a Rule calling on the officer

to show cause why his order sanctioning prosecution should not be set aside, and further directed that the proceedings before the Magistrate should be stayed until further orders.

## ALLEGED MUNICIPAL ZOOLUM.

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## POLICE ENQUIRY ORDERED.

On Thursday morning, before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose, with Babu Shib Chander Ghose applied on behalf of a durwan named Brindaban Ojah in the employ of Messrs. Shib Kristo Daw and Co., merchant of this city carrying on business at 30 Clive Street, for a police enquiry against two Footpath Inspectors and four Chaprasis, belonging to the Calcutta Municipality on charges of trespass, assault and theft, under the following circumstances. The allegations were that four barrels of cement were brought in a cart in front of the gate of the firm. The coolies rolled three of the barrels inside the firm compound and while they were in the act of removing the fourth one, two Footpath Inspectors with four Chaprasis came up to the gate armed with sticks. It was further alleged by the Vakils that there was no footpath on the eastern side of Clive Street. One of the Inspectors stopped the barrel with his foot. The applicant remonstrated with him, whereupon it was alleged, all these men fell upon him and assaulted him with clenched fists and sticks in the presence of the Sircar of the firm. The durwan ran inside the office and the Inspectors followed him thither. He was dragged out and again alleged to have been assaulted. The Inspectors then put the four barrels on the cart and left the place with it. The complainant was then sent to hospital by the Bara Bazar thana people and a complaint was lodged against them. The name of one of the Footpath Inspectors was ascertained to be Mr. W. Doffield, but as those of his colleagues and following could not be ascertained, the learned Vakils, applied for a police enquiry at the first instance. His Worship granted the prayer.

## ALLEGED POLICE ZOOLUM.

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## STRANGE IF TRUE.

On Wednesday, before Mr. Abdur Rahim, the second Presidency Magistrate, an important case was heard which disclosed how a constable No. 33 attached to the C. Town roughly handled a gentleman, named Babu Monmotho Nath Mitter. The facts of the case are these. Babu Monmotho Nath went to the shop of a betel-seller and asked for a piece worth of cigarettes. The betel-seller supplied him with some cigarettes, but as they were not of the quality he wanted, he asked the man to take them back and return the piece. Constable No. 33, named Ram Din Kishore Sing, was then on duty and seated there in the "pan" shop and insulted the gentleman and the gentleman said that he had no right to interfere. This irritated the constable, who dragged Monmotho Babu to the thannah beating him, it is alleged, in the meantime with a shoe on the way causing marks on his person. Whilst the constable was taking him there through a lane, he found a man, named Ram Das Barui, and, it is alleged, he tutored the man to say at the "thana" that he (Ram Das) and Monmotho were fighting on the Street. Ram Das did as he was desired and the constable preferred a charge against them both under section 68 of the Police Act fighting in the Street). Monmotho Babu said before the Inspector that he had been assaulted by the constable on the way thereto and was thereupon sent to hospital where his wounds were examined. Inspector Baidya Nath Mukerjee took up the enquiry and ascertained that the gentleman was really dragged along the street and assaulted. The shop-keepers of the locality corroborated the statement made by the gentleman in Court. Inspector Mukerjee, examined by the Court, said that his belief was that the constable had assaulted Monmotho.

The Magistrate on the evidence before him discharged Monmotho and fined the other accused (Ram Das) on his own admission, on a charge of fighting on the street, and remarked that it seemed to the Court that the first accused Ram Das was very eager to admit the charge and support the prosecution. Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose Vakils who appeared for Monmotho said that the first accused admitted the charge only because he had been tutored by the constable to do so.

Twenty-five Japanese naval and military officers left London on March 2 for Japan. They travelled from Euston by the 11-55 boat express for Liverpool, where they embarked in the Royal and United States mail steamship Celtic for New York. There was a large number of friends and officials from the Legation present to wish them farewell.

It is stated that the Japanese Government have just placed contracts for thirty powerful locomotives with German firms. Twelve of them will be built by the Berlin Machine Company (who tendered at £1,995), nine by the Hanover Machine Company of Linden (£1,989), and nine by Henschel and Sohn, of Cassel. The lowest British tender was £2,008 per locomotive.

The "Shanghai Sinwenpao" states that a despatch has been received from North China, reporting that a body of five hundred Chinese "Mounted Bandits," enrolled by the Russian authorities, while stationed at Dalny, broke out into open mutiny the other day upon receipt of news of Russian reverses at Port Arthur and began plundering the town. This created a panic amongst the Russians in Dalny, and would have ended seriously for them, had not the leader of the Bandits been bought off by the Russians and a promise made to give a monthly sum of \$1,500 to the Bandits if they would keep quiet.

White ants were responsible for what might have led to a serious accident at the last meeting of the Singapore Legislative Council. The clerk was just about to read the Minutes when a loud cracking noise was heard, and then a large piece of the ceiling fell on to the staircase leading from the Council Chamber to the Governor's private room. Everybody present seems to have been for a moment "out in consternation except the punkah-puller, who went on with his task unmoved by the catastrophe. This reminds us of an impassioned address by a Counsel liberally brought down the house—some pieces of the ceiling fell on to the Judge's desk—proved himself equal to the occasion by quietly remarking, "It's just its'ruat coelum."

£8,000, and are awarded annually. All the citizens of the world are eligible to these prizes without any distinction of nationality. A good many have already secured this prize, and at least three of them—M. Currie, Dr. Finsen and Bjornson—have distinguished themselves, each in his own way. We have already described the achievements of the first two, and we shall introduce the last, Bjornsterne Bjornson, to the reader. He is of Norway; he takes the prize for imaginative literature, awarded last year to the German historian, Mommsen. We do not know him quite as well as we ought to, but there probably never was a prophet who had greater honour in his own country, whatever that country may have been. He has walked in many paths of life, and in each path in turn he has been the most prominent figure. He had been, at one and the same time, the Norwegian Gladstone and the Norwegian Tennyson. He has been all that, and he has been more than that. As a lecturer he has been the Norwegian Emerson; as a novelist he has been the Norwegian Dickens; as a journalist he has been the Norwegian Delane; and as a theatrical manager he has been the Norwegian Augustus Harris. He is so democratic a democrat that he once challenged the King to a duel, and he is the most popular man in Norway. Tangible proofs of the Norwegian people's love for Bjornson, we are told, meet you at every turn in Norway. You see more of his photographs than of the King's and Queen's in the shop windows in Christiania. In the remote country places you see his portrait in colours hanging on the walls. Nearly every house has his biography and at least one of his books on the table. The nations which are cultivating imperialism do not, it seems, furnish winners for the Nobel prize.

A LITTLE bit of personal story for which the reader will forgive us. It is however not so much to thrust our own matter upon the public as to examine the advantages and disadvantages of the achievements of modern science that we are going to tell it. Which is to be preferred—the tramcar dragged by horses or the tramcar moved by electricity? If the former is slow in its pace, the passengers run no bodily risk. The latter is, however, more swift and therefore more advantageous, but then it carries some dangerous elements with it which may cause death, and, sometimes, its speed may be neutralized by its sudden stoppage on account of some disorder in the electric wires. In our own case, previously we required fifty men to bring out our paper. Now the linotype machines enable us to do the same thing with the help of only about a dozen men. Previously, when the compositors struck or proved contumacious, we were no doubt put into difficulty; but, we could have replaced them in the course of half-an-hour by tics or hired hands. But the linotype machine is quite helpless without steam or electric power. We have, of course, provided ourselves with both, but, if the oil engine or the electric motor suddenly plays ducks and drakes with the linotype machines, that is to say, refuse to move them, not spitefully but in consequence of their being disabled by some of their vital parts being broken, we are then placed in a position of embarrassment from which we cannot extricate ourselves easily by the expenditure of any amount of money or energy. Such was the situation in which we found ourselves suddenly on Monday last at about 10 or 11 in the evening. Fortunately the "matter" for the next morning's issue was almost ready when this mishap occurred. The men of Messrs Kilburn and Co. came but could do nothing that night. Neither could they set their motor right in the course of the next day, though they hoped to do it by noon. Not a scrap of matter had then been composed, and we had to fill up twenty-three columns of our paper! Just imagine the position! Our real difficulty was with the proceedings of the Supreme Council which could not wait and must be put in type immediately. Thanks to the Linotype Company, they placed their machines at our disposal. But, we shall never be able to repay our obligation to Mr. Wilson, editor and proprietor of the "Indian Daily News," for the kind help he rendered us at this juncture. When he came to know our difficulty, he at once sent us ten or eleven columns of composed matter; and thus we were able to come out in the morning, as usual, without any hitch. On that day we cursed all scientific inventions of modern times; but, this was our first experience—and we hope the last—of the disadvantages of the linotype machines since we installed them. They are, however, now doing their work as briskly as ever. Indeed, considering the splendid way these machines have served us all along, it would be a little ungracious on our part to speak ill of them. On the whole, therefore, we think, the world has gained, and not lost, by availing itself of the glorious achievements which science has secured for the material progress of humanity.

The gist of the Budget Statement, which is sent on Thursday, is to be found in paragraph 15 under the heading of "Summary of Budget Results":—

We may now consider the situation as regards our estimates for items classified in the Accounts as non-chargeable to revenue. We carry forward to this second part of our statement, which includes Capital and Debt transactions, Deposits, Remittances, and Advances, a surplus of £918,700. Our total estimate for capital expenditure on Railways and Irrigation amounts to £8,940,000, of which sum £6,310,300 for account of State Railways; £1,797,300 for the account of Railway Companies; and £833,300 for Major Irrigation Works. In addition to the above, we have to find £1,088,800 for discharging Permanent Debt, and £333,300 for discharging Temporary Debt. We have also to make a net payment of £1,407,500, under Deposits, Advances, and Remittances. Thus the total of our capital requirements amounts to £11,770,500.

The above thus means that the coffers of the Government are not empty, but it is impossible for them to make the two ends meet without contracting a fresh debt. Last year the Government had to borrow two crores of Rupees, and this year they intend borrowing £4,500,000 or six crores and seventy-five lakhs of Rupees more. In other words, in the course of two years, the Government have been obliged to contract a loan of eight crores and seventy-five lakhs. Mind, all this is permanent debt, to which is to be added the fifty lakhs which the Government have bor-

rowed, though temporarily, from the Durbar of Gwahior. Of course the answer of the Government is that, a large portion of this amount will be devoted to railways and irrigation; but what we see is that, in spite of these so-called reproductive works, the permanent debt has gone on increasing year after year. So the days of prosperity budget are gone and those of the adversity one have begun. It is a pity that this should be so when Lord Curzon is going to leave us for good; but, the crash was bound to come, to day or to-morrow, and the only regret is, it should come before the departure of His Lordship from this country. If a famine had occurred this year, would not the Government have itself in the position of a bankrupt? And it was only by a chance that another gigantic famine was averted this time.

As far back as 1892, Mr. Mac Neill, always a friend of India, thus referred to the poverty of India, in a public speech: "India, the poorest country in the world, has been saddled with the most expensive government." In order to give emphasis to this view he asked a question in Parliament, and requested the Secretary of State to supply a statement showing how the public services were distributed. Mr. Curzon, the then Under-Secretary of State for India, in reply supplied the following information:—

Salaries worth fifty thousand and upwards:—  
Europeans and Eurasians ... .. 26  
Native ... .. 1

Salaries of 40 to 50 thousand:—  
Europeans ... .. 47  
Indians ... .. 3

Salaries of 30 to 40 thousands:—  
Europeans ... .. 125  
Indians ... .. 0

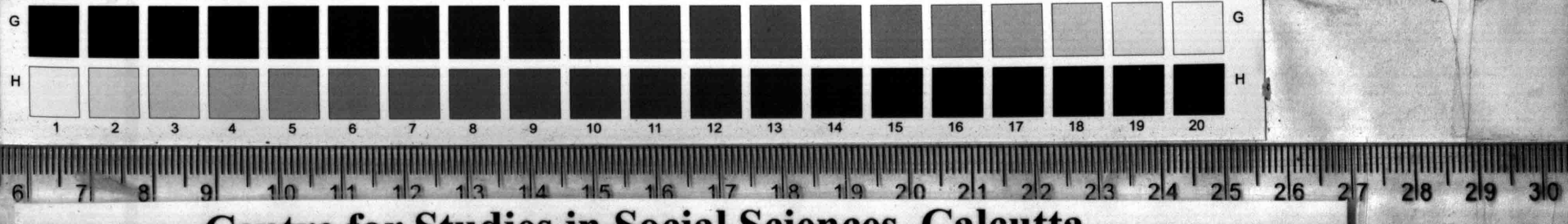
It is gratifying to note that Mr. Under-Secretary Curzon, realizing the wrong done to the Indians, suggested at the time "the justice of throwing open some appointments to the natives of the soil." But now that Mr. Under-Secretary Curzon is the ruler of the country, do we find the position much improved? On the other hand, we believe, some of the appointments which were previously held by Indians to their honour and credit, are now being taken away from them and given away either to Europeans or Eurasians. Previously, Indians managed the estates of Zemindars, but now this work is being done by Europeans and Eurasians. In his Mysnensing speech, Lord Curzon ridiculed the idea of tea-planters being appointed as managers of Courts of Wards if the eastern districts of Bengal were transferred to Assam. But there is scarcely an estate in Behar which is not under the management of indigo-planters or Europeans. We see all around the spectacle that whenever it is possible the Indian is thrust aside for the benefit of foreigners. Government is entitled by law to control and manage an estate belonging to a minor or which is encumbered. Surely this arrangement is based upon a good principle, and none can question the honesty of the authorities in this matter. But does not the position become ridiculous and inexplicable when, on taking charge of an estate, the Government, as a rule, engages high-salaried Europeans or Eurasians to manage it? Take for example the estates at present under the management of the Court of Wards in Bengal. The "Sanjibancee" gives some figures in reference to this matter of which we shall take notice hereafter.

The replies of the Madras, the Central Provinces and the Assam administration regarding the scheme for a territorial redistribution of districts in connection with the proposed partition of Bengal have, we understand, reached the Government of India. The views of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on the whole subject will probably be submitted before the Government of India leave Calcutta for Simla.

It is notified in the United Provinces Gazette that the new Mussorie dog tax, about which there was some discussion at the end of last year, will come into force on the 1st April. The new tax is on the graduated principle dogs being rated at Rs. 2 each up to a limit of five, after which the charge rises to four rupees for each additional dog up to ten, six rupees for every dog from ten to twenty, and on rupees for every animal over this limit, after which there is no enhancement. It is possible that we may hear some further growls from the minority whose zeal as dog fanciers acknowledges no moderation, but these will be easier to bear than the baying and barking of their overgrown establishments.

We are told that the British Government have no desire to annex Tibet, but only to exclude a foreign and hostile domination over Lhasa, and one way of achieving this end is to improve communications with the country and stimulate commercial relations with the people. And for this purpose our benign Government is spending the rate-payers' money like water in sending out the Mission to the land of the Dalai Lama. The Mission has tried for months together to find out the shortest and the easiest route from India to Chumbi. And now we are told that the route via Sikkim is one that abounds with natural difficulties and that trade can scarcely be expected to follow it. So the mission is now engaged in finding out a road through western Bhutan. We are yet in the dark as to the estimated amount that would be required in this expedition.

When the late Amir of Kabul subjugated Kafiristan he wisely took the precaution of ordering a good military road to be made right through the country from north to south, thus opening up communication with the Kunar Valley and Jellalabad where considerable numbers of troops are always stationed. Further, he directed that this road should eventually be carried over the Western Hindu Kush so as to give a better route to Kataghan, Badakshan and the Upper Oxus Valley. This road has just been completed and its northern terminus is at Fyzabad, the principal town of Badakshan, where caravan routes meet from Bokhara on the north-west, the Pamirs and Kashgar on the north-east. The Afghan Government have constructed serais at all the halting places and caravans are to be encouraged to use the road in preference to that through Chitral. The latter route will, it is expected, be quite superseded.





## Calcutta and Mofussil.

Break up of the Secretariat.—The Bengal Secretariat moves up to Darjiling on the 31st of this month, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor following shortly after.

Plague Figures.—On Thursday 81 cases and 73 deaths from plague were reported in Calcutta. The total mortality on that day was 115, the quinquennial average being 100.

Justice Prinsep's Successor.—It is understood that Mr. Fargiter will be confirmed as Civilian Judge of the Calcutta High Court when Sir Henry Prinsep retires next week.

Plague Figures.—On Tuesday 88 cases and 69 deaths from plague were reported in Calcutta. The total mortality on that day was 118, the quinquennial average being 100.

Office Buildings at Alipur.—The Government of Bengal have, we understand, accorded sanction to the building of residential quarters for their officials at Alipur. The estimate runs to close upon ten lakhs of rupees.

Ranaghat-Krishnagar Light Railway.—The Consulting Engineer to the Government of India will shortly make an official inspection of this line on the application of the Company.—"I. Engineering."

A Boy Expelled.—Writes our Dacca correspondent:—An F. A. candidate has been to-day (March 21) expelled from the Examination Hall for copying certain answers from a book. The boy belongs to the Jagannath College, Dacca.

Nekmard Fair.—The Government of Bengal has issued the following notification:—"The Lieutenant-Governor directs that the Nekmard Fair, in the district of Dinajpur, shall not be held this year. Any person proceeding to the fair in contravention of this notification will be turned back."

Gold and Silver Reserve.—The reserve of gold coin and bullion in the Indian Treasuries on the 22nd was Rs. 15,92,52,770, while that of silver coin was Rs. 11,27,76,791, and the silver held as security for notes under Act VIII of 1890 was Rs. 63,77,588.

Lecture on Tibet.—A lecture on "Tibet" will be delivered at the Howrah Sporting Club, by Rai Sarat Chandra Dass Bahadur, C.I.E. to-day at 6-30 p.m., and that Mr. E. Geake, I.C.S., Magistrate of Howrah, will occupy the chair on the occasion.

Purchase of Railways.—The Government of India are purchasing for sixty lakhs of rupees, the Segouli-Raksaul Railway, the Brannaputra Sultanpur Railway, the Cooch Behar State Railway, and the Ranaghat-Krishnagar Light Railway, which are the property of various private companies.

Plague Mortality.—Plague mortality last week reached the terribly high figure of 40,527 deaths. Of this total the Punjab claimed 10,174, the United Provinces 9,427, the Bombay Presidency 7,687, Bengal 4,797, and the Central Provinces and Berar 2,804. Material increases also occurred in Central India and Rajputana. Last year the death-rate during the corresponding week was 29,236.

Answer-Paper Missing.—The "Dacca-Prakash" to hand reports that during the last Entrance Examination the answer-paper of a candidate to the English Evening paper was found missing. The matter was immediately reported to the District Magistrate, who has very kindly assured the afflicted candidate, that if he passes in all other papers he will send up his petition with recommendation to the syndicate for favourable consideration. This is indeed very kind of the popular Magistrate of the district.

Assault upon Women.—The last number of the "Dacca-Prakash" reports three cases of criminal assault upon women of which the first and the third are under Police investigation and the second pending. Barisal has become notorious for such nasty cases; and, we hope, the present ruler of the district, who has already earned the good opinion of the people, will take particular notice of such cases and warn the local police against failure in detecting the miscreants implicated in these cases.

A Hard-hearted Husband.—On Friday, Mr. Chotzner, Joint Magistrate of Alipore and Atharia Kacher of Matabrur was charged with having murderously assaulted his girl wife. The accused who married the girl at Patna came and lived with her at Matabrur and never allowed her to go to her parents' house. Some of the residents of Matabrur while starting for their home at Patna took pity on the girl and took her with them so that they might reach her to her father's place. The accused got scent of the matter and forcibly took her away from their company and mercifully belaboured her with a "lathe". The accused was sentenced to four months rigorous imprisonment.

A Moharrum Disturbance.—During the first torchlight Moharrum procession on Wednesday night, when the "aknars," spread over the town and the suburbs, the muleteers attached to the Transport lines at Hastings were inclined to be motus, due, apparently, to the fact that the Police, with a view to maintaining order, headed the procession. The affair was, however, promptly suppressed by a posse of European constables under the command of the Deputy Commissioner. In the "melee," however, Inspector Elliot sustained a nasty wound in the face from a brick hurled at him from the crowd, while an Indian constable was knocked senseless and two or three others received slight injuries.

A Coolie Recruiter Convicted.—On Friday, Babu Benode Beharie Sanyal appeared before Mr. Casperoz, the District Judge of Alipore and proffered an appeal on behalf of one Deosaran Ojha, a coolie recruiter who had been convicted and sentenced to three months rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 150 by Mr. J. Ghosal an Honorary Magistrate of Sealdah on a charge of cheating. The fact of the case is that accused induced the complainant, Sirdar bearer of a European to part Rs. 100 on the presentation that he would secure for him an employment in the Customs office from the 1st December last. When the complainant asked the accused about his employment he was told by the latter that there was no chance to get any job there for the present. On this the complainant demanded back his money and the accused denied all knowledge of it. The Judge after hearing the pleader admitted the appeal and released the prisoner on bail.

Howrah Station, E. I. R.—"Indian Engineering" understands that sanction has been accorded to filling up the boat-dock and making a new coal yard at a cost of about Rs. 2,50,000.

Attempting on the Life of an Uncle.—On Friday, before Babu Gopal Chander Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore one Kunjo Lal Ghose of Badurtalla was charged with having attempted to take the life of his maternal uncle. A quarrel arose between the parties over the possession of a garden which had been in the actual possession of the uncle. The nephew claimed the disputed garden as a joint property and on the day of occurrence went to take forcible possession by plucking fruits. The uncle on resisting was attacked by the accused with a sharp dao and was severely wounded. The court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to one year's rigorous imprisonment.

All's Well that Ends Well.—On Thursday, before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, the case in which Babu Nilmoney Bose charged Mr. Edwin Rebeiro, with fraudulently preventing the demand due to the complainant from the Provident Fund, was concluded. Babu Kali Charan Palit, appeared for the prosecution and Babu Kanyo Lal Mookerjee for the defence. As the case was called on, Babu Kanyo Lal said that his client had no intention of committing any offence. The complainant could not withdraw the money from the Provident Fund of the E. I. Railway, under the rules; governing the Act of the Provident Fund. The defendant said that he had withdrawn the money and deposited the same with him and he would just now pay the amount in full. Babu Kali Charan said that he would apply to withdraw the case. The court accordingly allowed the case to be withdrawn and the discharge of the defendant.

A Maintenance Suit.—On Thursday at the High Court, before Justice Amur Ali and Pratt. Mr. Monnier with Babu Trylucko Nath Chuckerbutty moved on behalf of one Mrs. Rose to set aside an order of the Chief Presidency Magistrate reducing the amount of maintenance allowed by another Magistrate. It was stated in the petition that under a promise of marriage she lived with the defendant Mr. B. A. Rose, as his wife for about two years at Calcutta and manilla in the Philippine Islands, and had two children by him, one of whom was dead. On the 21st November last Mr. Bonaud ordered the defendant to pay Rs. 50 per month for the maintenance of his infant child. Failing to pay the money he was called upon to show cause why he had omitted to do so. Mr. B. A. Rose appeared before Mr. Weston who reduced the amount to Rs. 25 on the 12th December last. It was contended that the chief Presidency Magistrate had no jurisdiction to alter the amount without examining the defendant on oath or taking any evidence. Their Lordships issued a rule on the ground that the order of Mr. Weston was not warranted by law.

Issue of a Warrant.—On Friday before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Manwel with Babu Debendra Nath Das, on behalf of one Sook Lal applied for the issue of a warrant against one Kanyo Lal Ghose on a charge of criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 8, under the following circumstances. The facts, as alleged, were that the complainant sought the assistance of the defendant to interview Dr. Hem Nath Adhikari, Assistant Chemical Examiner to the Government for the purpose of analysing something on behalf of the applicant. The defendant told him that he had negotiated with the doctor for the analysis, on a fee of Rs. 12. Applicant suspected nothing wrong in it and paid him Rs. 12. Subsequently it was ascertained that the defendant had paid only Rs. 4 to the doctor and alleged to have pocketed the balance. When this fact came to the knowledge of the applicant, he questioned the defendant who at once fell at his feet and begged his pardon saying that if any criminal action was taken it would be ruin to him and his family. The court after hearing the facts, ordered the issue of a warrant for the arrest of the defendant who it was alleged, had made himself scarce.

A Divorce Suit.—At the High Court on Thursday before Mr. Justice Sale the case of H. M. Andrews vs. Ida Maud Andrews and Grindall came on for hearing. This was a petition on behalf of the husband for the dissolution of marriage on a charge of adultery against the wife with the co-respondent. The parties were married on the 10th of January 1899 at the Church of Scotland in Wellesly Street. Thereafter for two years they lived in peace. When the parties were living at a house at Gardeners Lane as co-respondents, the respondent became unduly familiar with the co-respondent. The petitioner then left that place and went with his wife to Howrah. In September 1901 the respondent left the petitioner and lived with the co-respondent at No. 2 Eaden Hospital Lane. The petitioner engaged the services of Mr. Bomwetch, a private Detective, which led to the discovery of this fact. The co-respondent was subsequently charged by the petitioner at the Calcutta Police Court for having enticed away the petitioner's wife. He was convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment. The hearing of the case was postponed.

P. W. Postings.—The following P. W. D. Postings have been ordered:—Mr. F. V. Taylor, Assistant Manager, North-Western Railway, is appointed to officiate as Deputy Manager on that Railway, vice Mr. deBore, proceeding on leave. Mr. G. E. Jones, Locomotive Superintendent, Eastern Bengal State Railway, is permitted to retire from the service of Government from the 14th proximo. Mr. G. Dench, Executive Engineer, is appointed Engineer-in-Chief for construction North-Western Railway with the temporary rank of Superintendent Engineer third class, from the 13th instant. Mr. J. Manson, Deputy Manager, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, is appointed to officiate as Deputy Manager, Eastern Bengal State Railway, vice Mr. J. C. Mills, proceeding on leave. Mr. J. C. Lyle, Executive Engineer, is appointed to officiate as Deputy Manager, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Mr. J. W. Shore, Assistant Engineer, is transferred from the Nagda Muttra Survey to the Eastern Bengal State Railway. Mr. J. P. Johnstone and Mr. M. J. Sinaes Accountants 1st grade, are granted the honorary rank of Assistant Examiner of Accounts. Mr. O. P. Warde, Executive Engineer, Bengal, is appointed to officiate as a Superintending Engineer.

An Appointment.—Mr. W. A. Bonnaud, barrister-at-law, has been appointed a stipendiary Magistrate of the Presidency Police Court in the place of Mr. Abdur Rahim, who is retiring. Very likely Mr. Bonnaud will take charge of his office from the 2nd proximo.

Examination for Junior Civilians.—The ensuing half-yearly departmental examination of Junior Civilians, Deputy Magistrates and others, to be held at 11 A. M. on the 2nd May, next, and the two following days, a Local Examination Committee will be convened at the Office of the Commissioner, Presidency Division, at No. 3, Charnock Place, Calcutta, for officers employed in the districts of the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions.

Arrest.—The police arrested two men, named Grey and Kendall, on a charge of criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 150. It would appear that Grey worked for some time in Warn's Circus and canvassed for advertisement. He secured a few advertisements and although he had no authority to draw money on them, he with the help of Kendall misappropriated the money. They will be soon placed on their trial.

Postponement of the Bengal Provincial Conference.—We have been requested to announce that it has been thought expedient to postpone the sittings of the Bengal Provincial Conference at Burdwan during the Easter Holidays owing to His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to that town. The promoters of the conference at Burdwan do not think it advisable to distract the attention of the public from the rejoicings attended on His Excellency's visit there. The Conference will take place on some other date to be notified shortly.

A case for Using Counterfeit Coin.—Our Hooghly correspondent writes:—One Hossein Sna, a Fakir, stood charged before Mr. G. K. Deb Sessions Judge of Hooghly, under Secs. 240-75 I.P.O. for using King's coin, with the knowledge that it is counterfeit and committing an offence under the following circumstances. On a day in the morning, the accused went to a grocery shop at Simlagarh, under P. S. Pundooji, and asked for alms. He received it and went away satisfied. After a while he came back and offered 64 pieces of copper coin which he said he had accumulated by begging with a view to change them into a rupee. The shopkeeper at first declined the offer but subsequently changed his mind, having been persuaded by some people who happened to be present there at the time, accepted it and gave to the accused a genuine rupee in change. A few minutes after the accused returned to the shopkeeper saying that on examining it, it was found to be spurious. He gave the accused another genuine rupee but this time too it was returned as a false. He supplied the accused with another real one but the accused tried again to play the same trick upon the simple shopkeeper, with the result that he grew suspicious of the fraudulent motive of the accused, caught hold of him and with the help of others he was handed over to a Panchayet. The accused was hard pressed to make a clean breast of the affair to disclose his fraud and to give out the genuine rupees which he had got from the shopkeeper for change. The accused was inexorable but afterwards softened his spirit and agreed to act up to their desire, if they promise not to make him over to the Police. The accused took the Panchayet to a lonely place and there he discharged three genuine rupees from his recum. On the evidence adduced on behalf of the prosecution and on proof of two previous convictions the accused was sentenced to eight years' rigorous imprisonment.

## THE BENGAL EXCISE BILL.

The following Memorial has been submitted by the Metropolitan Temperance and Purity Association, to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

That your Memorialists are thankful to your Honour for the action you have taken with reference to the Bengal Excise Bill, and are hopeful that a further consideration of its provisions will lead to reforms for which there is a general demand.

That your Memorialists submit that the principle of Local Option, long ago accepted by the Government in theory, should not receive a practical recognition in some form. The voice of the people should prevail in the matter of the location of liquor shops, at least when endorsed by the Municipality or by the District Board, as the case may be, and certainly should not be set at naught by the Revenue authorities without the sanction of the Local Government.

That your Memorialists submit that the selling of liquor to children under fourteen years of age should be prohibited by law. No one ought to make a grievance of such a prohibition. At any rate, the moral interests of children should be safeguarded by the Government, when jeopardised by the practices of unscrupulous parents.

That your Memorialists submit that the scope of section 71 of the Bill should be enlarged with reference to women, and the application of the provision made more effectual than in the past.

That your Memorialists trust that these reforms will be introduced into the Bill, and the Excise Law brought into line with the righteous tone of your Honour's administration.

A telegram from Colombo, dated the 22nd instant, says:

Major Crawford arrived yesterday from Calcutta and proceeds to Hong-kong as a Military Attache with the Japanese Forces.

The s. s. "Medoc" arrived from Saigon to-day, bound for Odessa, with 444 rescued Russians, including four officers belonging to the Russian cruisers, "Varig" and "Korietz."

Babu Bejoy Sing Dudhuria, of Azimganj, has made over to the Magistrate of that district the sum of Rs. 1,500 for the award annually of a gold medal, to be called the "Sir Andrew Fraser Medal," to the student who heads the list of successful candidates at the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University.

General Dragomiroff, ex-Governor of Warsaw, has advised the Tsar to withdraw the Russian fleet and Army from Port Arthur. While this advice has not been accepted, there is a consensus of Russian military opinion that Admiral Alexieff blundered badly, and is responsible for the loss sustained to the Port Arthur fleet.

## TELEGRAMS.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

## THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Mar. 22.

Reuter wires from St. Petersburg an unofficial statement that the Japanese re-opened the bombardment of Port Arthur on the morning of the 22nd instant.

General Kuropatkin left Irkutsk this morning. Eleven soldiers have been shot there for pillaging and rape.

The Russian cruiser "Aurora" and three destroyers have arrived at Bizerta.

London, Mar. 23.

Official telegrams from St. Petersburg state that two Torpedo attacks were made on Port Arthur on the night of the 21st and 22nd instant, which were repulsed. The Japanese fleet of six battleships, twelve cruisers and eight Torpedoes appeared on the morning of the 22nd; the battleships stationed between Liaotishan and Pigeon Bay, bombarded Port Arthur for two hours, the Russian battleships "Retvisan" replying. Before the bombardment opened, the Russian cruisers and battleship left the harbour under command of Admiral Makaroff and formed up in the outer roadstead. The Japanese fired 208 twelve-inch shells killing five and wounding ten soldiers on shore and ultimately withdrew passing the outer roadstead without attacking the Russian fleet. A Russian shell struck a Japanese battleship which was out of action.

Admiral Alexieff telegraphs that a Japanese Division is at Anju where earthworks have been thrown up. The rest of the first Japanese Army is at Pingyang.

Japanese squadrons have advanced as far as Tachkon.

Three hundred Japanese occupied Yongpyon on 19th.

It is admitted at St. Petersburg that Japanese are concentrating in North Korea more rapidly than the Russians and have effectively fortified Anju, but General Mischenko with six thousand cavalry is ready to unceasingly harass the enemy directly they move beyond Anju.

Mr. Onigama, a member of the Japanese Diet and publisher of a violent opposition organ is charged with being in the employ of Russia. The Diet has appointed a Committee to investigate the case.

London, Mar. 24.

Admiral Togo reports that none of his vessels was damaged on the 22nd instant, and says that five Russian battleships and four cruisers and some destroyers came out of harbour apparently with the object of enticing him near the forts.

London, Mar. 25.

Indications point to the Japanese at present concentrating all their efforts of land a large force in the Gulf of Liaotung probably near Niuchwang while keeping a sufficient force in Korea to control the population and secure an eventual line of retreat.

A Times telegram from Tokio states that diplomatic correspondence submitted to the Diet shows that Japan's last note to Russia offered to recognize Manchuria as outside the Japanese sphere provided Russia recognized Korea as outside hers.

Turkey continues to make preparations for all emergencies in Macedonia.

Greece has called out one class of her reserves ostensibly for manoeuvres.

## GENERAL.

London, Mar. 22.

Mr. Waldron, Nationalist, has been elected for St. Stephen's Green by a majority of 636 over the Unionist, Mr. Matheson, in place of Mr. McCann, deceased. The polling was:—Mr. Waldron, 2,821.

After a solemn service in Westminster Abbey to-day, at which Their Majesties and a great assemblage were present a procession headed by a carriage in which were the King and Prince Albert of Russia, representing the Kaiser, went to Kensal Green, the coffin being carried on a six-horsed gun carriage. There was a great military display along the streets. The interment was quite private, the public being excluded from the cemetery.

London, Mar. 23.

A telegram from Askabad, published at St. Petersburg, says, that it is rumoured there that the Amir of Afghanistan has been poisoned.

Mr. Brodrick in reply to a question in the Commons said that the Mission in Tibet would shortly be advanced to Gyantse to meet the Amban as was always intended as soon as supplies are available.

Forty natives and three whites died of plague at Johannesburg out of 56 cases. One death from plague occurred at Pretoria.

The five millions issue on account of the Irish Land Act has been subscribed seven times over.

London, Mar. 24.

Ten thousand Albanians have revolted at Babate. Shafir Pacha with twelve battalions is surrounding them, and ten other battalions are hastening to his assistance from various points.

The King has knighted the sons of the Duke Cambridge.

360 Indians are removing from the plague infected area at Johannesburg to a site eight miles distant. The Indian locations will be burned down when empty.

Despite strong American opposition, China has denounced the Chinese exclusion treaty with America, which expires on the 7th April.

The following is the latest betting on the Grand National Steeplechase, to be run at Liverpool to-morrow.

7 to 2 Ambush II.  
5 to 1 Detail.  
8 to 1 Patlander.  
9 to 1 Beenvinder.  
10 to 1 Inquisitor.  
20 to 1 Kirkland and Manifesto.

Mr. Brodrick, in reply to Mr. Schwann said he would lay a copy of the Official Secrets Act on the table as soon as received. In the meantime he cannot make a final statement regarding the same.

## TELEGRAMS.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

London, Mar. 24.

The drafting of the agreements relating to our understanding with France as mentioned in the telegram of the 16th instant will take some time but it is understood that those relating to Newfoundland and Nigeria are completed and that France renounces all territorial claims in Newfoundland, England paying her a small compensation for the new Lobster Canneries on the French shore.

Britain makes a concession in Nigeria giving the French a short cut to Lake Tohad.

Regarding Morocco and Egypt each party engages practically not to stand in the way of the other, but the committal of this to the paper is difficult.

Finally the points hitherto in question concerning Siam are clearly defined.

It is stated that Admiral Makaroff telegraphed an account of the naval fight at Port Arthur on Thursday. He states that six Russian torpedo boats encountered the enemy's torpedo fleet and cruisers. A hot engagement ensued. The Russian torpedo boat Vlastny discharged a whitehead torpedo and sank a Japanese torpedo boat. A Japanese shell struck the Storegutsky so severely that it damaged her engines and she began to founder. The Admiral ordered the Bayan and the Novik to the rescue. Meantime five of the enemy's cruisers surrounded the Storegutsky. A battleship approaching attempted to rescue her, but did not succeed; the Storegutsky foundered. Some of her crew were captured and some were drowned.

The Lokal Anzeiger, a Berlin journal, states that Russia has decided to accept foreign volunteers. The Boers have arrived at Samah and are joining the Russians at the front; also several Swiss officers. The Far Eastern Press Association states that Vladivostok is blockaded by sea and besieged on shore.

The death is announced of Lord Shand and Lord Augustus Loftus.

Mr. Labouchere has been mulcted in £1,000 damages in a libel suit. The plaintiff was Dr. Dakhyi, of Paris, formerly of the Drouet Institute. He was described in Truth as a quack.

Yielding to pressure of public opinion the Commissioner of Police of Johannesburg has prohibited coloured persons from using the sidewalks. Coolies are included in the prohibition. The better classes of coloured people are exempt.

In the Commons, to-night, Sir Henry King mentioned the expenses to which officers were now liable through being shifted from one end of India to the other and sometimes within a short period and suggested that compensation should be made at least when the transfer was not accompanied by substantial promotion. Mr. Brodrick said he would consult the Government of India on the subject.

London, Mar. 25.

The Cunard Company has adopted turbine engines for the two last liners building by agreement with the Government.

There have been 84 coloured and nine white cases of plague at Johannesburg, and fifty natives and five whites have died.

It is officially announced that Sir Edward Ward has been appointed Secretary to the War Office, and Sir Fleetwood Wilson Director of Army Finance.

A Russian semi-official announcement says it has been arranged to import China teas into Russia via London, and any gap caused by the war will be filled by increased imports of Indian and Ceylon teas.

The Consul for Japan in Bombay writes:—The following telegram has been received from the Japanese Government. The report from Admiral Togo states that our main squadron acted as previously arranged, and our two flotillas of destroyers discharged their duties from the night of the 21st till day break of the 22nd at the outside of Port Arthur.

During this time the enemy fired upon us several times but no damage was done. Our main squadron and cruisers proceeded towards Port Arthur about 3 a.m. of the 22nd. A part of the squadron went to Pigeon Bay, Fuji and Yashima, and made indirect bombardment towards the inner harbour. During the bombardment, the enemy's warships appeared outside the port one by one, and by the time we ceased bombarding at about 2 p.m. we saw five battleships, four Cruisers and ten destroyers. They were moving within range of the batteries and tried to lure us in. They seemed to make an indirect bombardment, and shells fell near the Fuji, but none did damage. We all retired at 3 p.m.

THE LIVERPOOL GRAND NATIONAL.

London, Mar. 25.

The following is the result of the Liverpool Grand National:—

Motifaa ... 1  
Kirkland ... 2  
Gunner ... 0

The death is announced of Sir Edwin Arnold.

## INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

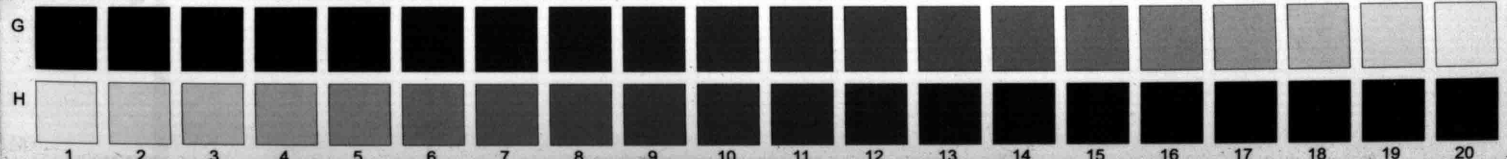
## THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

Colombo, Mar. 24.

The Russians have established an Intelligence Bureau at Shanghai, and a keen watch is being kept of the Japanese movements.

The Russo-Chinese Bank at Yinhov is closing preparatory to removing its business to Mukden.

The following are the plans so far decided regarding the Manchurian Campaign. General Kuropatkin's headquarters are to be at Mukden, where Admiral Alexieff proposes to remain indefinitely on account of the place being the centre of the Chinese administration in Manchuria; that the almost indefinable plain west of Tashichiao shall be held if possible for the sake of the railway connecting Mukden with Port Arthur, and that the Haicheng-Liaoyang line shall be the extreme limit of withdrawal. It seems, however, in view of the exposure of the railway at this point and the almost certainty of the arrival of the Japanese before the thaw permits the construction of defences that the Russian authorities fully anticipate Port Arthur will be isolated and besieged.





## TELEGRAMS.

## INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

The Foreign Office at Rome has notified that sixty American soldiers are proceeding to Korea to protect the Wonsan gold mine owned by Americans.

The captured Chinese steamer, now repaired, has been successfully tried as a transport between Amoy and Swatow.

News letters received from Kandahar state that under orders from Kabul two batteries of Artillery and two regiments of infantry are to move to Lashkari, the Afghan district immediately adjoining Herat.

The Gihani garrison has also been directed to send some troops into the Kandahar Province.

The Amir apparently thinks it advisable, in view of possible contingencies in Central Asia, to strengthen his outposts towards eastern Persia. Hitherto these have been held by very small detachments.

Allahabad, Mar. 24.

The "Pioneer's" London correspondent wires under date the 23rd inst.—The "Times" Seoul correspondent describes the Japanese railway extension in Korea as being designed to aid in holding Korea in case of a military reverse in Manchuria.

Allahabad, Mar. 25.

The "Pioneer's" London correspondent writes under date the 24th inst.—Continental telegrams report an improvement in Russian feeling towards Great Britain due to the French influence.

The "Pioneer's" Quetta correspondent reports that nothing is known there of any news of the Amir.

POISONING THE AMIR.

As regards the Russian message about poisoning the Amir of Kabul the Government of India has no knowledge of it as yet. The last letter addressed by the Amir to the Indian Government was dated 21st.

THE BURDWAN CONFERENCE.

Krishnagar, Mar. 24.

At a public meeting of the Peoples' Association, Krishnagar, held yesterday the following delegates were elected to the Burdwan Conference: Babu Manindra Kumar Shaha, B.A., Zemindar, Amia; Sasihar Sen, Editor, "Basumat"; Madan Gopal Bhaduri; Manendra Nath Ghose, Hariprasad Chatterjee.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS TO THE PEOPLES' ASSOCIATION.

At the same meeting office-bearers of the Peoples' Association were also elected: President, Babu Prasanna Kumar Bose; Vice President, Babu Baranashri Roy and Akhaya Kumar Mukherjee; Secretaries, Babu Joyti Prasad Chatterjee and Sarada Prasanna Sanjal. Among members Babu Womesh Chunder Dutt, Beharilal Chakravarty, Hariprasad Chatterjee, Nanigopal Banerjee, Bistupadi Chatterji, Sarat Chandra Sanjal, Sharopranjan Bose, Anubhusan Bhaduri, Sarayaprasanna Majumdar and others were present. Babu Basanta Kumar Chatterjee, Government pleader, was also present. The police officer watched the proceedings.

THE LOCUST PEST AGAIN.

Bombay, Mar. 24.

Myriads of larger locusts are interesting the Konkan district and devastating the surrounding country. Flocks of the Bombay locusts report having seen huge flights of them to-day, especially between Nandgaon and Rajapur station. They seem to be heading in the direction of Bombay, but this wing of course, depend on winds favouring them. The surrounding country is quite devoid of all herbage by these pests, and owners of mango-trees and farms are particularly in a tremor of excitement. Many trees are entirely stripped of both foliage and flowers, and the mango yield will very likely prove to be an entire failure this year.

THE MANGAPATNAM DISASTER CASE.

RS. 38,000 DAMAGES AWARDED.

Madras, Mar. 24.

Judgment was delivered in the High Court to-day in the case in which Kuttial Kalidas, son of Kalladas Kallandaram of Bombay, sued the Madras Railway Company for Rs. 5 lakhs damages for the loss of his father in the Mangapatnam disaster. The Judge went into the question of the responsibility of the Railway Company at great length and held that the Mangapatnam bridge was properly constructed and had stood the test of constant service for 30 years. The floods that caused its collapse could not reasonably have been expected and therefore the Railway was not responsible for its collapse. With regard to patrolling the line however, it was held that the rules had not been properly carried out; if they had been, it was not within the bounds of probability that the accident could have happened. Under these circumstances he held that the Railway were guilty of negligence and gave a decree against them for rupees thirty-three thousand.

The Russians profess to interpret the several Japanese attacks on Port Arthur as a strategic move to divert attention from the Yalu.

The "Matin," a Paris journal, states that the ordinary train service to Port Arthur has been discontinued, the inference being that Port Arthur is isolated.

The Russian Press is urging the Government to seize the Russian portion of the Indo-European telegraph line, contending that it is being used to assist Japan.

The landing of the Japanese at Possiet Bay is interpreted by the Russians as having been undertaken with a desire to prevent the Russian troops at Vladivostok from proceeding to the Yalu.

Advice received at Washington from the Far East state that the Japanese are preparing to land on the Liaotung Peninsula, and will begin the investment of Port Arthur within a fortnight.

Mr. Wade, a Preventive Officer of Rangoon, his two sons, and Mr. Bride were arrested on Thursday on a charge of incendiarism in their house which was burnt down that morning. A disastrous fire in the same locality in East Rangoon on New Year's night originated in Mr. Wade's house, destroying several houses.

## SOME HISTORIC DIAMONDS.

Unquestionably, brilliant objects have ever proved wonderfully fascinating to men, and when we reflect on this instinctive taste we can not be surprised at their fondness for the diamond. In early times the diamond was worn rough or polished only on its upper surface. One of the finest of coloured specimens in Europe is the famous blue "Hope's diamond." The King of Saxony possesses a magnificent green one which forms the button of his State hat. But the most perfect collection of coloured diamonds is in the museum at Vienna.

Diamonds of large size have always been exceedingly rare; and it was from Asia, "the cradle of luxury and wealth," that most of those stones which have become famous have been derived. The Crown of England is extremely rich in beautiful diamonds, but the "Koh-i-nur" or "mountain of light" takes the highest rank as its principal treasure. This wonderful stone is said to have been found in the Godavery river five thousand years ago, and was the talisman of India for many centuries. According to Hindu legend it was won by Karna, one of the heroes of the epic poem "Mahabharat." There is little doubt that it is the same diamond mentioned by Babar, as having belonged to Alauddin, who ruled from 1288 to 1301.

After many vicissitudes, the "Koh-i-nur" found its way into the Lahore treasury where it remained until the annexation of the Punjab by the British Government in 1849, when it was taken possession of by the Civil authorities, under the condition that the "Koh-i-nur" should be presented to the Queen. It was presented to the Queen on the 3rd June 1850 and exhibited in the first Great Exhibition the following year. Its weight was 186 1/16 carats. It was recut at a cost of Rs. 120,000, the operation being completed in 38 days. But the recut was not satisfactory, Prince Albert openly expressing his disappointment. The "Koh-i-nur" now weighs 106 1-16 carats, having lost eighty carats in the recutting. It is now preserved in Windsor Castle and is valued at Rs. 2,100,000. It is neither the most brilliant nor yet the largest diamond in existence, but the most interesting, on account of the romantic incidents associated with it.

The "Braganza," in the possession of the King of Portugal is unquestionably the largest diamond of which there is any record. It is still in an uncut state and is jealously guarded in the Portuguese treasury. It weighs 1680 carats and its value is estimated at Rs. 8,46,72,000. It is said to have been found in the river Abaita by some men who were banished for high crimes.

Another celebrated diamond is one in the possession of Sultan of Matan, in the island of Borneo. This stone is also uncut and weighs 376 carats. The value of the stone has been estimated at Rs. 40,40,670.

The Crown of Russia is at present presumably the richest in diamonds. Besides those in the Imperial treasury there are three crowns composed of those stones. One contains 881, another 847 and the third 2536. The third and the best was prepared by Catherine II. One of its most remarkable diamonds is the "Orloff," now set in the top of the Imperial Sceptre. The history of this stone has been much mixed up with that of the "Moon of the mountain," another great diamond in the possession of the Czar. The most authentic account appears to be that it formed one of the eyes of the Hindu image Sri-Ranga, in Mysore. A French deserter of the Indian service, hearing of the riches of the image, determined to become their possessor. He became a devotee, and so ingratiated himself with the Brahmins that they confided to him the guardianship of the inner shrine, which contained the image. Watching his opportunity, one stormy night he forced one of the eyes out of its socket and fled with it to Madras, where he sold the gem to an English sea-captain, who in turn disposed of it to a Jew. From him it was purchased by a Persian merchant, named Khojeh. This merchant met Prince Orloff at Amsterdam and this Prince, in order to regain the favour of Catherine II., under whose displeasure he had fallen, bought the gem from the merchant and presented it to his imperial mistress. The "Orloff" diamond weighs 194 carats, and its estimated value is Rs. 7,00,000. In size it ranks first amongst European gems, and in beauty yields the palm to the "Regent" only.

But unquestionably the "Regent" is the most perfect brilliant in existence and its history is also very remarkable. It is said to have been found by a slave in the Partail mines in 1701, who escaped to the coast with the diamond, where he met an English Skipper whom he made his confidant, offering to bestow upon him the stone in return of his liberty. The mariner, apparently consenting to the slave's proposal, took him out to sea and there drowned him after obtaining possession of the diamond. Disposing of the gem to a diamond merchant for Rs. 10,000, it is said the man afterwards hanged himself in a fit of remorse. Mr. Pitt, Governor of Fort St. George, and great-grand father of the illustrious William Pitt, became the next possessor of this valuable stone, weighing 410 carats. He sent it to London, where he had it very skillfully cut at a cost of Rs. 70,000, the process occupying two years. At last Pitt was compelled to part with the diamond to the Duc d'Orleans, regent during the minority of Louis XV., King of France in 1717, for the sum of Rs. 20,26,000. The "Regent" was exhibited amongst the crown jewels at the Paris Exhibition of 1855. In the cutting the "Regent" was reduced to 136 1/2 carats, and was in 1791 declared to be worth Rs. 72,00,000.

It may here be noted that the Brazilian Crown diamonds were valued at more than Rs. 6,00,00,000. The "Star of the South" is a famous diamond, found by a poor Negress in 1853. It became the property of a Persian Syndicate, who sold it to the late Gaikwar of Baroda. It weighs 254 1/2 carats.

The "Pigott" was formerly one of the famous diamonds, but it is no longer in existence. In the year 1801 it was in the hands of a firm of jewellers, Messrs Rundle & Bridge, who eventually sold it to Ali Pasha. When Ali Pasha was mortally wounded by Reshid Pasha, he immediately retired to his Divan, the desired that his favourite wife, Vasilika, should be poisoned. He then gave the diamond to Captain D'Anglais, with an order that it should be crushed to powder in his presence which was forthwith obeyed and the beautiful gem utterly destroyed. So perished one of the finest of historical gems.

The next diamond we will notice is the renowned "Sanci," which was bought at Constantinople in the year 1570 by a M. de Sanci, the French ambassador at the Porte, for a large sum. It was acquired by the Crown of England some time between the years 1590 and 1600. But it was sold by James II. to Louis XIV. for £25,000. It was lost by the French nation in the robbery of the Garde Mobile in September 1792, but was afterwards discovered in the hands of the Montec de Piete, or State paying establishment. In 1865 the "Sanci" was purchased by Sir Jamsetji Jeejeebhoy of Bombay, but did not remain long in the East, for it was exhibited at the Paris Exhibition of 1867. It became the property of the Maharaja of Patiala, upon whose turban it shone at the Grand Durbar held during His Majesty's tour, as Prince of Wales, in India, and now belongs to Mr. Astor whose late wife generally wore it when she attended the late Queen's Drawing Room.

In this brief account of some of the world's most famous diamonds the "Star of South Africa" must not be omitted. It was found in the neighbourhood of the Vaal River, by the children of a Boer gentleman named Van Niekrik. Messrs Lillienfeld Brothers purchased the stone for £11,200 and forwarded it to England, and it ultimately became the property of the Countess of Dudley, who purchased it of Messrs. Hunt and Roskell. It was reduced in cutting to forty-six and a half carats.

The University Club.

Binodepur.

Surendra Nath Guha.

THE B. I. ASSOCIATION.

Annual Meeting.

The fifty-second annual general meeting of the British Indian Association was held at the Association Hall yesterday afternoon at 3 p.m. In the absence of the Maharaja of Darbhanga President of the Association, Mr. P. Y. Mohan Mukerjee was voted to the chair.

Raja Sib Chandra Banerjee proposed. "That this meeting of the British Indian Association in meeting assembled desire to place on record their sense of profound sorrow at the loss sustained by them by the death of Maharaja Durga Charan Law, C.I.E., who during a period of over 45 years rendered valuable services to the Association as a member of its Managing Committee, the Vice-president, and President and whose varied knowledge and ripe judgment were of incalculable value to his colleagues in conducting the work of the Association."

Ray Sitant Ray Bahadur seconded and Khan Bahadur Moulvi Mohammad Yusuf supported the resolution which was carried unanimously.

As a mark of respect for the memory of Maharaja Durga Charan Law, C.I.E., the meeting was adjourned to Wednesday next, at 4-30 p.m.

## DEATH OF A MONKEY.

(A Pathetic Scene.)

(Special for the Patrika.)

THE late Sir John Woodburn in stopping monkey-killing in Cuttack related a personal experience of his. He had once witnessed the death of a monkey shot by himself and since then, had taken a vow never to kill another, the death of a monkey, he said, being so human-like.

One of the peculiar features of the plague in Bhagalpur is the death of a number of monkeys from this fell disease. I lately witnessed a scene which clearly and forcibly explained to me the reason why our late Lieutenant-Governor was led to take the humane action.

Having heard that a poor monkey was dying in a field close to our house, I hastened to the spot with some friends and witnessed a pathetic scene which impressed me deeply. A she-monkey was lying lifeless on the ground, and the young one was rending the skies with its doleful shrieks. Once it would try to kiss its lifeless mother, then it would suck her breast and employ other means to rouse her up and when all failed, it would suddenly lift up its head and give out a shriek—fondly hoping perhaps by these heart-rending demonstrations of filial tenderness, to induce even grim Death to give it back its mother. These shrieks attracted besides ourselves a number of its own brethren to the spot. These latter at once came and surrounded the corpse and one of them most probably a female, having hastily snatched the disconsolate baby away from the lap of the lifeless mother, withdrew from the scene—the rest of them then commenced freely indulging in their grief for their departed fellow. Some kissed her, some hugged her, some gently rubbed and stroked her body, some tried to raise her head from the ground, while others whose hearts perhaps were too full to display such effusive manifestations of grief, sat quiet at a distance with their faces on their palms. Were they weeping? I can't say—but thus far I could judge that their mute mourning appealed to us more eloquently and went straight to our hearts than the most outspoken and noisy demonstration of grief and the most copious shedding of tears.

We were contemplating this lugubrious spectacle from a distance of a few yards only, but none of the mourners seemed to have taken any notice of us.

When after some time, we returned home they were still absorbed in this melancholy task.

YOUR BHAGALPUR CORRESPONDENT.

It is in contemplation of the authorities to make re-arrangements at and for an extension of the passing sidings at Jasra, Barghar, Dabhan, Manikpur, Mayagawan, Jitwar, and Naini stations.—"Engineering."

Rain is reported from Darjeeling and parts of Lower Bengal and Orissa. The fall was heavy at Darjeeling, but light elsewhere. Prospects generally good. Harvesting of rabi crops and pressing of sugarcane continue. Ploughing and sowing in progress. Cattle-disease reported from seven districts. Fodder and water generally sufficient. The price of common rice has risen in three districts, has fallen in six, and is stationary in the remainder.

## News of the Day.

The Viceroy during his visit next month to Jalpaiguri district will have some big game shooting.

A telegram from Colombo dated March 24 States. The fishery takings yesterday again record Rs. 66,541; the total for nine days being, Rs. 4,14,739.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal who will reach Darjeeling on the 8th April will remain there until August when he will make a tour in the plains.

The Government of India have sanctioned the retention of a second Additional Judicial Commissioner of Oudh for another year, and Mr. Chamier will accordingly continue to hold that appointment.

Both Calcutta and Simla are to share in the pious gifts from the Government of India during the ensuing financial year. The Budget shows fifty lakhs given to Calcutta and twenty lakhs to Simla the money being devoted in each instance to public improvements.

The appointment of Mr. Greeven to be Deputy Secretary in the Legislative Department, which was announced in last Saturday's "Gazette of India," makes vacant a Judgeship in the United Provinces which will go to Mr. F. E. Taylor, officiating Judge of Aligarh.

The success of Native banking in these Provinces as demonstrated at Lyabab and Gorakhpur has led to the projection of a similar establishment at Benares. The Benares Bank, Limited, as it is called, is started with a capital of ten lakhs, of which five have been already subscribed on the spot while the remaining half is open to public subscription.

An interesting letter appears in the "Standard" from its Moscow correspondent, dated Feb. 26, relative to the Russian forces in Manchuria. He concludes that the Russians at the present moment have 175,000 regular soldiers of all arms east of Lake Baikal. He says:— "It needs but to be added that the number of troops required by Russia in 1900 to overrun a less extent of territory than she has now made herself responsible for, to overcome merely Chinese opposition, which, in fact, was never offered—in a word, to accomplish a military parade through Manchuria—were officially stated by Russia to have been no less than 170,000 men. She has now to face, with but slightly larger numbers, a very different foe, and these same Chinese, under better guidance than in 1900, are firmly believed to be behind their blood-brothers."

On Friday, in a house in Khetwadi, 12th Lane, Bombay, Kuvabhai, a Rajputani woman of Bhabnagar, aged 58, the wife of Pirozsha Sorabji Tarapurwala, formerly a railway store-keeper, who is now aged 62, was invested by a Parsee priest with the sacred shawl "Sudreh" and the "Kusti." She is the mother of one son and two daughters by Pirozsha and had declared her faith in the Zoroastrian religion in a strong and unflinching manner. On the conclusion of the ceremony, she thanked those present for the favour they had conferred on her by associating themselves in the ceremony, which she said has given her a new life. The committee appointed by the Parsee community at a meeting, held in Alibhai Baug Hall, after a long and patient enquiry, reported that there is no injunction in the sacred books of the Parsees against the admission of a non-Zoroastrian into the faith. The hubbub raised in the community some time ago against such admission seems to have subsided.

Friday, the 11th instant and two following days witnessed the inauguration of the Imperial Service Inter-Regimental Athletic Meeting at Kapurthala by H.H. the Raja-i-Rajgan of Kapurthala, who generously came forward, when the idea was first mooted by Capt. John Hill (15th Sikhs) I.S., Infantry, and signified his willingness to entertain all the competitors at Kapurthala and to provide the prizes. The meeting, which is to be an annual affair, taking place each year in a different State, was in every respect a success. Eleven teams entered, representing respectively the Kapurthala Infantry, 1st Patiala Lancers, 1st Patiala Sikh Infantry, 2nd Patiala Infantry, Jhind Infantry, Sirmoor Sappers, Maler Kotla Sappers, Faridkot Sappers, Nabha Infantry, Bahawalpur Camel Corps and Bharatpur Infantry. It was hoped that entries would also have been received from the States of Central India, Rajputana, etc., who, however, will no doubt compete in future meetings, as the event is bound to become popular.

The final forecast of the Assam mustard crop for 1903-1904 says that the season has not proved so favourable to mustard cultivation as was anticipated in the preliminary forecast. In the Surma Valley and parts of Lower and Central Assam cultivation was to some extent impeded by heavy rain and consequent floods at the commencement of the sowing season. Want of rain was subsequently felt over the greater part of the mustard-growing area. The total area sown in mustard during the current year in the Province (exclusive of the permanently-settled tracts in Goalpara and Sylhet) is reported to be 171,444 acres, and is in slight defect of that of the previous season (1902-1903). The district of Kamrup and Goalpara are mainly responsible for the decrease. In Goalpara and Lakhimpur the outturn has been estimated at 16 annas, i.e., the full standard average, while in Kamrup only an 8 to 10-anna crop appears to have been realized. The estimate for most other districts is 12 annas. The outturn of the Province as a whole may be roughly taken at 12 annas. The crop is expected to be somewhat better than that of last year and the average of the previous ten years.

## CURRUPT MAMLATDAR, AND HIS CLERK.

On the Appellate Side of the Bombay High Court the Hon. Mr. Justice Chaudharykar and the Hon. Mr. Justice Aston have disposed of last week the appeal preferred by Government against an order of acquittal passed by Mr. Gloster, Sessions Judge of Belgaum, in the case of Hanmant Vasudev Mulgund, Mamlatdar and Second Class Magistrate of the Sampann Taluka, and Gih-nath, Jivaji, Manoli, his awal karkun. Mulgund and Manoli had been convicted by Mr. Lalubhai Goverdandas, First Class Magistrate, of receiving bribes as public servants, and each sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment, and to a fine of Rs. 600 and Rs. 200 respectively, or in default to further terms of three months' and two months' rigorous imprisonment respectively. Mulgund received Rs. 500 from Nagapa Gurshidapa Belgavi and Nagapa Basapa Marbad in a certain case. Manoli procured the bribe for him, and abetted the charge. He also got for himself and another karkun a bribe of Rs. 150. On appeal to the Sessions the accused were acquitted, and it was against this order of acquittal the Government appealed. The case has been reported.

Their Lordships discussed the merit of the evidence given in the case, and the arguments advanced by counsel, and said: The direct evidence taken with independent circumstantial evidence in the case satisfactorily corroborates Marbad's evidence that accused No. 2 was the intermediary, and it is improbable that he would act so gratuitously. So far, we are convinced that accused No. 2 did act as intermediary, and we are satisfied that Rs. 150 were paid to him as a bribe in the sums entered in the accounts produced. Marbad says that the Rs. 200 previously taken to accused No. 2 were added to the Rs. 300 brought (on 17th September) by Gurapa and Nanapa, and when the latter were left at the house of accused No. 2, he and No. 2 took the Rs. 500, and paid it to accused No. 1 at the latter's house. He was not cross-examined as to the permanent structural arrangements inside that house. The independent circumstantial evidence points strongly to accused No. 1 being the person to whom the accomplice Marbad paid the illegal gratification of Rs. 500. Marbad's direct evidence as to this bribe reaching No. 1 supplies the link in the evidence. He is, as already shown, undoubtedly an accomplice; but, in our opinion, he is satisfactorily corroborated by independent evidence as to the material circumstances, and as to the identity of both the receivers of the bribes, and we hold that the offences charged are brought home to both the accused beyond room for reasonable doubt. The accused were properly convicted by the Magistrate and revising the Sessions Judge's appellate order for acquittal we restore the convictions and sentences recorded by the Magistrate.

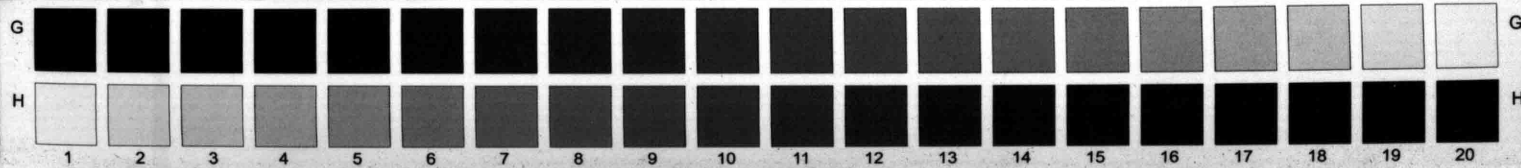
The bombardment of Port Arthur is interpreted as a movement to cover the landing of Japanese troops.

The bodies of 50 Japanese sailors have been washed ashore at Wei-hai-Wei. They are supposed to have belonged to the Japanese gunboat which was reported by Admiral Alexieff to have been sunk by the Russian land batteries at Port Arthur on Thursday of last week.

Then contentious problem as to how to spend the surplus funds of the Ahmedabad Congress was decided in the last week. The Committee present £1755 to the British Committee to enable Mr. Dadabhai to pay off his liabilities on account of "India" and Rs. 1,000 are to be invested in founding a political library for Ahmedabad.

The value of the three Russian warships destroyed, viz., the "Tzarevitch, Retvisan" and "Pallada," is said to be nearly three millions pounds sterling. All three, according to Russian reports, were very seriously injured. The "Tzarevitch," cost £1,250,000, was struck in her steering compartment; the "Retvisan," cost £1,200,000, is damaged somewhat forward, and the "Pallada," cost £500,000, was hit amidships.

If the account recently published of the action at Chemulpho is accurate, it is evident that the much-anticipated Heileis experiments did not do more than show clearly what quick-firing guns can do to an unarmoured ship. The Japanese fire concentrated on the unfortunate "Varyag" practically destroyed all the men on the upper deck, and most very speedily have put the upper deck guns out of action. Practically all the "Varyag's" guns, six-inch as well as the small 3-pounders, were on the upper deck; and only four of the six-inch guns were in case-mates of 5-inch steel. The remaining six-inch guns had shields, but these could be of little use when the enemy steamed round the ship and could pour broadsides into them from both front and rear. Apparently the steam steering gear was injured at an early period of the engagement, which shows how large a part pure chance may play in a naval engagement now-a-days, and what disastrous results may ensue from a single lucky shot. But the chief conclusion to be drawn from the action is the extreme vulnerability of an ordinary cruiser by gun-fire. After all, with the exception of our armoured cruisers and the latest of the protected ones most of our own cruisers have their guns just as poorly protected as the "Varyag;" and the same thing applies to every other navy. Of recent years we have taken to protecting our cruiser armament and the secondary guns of our battleships more efficiently; but there is every reason to expect that many of our own vessels would be reduced to the same condition as the Russian cruiser, and in just as short a time under similar circumstances. It must be borne in mind that the "Varyag" was not attacked by battleships but by cruisers and those apparently second class ones not so well armed as herself; so that the injury she suffered was caused by no guns bigger than her own. This seems to argue an extraordinary superiority in the gunnery of the Japanese ships, an assumption borne out by the immunity enjoyed by the latter from the effects of attack by Russian guns whether on the Port Arthur forts or the battleships. So far, with the exception of Chemulpho, the material damage has been the most striking feature of the fighting; but this action has shown that the losses of an overmatched vessel in a naval action are proportionately far heavier than in the most hotly contested on land.—"Pioneer."





## HOOGHLY ITEMS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hoogly, Mar. 21.

## A CASE OF RIOTING.

Abdul Shaik, Icha Sircar, Shaik Reaz, Abdul Gani and Shaik Rustom were convicted under sec. 147 I. P. C. (rioting and sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment each by Babu H. B. De, Deputy Magistrate of Serampur. Abdul Gani was further convicted under sec. 325 I. P. C. for causing a fracture in the hand of one Shaik Montaz, father of Mazuddi, the complainant and sentenced to four months' rigorous imprisonment on various grounds. On the day of execution is that Mazuddi and Montaz, son and rather, have ill-feeling with accused persons on various grounds. On a day of occurrence the father was enclosing a piece of land in front of his house and Daliz with bamboo posts over which Rustom, one of the accused, claimed a right of way. When Rustom wanted to go by that land he was prevented from doing so by Montaz. Rustom went away and half an hour after came with a body of men who beat the son with lathies and the father with crow-bar causing a fracture. The fracture was caused by Abdul Gani. The son at once went to the thana and lodged information with the Police. The father was carried to the thana later on and the S. I. investigated the case and sent up the accused for trial with the result stated above. The defence was abili of Icha and Reaz. Rustom stated that he was bringing a load of paddy from the field and was beaten by the father and son. There was an appeal before the Sessions Judge of Hoogly. Mr. P. L. Roy, Barrister-at-law, with Babu Sarat Ch. Mookerjee, Vakils, appeared for the appellants and Babu Bishnu Pado Chatterjee, Vakils, for the respondent. The Judge after hearing both sides has reserved judgment.

## ANOTHER CASE OF RIOTING.

One Mohesh Mondal along with Fakir and Gosto was placed before Babu Annoda Prasad Bose, Deputy Magistrate of Howrah, on a charge of rioting under sec. 147 I. P. C. The Magistrate acquitted the other two but convicted Mohesh Mondal and sentenced him to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment. There was an appeal before the Sessions Judge. Mr. C. R. Das, Barrister-at-law, instructed by Babu Bishnu Pado Chatterjee, appeared for the appellants and the Public Prosecutor with Mouvi Izad Bux appeared for the respondent. The story for the prosecution was that one Mohendra Bera, a tenant under Babu Jodh Kumar Mukherjee of Uterpara was in possession of the disputed land. On the 12th December last when he was reaping paddy he was prevented from doing so by the accused who numbered over twenty-five. Mohendra Bera thereupon informed the Zemindar's Durwan who came to the disputed land. It was said that the Durwan were belabored with lathies severely. The case for the defence was that Mohesh Mondal was in possession of the disputed land for many years under Champamoni Dassi by giving a Kabulyat to her. The Judge after hearing arguments of both sides on last Saturday reserved judgment.

## A SENSATIONAL CASE.

One Jaggeswar Ghose and four others are undergoing trial before Babu M. L. Bose, Honorary Magistrate of Hoogly, on a charge of wrongful confinement, unlawful assembly and theft. The prosecution story is this: One Hem Chunder Sen, living in the village of Bitra, thana Montessor, District Burdwan, married the daughter of one Hari Charan Sircar, a Kayastha by caste residing in the village of Debra, thana Pandooah. The father-in-law was very reluctant to send his daughter, who is now aged 18 or 19, to the house of Hem Chunder in spite of his repeated importunities. One day he went to his father-in-law's and after staying there 7 or 8 days wrote a letter to his elder brother, Gadadhar, asking him to take his wife away. Accordingly his brother, with a palanquin and a number of bearers, arrived there at 8 or 9 p.m. on the day of occurrence. The brothers tried to take away the girl during the absence of her father by force. The female members of the house offered resistance and raised a hue and cry. Hearing the disturbance thus created some neighbours, including the accused persons, hastened to the spot and prevented them from carrying out their object. And on the complainant and his party remonstrating with them they were attacked by the infuriated men who had collected there and driven out of the house having been pushed off by the neck from behind. They were then confined in a Burwari Aitchalla of the village for the whole night and caused some Chowkidars of the place to mount guard over them. The palanquin was taken away by the peoples and kept in a house where it was subsequently recovered by the Police who were apprised of the occurrence by Gadadhar who had escaped from the confinement by making an excuse for the purpose of answering a call of nature to ease himself. The charge is framed against all the accused under sec. 342, 143 and 379 I.P.C. The trial is going on.

## A THEFT CASE.

One Robini Bagdi of Banathali, a village within the jurisdiction of the Police station Dhanakhal, laid a complaint at the thana against one Suresh Chunder Chatterjee and three others charging them with the above offence under sec. 379 I. P. C. The Police after holding an enquiry into the case sent up only Suresh for trial. The case came on for hearing before Mr. S. K. Ghose, Assistant Magistrate of Hoogly. The story for the prosecution is that the accused accompanied by three others entered the cowshed of the complainant and took away forcibly three cows and one he-goat therefrom. The complainant, it is said, owed Gopal Sircar and the accused Rs. 40 and Rs. 20 respectively. With the ostensible purpose of realising their dues from the complainant, they, it is alleged, went to his house and demanded immediate payment from him and he was abused grossly by one of them. On the complainant making a plea for paying off his debt and on the ground of procrastination on his part the domestic animals of his in question were carried away by force by the accused and the goat was killed outright by Suresh, the skin and the head of which were afterwards found

in a room of the accused's house by the Daroga who investigated the case. The trial is proceeding.

## A PADDY-LOOTING CASE.

One Paddo Bawa charged one Gyaram Parni and his son Sidu Parni of Ranagaohy, a village under thana Palba, before Mr. S. H. Counsel, Deputy Magistrate of Hoogly, alleging that the accused had taken away forcibly the paddy which she grew on the land inherited from her husband and cutting down 123 bamboos from her garden. She also stated in her deposition before the trying Magistrate that the land was cultivated, seeds were sown and seedlings were transplanted by the labourers engaged by her on the land which the accused now claim to be their own. A charge has been framed against the accused under sec. 379 I. P. C. The trial is proceeding.

## A TIMELY WARNING.

Cholera has already broken out in the town of Hoogly and is raging here fearfully. Its appearance has caused a panic and terror among the inhabitants. The vehemence and fierce of this fell disease may be gauged by a simple fact that there were as many as half-a-dozen deaths successively in a Mahomedan family alone. It has caused some deaths along the Kajidanga Road, Peepulpati Road, Bali and its vicinity and it is feared that unless some prompt steps are taken by the local authorities to prevent the further spread of this terrible scourge the consequences will be most disastrous. As there will be an influx of people from the mufasil owing to the Mahomedan festival, we humbly pray that our able and energetic District Magistrate Mr. Halifax will be graciously pleased in consultation with our popular Chairman of the Municipality Babu Bishnu Pado Chatterjee and the good Mutwali of the Hoogly Imambarah to make such arrangements for the house and latrine accommodation of the people who attend the Mahoram festival as may be deemed necessary and adopt such sanitary measures as may prevent the spread of cholera.

## A GRIEVANCE.

The opening of the Bandel Station has removed a long-felt inconvenience of the inhabitants of Bandel, Keota, Sahagunge, Khamarpara, Bansbari and other neighbouring villages, but for want of properly metalled and shorter roads they cannot reap full benefit from the new station. The inconvenience and hardships to which they are put to reach the station are very great and during the ensuing rainy season they will have to plod their weary way through the mud along the Manspur Road. They are now compelled under the necessity to go round to the station by the Kajidanga Road and thereby to travel one mile and a half more than they would have been required to do had there been a shorter and more straight road. Three years ago Babu M. N. Gupta, the then L. A. Deputy Collector of Hoogly, had submitted with his suggestions a scheme for the construction of shorter road from the circuit house to the present Bandel station, but for want of sufficient funds at the disposal of the District and Municipal Boards of Hoogly, his scheme was not carried out and was deferred to some future year. The people now humbly and respectfully request the District Magistrate that he will be so kind as to direct the above Boards to contribute funds for its construction. If funds are not available at present the Magistrate is requested to advance the same from the "Patika" fund.

## THE READERS OF THE "PATRIKA" ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE PETITION.

The readers of the "Patika" are requested to sign the petition by the M. L. R. authorities as follows:—  
The petition is for the construction of a shorter road from the circuit house to the present Bandel station, but for want of sufficient funds at the disposal of the District and Municipal Boards of Hoogly, his scheme was not carried out and was deferred to some future year. The people now humbly and respectfully request the District Magistrate that he will be so kind as to direct the above Boards to contribute funds for its construction. If funds are not available at present the Magistrate is requested to advance the same from the "Patika" fund.

At the Meeting of the Society of the Madras University held on Saturday to elect a candidate for nomination by H. E. the Governor as a Member of the Legislative Council, in the place of the Hon'ble Mr. J. B. Bilsdale resigned, the Rev. Canon Sell was elected, on the third ballot, by the casting vote of the Vice-Chancellor. The validity of the election is to be contested on the ground that the Vice-Chancellor was not entitled to a casting vote.

According to the common report General Kuropatkin announced before his departure, through the medium of his Aide-de-Camp, that the world would commence operations in May and that it would be all over with the Japanese by the end of July. A St. Petersburg despatch published by the "Echo de Paris" gives a different account of the matter. In this the General is represented as saying that the war might last for eighteen months, but "all the necessary steps had been taken to ensure that none of the Japanese who may have landed will ever return to their country." "In either case the future before the Japanese seems to be dark, and it is well for them that they have managed to gain some little preliminary success before the General's arrival, which their posterity will be able to point to by way of consolation.

## THE BUDGET 1904-05.

## A SUMMARY.

The principal features in the statement are the following:—

1.—The accounts of 1902-1900 closed with a surplus of £3,069,549, being £331,049 higher than the surplus expected in the Revised Estimate of that year.

II—1903-1904—

(1) The Revised Estimates show a total revenue of £83,067,800, a total expenditure charged to Revenue of £80,356,600, and a surplus of £2,711,200. This surplus is higher than that estimated in March 1903 by £1,762,500.

(2) There has again been a large increase of revenue under almost every important head, especially from railway net earnings and opium.

Land Revenue yielded an increase of £179,800, Excise of £420,400, Customs of £316,200, Forests of £119,200 and Irrigation Major Works of £148,600.

The reduction in the Salt duty has stimulated consumption, and the revenue is expected to exceed the estimate by £206,700.

The net earnings of State Railways exceeded the estimate by £723,400, and those of Guaranteed Railways £28,700. The North Western Railway contributed most largely to the former. The prices of Bengal opium ruled extraordinarily high, and the revenue exceeded the estimate by £1,354,900. On the other hand, the season's crop was a bumper, involving very large payments for the raw product. The charges exceeded the estimate by £474,100.

(3) The expenditure is expected to exceed the estimate by £164,400. This is inclusive of £300,000 for the Tibet Mission, and £186,400 for the escorts with the Aden and Seistan Delimitation Commissions. There were savings of £239,200 on account of the absence of troops in China and Somaliland.

The expenditure on Civil Public Works increased by £121,100.

Owing to the inability of the Local Governments to expend their full allotments, there were savings under most of the chief administrative heads, the more important being Land Revenue £130,700, Jails £84,600, Police £107,500, Education £141,400, Medical £97,100 and Minor Irrigation Works, £82,300.

Under Famine Relief, total expenditure was only £20,400. The grant of £120,000 for special defences was only used to the extent of £28,400.

(4) Special grants aggregating £1,726,780, have been made to Provincial Governments, of which £1,000,000 represents initial grants to the four Provinces—Assam, Bengal, the United Provinces, and Madras,—whose settlements have been revised. The remainder represents grants for various specific purposes.

(5) It has been decided to appropriate £956,700 from the surplus of the year towards the provision of new artillery and rifles and in pushing on the scheme of special coast defences.

(6) A loan of two crores was raised in India; and India 3 per cent stock to the amount of £1,500,000 was issued, of which £600,000 was applied to the discharge of Great India Peninsula Railway debentures, £3,500,000 of India Bills, temporary, fell due of which £2,000,000 were replaced, and £1,500,000 were discharged.

(7) A temporary loan of £333,300 for three months was raised from the Gwalior Durbar in January 1904.

(8) The drawings of Councils in 1903-1904 are expected to amount to £237,000. Of this £220,000 represents remittances on account of the Gold Reserve Fund, and £21,500,000 are remittances on ordinary account, as compared with £17,000,000 entered in the Budget.

(9) In addition to Councils, a sum of £261,027 in gold was remitted to the Secretary of State in July last on account of the Gold Reserve Fund.

III.—1904-1905—

(1) The Budget Estimates of 1904-1905 show a total revenue of £80,148,600, a total expenditure charged to Revenue of £79,229,900, and a surplus of £918,700.

(2) Opium receipts are estimated at £781,600 less than the Revised Estimate of 1903-1904, but the other principal heads of Revenue are expected to yield an increase of £558,400, of which the principal factors are Land Revenue £329,200; and Excise £124,500. The net earnings of State Railways are taken at £174,800 less than the latest estimate of the current year.

Mint receipts are taken at £2,516,100 less, and the corresponding charges, including payments to the Gold Reserve Fund, at £2,385,000 less, than the Revised Estimates.

(3) It is not thought necessary to make any provision for direct famine relief, but the Famine Insurance grant of one million is maintained at the same figure as formerly.

(4) Army expenditure is expected to be greater than that of the Budget of 1903-1904 by £1,422,800. The provision of new artillery and rifles accounts for £700,000, the service pay of British troops, at 6d. a day, for £493,900, and expenditure on the Tibet, Aden, and Seistan Missions for £326,000. A sum of £256,700 is provided for prosecuting the scheme of special coast defences and sums aggregating £662,900 under various heads on account of projects for improving the efficiency of the army.

(5) Most of the other heads of expenditure show an increase.

(6) The Provincial Settlements of Besam, Bengal, the United Provinces and Madras have been revised and placed on a permanent basis. The revision involves the surrender to the local Governments of Imperial Revenue amounting to £159,300 per annum.

(7) Subject to the usual reservations, loans of £2,500,000 in England and of three crores in India are announced as contemplated, and the drawing of Council Bills are entered at £16,500,000. The sterling loan is required partly to pay off Great India Peninsula Railway debentures to the amount of £1,002,100, and partly for advances to Railway Companies. The rupee loan is intended for expenditure on Railways and Irrigation Works.

(8) Subject to the usual reservations, provision is also made for the raising of capital through Railway Companies as follows:—

(a) towards outly or State Railways, £1,650,300;

(b) for expenditure on Companies' Railways, £1,250,000;

(c) £2,000,000 of India Bills will fall due within the year, and it is intended to replace them by an issue of similar Bills of equal amount,

## THE TIBET MISSION.

## ROADS AND ROUTES.

Camp, New Chumbi, Tibet, Mar. 9.  
Mr. Henry Newman writes to the "Englishman":—

A mighty ridge runs roughly speaking north-west from Bhutan across Sikkim to the snow-line of Nepal. I am not aware whether this gigantic wall has a name, but some point in it must be climbed by everyone who would enter the Chumbi Valley from Sikkim. Luckily at various places there are fairly deep depressions. These are the la or passes. Into Chumbi there are four passes, the Chola la, the Yak la, the Nathu la and the Jelep la.

Of these four the Jelep is the best known. In previous letters I have already described the route which is the one by which the Mission and escort crossed and over which the greater part of our supplies and transports still come. The Jelep has been used by traders from Tibet for centuries. The pass is exceedingly steep on both sides, but certainly the worst part of it is the climb upwards from Chumbi. One's heart faints which one looks up from Langram, discovering the track on the mountain-side, a snake at an angle of nearly forty-five degrees. And yet this pass, of which the world is now hearing so much, has become the scene of daily activity. Over its ice-clad, wind-swept slope convoys are passing with an unbroken regularity. There are, I suppose, hundreds of men in the force who cross the pass twice or thrice a week without thinking anything of it. At present, of course, in addition to the height what has to be faced is an exceedingly bitter cold and the horrors of snow-blindness. But later on, they say, the cold will give place to a terrific heat. There is not a trace of vegetation on the pass. The huge granite rocks over which one climbs reflect the heat and glare and the perspiring and dazed mortal on its summit longs for the days when snow barred his way.

## THE OTHER PASSES.

At Rangpo the road to Chumbi bifurcates. The one, as already indicated, crosses the Jelep. By means of the other one can cross into this part of Tibet over the Nathu la, the Yak la, or the Chola la. This road has been magnificently improved, and wheeled transport can now travel as far as Guntok and seven or eight miles beyond. It is intended, I believe, to finally take the road over the Nathu la. Already the last pass is so far practicable that ekhas have been pushed over it by hand. Everybody who has travelled across the Nathu la says it is far easier than the Jelep, and the wonder is that in the past it has not been more frequently used by Tibetans and others interested in trade. My Gurkha servant tells me that the villagers along the route have the reputation of being a disorderly lot who would not hesitate to loot a caravan, and that is why the Tibetans avoid the Nathu la. However that may be, the pass is now being most successfully used by what is known as the Sikkim Transport, a crop of coolies and hired animals organised by Mr. Claude White, Political Officer, Sikkim. Mr. White and the officers under him have, indeed, done so well and landed such an astonishing quantity of stores in Chumbi without mishap that the Nathu la route has now become as important as the Jelep la. There is even a proposal to abandon the Jelep la entirely in favour of the Nathu la during the coming rainy season, when the roads in Sikkim are put to a very severe test.

The Yak la was tried for a month by a corp of coolies under Captain Drake Brockman, but was finally given up as impracticable. An engineer officer, who went up to report on it described it as a "Markhor track."

The Chola la is like the Yak la, only more so. Only lightly laden coolies can cross it, though a yak corps was once driven over it by an officer of spirit and genius.

## NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

## SIX GREAT GENERALS.

Japan's Leaders in the Land Battles.  
Who will lead the Japanese army in the coming battles?

Japan is fortunate that this turning-point in her history in possessing Generals who are not only tried men of war, but have behind them the force and inspiration which comes from brilliant service in more than one successful campaign.

During the last thirty-five years Japan has seen three great wars. First the War of the Restoration (1867-8), which gave back full sovereignty over her empire to the Mikado; Second, the Civil War known as the Satsuma Rebellion (1877), the defeat of which united her people; third, the Chino-Japanese war (1894-5) whose result was her birth as a Great Power. In all these wars the Generals who to-day are the chief of her armies took part—in the last war they held the most important commands. This is the same thing as saying they are soldiers of the ripest experience.

Foremost among them are the two Field Marshals of Japan, men whose names must be for ever associated with their victorious campaigns in China, Manchuria and Korea, Marquis Yamagata and Count Oyama.

The Man who took Port Arthur.  
It is thought improbable that Marquis Yamagata, who is now about seventy, will leave Japan for the seat of war, but it is possible that Marquis Oyama, whose present position is that of Chief of the Military Staff Major at Tokio, will take the field; in any case, he will have the General direction of the war.

Field-Marshal Oyama is nearly sixty-one. He is a tall, stout man, very quiet, gentle, and amiable in disposition, and though the irony of events has made him a great and successful soldier, he has no liking for war. By birth a Samurai of the Kagoshima clan, he has been a fighter from his youth, and saw a good deal of service in the Satsuma rebellion. He was Minister of War in 1894, but resigned to take command of the "Second Army" of Japan in the war with China. He had under him four divisions (between eighty and ninety thousand men), and achieved some of the most remarkable triumphs of the whole struggle. He was the General before whom Chin-chow, Talienwan and Port Arthur fell; later he captured Wei-hei-wei.

As illustrating his humane character the following anecdote is told of him. One day during the Chino-Japanese war as he was rid-

ing into camp he noticed a party of shivering Chinese prisoners standing unprotected in the open though a cold and bitter sleet was falling. "They are men," he said, pointing to the prisoners and at once gave orders that they should be placed somewhere under cover. On being told that no accommodation was to be found for them he instantly commanded that his own horses should be turned out of their stable and the building given over to the prisoners.

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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 cases of difficult labour and threatened abortion with satisfactory and unexpected results."

DR. K. P. CHAKRABARTY, M. B., Late Superintendent, Lewis Sanatorium, Daresburg writes:—"I have tried your specific, 'Santan Rakshak,' in several cases of tedious labour and threatened abortion. I am glad to tell you that the results have been very satisfactory. I would like to recommend it to all females who are in the state of pregnancy."

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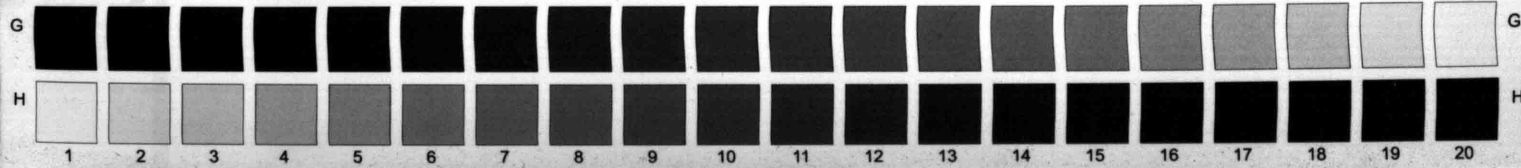
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## INDIAN NOTES.

## ANONYMOUS LETTERS LEAD TO SUICIDE.

On Tuesday, a Coroner's inquest was held at the J. J. Hospital, Bombay, touching the death of Mahadeo Kashinath, a barber, aged twenty-five. For the last two months the deceased had been receiving anonymous letters containing imputations against the conduct of his wife. He questioned her about it, but could get no explanation from her, nor could he obtain any clue of the writer. On the 15th instant, deceased was found lying in his bed with a large wound across the abdomen, from which a portion of the intestines protruded. On being questioned he admitted that the wound was self-inflicted. A razor stained with fresh blood was found lying beside him near the pillow. He was removed to the hospital, where peritonitis set in and he died yesterday. A verdict of suicide was recorded.

## A QUESTION OF COLORBLINDNESS.

On the 24th instant in the Bombay High Court, Mr. Justice Russell, with Captain Andrews and Captain Shepherd, as Assessors, sat as an Admiralty Court, delivered judgment in the matter of a certificate of competency as First Mate granted to Mr. Nordert James, of Byella. Mr. James when being examined for his Master's certificate failed to pass the prescribed visual test and was declared colour-blind. The Court reviewed at great length the authority it had in the matter, and as to how it was derived. It also stated the Board of Trade regulation in operation in this behalf, and said that there were strong grounds for what Mr. Lowndes had urged for Mr. James, that this Court had no jurisdiction and that his certificate could not be suspended or cancelled for colour-blindness. Such being the state of the law now in force, it was a matter for the Legislature to set it right. In respect of visual defects, it had been proved that colour-blindness in this particular case was not congenital and might be cured. Under these circumstances the Court came to the conclusion that it was best to accept the surrender of the certificate, already made by Mr. James, until such time as he was able to pass the visual test. The cost of the inquiry will be paid by Government.

## PUMPING A CIVILIAN'S BICYCLE.

Mr. H.A.B. Wernon, I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner, Salt and Abkari Department, was this day charged by Kambhian, a peon in the same department, before Mr. W. B. Clarke, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Egmore, with using criminal force to him under the following circumstances:—On the 27th February last, complainant was on duty at the accused's bungalow at Peter's Garden. About 4.30 p.m. accused asked him to bring out a bicycle from the bungalow which he did and on placing it on the side of the steps, accused asked him to pump the bicycle and while he was so pumping one wheel, accused felt the other wheel, and kicked him on a delicate part of the body. Complainant kept quiet then, when accused asked him to pump the other wheel and while he was doing so, accused remarked that he was taking up too much time and kicked him on the two toes of his left foot. Complainant then stood quiet because he could not hear the pain. The Under Secretary to the Government, Mr. Evans, he said witnessed the assault on him. Accused then rode off on his bicycle, the accused's dressing boy then tied a wet piece of cloth on his toes. He attended the General Hospital as an out-patient for four days. After resigning his appointment, accused asked him to rejoin. Complainant was then cross-examined by Mr. Partridge of Messrs. King and Jesselyn. Mr. F. Evans, I.C.S., was then examined and said that accused trod on complainant's foot by way of testing the bicycle with a pump when complainant ran away. He did not see him (the accused), kick complainant. In answer to the Court, witness said that he (Mr. Vernon) took the pump and stamped him (complainant) on his foot. Mr. D. Padmanabha Naidu complainant's Vakil then brought to the notice of the Court that it was not the client's legitimate duty to pump the bicycle and that it was not his fault if he had failed in his attempt. His Worship found the accused guilty and remarked that he could not deal leniently, with one in the position of the accused he being a member of the Civil Service, and accordingly fined him Rs. 30.—"Hindu."

## INDIAN MAGISTRATES.

In supporting his amendment for the omission of the words "or any other matters of the state" in the definition of the term "civil affairs" in the Official Secrets Bill the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale remarked that Magistrates of the average type in India in the peculiar relation in which they stood to the executive Government, would not be very reluctant to presume guilty knowledge in editors from the mere fact that the information published by them and for which they were being prosecuted was regarded by Government as confidential. These remarks were somewhat warmly criticised by the Hon'ble Mr. Raleigh who said he knew something of the subordinate judicial officers in India and on their behalf deeply resented the language which Mr. Gokhale had thought fit to use. "Our Courts, both High Courts and Local Courts have always prized their independence, and it is the desire and the duty of Government to respect that feeling." The Hon'ble Mr. Raleigh of course knows something of Indian Magistrates, but obviously not enough, not enough at any rate to learn the fact that neither do the magistrates prize their independence as much as their promotion, nor that Government action is not always calculated to create an impression that they do respect the feeling of independence in their subordinates. Mr. Gokhale gave an effective reply to the Hon'ble the Law Member when he asked the latter to occasionally glance at the judgments of the High Courts as reported in the newspapers and to read the observations which the judges from time to time felt themselves constrained to make on the conduct of the subordinate magistrates. Curiously enough, on the day immediately previous to that on which this debate was held the High Court judgment in the Tilak case was pronounced. On the day itself of the debate what was probably known of this judgment to either Mr. Gokhale or Mr. Raleigh was simply that Mr. Tilak was acquitted.

This briefest news, however, must have it conveyed to those who cared for it a whole fund of justifiable comment on the conduct of our magistrates. But when the full text of the judgment will be published the Law Member will be disillusioned as to the character of his knowledge of the working of the Indian magistrates.—"Maharatta."

## HOW DOES A GIRL FALL IN LOVE?

Someone says, you remember, that half the beauty of a girl's eyes consist in the look of expectancy, the eager, searching for the hero of those unspoken day dreams that fill her mind and heart.

For although parents and guardians, wise in their middle-age, forget their own youthful days, and imagine that because the girls are "well-kept girls"—which means because their companions are carefully selected, no novel-reading permitted, the subjects of love and marriage barred from conversation—their girl's mind is as easily read as the pages of a nice, fresh copy-book.

So it is only almost unconsciously that the owner doubles down a page or two! And were she shut up in a convent of deaf mutes, with walls ten feet high, she would still dream dreams and weave all sorts of pretty, innocent fancies without even the proverbial whisper from the little bird—for a girl's mind is fed by the girl's heart.

And yet, when love comes at last, in spite of all her thoughts and numberless wise reflections on the subject, it is delightfully funny to the observant onlooker to notice how oblivious she often is to the fact that love, in her case, has become a reality instead of a day dream; and, strange inconsistency, more often than not she rather resents its power—a feeling which all women will understand, but no man can.

Love means so much to a woman; so little, in comparison, to a man. It means the alteration of her whole life, the giving up of her will to a stronger. She feels she is no longer her own.

Is it any wonder, then, that her manner changes, that she is variable in her moods, and at times treats her unhappy lover in a defiant, keep-your-distance sort of manner, which reduces him to a condition of hopelessness—unless some kindly female friend, or his previous knowledge of womankind, suggests that he certainly need not despair at these signs?

How does a girl fall in love? Very gradually, as a rule. So gradually that if she asks herself when she first began to care she finds it difficult to answer the question.

Was it when her heart started to beat a little faster at his coming, or when her colour first rose and fell beneath his gaze?

At the time she had such very excellent reasons for the phenomena. She had been walking fast, or she was startled. He had such a horrid habit of staring—something, anything. For the novice in love deceives even herself.

Perhaps it was a little later when she found it difficult to raise her eyes to his, or when something or another happened—it may be a lingering hand-clasp, or perhaps a sharp little stab of jealousy, perhaps even a kiss—and her heart awakes.

And then, and then? Well, it is for always, "Only a woman's heart!" Ah, well! treat it tenderly, Mr. Lover; for, once yours, it is yours for ever and ever—to break, to play with and toss away if you will. But remember that although

"Man's love is of man's life a thing apart, 'Tis woman's whole existence!"

## CAPTAIN AND HIS WIFE.

An amazing story of alleged collusion with the object of securing a divorce was told before Sir Francis Jeune, when the King's Proctor intervened in the case of Narese v. Narese and Jones.

Mrs. Narese, called in support of the King's Proctor's case, stated that at the trial her husband gave false evidence. He had told her that if he could get rid of her he would come into money from his father, who wanted to know if he was likely to live long. (Laughter.) The captain also told her later that she and Jones would be served with "some law papers," but they were of no consequence, and they could burn them. Subsequently he told her that he had divorced her, and that there had been a "special sitting" of the Court. (Laughter.) When she saw a report of the Divorce Court proceedings in a local paper she consulted Mr. Kelly, who communicated with the King's Proctor. In April, 1903, she saw her husband in Liverpool, and he wanted her to go away with him and not let this matter come on for hearing. He had visited her since he got the decree "nisi," and there were marital relations between them.

Captain Geo. Narese gave a categorical denial to the allegations. He made no arrangement with Mr. Kelly, the solicitor, for getting a divorce; his version was that Kelly, after telling him that Mrs. Narese had been in, apparently to arrange a divorce, suggested to him, aside, that he could get them a divorce for £80 or £100, but he (witness) refused.

He explained the message in his letter to his wife—"You had better not trouble where I am living, as it is no concern of yours"—as meaning that he was living with respectable people, and did not want to be molested by his wife's people.

He did not promise Mr. Hughes £100 to give evidence—he hadn't a hundred pennies at the time. He denied suggesting to Hughes that he should arrive at Hughes's house with another woman when Mrs. Narese was present, that Mrs. Narese should come in and see them, and that she should be pushed aside in order that cruelty should be alleged.

As to the alleged arrangement with the co-respondent, Thomas Jones, he stated that he found Jones at his (witness's) house, and asked him what he was doing there.

Jones replied, "I have as much right as you have here. This is a free country."

Questioned as to the possible reason why Mr. Kelly and Mr. Hughes should invent such a strange concoction, he could only suggest that the evidence was paid for. By whom? He couldn't tell.

The jury on Wednesday found that at the hearing of the divorce suit material facts were not brought before the Court; and that the decree "nisi" had been obtained by the collusion of the petitioner with the respondent and the co-respondent.

His Lordship accordingly rescinded the decree "nisi," and dismissed the petition, with costs. All the documents in the case were ordered to be impounded.

## UNVEILING OF A STATUE.

## THE LATE MOHARAJAH OF DURGHA.

The unveiling ceremony of the Statue of the late Moharajah Sir Lakshminwar Singh Bahadur, G. C. I. E. of Durbhunga by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal took place yesterday at 5.30 p.m. at the South-west corner of Dalhousie Square. The late Moharajah was popular not only to the Indians but to the Europeans also was evident from the immensity of the gathering of various nations. There could be seen Europeans, Bengalees, Marwaries, Mohamedans, Parsies and Beharies. Just at 5.30 p.m. His Honour accompanied by Lady Fraser, Rev. Dr. Fraser and A. D. C. arrived at the place, where they were received by the Hon'ble Sir Francis Mac Lean Kt. the chairman and Messrs. W. Parsons and H. E. A. Cotton, Hony. Secretaries, who conducted them up to the Dais. At the Dais seats were provided for His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Lady Fraser, A. D. C., Rev. Dr. Fraser, Sir Francis Mac Lean, Sir Patrick Playfair, Lady Playfair, Miss Christie Miller, Babus Janeshwara Sing and Sreenath Misra of the Raj family, Dr. Gura Das Banerjee, Mr. W. Parsons, Mr. H. E. A. Cotton, and Mr. Justice Ghose. Amidst those present were: The Hon. Mr. Pedler, the Hon. Mr. Hamilton, the Hon. Dr. Bhandarkar, the Hon. Mr. W. O. Macpherson, Mr. L. P. Pugh, Mr. Justice Pergiter, Mr. Justice Mitra, Nawab Bahadur Said Amir Hossain, Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee, Prince Buckter Sha, Kumar Dinendra Narain Roy, Kumar Monomotho Nath Chowdhury of Santosh, Mr. P. L. Roy, Mrs. Roy, Mr. J. Ghosal, Mr. B. Banerjee, Dr. R. G. Ker, Roy, Sita Narayan Bahadur, Babu Nalin Behary Sircar, Babu Saligram Sing, Babu Hemendra Nath Sen, Babu Tulapati Sing and Moulvie Muhammad Musa.

The Hon'ble Sir Francis Mac Lean, Chairman of the Memorial Fund, in inviting on behalf of the Executive Committee His Honour to unveil the Statue said that his task that afternoon was simple and pleasant. On the death of the late Moharajah of Durbhunga a public meeting was held in Calcutta in which the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal presided. That meeting was held on the 11th of February 1895, in which it was unanimously resolved that a memorial should be erected in the memory of the late Moharajah. A subscription was raised on that object, and about Rs. 45,000 was collected. Every justice was done in that meeting of the high qualities of the late Moharajah. At that meeting the generous and charitable disposition of the Moharajah were highly appreciated. An Executive Committee was appointed of which His Lordship was appointed a Chairman. They were determined that the best form of the memorial should be a statue. A model was accordingly given to Mr. Ouslaw Ford, the well-known Hebrew sculptor. But he suddenly died. They were then placed at a considerable difficulty, and they arrived at the conclusion that the best course would be to entrust his son with the work. That idea had now been carried out and they would see to what extent it has been fulfilled. The Hon. speaker then said that out of Rs. 45,000 they had a surplus of Rs. 8,000 or Rs. 10,000, which would be left for the further determination of the subscribers. As to the merits of the public career of the late Moharajah His Lordship said that they would hear from His Honour. Some five years ago one Lieutenant-Governor presided in a similar meeting. That afternoon they had another Lieutenant-Governor to preside over a similar occasion. He was desired by the present Moharajah to state that he deeply regretted that he was unable to be present. He then said that Mr. W. Parsons and Mr. H. E. A. Cotton, Hony. Secretaries of the Memorial Fund, had done everything in their power and without their assistance he was sure, the Committee would have met with great difficulty. His Lordship said that Calcutta possessed many a statue of distinguished Englishmen and he was glad that that afternoon they were going to add in that city a statue of a distinguished Indian. He fervently hoped that it might be welcome by both Europeans and Indians. On behalf of the Executive Committee His Lordship then asked His Honour to unveil the Statue of the late Moharajah of Durbhunga.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in reply said: When his honourable and learned friend the Chief Justice of Bengal asked the speaker very soon after he had been put in charge of the office of the Lieutenant-Governor of that Province, whether he would consent to unveil the statue of the late Moharajah Bahadur of Durbhunga he very readily accepted it. He accepted it on two grounds; first because of what the Chief Justice himself had told him about the late Moharajah Bahadur. He need not tell them what that was. The Chief Justice had already told them what his own opinion was of the services and character of the late Moharajah Bahadur. His Honour's second reason was that he found on record the opinion of the late Moharajah Bahadur framed by his predecessor the late Sir John Woodburn. He regretted exceedingly to say that he had not the honour of the late Moharajah Bahadur's acquaintance himself. He was glad all the same to stand there and perform that pleasant task. What his predecessor thought of the late Moharajah he readily accepted that. He should like to read in a moment what it was, which led him to accept the invitation of the Hon'ble and learned Chief Justice. He found a notice published in the Calcutta Gazette (from which he read out a few sentences) in recognition of his merit, liberality and valuable public services. He next referred to the three points on which Sir John laid special stress in the speech he delivered at the Town Hall, in honour of the late Moharajah's death. First, he thought it fit that the head of the Administration of Bengal should take a prominent part in recognition of the character and services of so popular a man as the late Moharajah of Durbhunga. His Honour said, that sentiment he heartily accepted. He thought that it was one of the most pleasant duties and also one of the most important duties of the head of the Government like that of Bengal to take pleasure in acknowledging the popular services of a man whose statue he was going to unveil. The second point was what Sir John remarked in a public meeting of his private acquaintance and friendship with the late Moharajah Bahadur. He quoted those words because they expressed the value of the man

far better than he could do himself. What influence and character such a man had which had been so eloquently recognised by the head of a Government. He had himself in the course of his career friends among his Indian fellow-subjects. He knew how an administrator missed such a fellow whom he believed to possess such sterling qualities. The third and the last point was that Sir John's Government had lost a great and good man in the late Moharajah. He accepted those views and was glad that he was no unveiling the statue of such a man. In conclusion His Honour said that he believed that a man like the late Moharajah not only exercised in his life high influence but after his death had left behind him an example which others would follow. He had the greatest pleasure in accepting that invitation.

His Honour then unveiled the statue, which represented the Maharaja seated on a "Gadi" in full state costume, head dress and the robe of G.O.I.E. The statue held in one hand a shield and in the other a sword. The costume was exactly the same which was used to be worn by the Maharajah when presiding at Durbhunga on functions of state connected with his raj.

Dr. Gurudass Banerjee then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which was seconded by Sir Patrick Playfair.

The meeting then separated.

## WHAT WAR COSTS A NEWSPAPER. SOME INTERESTING DETAILS FROM THE LEDGER.

The man who skims through the war news in his morning paper and then casually leaves it behind him in the train gives little thought to the enormous expense entailed by the newspaper in order that he may become acquainted with the passage of events in the Far East.

Yet each word of these Press cables from Korea or Japan briefly stating the progress of hostilities only reaches the newspaper after an outlay of 1s. 11d., while the ordinary rate for a cable is 7s. 6d. a word. But even with this reduction, a newspaper often finds its cabling bill for the week's war news amounting to £1,200, and this irrespective of the amount paid to various agencies, such as Reuters. Indeed, each of those brief messages of about 200 words, which are often barely glanced at and it may be feared, only seldom read, costs nearly £20. Often a correspondent cables a costly message to his paper which for various reasons cannot be used. As an instance of this, the special correspondent of a London morning journal cabled an important message to his paper which cost nearly £200. The same message, however, had previously been issued from the Japanese Legation, and although the correspondent was perfectly justified in sending his version, it meant that £200 was literally thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Another important item in the paper's "news bill" is the expenses of the correspondents. A leading paper usually has a dozen or more chief correspondents at the important strategic positions in the war area. These men have, in their turn, numerous satellites searching for news, all of whom have to be paid. Then, again, a special war boat is often a necessity in order that naval engagements may be promptly reported, and a vessel of this kind, such as is used by "The Daily Mail" or "The Times" may run away with anything from £1,000 to £2,000 per month, and this irrespective of the amount paid for coal.

The special correspondents must get important news through to their papers at any price. Very often this is extremely difficult, and only a man with much nerve and resource can succeed in carrying out his paper's requirements. For instance, the first intelligence which was smuggled out of Pekin when the Foreign Legations were being besieged, came from Dr. Morrison, of "The Times," and it passed through the enemy's lines to Tientsin hidden under a handful of rice in the bowl of a Chinese beggar.

The travelling and other expenses of correspondents in war time are necessarily very heavy, and a newspaper considers itself fortunate if its monthly bill for each man for this alone does not exceed £100. Then there are the stationary correspondents, who are not at the seat of war, but who reside in the capitals of the countries, and keep a sharp look-out for any news bearing on the war.

Finally, a great expenditure is involved by the extra amount of paper necessary in order to meet the increased demand for the newspaper during war time.

That this is not a sum to be neglected may be seen from the fact that every 100,000 added to the circulation costs nearly £400 per week for paper alone, not to speak of ink.

The Post Master of Myohaung, Akyab, has been arrested on charges of obtaining goods from firms in Rangoon and Calcutta under false pretences. He ordered goods, it is alleged, under fictitious names, and on receipt of the parcel he abstracted part of its contents and returned the parcel to the consignor, with a notice to the effect that the addressee was unknown or the parcel was refused. The accused is being tried at Akyab.

At the Madras High Court their Lordships disposed of a criminal appeal from the Neilore District against the conviction of one Battini Ramkrishna Reddi by the Sessions Judge on a charge of murder under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code. The accused in the case was charged with having caused the death of a young girl, aged eight years, by throwing her into a well. It was in evidence that the accused was on terms of criminal intimacy with the mother of the deceased, and that, on the occasions of his visit to the house of the woman, the deceased apprised her blind father of the same. The motive alleged against the accused was, that he wanted to get rid of the girl, as she was a hindrance to him. The accused pleaded not guilty, and stated that the circumstantial evidence, on the strength of which he was convicted, had been got up by his enemies. Their Lordships dismissed the appeal, and enhanced the sentence of transportation for life awarded by the Sessions Judge to one of death.

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