

Aurita Bazar Patrika

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VOL XXXV.

CALCUTTA THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1904

No. 33

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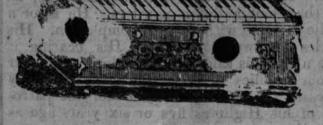
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Dated 4-2-90. (Sd.) Nil Kant Majumdar,
Professor, Presidency College.

THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA.

CALCUTTA, APRIL 28, 1904.

THE LADY DUFFERIN FUND.

REFERRING to our remarks on the report of the Lady Dufferin Fund, our well-known townsman, Dr. M. N. Banerjee of the Beadon Street, sends us the following communication which will no doubt be read with great interest:—

"In your paper of the 16th instant, while writing about the National Association for supplying female medical aid to the women of India, you say 'this Lady Dufferin Fund was founded upon a great misconception, namely, that Indian lady patients refuse to be treated by male doctors. Some Indian sycophants of the Government whispered the falsehood into the ears of Lady Dufferin and she was fired with the philanthropic plea of raising the fund.'

"In tracing the origin of this movement you go so far back as Lady Dufferin and the motives that influenced her. But, sir, I can go further back and tell you, from personal experience, certain facts which will make clear to you the real origin of the movement. The National Association was first in order of time, and was started in England; and the Lady Dufferin Fund came after and as a consequence. Why was this National Association started? I will tell you, why.

"In London there are two institutions, viz., the London School of Medicine for Women and the Royal Free Hospital where all Lady Doctors have their education and training. I happened to be a Resident medical officer at the latter institution from 1882 to 1885. During this time I came in contact with a number of Lady Doctors and students in the course of my duties and watched the influences that were working in and around them. Year after year Lady graduates came in numbers out of the Institutions but they had nothing to do. Public appointments were not open to them. Hospitals would not have them and they had no chance of private practice. Great was the prejudice against them among their own people and it was difficult to get a patient male or female for them. One or two among them, I was told, had some heart-cases among the young of the other sex, but the majority of them were without any patient male or female.

"The authorities of the London School of Medicine for women became anxious and it was then that the sympathetic eyes of Mrs. Garrett Anderson, one of the distinguished professors, opened and saw vividly for the first time the miserable condition of the women in India. The late Mr. Fawcett, her relation, and others of great influence were induced to help her and a large public meeting was got up in which Mrs. Garrett Anderson and others told of the untold miseries of the women in India and the meeting resolved to start the National Association for supplying female medical aid to women of India. That was in fact the very origin of the movement.

"Can you wonder now why out of a total of 41 Lady Doctors in the 1st class only 3, and out of a total of 78 in the 2nd class 9 only are Indians? The Association was started to provide employment for the English Lady Doctors. Of course, it has outgrown the selfish and has arrived at the unselfish stage. And as the English people, entering as traders, find themselves very often, under force of circumstances, entrusted by Providence with the task of civilising the people in uncivilised countries, so has this Association originally meant for the wants of a few English women, expanded and developed into a mission for relieving the sufferings of the women of India. But whatever the development the original idea is not lost sight of in either."

It was Mr. Gladstone, reputed to be the most moral statesman of his time, who said that England should never evacuate Egypt, for that country was needed for the surplus manhood of the British Isles. India was also meant by Heaven for the benefit of the middle classes and yeomanry of England; and when it was found that English medical women had no occupation in their own country, a field was created for them in this fatherless and motherless land of the Hindus. Fancy the beauty of the arrangement! Dr. Banerjee says that neither male nor female patients would avail themselves of the services of these medical women in England; which means, they do not command that confidence which male doctors do; yet, they are quite fit to treat tropical diseases in India of which they have necessarily little or no experience. No wonder, therefore, that plague doctors should be brought from England on high salaries to inoculate people here, though they never saw a plague case in all their lives, and that they should be sent back home when they made themselves thoroughly ridiculous by their operations. Why was India acquired if not to provide for a number of women who could not eke out an existence for themselves in their native land?

The institution of the Lady Dufferin Fund has flourished, because, the rulers here are not in touch with the people and do not know their real requirements; because, it has been patronised by successive Viceroy and Provincial Governors; and because, it has given some occupation to the wives of the Viceroys, the Provincial rulers, and other high officials who do not know how to kill time in this country. It originated in the desire of Lady Dufferin to leave some permanent memorial behind her. It was based, as we stated the other day, upon the fiction that Purdamashin ladies here are not allowed by their husbands to be treated by male doctors. The fiction remains undiscovered, because, the rulers have no actual knowledge of the condition of the people.

It is now "a gigantic institution," to quote the words of Lord Curzon when he presided over one of its annuals. But, would any one have subscribed a pie to it if it had not been patronised by Viceroys and Provincial Governors? Money is not as plentiful in India as berries; and even in quarters where it is plentiful, the possessors do not throw it away upon institutions based upon fiction. It is a curious phenomenon that, though the institution has changed hands with the retirement of every Viceroy and every local Governor since the time of Lord Dufferin, none of the authorities has yet been able to discover that the thing is, from the beginning to the end, a farce, pure and simple.

It is a well-known fact that most of the donations were made after pressure had been put on the donors—pressure from the high, the higher, and the highest; but, we did not complain, for, at least the ostensible motive—that of affording relief to the suffering humanity—was good. Appeals for funds were made for the benefit of sick women; and we are glad, a large amount of money has been secured in this way. But are we to carry on this farce for ever, or to put a stop to it and give a better direction to resources placed in the hands of responsible authorities?

In the name of everything sacred, let this Fund be utilized properly, and let us have an end of these farcical meetings, in respect of an institution for the removal of evils which do not exist. Lord Curzon claimed for this country a scientific medical system for the benefit of the people. That is all true. But how many are there in India who derive any benefit from it? Mr. Kipling contends that the white man "bid the sickness to cease". But it is surely not done in India. Disease is rampant from one end of the country to the other; but there is none in this vast peninsula to bid the sickness to cease.

The census shows that there are three hundred millions in this country. There is no doubt, however, that three-fourths of this population get no medical aid at all. They fall sick, and, if nature does not cure them, they quietly die, without seeing the face of a single medical man, or swallowing one drop of medicine. Whoever heard of a poor man, living outside the few Indian towns, receiving any medical aid from the science imported from Europe? Yet, we have at least the Lady Dufferin Fund institution which is "a vast organization."

If the authorities of the institution want a good occupation, let them properly utilize the Fund that Providence has placed at their disposal. Purdamashin ladies are not in need of any special female medical assistance, nor are poor women in towns. They get ample medical relief where they live. But let the poor in the interior, male and female, have some medical help. The Fund is now swallowed up by palatial buildings in towns and the salaries of highly-paid European medical women imported from England. Let the Fund, however, be devoted solely to the removal of the sufferings of sick humanity in the rural tracts; let the Fund do that great and useful work, and God will bless those who have the privilege of administering it.

Let us summarise: (1) Women in Indian towns, whether poor or wealthy, need no special arrangement for medical relief; (2) vast myriads of people in the interior of India go without medical relief; (3) the huge fund at the disposal of the authorities should be spent for affording medical relief to the poor peasantry and not in making splendid buildings and importing medical women from England on high pay.

DISASTROUS RESULTS OF IMPERIALISM.

OUR London correspondent, the other day, referred to the policy of Lord Curzon of filling public offices by selection, and not by competitive examinations. This is only following the principle which underlies what is called Imperialism. Under the system of Imperialism, the ruled millions have to surrender their will to the dominant few. The creed of the latter is that they are wise and beneficent, and, therefore, the best parties to take care of the interests of the ruled, who are inferior men or only children. This policy prevails in India in full force, and it is being gradually introduced from here into England. This reminds us of what the sheep told the butcher: Men kill us, said the sheep, but we, in return, give them our skins to prepare two instruments for their own destruction, namely, drums in war, and parchments in litigation. So while they massacre us, we have also our revenge upon them by making them ruin one another in the battlefield and the court of law.

If we are getting here Imperialism from our English rulers, we are giving it back to the ruling country with compound interest. What is England now but almost as imperialism-ridden as India? If Lord Curzon is the sole disposer of the fates of the millions here, two or three men in England have in their keeping the destiny of the entire English nation. Of course, they have a Parliament, but this national assembly cannot control the Ministers. There are innumerable ways by which those who are in power can snap their fingers at Parliament. The Ministers commit themselves to an aggressive policy, as they did in connection with the Boer war, when Parliament is not sitting; and, as soon as Parliament meets, they appeal to the patriotism and vanity of the Members and secure their support to the programme laid down by them in secret. The Thibet Mission was not popular in the beginning; but, now that it has been converted into a military expedition, both the Commons and the Lords have been led to adopt Resolutions authorising it.

It is a well-known law of nature that, the slave is emasculated under the despotic rule of his master and the slave-holder gets himself brutalized by the process. So it is difficult to determine as to who fares worse,—the Lagrees or the Toms. Let us see what our rulers have got in return for the imperialistic rule they have given us. In India they have to banish seventy-five thousands of the best of their yeomanry and keep them confined in barracks. The prison life differs very little from the garrison life here. Here they are trained as blood-hounds; and the result is, that, though originally the finest specimens of humanity, they are so brutalized at last that many of them are apt to lose even the decency which a savage will not care to part with under any consideration. Savages do not pursue women as dogs and other animals do; but here such spectacles are not rare. The Rangoon and other outrages have proved to what extremes are British soldiers capable of going. Whoever has heard of a woman being outraged before spectators? Whoever has heard of a woman being thus outraged by dozens of soldiers, one after another?

The facts of the Rangoon atrocity are generally known, because Lord Curzon took special notice of it. But the outrage committed at Guntacool, Madras, though equally horrible, is scarcely known, because the authorities ignored it altogether. If we refer to it, it is to illustrate the principle that Imperialism is brutalizing many Englishmen here, and also to record the heroism of a common coolie,

What has Madras done to perpetuate the memory of Ambanna, the railway gate-keeper? A company of soldiers of the 2nd Welsh Regiment had to stop at the Guntacool Railway junction, 4 miles from Gooty. A party of four soldiers, who had got leave to enjoy themselves, saw a woman, and immediately pursued her. She was an old hag, and ran away before her pursuers. There was no cover to give her shelter, no man to afford her protection. But Ambanna, the Railway gate-keeper, saw the scene, beckoned the woman, and admitted her into the gate-room. Another woman similarly pursued by the same party of soldiers, also received protection from the gate-keeper. When the infuriated soldiers came and demanded the woman, Ambanna bravely faced them and was shot. On the following day the brave gate-keeper died of his wounds.

Then, take into consideration the health of the British army in India. In 1902, from a single disease, namely, enteric fever, there were 1,012 admissions in hospitals and 260 deaths among the British soldiers. Deaths from alcoholism during the years 1901-1902 were above the average, while in the latter year there were 16 suicides. It is a wonder there is not more self-destruction among the soldiers, considering the nature of the brute life they have to lead here and the intolerable sufferings they are subjected to in a hot and uncongenial climate. We also find, that 2,255 men in the European army were invalided in 1902. And, above all, thousands of British soldiers contract a loathsome disease which they annually carry home and disseminate among thousands of innocent women in the British Isles. All this is the direct result of the imperialistic ideas which have supplanted the superiority of morals. As for the demoralization among the civilians, fancy that a true British Judge is now a rarity in this country, and the executive Government treat the people as no better than chattels.

But, if Englishmen are showing moral decadence abroad, are they making progress towards a higher life at home? Let us see. At a public meeting held at the Farringdon Memorial Hall on 21st March last, the Rev. John Wilson declared that there were 800,000 drunks in England, that is to say, there are two beasts in human shape among every hundred men! We also know that fifty thousand men, women and children huddle together like pigs and pass wintry nights in the streets of London. Here is a statement:—

"London is responsible for the production of over seventy insane persons a week. In 1859 there were in England 36,762 insane, or one to 536 of the population; there are to-day 113,964, or one to 293. The recovery rate from all cases of mania, also decreasing, being now 38.4 per cent. Melancholia is increasing, and also premature dementia. The same complaint comes from the Continent."

Could anything be more appalling? As the statement is based upon official returns, it is accurate in fact and detail. It seems almost incredible that one in every 293 members of the population is insane, yet we are told that in London alone over seventy insane persons are produced per week! In a little over thirty years the number of persons mentally afflicted has nearly doubled. Indeed, the asylum accommodation for insanics is getting more and more scarce in every part of England. Does not this show a very lamentable state of affairs? And why is England going down morally? Because, Imperialism keeps her Ministers thoroughly engaged with foreign affairs, and leaves them very little time to look after domestic reforms.

THE POLICE COMMISSION'S REPORT ON MORE FAT BERTHS FOR EUROPEANS.

JUDGING from the summary of the Police Commission's Report reproduced in these columns from the "Times," the document will cause grave disappointment and alarm in the minds of the public. First of all, it was not at all necessary to appoint an expensive Commission for collecting facts which are known to every official and almost every non-official in India, and which, in fact, are in the nature of axiomatic truths. Who knows it not that the Indian Police, with honorable exceptions, are a corrupt and incompetent body, and that police misrule has rendered British administration extremely unpopular in this country? And who knows it not that this is due mainly to the wretched pay given to the subordinate staff, who are of course all "natives," and to the worthlessness of the higher officers who are all Europeans? If the Government of India had only issued a circular letter to the Local Governments, enquiring about these matters, they would have with one voice admitted all these already admitted facts and thus it would have been able to gather information on these points without the help of a Commission. The Police Commission, certainly, was appointed for more important reasons than to repeat what is universally known.

The description of the situation, again, in the light of the summary of the Commission's report before us, is not absolutely correct. They have tried to throw all the blame upon the subordinate officers. "The evidence in most Provinces," says the Commission, "is that the canker of corruption affects the force in greater or less degree from Constable to Inspector." Now why draw the line up to Inspector? Are all District Superintendents immaculate? Even Mr. Munro was obliged to admit that there were some in the ranks of the higher Police Officers who were not ornaments to the service.

If rather seems strange that the Commission should make the Indian members of the police solely responsible for its degraded condition, when they freely condemn the methods in vogue for the recruitment, training, and pay of the Assistant and District Superintendents, who, with a very few exceptions, are Europeans. "For many years," we are told, "the recruitment was by undiluted favoritism, the Indian Police, being the haven of refuge, for the failures of influential Anglo-Indian families. This does not seem to have been a good arrangement; indeed, it is said, as a whole the service suffered incalculable injury from the manner in which appointments were made." Such being the state of affairs, how could the Commission gibe only "the Constable to Inspector" to infamy, excluding "the failures of influential Anglo-Indian families" altogether?

The real position is this. Though big failures, the European District Superintendents, generally speaking, are employed on duties

which they are not qualified to perform. Neither are they very educated nor are they endowed with natural intelligence. They have, besides, imperfect acquaintance with the language, manners, customs and usages of the country. They, thus, as a rule, play in the hands of the Sub-Inspectors. The latter, though subordinates, are more intelligent than their masters, the Police Superintendents. Being the natives of the soil they know the country and the people intimately, and with this superior knowledge, they lead the heads of the District Police by the nose and practically carry on the administration in their name. The incompetence of the District Superintendents is thus really at the bottom of the plague-spot.

As for corruption, of course, the majority of the District Superintendents try to keep themselves pure. The small pay, however, makes some of them fall against their wishes, for they find it sometimes impossible to keep their bodies and souls together without some additional gain, as they have to live on a high style. Indeed, it is as much a mistake to employ a constable on Rs. 6 or Rs. 7 a month with responsible duties as it is to employ a European on Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 a month, either as a District Superintendent or as a Deputy Magistrate. It reflects great credit upon many of these constables as well as upon many of these European officers that they are above all temptation, though they are so badly underpaid. The Police Inspectors, as a class, at least in Bengal are absolutely incorruptible. We are surprised that they should be placed in the same category as the constables.

The modern system of recruiting Assistant and District Superintendents is by open competition in England and competition in India amongst nominated candidates. The Commission justly condemn the plan; but the one they propose is far worse. They prefer open competition at a special examination in England, to be followed by two years of probation and training at a University and in London, somewhat on the lines of the arrangements for the Indian Civil Service. The Commission is also decidedly of opinion that the pay and prospects of the superior police officers should be very considerably improved.

Here is a plan suggested which will effectually keep the educated people of the country out of the higher grades of the Police service for ever. In order to be an Assistant Police Superintendent, an Indian is required to travel ten thousand miles to compete with English youths in England! That is to say, an Indian will have to go to a foreign land to train himself as a thief-catcher in his own country! Does such arrangement prevail anywhere in the world? What is most amazing to hear—and it has surprised even the writer of the "Times" article—is that, in the opinion of the Commission, Indian law and Indian languages can be better taught in England than in India! And, in support of their assertion, they might have cited some members of the Civil Service who have obtained certificates of high proficiency in the Indian languages, as for instance, Mr. Judge Roe of Burdwan who, as Magistrate of Rajshayee, directed a summons to be issued against "chiradin," which "chiradin," he subsequently learnt from his Peshker, was only a Bengalee adverb, and no human being at all!

If the recommendation of the Commission is accepted it will mean the establishment of another costly Civil Service for the sons of middle classes in England. That is to say, hundreds of fat berths will be created for the surplus manhood of the ruling classes. Thus, the Commission, if they have not been able to suggest anything whereby Police rule may be made more bearable than it is, they have succeeded in devising a plan by which this starving country may be flooded with almost as highly-paid Police officers as the members of the Civil Service. Is it for this that the Commission was appointed? Indeed, the creation of more and more fat berths for Englishmen is the most distinguishing feature of the Curzonian rule. Bengal is proposed to be divided into two and placed under two separate Lieutenant-Governorships on the same principle,—namely, that in the place of 280 Civilians as now, the population of Bengal, if it is separated into two, will have to maintain some 400 members of the Civil Service.

The cost of the "reforms" advocated by the Commission would raise the Police expenditure in British India from one and three-quarter to two and three-quarter millions sterling a year. Now, if the above recommendation of the Commission is carried out, the bulk of the money would be swallowed up by the princely-paid officers proposed to be imported from England. We trust, the Secretary of State will never sanction such a huge wrong. Even the writer of the article in the "Times" is aghast at the prospect of India's money being wasted in this way. Says he:—

"To the layman at a distance it would appear desirable to make a start, not by creating high places for Europeans at the top of the scale, but rather with the provision of a 'living wage' for the lower ranks of the police."

Yes, if you want to improve the police, improve the pay and prospects of the subordinate grades in the police service. It is a wonder that the Commission, though they travelled from one end of the country to the other and took the evidence of hundreds of witnesses, failed to discover one established fact, namely, that, India, as a whole, is the most non-criminal country in the world. That being so, we do not need at all a princely-paid staff of officers from England. If the sons of influential Anglo-Indian families, who were appointed as Police Superintendents, are failures, not so are the Indian Deputy Magistrates. These officers, who, by keeping the peace of sub-divisions, have given evidence of their administrative capacity, are quite competent to serve as District Police Superintendents. Belonging to the country, highly educated, and trained as executive officers, they are just the sort of men to be placed at the head of the District Police. Why did not the Commission recommend the recruitment of higher grade police officers from their ranks? Such an arrangement would have been cheap, efficient and just. But, then, of course, no provision could have been made for the surplus young men of England; and why was India created if not for the benefit of Englishmen?

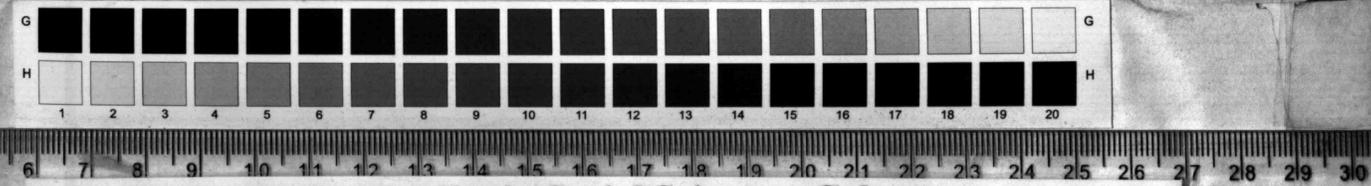
In justice to the Police Commission, we must say that their full report is not before

us and we have to comment upon its summary as published in the "Times" by a correspondent. It is quite possible they have not been fully or fairly reported, and that there are recommendations made by them which are really good and useful. We sincerely trust, that we will have to modify our views when we go through the entire document. By the way, there is no mention of the question of the separation of the Police from the Magistracy in the summary. Is it possible that the Commission has omitted to discuss this most important point, upon the solution of which the real improvement of the Police depends? We trust not; for, such an omission will be an unpardonable blunder on the part of the Commission.

The sorrows of the bird, king-fisher, are described in a Sanskrit couplet thus: "There are many bigger birds than I who live upon fishes, and who commit greater havoc upon their victims than I can ever hope to do. Yet I am labelled as the king of these fish-plundering birds—such is the injustice of the world." Plague can, in the same manner, complain that cholera decimates more human beings than he does; yet, it is he who is blamed more for his depredations than his rival. In our opinion there is yet a greater scourge than even either plague or cholera. It is the policy of repression, due to want of sympathy on the part of the rulers. This evil is gaining ascendancy daily, and eating into the vitals of the nation. One of our most trusted officials is Mr. Allen, who has just been appointed the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, for which our sincere thanks are due to Sir A. Fraser. Some go to the length of asserting that he is the last of the pro-Indian Civilians who are yet in the service. There are no doubt a few others who love the Indians, as, for instance, Mr. Baker, to whose exertions mainly we owed the grant of 5 lakhs to the District Boards, which has been withdrawn this year. It is, however, a very regrettable fact that, with the passing away of the old class high officials has almost disappeared the cordial feeling between their successors and the leaders of Indian public opinion. There were very few Indians of leading position who were not on terms of friendship with such officials as Mr. Cotton, Mr. Bolton, Mr. Baker and others who were connected with the Bengal Government as Secretaries. But how many of them are in touch with Mr. Macpherson or Mr. Shirre, though, personally, they are reported to be as fine gentlemen as their predecessors were. If there is to be an acquaintance between them and the leading Indians, the advance must be made by the former, and they will soon discover that the latter are not unworthy of their trust. As regards Mr. Allen, there is no doubt he is one of the best officers in Bengal. Let him only try to protect his noble sentiments from the vitriol atmosphere that surrounds him, and he will be able to earn the blessings of God and man.

The task of the constitution of the High Court Benches and the distribution of business amongst them devolves upon the Chief Justice and as certainly not unattended with difficulties. Sir Comer Petheram was a passed master in the art of pairing of the judges. The Civilian element is difficult of manipulation. There are for instance, Judges like Mr. Justice Ghosh who do credit to the Bench wherever they may be associated with. There are others, who do not like to mention instances, who, imbued with their narrow ideas of administering justice, sitting as seniors, try to ignore their junior brothers, and as juniors, they sit solemn and silent. Others again, whose temper and unjustifiable conceit make their brothers do all in their power to prevent being named with them on the Bench. Sir Comer Petheram with his innate tact and infinite knowledge of human nature, always took them under his wing, and in his firm, quiet way always succeeded in keeping them in order. Regarding new-comers, a judicious selection of a colleague is highly necessary to give the new Judge, often a stranger to the country and who cannot but be unfamiliar with the habit and customs of the people,—opportunities of fitting himself for the responsible duties of his office. First impressions are unfortunately difficult to get over and to some extent may influence his future career as a Judge for good or for worse. We see in the arrangements that have just been made that one new Judge has been boldly made over to Mr. Justice Rampuni—we hope not for long. Mr. Justice Woodroffe, the other new Judge, has been associated with Mr. Justice Brett. He enjoyed a large practice at the Bar and is thoroughly conversant with the manners and customs of the people and his case is quite different to that of one who is new to the country.

The cry of "drinking water" has been raised in the Muthasi, and this terrible state of things will go on intensifying till the rainy season sets in to relieve the people of their sufferings. It is in the winter season that officials go out on tour in the interior, perhaps to bring "justice" to the very doors of those who are too lethargic themselves to move to the Sudder station to lodge their own complaints! One would wish that the officials had visited villages in the interior in the dry season; for, in that case they might have seen with their own eyes what this water-scarcity—in some places it is regular water famine—meant to the poor villagers in the months of April, May and June. Now year after year, people in the interior suffer terribly from water difficulty, and they groan and groan till Heaven takes pity upon them and sends down a few showers. But the Government appears to have done very little to give them adequate relief. The Road Cess was imposed on the distinct understanding that its proceeds should be devoted to removing the sanitary wants of the villagers; and what can be a more crying necessity with them than a supply of good drinking water? If the Government of India had not withheld the grant of five lakhs to the District Boards, much might have been done in this direction; but as that amount is not forthcoming, we trust, His Honour will take some steps by which the miseries of millions in this respect may be promptly removed. We think, all District Boards should be instructed to stop some of their road works and spend the saving thus effected upon the supply of water to the people. An ordinary well will not cost more than Rs.



100; and much less in districts like Jessore; as, if each District Board were to devote religiously Rs. 20,000 a year to the sinking of wells and the excavation of tanks, in a few years the water difficulty might disappear from every part of the country.

The Principal of the Lahore Government College, it seems, belongs to the Le Warner School. Besides imparting education to his pupils, his earnest desire is to see his students turning "good citizens"—of course in his own light. Some time ago he issued an order making the wearing of blazers compulsory for all students of the College some of the students objected to it and presented a petition to him saying that as they had taken pledges not to use foreign-made cloth, it was impossible for them to wear blazers made of imported cloth. This was too much for the Principal. In rejecting their prayer the Principal remarked:—"A pledge to boycott all English goods, simply as such would seem to be inconsistent with the position of a good citizen of the Empire or a loyal subject of the King. Such a policy is not only disloyal but ignorant and shortsighted." It was the late Justice Strachey who laid down that, "want of affection is disaffection." The Principal of the Lahore College has given a still more wonderful definition of loyalty, namely, those who show disrespect to the merchants of Manchester by refusing to buy their articles, are disloyal. There would have been some method in Mr. Robson's laying down this rule if he were interested in the cloth-trade of England, but as he is only a school master, how could he make himself ridiculous in this way? The next course open to the Principal is to prosecute his young students for sedition for having pledged themselves to boycott foreign goods.

ELSEWHERE will be found a summary of the much expected Police Commissioner's Report reproduced from the "Times" just to hand.

The Improvement Scheme of Calcutta owes its origin to the out-break of plague here. In order to rid the city of this monster, it was decided to open out fifteen and half miles of broad roads in the Indian quarter. But, since this proposal was started, experience has shown conclusively that the cause of the disease lies yet undiscovered. At least it cannot be removed by broadening the streets; for, then, such cities as Bombay, Allahabad, and others would not have been decimated in the terrible way it has been Lord Curzon who is capable, according to his own notion, of solving many an unsolved problem, has confessed defeat before this scourge. "That most dreaded of all diseases the plague," said he, "had come to India to stay, for he was satisfied that no means which could be adopted would destroy it." Sir James LaTouche echoed these sentiments the other day at a Council meeting of the United Provinces Government. This being the state of affairs, why should not the original Improvement Scheme be knocked on the head? This is commonsense, but that is what our present-day rulers want. Let the Government of India take back their grant of fifty lakhs to the Calcutta Corporation and along with it the Improvement Scheme, which will only bring more plague by impoverishing the citizens, more; for whatever difference there may be as regards the true cause of this horrible malady, there is no doubt that it is the poor man's disease. Why are Europeans in India practically free from plague? Because they are well-fed, well-nourished, and well-housed. Why are the Indians subject to it? Because the vast majority of them go without a regular meal during the three months of the year. Among the whole European army in India during 1902 only four admissions and one death from plague were recorded. In the same year, there were 192 cases of plague with 95 deaths among the Indian troops! And why should not this be the case when the British soldier lives like a prince and is paid a handsome salary, while the Indian Sepoy is wretchedly housed and paid a pittance?

We have to make one or two remarks more on the question of date sugar raised by Babu P. P. Acharye, writing from Hong Kong, and which was noticed by us two or three days ago. The process of making sugar out of date juice, as followed in Bengal, ought to be examined by an expert. This will serve him better than any opinion we can offer on the matter. Here is another question on the subject:—

"Can we secure a sufficient number of such date trees at moderate rents on a long lease to meet our requirements in this wise."

We have been assured that in Central India any number of date trees can be had only for the asking. Now that the ryots in Bengal are destroying these trees, we think it is possible to have a large number of them for 4, 5, or 6 annas for each.

"Can we secure a better prospect by leasing some fallow land to grow our own trees for our consumption to put our concern on a much better footing."

Yes. A European planter near Chogha made the experiment. He had by this tried to cheapen the cost, as his trees were planted close. But the best thing would be to secure trees already fit for tapping. The fact is, this industry has ever been in the hands of unlettered men, and no attempt to improve it has been made since the days of the "pioneer," one Sheikh Fared, who flourished about four hundred years ago in a district of Bengal.

A superior knowledge in science has enabled the Germans to kill the indigo industry in India. The same cause has led to the decay of the sugar industry in the country. The agriculturists in Jessore, Faridpur, Pubna and the 24 Pargannahs are cutting down and up-rooting their date trees, which were at one time the pride and the joy of their life. Seeing a forest of date trees in Central India lying useless, a few Bengali gentlemen formed the idea of utilizing them by opening a date sugar industry. Experts were imported from Jessore, and business was carried on with vigor. Alas! just then beet sugar from Europe cheapened the article, and it threatens to destroy the fruits of their labour. Babu P. P. Acharye, writing from Hongkong, has asked several questions bearing on this matter, and we shall try to answer some of them. Here are the questions and their answers.

I. Can the sugar thus manufactured be made into such a fine quality that it can

boldly compete with the foreign one in our Indian markets, which look to the quality alone.

Yes, it can, of that there is no doubt. 2. Can the cost price come to such a low ratio that the transaction of disposing of the commodity be effected with some reasonable margin of net profit to cover the interest on the capital involved.

The ryots of Bengal with their clumsy methods find it difficult to compete with the article imported from Europe.

3. Can we secure a thorough knowledge of manufacturing the best sugar directly or indirectly from you if we arrange to attach our qualified representative at our own expense to learn the scientific side of the manufacturing process to convert the raw-saccharine extracted from the said date trees into the said sugar.

The manufacture is in the hands of ignorant ryots with small holdings. No attempt has hitherto been made to improve the process. A great quantity of juice is allowed to run waste. Pure and fermented juice is mixed and boiled, and this injures the quality. The tappers have to ascend each day twice, once in the afternoon to take, and again in the morning to bring down, the vessel of juice, and this is a laborious process. The cost would be cheapened immensely, if ladders could be invented which would serve the purpose.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) London, April 8.

AN OBSERVATION THAT IS SIGNIFICANT.

... or, by confining themselves to one scanty meal a day, have THAT GAUNT, HALF-FAMISHED, LOOK which makes my heart ache every time I think of

THE WALKING SKELETONS I SAW IN INDIA." —Rev. ARTHUR JUDSON BROWN, D. D., Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

MEN WANTED.

"God give us men. A time like this demands Clear minds, pure hearts, true faith, and Men, who possess opinions and a will, Men whom desire for office does not kill, Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy, Men who have honour, men who will not lie, Tall men, sun-crowned men, who love above In public duty and in private thinking."

—OLIVER WEDDELL HOLMES. THE FIGHTING IN TIBET: ENGLISH OPINION.

Since my Letter was despatched to you last week, every newspaper in the United Kingdom has, I believe, commented upon the fighting in Tibet. A very large number of them led of course by "The Times", are loud in praise of Lord Curzon's foresight and statesmanship in sending the Mission to bring the ignorant Tibetans to reason, and in what has happened, the Tibetans are alone to blame. There is, however, by no means a unanimous voice on the question. Certain journals are as loud in their dispraise and censure not only of the sanguinary encounter but of the Mission itself, as "The Times" is in its fulsome adulation of the Viceroy. An editorial which appeared in the "Standard" may, I think, be regarded as fair criticism. The writer expresses great regret that the hapless swordsmen had to be mowed down with relentless precision by magazine rifles and machine guns, but he bestows high praise on the conduct and steadiness of the Indian troops in a most difficult situation; contemporary disorder might have ended in a disaster to the little band. "The desperate onslaught of the wild mob might well have disconcerted the nerves of experienced soldiers, and caused a failure to attack at the critical moment." However, everybody kept his head, and the men deserve all the praise which the British papers lavish upon them. But the "Standard" goes on to say that the unfortunate affairs has its warnings for both sides. The Lames must now be aware that military opposition to the Mission is useless; the Indian Government, too, should not be "unlessoned." To many people at home and even to many in high official positions in India, Tibet has been regarded as a country of lazy, dirty, superstitious monks. "Clearly, this is not quite the whole truth. There are other inhabitants besides the occupants of the lamasseries. There is a population of rugged mountaineers, endowed with the characteristics of men who dwell under the shadow of the great rocks and within sight of the eternal snows. These shepherds and hunters of the Himalayan valleys no doubt resemble other highlanders in their strength of hand and limb, in their angry patriotism, in their tenacious love of independence, in their contempt for hardship and danger. If any project of conquest or annexation were entertained at Calcutta, this element would have to be reckoned with." It will be less difficult, according to the journal in question, to make our way to the mysterious city than to convert the clansmen scattered among the cliffs and gullies of the Roof of the World into British subjects. It is claimed, of course, that we have no intention of annexation, but that our frontiers must be relieved of the menace of an unfriendly neighbour. Lord Salisbury declared with regard to the South African war that we did not wish for territory, yet Lord Milner reigns at Johannesburg. Mr. Demetrius Boulger, in a recent article in the "Contemporary Review" said that as soon as the Mission to Tibet returned, if not before, we should annex the Chumbi Valley. The "Standard" concludes its article by disclaiming the Russian "bogy". "A mere glance at the map," it remarks, "is enough to show that no legitimate interests of Russia can be affected by the politics of Lhasa. India and China are the Powers concerned. Tibet lies altogether outside the sphere of Russian influence, and we hope that this fact will be recognised even by the leaders of the Asiatic 'forward school.'"

"The Times" of to-day has a good deal about Tibet. The telegrams show that the Mission will still have to encounter opposition, and the significant fact is stated that the property of the Lhasan General has been confiscated for his failure to stop the British at Guru. There is also a letter from Sir Henry Cotton in which he discusses the question of the Chinese

suzerainty in Tibet which, he declares, has been rendered, in Lord Curzon's words, "a constitutional fiction" by Lord Curzon's policy. "The Times" replies in an editorial, and strongly supports the Viceroy in all that he has done, laying all blame on the Home Rule Party at Lhasa, and writes scornfully of Sir Henry Cotton's ideas on the subject. I have this afternoon had a talk with a well known Member of Parliament whose views of India are sympathetic and strong. He declares that events seem to be tending to the expenditure of a large sum of money either by India or by England or by both, and subsequent annexation. He stated that the matter would be brought before Parliament as soon as possible after the reassembling on Tuesday next, and added that he should do all that was in his power to bring about a full discussion with regard to the Mission.

I enclose for your use—you will probably quote it in full—Sir Henry Cotton's pronouncement on the new phase of the Tibetan question. He was interviewed early this week by a representative of the "Daily News", and in his customary graphic and incisive manner gave his views on the subject, views which, I am sure, your readers will see with special interest.

LADY CURZON'S WISHES AS TO THE VICEROY'S RETURN TO INDIA.

It very often happens that we have to go away from home to learn house news, so I think you may be interested to know what has appeared in an American newspaper with regard to the return of the Viceroy to his post after his holiday. It is remarked that "it is very doubtful whether Viceroy Curzon will go back to India." The reason for this statement is that the "Viceroy" is opposed to his return. Lady Curzon, it is declared, makes no secret of her wish that her husband should resign his exalted position. She thinks he is worrying himself into premature old age all to no purpose. This, in American eyes, is a grievous sin. So if the lady wins the day, you will ere long bid farewell to your present Viceroy. However, for my part, I am inclined to think that Lord Curzon's determination will not in this case be over-ruled, but we shall see. The American journal in question also gives an insight into why Lord Curzon should be worrying himself into premature old age. I cannot do better than quote its words: "With extraordinary ingenuity he has made himself intensely unpopular with both officials and natives in India. Originally he gained the hatred of the official classes by his liberal attitude towards the native grievances. Now he has estranged the natives by introducing legislation before the Supreme Council seriously affecting their liberties." You will see that the correspondent of the paper has a fairly full appreciation of the facts of the case. Here is the conclusion. "Lord Curzon's intentions were excellent, but his rule has been a failure, and he feels it keenly."

THE TORIES AFRAID TO FIGHT.

On Wednesday last Major Seely was elected for the Isle of Wight division, for which he had previously sat in the House of Commons, without opposition. In one sentence this illuminates the extremity of disorganisation which the Unionist Party has reached. The present Prime Minister came into power four years ago with a clear majority of one hundred and fifty unanimous Members at his back. He has still a majority which is over one hundred on paper, but it dwindles to a much smaller figure in the Division Lobbies. Of the present eighteen members of his Cabinet, only ten went with him in 1900. The Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Ritchie, Lord James of Hereford, Lord George Hamilton, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh have all left him because of the great fiscal disagreement. Of his nominal followers nearly two dozen are Free Traders of such stalwart mettle that they do not hesitate to vote against the Government on that question—an unforgivable sin in politics. Over one hundred Unionist Members are more or less open supporters of Mr. Chamberlain. Between them are men of all shades of opinion who still maintain a voting loyalty to Mr. Balfour though they show not the slightest enthusiasm for the metaphysical subtleties which he puts forward as his political opinions. The by-elections indicate that the great strength of popular support has ebbed from Lim to the Liberal side. And now Major Seely's walk-over in the Isle of Wight has shown that not merely is it impossible for his representatives to poll majorities in constituencies hitherto orthodoxly Conservative, but that it is becoming equally impossible to find a candidate who will champion his doctrines. Major Seely resigned his seat in order to test the opinion of his constituents on the questions of Free Trade and Chinese Labour in the Transvaal. In the House of Commons he virtually challenged the Balfourites to turn him out. When he put the case clearly before his supporters in the Island, the Liberal candidate withdrew his name, and it looked as though the fight would be between Major Seely, the Free Trade Conservative and some unknown candidate as a Balfourite conservative. But the latter failed to appear. Mr. Balfour has declined the challenge offered, and Major Seely returns to Parliament, not merely undefeated, but unopposed. The incident shows that the Premier lacks the confidence to appeal to the people for their support. It is alleged, of course, that in view of the approaching general election, the Government supporters thought well not to contest a by-election. But when a leader begins to fear an appeal to the people, that appeal is sometimes forced upon him. It is difficult, at present, to see how this much-divided, badly-weakened Government can outlive another month or two of Parliamentary wear and tear.

WHAT IS THE POWER WHICH HOLDS INDIA TO ENGLAND?

Colonel Wyndham-Quain, M.P., has no doubt upon this point. He knows what the power is which holds India to England. Of course, he is a great authority on this matter, for did he not marry a daughter of the late Earl of Mayo, sometime Viceroy of India? And, in the capacity of the husband of the Governor's niece, did he not stay for some time at Madras as the guest of Lord Conmerna? With such credentials, what he says cannot fail to command respect. Talking to his constituents in Glamorganshire a day or two ago, Colonel Wyndham-Quain declared, in effect, that the Britons must always be a high caste in India, that they and the Indians could never work on an equal footing. He was justifying the introduction into South Africa of Chinese labour, and proceeded to remark that India was ruled, not by the former power of the

sword, but by the power of homage and the great respect of the natives for the white men. This could not be retained if the white men worked side by side with the coolies; and the same thing applied to South Africa. All this is so much fudge! On the railways Englishmen and Indians work side by side without losing respect each for the other; indeed, the closer they come together, the more they are associated, the greater the mutual esteem. On the other hand, the "white men" are numerous who are willing to work not merely side by side with the Indians, but actually under their orders—if only the pay and allowance be sufficient. Colonel Wyndham-Quain probably supposes that Indians generally conceive of white men as superior beings, coming from a country in which white men do not soil their hands with work! Of course, the supposition is correct; no Indian has lived, is living, or will live, who considers that any white men ever do "coolie work" in their own country. Were they to awake to the disagreeable and disgraceful fact that the majority of white men were so employed, there would be an end to the British domination in India in twenty-four hours. What a fortunate thing it is that Indians are so ignorant!

ENGLAND'S GRAVEST OF ALL PERILS.

The gravest of all the perils facing England at the present moment is to be found in the grandson of the late Queen Victoria, the nephew of King Edward VII. It would be a mercy to mankind and a great gain to the United Kingdom if, in the course of events, his German Majesty were to continue to live for one or two years more only. There can be no possible curtailment on the present monstrous naval expenditure while the Emperor William is alive. Indeed, greatly increased British naval estimates may rather be looked for. The Emperor of the Atlantic, as he vaingloriously styled himself in a famous telegram to the Emperor of the Pacific—and the latter an Emperor, by the way whose fleets are in a parlous condition just now—the Emperor of the Atlantic, I say, aims at nothing less than to arrive at such a pitch of naval strength as shall enable him to fight England on the sea without allies. England will not stand this for a moment, and so we shall go on building ships in increasing number until it please the Disposer of Events to remove the mischievous monarch from a world in which he is doing more harm than good. That, in what I have said, I do the German Emperor no injustice, is plain from what has recently been publicly stated. "Germany must win for herself a position as a naval power which will place her on a perfect level with other countries, just as in the past the German towns which were associated in the Hansatic League were a match for any other sea-power." So spoke the Burgomaster of Lubek, by command of the German Emperor, at the launching of the cruiser which is to bear the name of "Lubek." This, says the "St. James's Gazette," is plain enough. The intentions of the German Emperor do not stop short of baring actually "upside" with Great Britain at sea. Count Reventlow, the stormy petrel of German naval politics, has also been talking—and the German Navy League numbers 700,000 members. These are all indications that the intended naval increase is no myth, that somewhere about 1916. His Imperial Majesty means to be in a position to try conclusions with this country for the mastery of what is now the British Empire. What is singular about this business is the shamelessness with which the German Emperor and the German warships are allowed to obtain all the information they desire concerning our strength and the soundings of the bays on our coasts. The Emperor has lately been shown, with the utmost courtesy, the defences of Gibraltar, and is shortly going on to Malta. It is very difficult for an Englishman to see the batteries at Gibraltar, and says the journal already quoted, we cannot imagine our King presenting himself at Bizerta or at Kronstadt with a request to be shown the geography of the place. This is quite true, for the simple reason that the King of England does not cherish designs against the Russian Empire such as the German Emperor holds, and makes no secret of holding, against the British Empire. What happened a few days ago at Gibraltar has called to mind another friendly cruise—of a German squadron this time—which included the taking of soundings in Lough Swilly and Bantry Bay. It has been well remarked that it would be foolish to "panic" about these things; but it is just as well that they should be borne in mind in estimating the requirements of the country in face of a German menace.

THE SUGGESTED ENGLISH OIL TAX.

One question has been puzzling many Englishmen during the Easter holidays. They have been wondering how Mr. Austen Chamberlain is proposing to make good the huge deficiency in his first Budget. At one time opinion favoured the re-imposition of the coal tax; but the Chancellor of the Exchequer reassured the frightened coal merchants that nothing need be feared in that direction. The prevalent rumour now is that oil is to be taxed—a commodity which has been free of all impost for many years. A penny a gallon upon petroleum and proportionate amounts upon its various products is the suggested tax, and it is estimated that this would yield rather more than one million sterling. It is pointed out, however, that the tax would be so immensely unpopular that it is not worth the million it would produce, and in business circles in the City the rumour is regarded as unbelievable. Such an impost would fall almost completely upon the poor. In England the rich and the middle classes use gas and electricity for lighting purposes; it is the very poor who are compelled to depend almost exclusively upon petroleum. Any tax imposed would fall at once and heavily upon their shoulders, for neither the middleman nor the consumer could force the foreign producer to bear any portion of the tax. The impost could hardly be supported by the Protectionists for the sources of oil supply in Great Britain itself are very small and in the Colonies the oil industry is totally undeveloped. The whole British supply is derived from the Caspian and American areas. But it, indeed, the British are to be taxed in this respect, it is to be hoped that the Chancellor will learn a lesson from India where, as you are very well aware, the tax is one anna per gallon on common petroleum, naphtha, etc., and five per cent. on petroleum "which has its fishing point at or above 200 deg. Fahrenheit." Low-flash oil, as it is conveniently termed, has proved a most serious danger to the poor of this country. The cheaper American oils have a flash-point which is as

low as 70 deg. Fahrenheit, and fatal accidents arising from their use are by no means infrequent. If the tax were to discriminate between safe and unsafe oil, it would temper its evil with a little good. After all, a tax is not the only means available to stamp out dangerous oils; a short Act could easily be passed by Parliament prohibiting altogether their use. An oil tax alone will not fill the gaping deficit which will be revealed in the nation's finances when the House of Commons reassembles. But, in spite of popular curiosity, Mr. Austen Chamberlain has been singularly successful in keeping his plans absolutely secret. How is he going to make both ends meet? I could hazard a few guesses; but, frankly, I give it up, and by the time this Letter reaches you, all the world will no doubt know what the Government intend to do in this matter.

WAR NEWS.

The statement from St. Petersburg that General Kurapatkin has 300,000 men at his disposal is probably an exaggeration, but there seems good reason to believe that the number of troops now east of Lake Baikal is well over 200,000. It is not known, however, what is the actual strength in Manchuria itself.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Pecit Parisien" states that the Czar, desiring to participate personally in the expenditure caused by the war, has given three years' revenue from his private estates to the public treasury. The gift amounts £2,400,000. It is stated that no English save one lady, a governess, are now in Port Arthur. Reuter reports that Vice-Admiral Stark, the former Commander of the Russian Pacific squadron, has received the order of St. Stanislaus of the First Class.

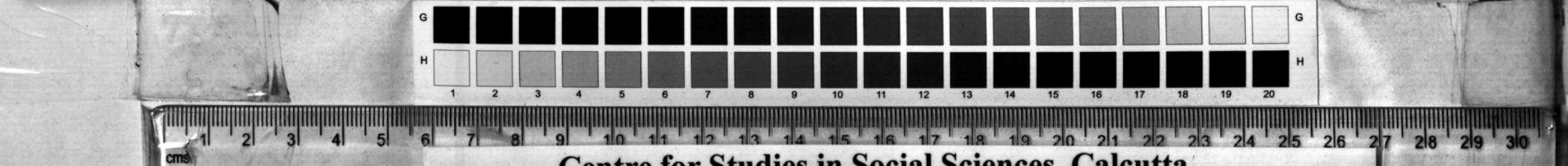
The "Times" special correspondent telegraphing from Wei-hai-Wei on Saturday says:—"General Kuroki is now in a position to attempt to force the Yalu whenever and wherever he may select to strike, but it would seem that having secured the necessary strategic position he is waiting for the development of the second Japanese mobilisation before making a decisive move. This development is already under way, but it is not possible to say where until the blow has actually fallen. Meanwhile the outposts are constantly in touch along the line of the Chikengheng river, but as a rule they do not come into serious conflict, although one or two somewhat sharp affairs are reported in which the honours would appear to have been more or less equally divided. The weather is improving but communications are still extremely difficult.

The "N. C. Daily News" says:—"We learn that 3,000,000 lbs. of beef shipped over from America through Messrs. Getz and Co. by the "Coptic" and the "Korea," and intended for Port Arthur, have been seized by the Japanese at Nagasaki. No more provisions of any sort are likely to get into the Peninsula by sea, as yet at all events, and if the Japanese succeed in cutting the land communication as well, there seems little hope left for Port Arthur, be its batteries ever so many or strong. That Port Arthur as the objective of a serious attack in this way is becoming more and more apparent. So far as it is possible to glean anything at all about the Japanese plan of campaign on land, an attempt will be made to reduce the Laotung peninsula, and then to advance on Harbin on two main lines, the second being from north Korea. We have good authority for saying that although the disembarkation of troops at Chemulpho has been discontinued, it is only because a more favourable landing place has been found at the mouth of the Ta-dong river near Chinampo. The Seoul-Wiju railway, now building, is conveniently handy at Hwangchyu."

The Government of India have sanctioned an estimate, amounting to Rs. 32,000, being the cost of constructing two Royal saloon carriages for the South Indian Railway, and authorised the rolling-stock of the line being increased by two saloon carriages. The necessity for these carriages is explained in the following extract from a letter dated the 30th Sept., 1903, from the Agent, South Indian Railway, to the Home Board:—"The stock of carriages suitable for the conveyance of high personages is very limited, consisting only of the two vehicles known as the Governor's and the Rajah's saloons. We have recently experienced much difficulty in meeting requisitions for special carriages, and have been compelled to divert the Consulting Engineer's and Officers' carriages for public use. In addition to the insufficient number of special coaches, the condition and internal arrangements of both the Governor's and Rajah's saloons is such, that they would be most unsuitable for the accommodation of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on the occasion of their visit to India next year. Under these circumstances, sanction is requested to the construction of two new vehicles for the conveyance of Their Royal Highnesses over this railway, and for future use by personages of distinction."

It is notified that no grant will be paid on account of any boarding house connected with any educational institution in the Punjab, unless the Inspector of Schools is thoroughly satisfied that the locality is respectable, that the sanitation is satisfactory, that the accommodation sufficient, that the rooms are properly lighted by day and night, that the study of scholars is effectively supervised. The grant-in-aid is not to be less than a third or more than one-half of the approved expenditure.

A serious assault of an Indian by a European reaches the "Weekly Chronicle" from Lumding junction of the A. B. Railway. On the 23rd March at 8 p.m. Babu Banka Behari Chakravarti, sorter of the Railway mail service was obtaining signature of the mail agent Babu Gagan Chandra Mitra on the mail list, when Mr. Ellis, a Eurasian and manager of the refreshment room at Lumding was going by them and was brushed by side by Banka Babu accidentally. The Eurasian got awfully wild at this and called Banka Babu "you native, damn!" and began to strike him with fists and afterwards with the shoes. When he fell senseless to the ground under the blows he was ordered to be removed to the police thana and made over to a constable. Banka Babu's brother officers waited upon the Postal Superintendent with the result that a complaint was laid against Mr. Ellis under sec. 553, I. P. Code.



Calcutta and Mofossil

Obituary.—We regret to hear the death of cholera of Baboo Karunamoy Banerjee, Judge, Small Cause Court, Serampore and Howrah, which melancholy event took place on Saturday morning at Serampore.

Monetary.—There were Rs. 9,86,63,167 of silver coin in Government of India treasuries on Monday end Rs. 16,51,64,087 in gold coin and bullion. The silver held as security for notes amounted to Rs. 8,18,620.

The New Secretariat Office.—The new Secretariat Office in No. 6, Esplanade Row, East, will probably be fully ready for occupation next cold weather by the Foreign and Military Departments of the Government of India. The portion of the Military Department Secretariat remaining at Calcutta have already moved into the new building.

Water Scarcity.—The Muffasil papers are now, issue after issue, very loudly complaining of the scarcity of water in their respective districts. The Medinipur paper says that the wells in that district town are rapidly drying up and that Garbeta suffers the most. The attention of the authorities is invited to this grave and all important matter.

Midnapore Collectorate.—The current issue of the "Medini-Bandhab" discloses certain irregularities and illegalities committed by the Certificate Department of the above Collectorate regarding the collection of Road Cess in Midnapore. We hope the attention of Mr. Marr will early be drawn to it and the abuses complained of remedied.

Police.—Mr. W. C. Faxon, Assistant Inspector-General, Government Railway Police, Sealdah, is appointed to act as Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern and Eastern Range, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. G. D. Graham, or until further orders. Mr. G. D. Graham, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern and Eastern Range, is allowed furlough for one year.

A Worthy Honorary Magistrate.—The village Jadarhati in the Sub-division Baraset 24-Perganahs has been subject to frequent depredations of wild bears for some time past. Babu Ashutosh Chander Chowdhry the scion of an ancient zemindar family of the place and an Honorary Magistrate has very gallantly shot down and rid the country of two huge bears which had grown very troublesome to the neighbourhood.

The Custom House Case Dismissed.—On Monday before Mr. D. Weston, Chief Presidency Magistrate, the case in which Mr. Gerard, Head Appraiser, Customs House, charged one Ram Gopal "Marwari" of Machua Bazar with having offered him, as a public servant, an illegal gratification in the sum of Rs. 50, was concluded. Mr. Hume for the prosecution informed the Court that he had received a letter from the Collector of Customs which he would file in the record and also under instruction he would apply to withdraw the charge under section 494 Cr. P. Code, with the sanction of the Court. The Court after hearing Mr. Hume, dismissed the case and ordered the discharge of the defendant.

A Dangerous Thief.—On Tuesday, Inspector P. N. Mookerjee of the Bhowanipore Thanna charged one Raja Ram Bagdy, a notorious burglar of the locality before Moulvie Seraji Hui, Police Magistrate of Alipore with house breaking and causing grievous hurt by biting off a portion of flesh from the cheek of an inmate of the house. One night the accused stealthily entered into a neighbour's house for the purpose of committing theft. An inmate of the house awakened by the movements of the thief raised an alarm and caught hold of him, when the latter all on a sudden attacked his adversary and with his teeth severed a portion of his right cheek and made good his escape before any help could arrive. The accused was subsequently arrested, found guilty and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

Stabbed to Death.—On Tuesday, at the Alipore Criminal Sessions before Mr. Harward, the Additional District and Sessions Judge one Nemy Charan Sircar and his brother Ganes Chander Sircar of Bakrahat were charged with having killed one Alijan Sheik by stabbing him with a sharp dagger. It was stated that one Mathur Powalla had obtained a decree against the father of the accused, in execution of which the servant of the decree holder, accompanied by a peon of the court went on the 16th January last to the house of the judgment debtor and attached certain moveables belonging to him. None of the accused were present at the time of the attachment but they returned home shortly after and on being informed of the occurrence by their father, they flew into a rage and having armed themselves with two sharp pointed daggers, immediately pursued the attaching party and having met them a short way off from their house attacked Alijan, the servant of the decree holder when the first accused plunged his dagger right through his back killing him on the spot. The trial is proceeding.

On the 22nd instant, before Mr. P. L. Moore, I.C.S., District Magistrate, Bangalore, Sub-Inspector Hay Green placed in the dock a European young man, whose present name is Abdul Kareem, for wandering in the station without any ostensible means of livelihood. Tripp "alias" Abdul Kareem stated that he arrived in the station some time ago, and about 12 days ago he became a convert to Islam. In answer to the Court he said that the Mahomedans feed him and he had no employment at present. His Honor remanded him to Police custody. The accused was dressed in Moslem costume.

A case in which a large number of leading Hindus in Bangalore are interested, came before the District Magistrate. The prosecution charges one Dharmalingam Mudaliar and four others with having kidnapped a girl named Rangannaikammal, a relative of Mr. Vydialingam Mudaliar, late Sheristadar, District Judge's Court, and a member of the Station Municipal Commission. Mr. Lawrence, for the prosecution, said he thought it would be better, before commencing the case, to procure evidence as to whether the girl was a minor or not. His Worship, agreeing, adjourned the trial to the 20th May.

TELEGRAMS.

RUSSIA'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO JAPANESE WAR.

London, April 22. Router wiring from Seoul says the arrangements for forcing the Yalu are almost completed. The Japanese are preparing to rush three points. The Guards division of sixteen thousand under General Inoye will be the first troops to cross the Yalu attacking the Russians at Chulicuchang. A portion of the second army corps with the other troops are preparing to land at Takushan and other points on the Manchurian Coast from which a general advance upon Liaoyang will be made.

The Russians in the north-east of Korea are retreating rapidly. London, April 23. Admiral Alexieff reports that while launches were laying mines at Port Arthur, one of them exploded under a launch, killing a lieutenant and twenty men on board. Alexieff believes that the Japanese have a whole division north of Wiju, and are collecting quantities of material apparently for pontoons, opposite the Island of Rabikhe. Our scouts, he adds, killed two Japanese scouts. A Russian reconnoitring detachment, 34 strong, crossed the Yalu in three boats, and were discovered, losing three killed and two officers and fifteen men wounded. They then recrossed the river under cover of two guns.

London, April 24. President Loubet arrived at Rome this afternoon, and was met at the station by King Emmanuel, and proceeded to the Quirinal. M. Loubet received an enthusiastic, and most cordial ovation from enormous crowds. The whole city was gaily decorated and the scene was one of unsurpassed brilliancy and magnificence.

The French and Italian press emphasise the political importance and cordiality of the rapprochement between the two countries. London, April 25. Russia has bought, indirectly, nine German liners which will be fitted as cruisers. It is reported that they will be used to prey upon Japanese commerce.

The Russian Press is discussing ardently some report of projected British mediation. The origin of the report is not known but anyhow it is baseless.

The Vladivostok Squadron appeared to-day off Gensan. Two torpedoers entered the port, sank a Japanese steamer of 600 tons, and left again immediately. Two Japanese disguised as Chinese beggars succeeded in approaching, and speaking to General Kuropatkin during his visit to Kuichwang. The Cossack Guard noticed that one of the beggars put his hand inside his dress, and he immediately felled him. Knives were found on both the men.

A "Daily News" telegram from St. Petersburg states that the Tsar has refused to accept Admiral Alexieff's resignation at present, pointing out that, at such a grave moment, it is the duty of every Russian to forget his private differences. The resignation was thereupon withdrawn by Admiral Alexieff, but it is believed that this is only a temporary arrangement, pending Admiral Skrydloff's arrival.

Major Home, 2nd Gurkhas, has arrived at Nuonuang "en route" to the Russian Headquarters at Liaoyang.

A telegram from General Kuropatkin says that the Japanese for the last few days have been actively preparing to throw bridges across the Yalu to effect a passage at various points near Wiju, and that two companies of infantry and a small detachment of cavalry actually crossed fifty kilometres below Siam? Pousiske, whereupon the Russian outposts were strengthened.

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GENERAL.

London, April 22. Reuter wires from Tokio that at a meeting of the progressive party there significant speeches were made. Count Okuma warned the nation to be prepared for European intervention also a great increase in the national expenditure and it would be necessary to float a "post bellum" loan of fifty million sterling.

The Licensing Bill has caused a great outcry. The temperance party is strongly opposed to it.

London, April 23. The contract for formally transferring the Panama Canal to the United States has been signed in Paris.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have left Vienna. Their visit has made an excellent impression.

The Cape Council has passed the Representation Bill.

Recruits of the Cheshire Regiment, who are about to embark in the "Assaye," broke out from the Southampton Docks, and marched through the town smashing windows and rioting. The Police had to draw their truncheons and drove the rioters back to the barracks. Several soldiers were injured and the ringleaders were arrested.

The Hungarian Railway strikers have expressed their willingness to accept the terms of the Government and return to work owing to the police arresting comrades for minor offences.

In the final for the Association Cup Manchester City scored one and Bolton Wanderers nil.

The Hungarian strikers now number thirty thousand. The Railways are almost paralyzed. The negotiation with the strikers had no result. Prices of foodstuffs at Budapest are rising rapidly. The Government has called out the reserves of railway regiments.

The prospectus of a million and a quarter sterling bonds of the Agricultural Bank of

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Egypt, was issued yesterday, and immediately quoted at three quarters to one premium.

London, April 24. The "Times" commenting on Lord Cromer's recent speech at Cairo expressing the belief that the Anglo-French Agreement will constitute the foundation of a durable friendship between France and England, eulogises warmly Lord Cromer, his patient, vigorous and high-minded administration, and the tact and skill with which he has gradually conciliated French susceptibilities.

A revolutionary plot has been discovered at Warsaw. The object of the conspirators, eighteen of whom have been hanged and many arrested, was to start an insurrectionary movement to secure the independence of Poland.

An attempt to blow up the new Russian cruisers, "Jemphug" and "Isamrud" at present being armed on the Neva, by means of explosives floated down the river, has been discovered by some boatmen. The Police suspect the Finns.

Professor Dunstan's report on cotton cultivation in the British Empire and Egypt states that the information is not complete owing to the absence of authoritative reports. The report further states that whereas British-grown cotton was formerly practically the whole supply of raw material, it was now relatively insignificant. The British cotton industry is now almost entirely dependant on the United States for raw cotton, which is due to the deterioration of Indian cotton and the replacement of cotton plantations by sugar in the West Indies and to the improved cotton fibre produced in America.

London, April 25. During a political riot at Eled in Hungary, a Socialist shot from a revolver, killing the Commandant of the Gendarmes; the Gendarmes thereupon opened fire on the rioters with volleys, killing twenty-three and seriously wounding forty.

The King and Queen have started for Ireland.

Mr. Watson, a Labourite, is forming a new Australian Cabinet.

Everything regarding the exportation of Chinese to the Transvaal is completed, and only awaits the final assent of the Peking Government. Vessels have already been chartered and are lying in Hongkong harbour, ready to embark the labourers.

Earl Percy, replying to a question in the Commons said that three years of war in Somaliland has resulted in making a re-establishment of the Mullah's power impossible.

The Washington Senate has decided to except labourers for the Panama Canal from the Chinese exclusion laws.

The Transport "Assaye" has sailed for Bombay.

The action of the Secretary of the Greek Consulate at Smyrna, in reference to the closing of Greek shops for non-payment of taxes, has led to a serious encounter between the Greek and the Turkish troops, in which the Secretary was slightly injured. He thereupon fired upon the troops, and was arrested and subsequently released at the instance of the French Consul. It is reported at Athens that the Greek fleet has sailed for Smyrna.

The Emperor of China's nephew, Prince Pulin, is meeting with exceptional hospitality at Washington. Secretary Day dined with him yesterday, President Roosevelt being present. President Roosevelt receives him to-day.

The Hungarian strike has now practically collapsed.

London, April 26. The Commons has read the Aliens Bill a second time. The amendment by Sir Charles Dilke, desiring to safeguard the principle of an asylum for victims of persecution, was rejected by 241 against 117.

At a grand banquet at the Quirinal last night, King Emmanuel and President Loubet exchanged most cordial toasts, emphasising the recent affinities of the two nations and the great memories of their past association.

Sir West Ridgway will preside at a meeting in London on the 4th May, representing India and Ceylon tea interests, to protest against the extra duty on tea.

General Macdonald has left Colonel Young-husband with an escort sufficiently strong to repel any attack if the Lamas adopt an actively hostile attitude. The posts along the line of communication are also being put in a thoroughly defensive state.

The conversion of the Khushalgerh-Kohat Section of the Khushalgerh-Kohat-Ihal Light Military Railway, which has been sanctioned from the existing 2ft. 6in. gauge to the standard 5ft. 6in. gauge, includes the provision of a permanent bridge across the Indus river at Khushalgerh. The cost of the whole scheme is the moderate sum of Rs. 24,45,817, and the allotment proposed for expenditure in the current year 1904-05 is Rs. 9,35,000. The work of changing the gauge, it is understood, is a simple job, but the bridge will probably occupy a couple of years to construct and complete.

A Malabar correspondent writes:—It is said some time ago a registered letter was wrongly delivered. It contained a half portion of a bank note for 300 Rs. The other half of the note was again sent and was delivered to the rightful owner and he complained about the one wrongly delivered. Postal enquiries were made and it was found that it had been received by a person not entitled to have it. A complaint is now lodged in the 2nd Class Magistrate's court against the wrongful receiver and Mr. Soomom. Postal Inspector was here to prosecute him. The deposition of the prosecution 1st witness is taken and the case is pending.

On Friday night a large house just in the heart of Talakulam Chetty Village, Travancore, was attacked by a band of dacoits. Happily its inmates made a narrow escape. The dacoits tried to force the front door open with a bandy axe. The door being a very strong one resisted every attempt made to open it. But an inmate just to know what the noise was about, opened the door and thus their easy-got into the house, plundered it to their heart's content. When about to leave the village they tried to enter another house but while they were forcing their way through the door an inmate just gave a sharp cut to one of the dacoits and this put an end to further troubles.

TELEGRAMS.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

Jamurki, April 22. The Maharaja of Mymensingh and the Nawab of Bogra and his brother Syed Abdul Jabbar Chounury, Zemindar of Didwar and a large party began shooting at Dhatipara in the Atha hills and bagged some tigers, deer, etc., and removed to Pahargata where one tiger, one leopard and two bears, one deer and one wild boar were bagged. Unfortunately cholera having broken out in the camp resulting in a few deaths and bad weather having set in, it was decided to the regret of all to disperse the party. The Maharajah with his party removed to Betajar and the Nawab of Bogra was preparing to start for Didwar with his brother when "Khubb" reached the camp, of two buffalo's having been killed by a tiger. The Nawab at the intercession of the local people stayed and bagged one huge Royal Bengal tiger, measuring ten feet, four and three-fourths inches. Subsequently as fresh "Khubb" daily reached the camp they stayed for a week and bagged two more tigers, one seven feet and eleven inches and the other seven feet six and a-half, and lastly another big Bengal tiger, measuring nine feet and a-half inches was bagged.

Allahabad, April 24. Effect is now being given by the Government of India to the plan for a Central Criminal Investigation Department as the old Thagi and Dacoity Department was practically abolished. Some considerable time ago the key note of the arrangement is that the new department will deal with the various classes of organised crime which have gained strength since railways, telegraphs etc., have provided the criminal classes with improved means of speedy locomotion and communication. Mr. Harold Stuart C. S. who was formerly Inspector-General of Police, Madras will be the Director of the department and Mr. Macracken, Deputy Director. Mr. Stuart who has just returned from leave in England will join his appointment at Simla this week.

THE AMIR AND BIBI HABINA.

The Kabul reports state that friendly relations have once more been established between the Amir and the Bibi Habina, mother of Sirdar Umar Jan. The Mullahs, it is said, have succeeded in effecting a reconciliation and Habina and her son were released from their forced detention in their residence some little time ago. The young Sirdar has been given the command of the troops in garrison in Kabul though he is too young to be much more than their nominal commandant.

THE C-IN-C. OF THE AFGHAN ARMY.

At the same time the Amir has raised his father-in-law Mahomed Amir Khan to the rank of Commander-in-Chief in the Afghan army thus placing one of his personal adherents in a position of considerable power.

LATE GEN. BHAWAL KHAN.

General Bhawal Khan commanding the troops at Aswar north of Jellalabad has died after an illness of some weeks. He was a officer who was much respected though not of a man of marked ability.

Lucknow, April 23.

A special cablegram to the "Indian Daily Telegraph," dated London, April 23rd, states:—

Admiral Alexieff reports that a sloop which was engaged in laying mines at Port Arthur has been blown up by a mine, a Lieutenant and twenty sailors being killed. The Russians admit having had twenty casualties in a skirmish on the Yalu.

Colombo, April 23.

Australian telegrams from London, dated the 12th, state that the "Times" correspondent at Japanese headquarters states that neither belligerent desired to fight on the Yalu, where the Russians recognise that Japan from the sea can turn a rigid flank. Sea storms and rains in Southern Manchuria are impeding operations.

The Chief of the Russian Navy Staff, an interview, stated that the Port Arthur squadron ought to have fought in the open sea, even sacrificing the fleet to prevent Japan from landing in Korea from the beginning.

Simla, April 25.

Lord Curzon's departure will be formal. On Thursday morning a guard of honour of the Simla Volunteers will be drawn up at the Viceregal Lodge, and a detachment of the 7th Gurkhas at Summer Hill station. Lord Amphil and staff, the Commander-in-Chief, and staff, and principal Civil and Military officers, will attend at the Viceregal Lodge. At 11-30 a salute will be fired as His Excellency leaves the station.

Chumbi (Sikkim), April 23.

Transport on the lines of communication has been augmented by 200 carts of the 6th Transport Corps, one Ekka Corps, and some 300 ponies strong remaining with half the tents of the Mule Corps. Additional grain rations are now issued to most transport units. Good grazing will soon be available in the Chumbi Valley.

Colombo, April 23.

Mr. T. Masuzawa, of the Japanese Monopoly Bureau, has arrived in Ceylon from Bombay. He is studying the consumption of campong and proceeds to Europe by the steamer "Hamburg" on Monday.

Mr. Water Stevens, Secretary to the St. Louis Exhibition, writes under date of March 22nd:—The Ceylon pavilion is practically completed and will be occupied in full running order.

Very handsome Para rubber has been discovered in Ceylon, thriving at an altitude of 3,500 feet, the highest yet known.

Tibet, April 25.

Colonel Youngusband has at length received a reply to the letter he despatched to the Amban from Guru. The reply, of course, is written after the recent fighting. The Amban says he has finally succeeded in bringing the Daini Lama to a reasonable frame of mind. He has been provided with the necessary transport and accompanied by a competent Tibet official will be at Gyantse without fail in three weeks to discuss matters with Colonel Youngusband. A very few troops, about thousand or fifteen hundred are between Gyantse and Lhasa.

Calcutta Gazette.—April 27.

Maulvi Mohammad Quam, Special Sub-Registrar, Muzaffarpur, is appointed substantively pro tempore to be a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the eighth grade, and is posted to the head-quarters station of the Muzaffarpur district.

Mr. E. A. Oakley, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Ranchi district, on being relieved of his Settlement duties in that district.

Mr. W. S. Adie, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Ranchi district on being relieved of his present special duty.

Mr. E. Goske, Officiating Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Howrah, is appointed to act as Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. W. Maude.

Mr. J. F. Graham, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Saran, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Howrah, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. H. L. Mesurier, C.I.E., Mr. N. Bonham-Carter, Magistrate and Collector, Saran, is appointed to act in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. J. T. Rankin, Officiating Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, is appointed to act in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors vice Mr. Satis Chandra Mukerjee, on privilege leave.

Mr. S. E. Stinton, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to have charge of the Serampore subdivision of the Hooghly district.

Babu Pramotho Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Backergunge district. Babu Akshay Kumar Sen Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Murshidabad district, on being relieved of his settlement duties in the Ranchi district.

Babu Bhabani Prasad Neogi, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is appointed to have charge of the Dakshin Shahabpur subdivision of that district, during the absence, on leave of Babu Sarada Prasad Sarkar.

Mr. W. Y. Reilly, District Superintendent of Police, on leave, is posted to Bankura.

Mr. St. Quintin Byrne, District Superintendent of Police, Bankura, is transferred to Howrah.

Mr. C. W. T. Feilmann, Assistant Superintendent of Police, is posted to Midnapore, on being relieved of the charge of the Howrah District Police.

Mr. John Cowie, District Superintendent of Police, on leave, is posted to Bhagalpur.

Babu Baladeva Rama Jha, Assistant Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur Division, is appointed to act as Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur Division, during the absence, on leave, of Dr. Purmand Chatterjee.

Babu Ananda Prasad Mitra Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur, is appointed to act as Assistant Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur Division, during the absence, on deputation of Babu Baladeva Rama Jha.

PROMOTIONS.

The following acting promotions are sanctioned in the grades of District and Sessions Judges until further orders.

To act in the first grade.

Mr. H. Homwood.

To act in the second grade.

Mr. Syud Nurul Huda.

LEAVE.

Mr. H. M. Kisch, I.C.S., is allowed combined leave, viz., privilege leave for nine days, under articles 233 and 260 of the Civil Service Regulations, and furlough on medical certificate for seven months and twenty-one days, under article 308 (a) of the Regulations.

Babu Rajam Prasad Neogi, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave for six weeks, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Nabin Chandra Kar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed an extension of leave for three months, under article 336 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Mon Mohan Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhagalpur, is allowed leave for twenty-five days under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Chandan Kumar Kar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Faridpur, is allowed leave for two months and ten days, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. A. W. Botham, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is allowed combined leave for six months, viz., privilege leave for two months and twenty days, and article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations, and special leave for the remaining period under article 316 of the Regulations.

Babu Sarat Chunder Chatterji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Murshidabad, is allowed leave for three months, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Sarada Prasad Saikar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dakshin Shahabpur, Backergunge, is allowed leave for 16 days under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. F. R. Roe, I.C.S., is allowed leave for thirty-one days under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. P. Roddis, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh, is allowed extraordinary leave for eight days, under article 332 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Dr. Purmand Chatterjee, Inspector of Schools, Bhagalpur Division, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

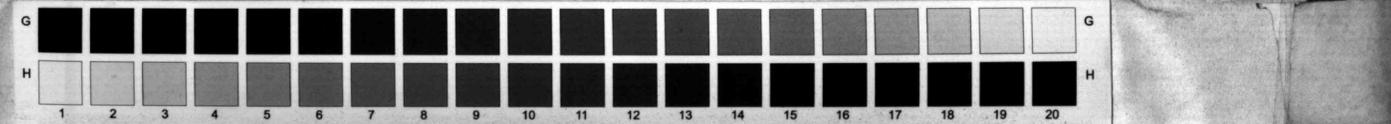
Babu Monmotho Nath Sircar, Special Excise Deputy Collector, Ranchi, is allowed leave for six weeks, under article 260 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Satish Chandra Ghose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Rajshahi, to be ordinarily stationed at Malda.

Babu Gopi Krishna Benerji, Subordinate Judge, Shahabad, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge, Burdwan.

Babu Purna Chandra Benerji, Subordinate Judge, Hooghly, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge, Midnapore, vice Babu Nund Lal Day, on leave.

Babu Akshay Kumar Bose, Subordinate Judge, Hooghly, is appointed to be Small Cause Court Judge of Hooghly, Howrah and Serampore, vice Babu Karunamoy Banerji, about to retire.



High Court.—April 27.

CRIMINAL BENCH

Before Justices Pratt and Handley.)

AN INTERESTING CASE.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal appeared in support of a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Puri, to show cause why an order of retrial passed on Luchman Sing, Head-constable of Krishna Prosad Out Post, by the Sessions Judge of Puri, should not be set aside.

The prosecution story of the case was that on the night of Monday the 13th October 1902 two chowkidars arrested one Kreepa Sahu of Ram Sinka when in illicit possession of country liquor and took him in custody to the Police Out Post at Krishna Prosad. Luchman Sing was then the head-constable in charge of the said Out Post. The case against him was that he arranged with Kreepa Sahu that on the payment by the latter of the sum of Rs. 30 all further proceedings should be dropped. Kreepa Sahu, then, in company with or in custody of the two chowkidars proceeded to his home in order to raise the money required. He, however, never returned to the Out Post. On the 16th his dead body was found suspended from a tree within the precincts of a temple known as Abswar, some 18 miles south of Krishna Prosad. When the body was first found it was supposed that Kreepa Sahu had committed suicide, but from the report of the Civil Hospital Assistant it appeared that Kreepa Sahu had been murdered. On those facts the petitioner was placed on his trial on charges under sections 330, 342, 176, 202, 213, 465 and 468 of the Indian Penal Code in the court of the District Magistrate of Puri; but the District Magistrate framed charges under sections 347, 202 and 213 of the Indian Penal Code against the petitioner. Mr. W. N. Delevingue, District Magistrate of Puri convicted the petitioner under section 213 I. P. Code and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 100 or in default to undergo simple imprisonment for three months.

The following is the remark made by the District Magistrate in the course of his judgment:

"I propose to refer briefly to the methods employed by the Police Officers who directed and conducted the recent investigation that led to the institution of this case. Inspector Anangimohan Mukerjee, who was immediately in charge of the investigation, stated during his examination on the 19th of October last that when he examined Chaitan Mohon Singh and Dalu Singh, (constable and writer constable) he had the diaries of Inspector Bhudeb Banerjee (who made enquiry in November 1902) with him and that he did not warn them that they would be dealt with departmentally if they did not speak the truth. He drew their attention to the statements they had made before Inspector Bhudeb Banerjee and he found that when he began first to put questions to them, it appeared likely that they would deny all knowledge of the occurrence. In other words had these two witnesses been allowed to make voluntary statements they would have given evidence similar to what they had given before Inspector Bhudeb Banerjee. This however did not suit the purpose of Inspector A. M. Mookerjee, and seeing that their statements were not likely to support the case against the head-constable and the chowkidars he confronted them as he says with the statements of Kalia Majhi and two other chowkidars whom he had examined on a previous day. This had the desired effect and the Inspector proceeded to record their statements. He tells us that he recorded their statements in full, but at the same time admits that he did not record their answers to the questions he put to them before he found occasion to confront them with the statements of Kalia Majhi and others.

"Now what does this mean? It means this: that when the Inspectors found that Chaitan Singh and Dalu Singh were about to make statements similar to those that they had made before Inspector Bhudeb Banerjee he in some manner or other intimidated or coerced them until they were ready to depose as he wished them to depose. He admits that he received orders from the Deputy Inspector General of Police to the effect that proceedings were to be drawn up against all police officers who wished to hush up the case and I do not entertain the slightest doubt that he made use of his knowledge of the Deputy Inspector General's intention for the purpose of coercing the witnesses whether constables or village chowkidars whom he examined during the course of his investigation. But this was not all. One of the constables, who was admittedly at the Out Post on the 14th October 1902, namely, Jogee Singh, had made before Inspector Bhudeb Banerjee and denied the occurrence altogether. He was obviously an important witness and his evidence would be likely to damage the case for the prosecution. The Inspector Anango Mohon Mukerjee, therefore reported the matter to Mr. Gusee, Deputy Inspector General, and the latter, regardless of the extreme impropriety, to use no stronger terms or his action, ordered that Jogee Singh should be suspended and that proceedings should be drawn up against him. Jogee Singh was accordingly suspended and departmental proceedings were instituted against him before the trial of this case was commenced. Comment on these facts is needless, but this much may be said that if an officer in the position of Deputy Inspector General has recourse to methods of this kind, small wonder it is officers in the subordinate service resort to illegal practices to obtain evidence where evidence would otherwise be wanting.

"I find that the charge under section 213 I.P.C. and the charge under section 213 read with section 109 I.P.C. have been satisfactorily established against the accused Luchman Singh. . . . Luchman Sing is further charged with offences under sections 347 and 202 I.P.C. . . . I acquit the accused Luchman Sing of the charge under section 347 P. C. The charge under section 202 P.C. is included in the charge under section 213 and as it was merely an alternative charge I do not consider it necessary to record any separate finding with respect to it. . . . I hold . . . that a person can be rightly convicted of an offence under section 213 P.C. who has attempted to obtain a gratification for screening any other person from legal punishment for an offence punishable to a fine only.

I sentence Luchman Sing under section 213 P.C. to pay a fine of Rs. 100 or in default to undergo simple imprisonment for three months. . . . In conclusion I should state that the charges against Luchman Sing under sections 465 and 468 P.C. have not been considered in this case as the facts on which they were based did not form part of the same transaction with the circumstances that were the subject matter of the other charges."

Against that conviction and sentence an appeal was preferred to Mr. W. Tounon, Sessions Judge of Puri. The Sessions Judge held that on the evidence relied on by the Magistrate the conviction of the appellant could not be sustained. He remarked:—"On this finding ordinarily acquittal would follow but in the present case I have had to consider whether a retrial should not be directed. . . . Lastly it has to be observed that inasmuch as the prosecution involved questions reflecting on the efficiency of his administration, the trial of the case by the District Magistrate of Puri is to be directed. In making this observation I am to be understood as referring merely to the possibility of unconscious bias. . . . In setting aside the conviction of and sentence on the appellant I direct that he be retried."

Against the order of retrial passed by the Sessions Judge the accused moved the Hon'ble High Court, and their Lordships were pleased to issue a rule to show cause why the said order should not be set aside. The rule came on for hearing on Friday.

Their Lordships after hearing the learned Vakil delivered the following judgment:—"We think this rule ought to be made absolute and that the reasons given by the learned Sessions Judge for directing a retrial are not adequate. We accordingly direct that the order of retrial be set aside."

MR. CAREY MOVED.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal appeared on behalf of Rajani Kanta Pramanick for the issue of a Rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Murshidabad to show cause why the prosecution of the petitioner under Sec. 182 I.P.C. should not be set aside.

The humble petition of the accused above named most respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner is a clerk, now under suspension in the certificate department of the Murshidabad Collectorate.

2. That your petitioner officiated as the certificate head clerk in the said office from the 19th August 1902 to the 16th November 1903.

3. That in April 1901, a Khas Mahal Jote, called Hifaztullah Jote in Gorabazar in Murshidabad belonging to Jellar Rahaman and others was sold at a public auction for arrears of rent, a certificate having been filed against the defaulting judgement debtors under the certificate Act and the said Jote was purchased by one Radhica Prasad Saha for Rs. 135 in the said sale.

4. That the judgment debtors were habitual defaulters and amongst others there were two cases No. 204 of 1900-01 and No. 13 of 1901-02 in connection with the said property.

5. That the defaulters appealed to the Collector of Murshidabad and Mr. Webster the then Collector of Murshidabad by his order dated the 17th May 1901 dismissed the appeal.

6. That in May 1902, Zillar Rahaman and others some of the defaulters instituted a civil suit in the court of the subordinate Judge of Murshidabad for setting aside the sale against the Collector of Murshidabad and the said Radhica Prasad Saha the purchaser and others, and it was alleged amongst other things by the plaintiffs in that suit that one of their co-sharers got the jote sold fraudulently and purchased it benami in the name of Radhica Prasad Saha and that notices were not properly served as required by law.

7. That Mr. Carey who is now Collector of Murshidabad filed a written statement denying these allegations with regard to the non-service of the notice and other matters.

8. That in the said suit, it is neither the case for the plaintiff nor of the defendants that your petitioner purchased the property benami at the sale or was in any way connected with it.

9. That issues were framed in the case on the 6th August 1902 and the suit is pending for the decision of the subordinate Judge.

10. That in the meantime while the said suit was pending before the civil court, the said Zillar Rahaman with Shyama Charan Banerji a dismissed Tehesildar of the Khas Mahal who is now in the employ of the said Zillar Rahaman in the afternoon of 21st March 1903 were seen by your petitioner by the side of the enclosed corridor of the Berhampur Khas Mahal office and they were inspecting some books of the office and your petitioner suspected that the said Zillar Rahaman and Shyama Charan Banerji were there, for the purpose of collecting information surreptitiously.

11. That there being a standing order of the Collector, prohibiting outsiders from loitering in the corridor your petitioner immediately brought the matter to the notice of Mr. Carey the Collector.

12. That thereupon Mr. Carey after making an enquiry on the spot on the 21st March 1903 passed the following order:—"Despite my constantly respected orders and notices posted up I find to-day in the record room corridor Abdul Kader and I learn 2 other outsiders Shyama Charan Banerji and Zillar Rahaman were present and were inspecting the records which temporary Mohoree Sarat Chandra Guha and others were employed on. Bhairab Chandra Pathak is arrested and ordered to be prosecuted Sec. 448 warrants will be issued for the arrest of Shyama Charan Banerji and Zillar Rahaman. Sarat Chandra Guha is arrested and directed to be prosecuted for the abetment of the trespass by Shyama Charan and Zillar Rahaman.

Court Sub-Inspector to prosecute. Sd. H. D. CAREY, 21-3-03.

A certificate copy of the said order is hereto annexed and marked A.

13. That Mr. Carey made over the case to Mr. Mackertich Deputy Magistrate of Berhampur for disposal.

14. That in the said trial your petitioner was examined as a witness on behalf of the prosecution.

15. That in the said case, the said Zillar Rahaman although he admitted that he had entered the corridor of the Khas Mahal office, he said he came there for the purpose of looking for Nagendra Babu Mukteer and Shyama Charan Banerji, said that he was in attend-

ance upon his master Zillar Rahaman and the said Zillar Rahaman further said that your petitioner purchased the property herein before mentioned, benami in the name of Radhica Prasad Saha.

16. That the said Zillar Rahaman neither in his appeal to the collector against the order of the certificate officer, nor in his plaint in the civil suit hereinbefore mentioned suggested that your petitioner purchased the property benami in the name of Radhica Prasad Saha.

17. That Mr. Mackertich for reasons stated in his judgment dated the 2nd April 1903 discharged the said Zillar Rahaman and the other accused persons under Sec. 253 Criminal Procedure Code.

18. That on the 23rd April 1903, Mr. Mackertich issued a notice upon your petitioners to show cause why your petitioner should not be prosecuted under Sec. 182 Indian Penal Code for giving a false information to Mr. Carey in the aforesaid matter and also under Sec. 193 Indian Penal Code for giving false information in the above case.

19. That your petitioner by way of showing cause submitted an explanation on the 6th May 1903.

20. That your petitioner begs to annex hereto a certificate copy of the order sheet of the case, showing several orders of Mr. Mackertich; the certified copy is hereto annexed and marked B.

21. That in the 2nd December 1903 when the case was still in the file of Mr. Mackertich, Mr. Carey the District Magistrate without withdrawing the case to his own file or without giving any notice to your petitioner passed the following order:—"Read the papers of this enquiry and of the case shown. Read also a mass of papers bearing on the original matter out of which this matter arose. I hereby direct that Rajani Kanta Pramanick be prosecuted on the charge under sections 182 and 193 drawn by Mr. Mackertich and he give recognizance on Rs. 300 with one security in a like sum to appear when called on. The case will be tried by the Joint Magistrate on arrival if he does not join within 10 days records to be sent to me for further orders."

22. That on the aforesaid 2nd December 1903, Mr. Carey without asking any explanation from your petitioner suspended your petitioner from office and further directed the prosecution of your petitioner under sections 166, 167 and 169 Indian Penal Code by the following order:—"Rajani Kanta Pramanick certificate head Mohurir is suspended hereby and ordered to be prosecuted on the following charges.

(1) That he being bound by law to issue notice under section 10 of the Certificate Act in Khas Mahal cast No. 204 of 1900-01, knowingly refrained from so doing with intent to cause injury to the judgment-debtor in the said case and hereby committed an offence under section 166 of the Indian Penal Code.

(2) That he being in charge of the order sheet of the said case, knowingly framed on 6.2.01 an incorrect entry that notices had been duly served and again on or after 27.2.01 knowingly added to the certificate officer's order both with intent to cause injury to the said judgment debtor and thereby committed an offence under section 167 Indian Penal Code.

(3) That he being a native Government servant employed as certificate Muharir and legally found not to purchase property in certificate cases, purchased (Benami) the property sold in the case alluded to above and hereby committed an offence under section 169 I. P. Code."

Sd. H. D. CAREY, Magistrate and Collector.

23. That Mr. Carey thereafter made over the case to the file of Mr. Hamilton, Joint Magistrate, Berhampur for disposal.

24. That on the 14th December 1903, your petitioner put in a petition before Mr. Hamilton, asking that the aforesaid criminal proceedings be stayed pending the decision of the civil suit hereinbefore mentioned but the said application was refused.

25. That on the 7th January 1904, your petitioner moved this Hon'ble High Court and obtained a rule upon the District Magistrate to show cause why the aforesaid criminal proceedings under sections 166, 167 and 169 Indian Penal Code should not be stayed pending the decision of the civil suit hereinbefore mentioned.

26. That the said Rule coming on for hearing before their Lordships the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ghosh and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen, who made absolute by their Lordships' order dated the 17th February 1904 and their Lordships directed that the criminal proceedings be stayed pending the decision of the civil suit.

27. That on the 30th March 1904, Mr. Carey without giving any notice to your petitioner passed an order taking cognizance of the case under section 182 I.P.C. and also accorded sanction to prosecute your petitioner under section 182 I.P.C. in respect of the same matter in which Mr. Mackertich issued a notice upon your petitioner to show cause, referred to in paragraph 13 of this petition, a certificate copy of the said order is hereto annexed and marked (C).

28. That Mr. Carey made over the said case under section 182 I.P.C. to the file of Mr. Hamilton, Joint Magistrate of Berhampur.

29. That your petitioner was thereupon summoned to answer a charge under section 182 I.P.C.

30. That your petitioner appeared before Mr. Hamilton on the 6th April 1904, the date fixed for the hearing of the case and on that day applied under section 526 clause (8) for time to enable your petitioner to move this Hon'ble High Court for the transfer of the case from Murshidabad, whereupon Mr. Hamilton allowed your petitioner till the 27th April 1904.

31. That on the 7th April 1904, the Court Sub-Inspector of Berhampur "on behalf of the District Magistrate" filed a petition before Mr. Mackertich, Deputy Magistrate stating that in the aforesaid of Emperor vs. Zillar Rahaman, your petitioner intentionally gave false evidence and praying (182) that "sanction might be given to the said applicant to pro-

secute your petitioner under section 193. I. P.C. and 2ndly that the proceedings already summoned against your petitioner by ordering your petitioner to show cause against prosecution may be terminated by final order, 3rdly that should this court consider this sanction to prosecute should be refused, and order may be passed and recorded to that effect, a certified copy of the said petition of the Court Sub-Inspector "on behalf of the District Magistrate" is hereto annexed and marked (d).

32. That Mr. Mackertich thereupon on the aforesaid 7th April recorded the following order in the orders sheet of the case.

"As far as I recollect cause was shown by the learned pleader Radhica Babu against the rule that was issued against Rajani Pramanick. I must decline to pass order till the records are put up before me. Records are to be put on the 9th instant when I expect to be relieved from the Treasury."

Sd. A. C. Mackertich.

33. That on the 9th April Mr. Carey the District Magistrate recorded the following order in the order sheet of the case.

I find from the miscellaneous record in which Rajani Kanta Pramanick was called upon to show cause and did show cause the following order recorded by the District Magistrate on 2.12.03.

"Received the papers of this enquiry and of the case and the cause shown received also a mass of papers bearing on the original matter out of which this arose. I hereby direct that Rajani Kanta Pramanick be prosecuted on charges under sections 182 and 193 drawn by Mr. Mackertich and he give recognizance on Rs. 300 with one security in a like sum to appear when called on. The case will be tried by the Joint Magistrate on arrival if he does not join within 10 days records to be sent to me for further orders."

Sd. H. D. CAREY, Dt. Magistrate.

34. That Mr. Mackertich, on the aforesaid 9th April 1904, thereupon passed the following order:—"On the face of this definite existing order I do not feel justified in passing any order in the application of the Court Sub-Inspector."

9.4.04 Sd. S. O. MACKERTICH.

35. That on the 11th April Mr. Carey the District Magistrate filed an application before the Sessions Judge of Murshidabad praying amongst other things a sanction to prosecute your petitioner under section 193 I. P. C. for giving false evidence in the aforesaid case of Emperor vs. Zillar Rahaman. A certified copy of the said petition before the Sessions Judge with the order of the Sessions Judge is hereto annexed and marked (e).

36. That your petitioner has on the 20th April filed an objection before the Sessions Judge against the said application and no final order has yet been passed by Sessions Judge in the matter.

37. That your petitioner is advised that the proceeding taken under section 182 I.P.C. and the order of Mr. Carey taking cognizance of the case are without jurisdiction and is bad in law and the said proceeding and the order of Mr. Carey should be set aside.

38. That your petitioner humbly submits that the proceedings, having been taken after a lapse of time when it will be extremely difficult for your petitioner to defend himself properly, the said proceedings should be quashed.

39. That your petitioner further submits that in case your Lordships are not pleased to quash the proceedings the case against your petitioner under section 182 I.P.C. should be transferred from the District of Murshidabad on the following grounds:—

I. For that Mr. Carey having directed the prosecution of your petitioner under circumstances hereinbefore stated and having regard to the attitude of Mr. Carey in the prosecution and in the present proceedings, your petitioner apprehends that he will not obtain a fair and impartial trial in the Court of Magistrate subordinate to Mr. Carey.

II. For that Mr. Carey is a necessary witness in the case and it is not desirable that the case should be tried by a Magistrate in Murshidabad.

III. For that the transfer of the case from Murshidabad will be expedient for the ends of justice.

For the above reasons your petitioner humbly prays that your Lordships may be pleased to send for the records of the case and quash the proceedings or in the alternative to transfer the case from the District of Murshidabad and stay further proceedings in the case pending hearing of this application or pass any other order as to your Lordships may seem fit and proper.

And your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Let the records be sent for and let a rule issue calling upon the District Magistrate to show cause why the prosecution of the petitioner under Sec. 182 I.P.C. should not be set aside on the ground that an offence under that section does not come within the purview of Sec. 190 Cr. P. C. to which the District Magistrate purports to have taken cognizance of the case. In the meantime pending the disposal of this rule further proceedings in the matter will be stayed.

Wires a Bangalore correspondent:—The warrant issued by the District Magistrate to arrest Mr. B. Howkins has been executed on Saturday evening. The arrest was effected and being bailable Mr. Howkins was released on his own recognizance of Rs. 10,000 and two sureties, Messrs. Delfino and C. B. Oakley, of Rs. 5,000 each. His house was sealed and a search warrant for the documents has been executed.

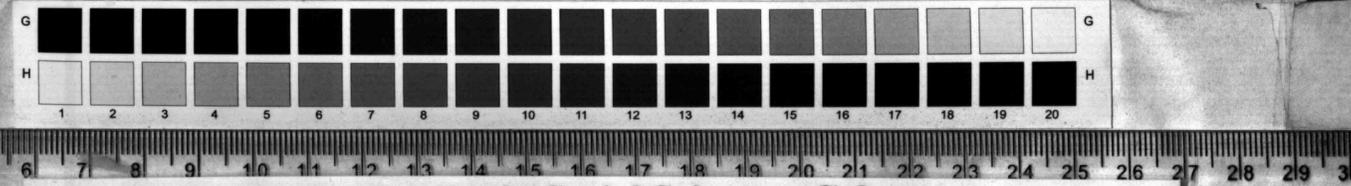
It has long been in contemplation to organise a Central Criminal Investigation Department which should supersede the Thegi and Dacoity Department and embrace a wider scope of activities, and this is about to be accomplished. Mr. Harold Stuart, I.C.S., lately Inspector-General of Police, Madras, who has been selected as the head of this new department is now at Simla, and is shortly to start the scheme.

An oilmonger was deputed to North Travancore by a Eranial merchant with 250 Rs. and odd to buy some articles of merchandise. The man returned two days ago stating that the constables of a police station in the Sherthally Taluq had robbed him of the sum he had had in his purse. He says that they threatened to deprive him of his life, if he would disclose the affair to anybody. He says that he had to beg out his way home. It is strange that the man who has come all the way from Sherthally, has not reported the case to any of the Government Officers.

Babu Nalini Nath Mitra, Officiating Additional Subordinate Judge, Tippera, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge, Hooghly. Babu Brajendra Kumar Biswas, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Pabna and Bogra to be ordinarily stationed at Bogra, during the absence, on leave of Babu Annanda Kumar Sen. Babu Ananga Mohan Lahiri is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Patna, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Jaya Prosad Pande. Babu Amrita Nath Mitter is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at Narayanganj, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Mohini Mohun Dutt. Babu Debendra Nath Banerjee, Munsif of Mathihari, in the district of Saran, on leave, is appointed to be a Munsif in the district of Hooghly, to be ordinarily stationed at Howrah, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Bhuvan Mohan Gangooly. Mr. S. Ahmed Husain Khan, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as a Munsif, in the district of Saran, to be ordinarily stationed at Chapra, during the absence of Babu Thakur Dayal. Babu Atul Chunder Ghose, Munsif of Sundeeep, in the district of Noakhali, is allowed extension of leave up to the 31st March 1904. Babu Jaya Prosad Pande, Munsif of Patna, is allowed leave for one month, viz., ten days under article 274 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under article 271 of the same Regulations. Babu Baman Das Mukerjee, Munsif of Rangpur is allowed leave for twenty-six days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Mohini Mohan Dutt, Munsif of Narayanganj, in the district of Dacca, is allowed leave for one month, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Thakur Dayal, Munsif of Chapra, in the district of Saran, is allowed leave for forty-five days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Annada Kumar Sen, Munsif of Bogra, is allowed leave for fifteen days, viz., three days under article 274 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under article 271 of the same Regulations. Babu Bedhu Bhuvan Banerjee, Munsif of Narayanganj, in the district of Dacca, is allowed leave for ten days, under article 272 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Jugul Kisor De, Munsif of Basirhat, in the district of the 24-Parganas, is allowed leave for one month and five days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Upendra Nath Datta, Munsif of Satkhira, in the district of Jessore, is allowed leave for one month, viz., six days under article 274 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under article 271 of the same Regulations. Babu Kamini Kumar Mokerjee, Munsif of Patiya, in the district of Chitagonj, is allowed leave for two months, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Mati Lal Sinha, Subordinate Judge, Burdwan, is allowed leave for two months, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Lal Gopal Sen, Small Cause Court Judge of Sealdah, in the district of the 24-Parganas, is allowed leave for twenty-eight days, under article 271 of the Civil Service Regulations. Babu Akshoy Kumar Sen, Deputy Magistrate, who has, under the order of this date, been posted to the head-quarters station of the Murshidabad district, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class. Babu Tusi Das Mukerjee, Munsif of Patuakhali, in the district of Backergunge, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the Patuakhali Munsif. Mr. William Raha, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Siraganj subdivision of the Pabna district. Babu Promode Chandra Sen Gupta, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Chittagonj Division. Maulvi Abdur Rahaman Mahmood, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Siraganj, Pabna, is allowed leave for one month, under article 242 (a) of the Civil Service Regulations. Captain A. W. R. Cochrane, I.M.S., has reported his departure from India, on leave. Dr. P. A. Kigby, Travelling Superintendent of Emigration, Bengal and the Central Provinces, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Monghyr, during the absence, on leave, of Major F. A. Rogers, I.M.S. Captain E. A. R. Newman, I.M.S., Officiating Civil Surgeon of Bhagalpur, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Hazaribagh, during the absence, on deputation, of Major B. H. Deare, I.M.S. Captain J. M. Wooley, I.M.S., Superintendent of the Bhagalpur Central Jail, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Bhagalpur, in addition to his own duties. Major E. Harold Brown, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon of the 24-Parganas, is appointed to act as a Civil Surgeon of the first class, during the absence, on leave, of Lieutenant-Colonel R. Cobb, I.M.S. Major A. H. Nott, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon of Murshidabad, is appointed, to act as a Civil Surgeon of the first class, during the absence on deputation, of Lieutenant-Colonel R. Macrae, I.M.S.

There is no further news from Kabul regarding the Amir's health, but it is believed the gunshot injuries to his hand, though requiring skilled surgical attendance, were not very severe.

A correspondent writes from Coimbatore:—The L. Police Station House Officer of Palachy was convicted and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment by the Head Assistant Magistrate for altering the date in a certain complaint. He appealed against his conviction to the Sessions Judge, who, while upholding the conviction, reduced the sentence to six months' simple imprisonment, and imposed a fine of Rs. 250. The writer in the local Hindu College was committed to the Sessions on a charge of misappropriation of the College funds. The accused denied his intention to misappropriate. The Sessions Judge, in view to test his "bona fide" conduct, released him on bail, and directed him to make good the amount. This the accused was not able to do, whereupon he was sent to jail for two years.



THE GAZETTE OF INDIA.

The following notifications appear in "The Gazette of India":—

Home Department.—Mr. Marris, Under-Secretary, Home Department, is placed on special duty in that Department.

Mr. Macfarlane, Librarian of the Imperial Library, is granted privilege leave for three months.

The services of Mr. G. R. Clarke, Civil Service, are replaced at the disposal of the Government of the United Provinces.

Mr. R. Nathan is appointed Deputy Secretary, Home Department.

The services of the undermentioned officers are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of Bengal: Captains King and Urwin, I.M.S.

Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, Cantonment Magistrate, Ranikhet, is granted privilege leave for three months, with leave on medical certificate for three months in continuation.

Mr. P. O'Keefe is appointed to officiate as Advocate-General for Bengal, vice Woodroffe resigned.

The services of Lieutenant Watts, 41st Dogras, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of the Punjab, for employment as Officiating Assistant Cantonment Magistrate.

Legislative Department.—Privilege leave for two months and eight days is granted to Mr. Wilson, Registrar of the Legislative Department, Mr. G. W. Marshall, Superintendent in the Foreign Department, to officiate for him.

Department of Revenue and Agriculture.—The services of the undermentioned officers are placed at the disposal of the Foreign Department for employment in Kashmir State:—Mr. Blunt, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Provinces; Mr. Saiyid Medhi, Extra Assistant Conservator, United Provinces.

Financial Department.—Mr. K. L. Datta, is posted as Assistant Accountant-General and Examiner of Local Fund Accounts, Bengal, and Mr. Jacob as Assistant Comptroller-General of Outside Audits, Colonel Scott, Mint Master, Calcutta, is granted privilege leave for fourteen days, and furlough on medical certificate for eight months and twenty-three days; Lieutenant-Colonel Macartney, Assay Master, Calcutta, to act temporarily as Mint Master Calcutta, in addition to his own duties.

Mr. O. T. Barrow is placed on special duty in this Department from the 11th April.

Mr. Carson, Assistant Comptroller, Central Provinces, is granted combined leave for seven months.

Mr. J. Campbell is appointed Under-Secretary to Government.

Public Works Department.—Mr. Humfress, North Western Railway, is granted combined leave for two years.

Mr. Scott, Executive Engineer, Central Provinces, to officiate as Superintending Engineer, during the absence of Mr. Leventhorpe on leave.

It is notified that the duties of Chief Engineer and Joint Secretary for Irrigation to the Agent to the Governor-General, North West-Frontier Province, will be carried out by the Chief Engineer and Joint Secretary to the Government of the Punjab Irrigation Branch.

STRANGE INTERPRETATION OF "DISLOYALTY."

—:—:—

Lahore, April 21.

Some of the students of the Government College, Lahore, both Hindus and Mohammedans, on the 18th instant submitted the following petition to the Principal of the College:—

Sir,—With reference to your order making the wearing of blazers compulsory for all students of the College, we most respectfully beg to bring the following points to your kind notice:—

- (1) That a number of us have taken pledges not to use foreign-made cloth, and therefore it becomes impossible for the pledge-holders to wear blazers, the cloth of which is imported from England.
- (2) Nor do we expect that you will require us to break our pledges and thus show our moral weakness.
- (3) Most of us are not prepared to wear short coats, because our parents are strictly against our adopting English fashion in dress, nor have we ourselves any liking for it. Moreover short coats on long shirts and different sorts of trousers, as are used by students from different parts of the province, will make a ridiculous appearance, which none of us is ready to assume. Therefore, under the above mentioned circumstances, it becomes almost impracticable to act upon the order, which we hope you will kindly reconsider and cancel. This act of kindness will highly oblige us.

The following is the order passed on the above petition:—

This step has been taken by the College Council after careful consideration and with the full conviction that it will promote "esprit de corps" (or the corporate esprit) that it is for the benefit of the students, although some of them are not yet able to understand how, and that in a short time, the students will come to take a pride in the distinctive colours of the College. The order must stand good.

The case of any student, who would break religious vows by wearing his blazers, should be laid before his College tutor. A pledge to boycott all English goods, simply as such, would seem to be inconsistent with the position of a good citizen of the Empire or a loyal subject of the King. Such a policy is not only disloyal but ignorant and short-sighted. If the rest of the British Empire were to do the same thing with regard to India, the result would be ruin to India.

To me personally it is very disappointing to find that there is among some students so little appreciation of all that is being done for their comfort, convenience and general well-being, and so much inclination to make a fuss about this matter.

There seem to be some who think that, at least in small matters of College discipline, the tail should wag the dog.

(Sd.) S. ROBSON.

THE SCRUICING PAIN from corns bunions or chiblainis may be avoided by a free application of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. For sale by Smith Stanstreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., and Abdool Bahaman and Abdool Karim, Calcutta.

SUSPICIOUS DEATH.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Faickchery, (Chittagong) April 21. Nishi Kanta Singha was under the employ of Mr. A. W. Watson, Manager, Feroza Tea Estate. He was dismissed from service for reason unknown. Yesterday his dead body was found in a house close to the garden. Active measures are being taken by the local police to find out the clue. We are anxiously waiting for the Civil Surgeon's report as to his cause of death, the case is a suspicious one and of late there had been a good many cold blooded murder cases in this part of the district. But in none of the case the local police was successful in bringing to book the perpetrators of the blood deeds.

We beg to draw the attention of the Inspector General of Police to these suppressed murders and hope he will engage some best detectives to bring to light the authors of the crime.

BHAGALPUR NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Bhagalpur, April, 19.

THE PLAGUE. I am glad to tell you that the fell pestilence is at last dying away and the figures gradually dividing down. Of these again, some are due to cases being imported from Moughyr where the disease is still raging with epidemic violence. But should I say "dying away" or "falling into a temporary slumber"? For has not bitter experience everywhere convinced us that its visitation is almost annual? That it grants us a respite only to recommence its ravages with renewed violence? It were well therefore that our City Fathers and the upper ten of our society would take this year's lessons to heart and omit no precautions calculated to prevent its recurrence or at least to minimize its havoc. But alas! The attitude and conduct of those (with few honorable exceptions) to whom we naturally look up for help and guidance in such junctures and among whom the gentlemen of the healing art figure prominently—have been, I am sorry to say, not such as to make us very sanguine. The Brahmacarys of the Vivekananda Society repeated reference to whose gratuitous and invaluable services has been made: in my letters, have been obliged to go away simply because we could not provide the sinews of war wherewith to meet the expenses of the work they were carrying on. And yet our town boasts of millionnaires a dozen and light and leading by the scores! Our only hope now lies in the timely aid of the Government, which being in loco parentis of the people, should no longer pursue its policy of indifference to our fate. And this reminds me of the meeting of our town people held on Saturday last at the T. N. Jubilee College, in which, of course, a Chairman was elected, Resolutions were moved, seconded and carried by acclamation and a memorial to the Local Government signed by the *élite* of the town, was drawn up—praying for some substantial aid for supplementing the people's efforts (2) for eradicating the disease and preventing its recurrence. And never were a people in soreer need for such an aid.

"WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK."

And still we have our water-works! With the Ganges continually receding farther and farther from the town, the wells either fallen into disrepair or dried up, and the water-works taken into a state of chronic inefficiency owing to multifarious causes—natural and otherwise—our condition may better be imagined than described. The greater part of the town gets only 2 to 4 hours' supply and some parts get none at all—paying, of course, full water-rates all the same. We are earnestly awaiting the working of the new centrifugal pump which has been planted and is expected to commence its work shortly. Let us hope we shall no longer have cause to curse the introduction of the water-works into our town.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. McKintosh, our new Collector, took over charge from Mr. Morborley on Monday last. Babu Chandrasekhar Sircar, Government Pleader, has taken two months' leave and Babu Dabandhu Banerjee has been appointed to officiate for him. It is needless to say that the selection will give universal satisfaction and that it would have been hard to single out a workier man for the post. The Criminal and Revenue Courts and officers have commenced morning sittings from yesterday and the Civil Courts follow suit from the 21st instant. The general health of the town is satisfactory.

INTERESTING ITEMS.

INCUBATING BOA CONSTRICTORS. An attempt was made some time ago (we read in "Country Life") to bring out a brood of box constrictors. Eighteen eggs were placed in an incubator and watched carefully for two months. None of the Government scientists knew anything about the hatching of such eggs, and the experiment failed. The incubator was kept at 201 degrees and 103 degrees as would be about right for hen's eggs and later it was found that the box constrictor's eggs would only incubate at an average of 96 degrees.

A SOLAR ENGINE. A concession has been granted to Knute C. Wieden, of St. Louis, for the exhibition at the St. Louis Fair of a scientific arrangement for generating heat by reflection of the sun's rays. He will use 40,000 plain mirrors, four feet square, in his apparatus. The rays conveyed in the interior of a furnace, where heat is generated for running the "solar engine." Mr. Wieden claims that heat of 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit can be generated in this way.

HISTORIC TREES. Among the trees which are to be cut down to make room for building operations on part of the grounds which surrounded Addiscombe, the old East India Company's Military College, where Earl Roberts and many other eminent soldiers were trained, are several which have a historic interest. Their trunks are covered with the names of former cadets, and on one those of Havelock, Outram, and Grant are still distinguishable. There is also standing at Addiscombe a tree under which, the "St. James's Gazette" says the first Duke of Marlborough and Peter the Great sat and talked together.

ASTRAL LIGHT. According to an American journal "Vesta La Vista" November of the Cosmological Centre has been making visits to Mars and Venus by projecting her astral body to those planets. She related her experiences and impressions recently in a lecture before the society. "Mars is," she explained, "coupled with an enthusiastic, stalwart, noble race of men, with complexions shiny and black s ebony. They are very muscular, taut and very supple. They play with electricity as we would with fireworks. They have a way of flashing firelike radiation from their legs that makes their presence decidedly luminous, lively, and at times somewhat dazzling. They appear like huge warriors attired in atmospheric raiments of flame. The Mars women are beautiful, with daintily-moulded forms, and with very fair complexions. Their flesh is luminous." She described the architecture of the country as transcendent, and said the arts and government were of proportionate superiority to this world. "Venus," according to the lady, "is small but a very beautiful and tropical planet, and is inhabited

by a charming race of beings: they are associated most happily in soul-mated couples for they have a flexible and psychological tuning, which invisibly connects their bodies and prevents them from wandering or straying or being separated at any time from their true soulmate.

DACCA SENSATION.

Dacca, April 21. CASE AGAINST BABU LAL MOHAN SHA. In my last letter, I hinted of two more criminal cases brought against Babu Lal Mohan Sha by Mr. A. C. Roy; in one case, which is pending before the Senior Dy. Magistrate, Babu Lal Mohan has been accused of insulting Mr. Roy, while he was passing by a street. Summons was issued under sec. 500 I.P.G., and Monday last was the date fixed for the hearing of the case. But, as there was a talk of all the cases being compromised, it was adjourned. It will be taken up on 26th April. I am sorry that there is little chance of the cases being compromised. I understand that an application will soon be filed by Lal Mohan Babu to have the case transferred to the file of the District Magistrate from that of the Senior Deputy Magistrate.

OASE AGAINST MR. ROY. Now I come to the third case. Babu Lal Mohan Sha had served a notice to Mr. A. C. Roy to vacate his house, but it was not complied with. On Friday last, a civil court peon appeared with 30 or 40 men at the house occupied by Mr. Roy. The peon demanded the money including other costs. Mr. Roy, wanted half an hour's time, but it was not listened to. The peon then ordered the attachment of the properties in the house. It is said that they forcibly entered the Zenana where Mrs. Roy was and dragged down the "purdah" protection of the Zenana room. They threw away the articles in the veranda, and thus insulted him. The above is the version of Mr. A. C. Roy but, as the matter has been referred to the Police Enquiry I withhold the version of Babu Lal Mohan Sha. The Police will submit their report on or before 23rd April. Mr. Roy also applied to the first Munsif (in whose Court the civil suit was pending) for release of his articles. The Court then on payment of Rs. 3-10 annas (the bona fide claim only) ordered their immediate release. The peon also reported to the Court that he was violently handed my Mr. Roy who also tore into pieces his Parawana and thus obstructed him in the discharge of his public duties. The Munsif, I am told, disbelieved the report of the Civil Court peon. But when the Nazir reported the whole matter to the District Judge, the latter ordered the Munsif an immediate inquiry into the matter. No enquiry has yet been made by the Munsif, as the peon who reported the matter is gone to Muffassil.

CASE AGAINST MR. DEY. An application was made to the District Magistrate on behalf of Mr. Dey for the transfer of the case from the file of the Deputy Magistrate to that of the District Magistrate, and accordingly a notice was issued on Mr. A. C. Roy to show cause why the case should not so transferred. The date of hearing was fixed last Monday. Mr. Roy himself appeared to show cause while Babu Sarat Chandra Ghose appeared in support of the rule. The Court after hearing both sides at some length ordered the transfer of the case. The case was fixed for hearing on Tuesday last. On that day, the prosecution examined two witnesses Babu Nalini Kumar Dutt M.A., Lecturer, Dacca College, and Mr. S. W. Percival, Teacher, Collegiate School. An application was made to the Magistrate to allow Mr. Dey to appear through agent. Mr. Roy opposed it but the Magistrate allowed the application. Yesterday the case was taken up at about 11-30 a.m. when Mr. Roy was cross-examined by Babu Sarat Chandra Ghose (Sr.) Pleader for the defence. Mr. Percival and Nalini Babu too were cross-examined. Arguments were heard to-day. Mr. Roy pleaded his own case. Mr. Dey submitted a written statement in which he denied the allegation made against him by Mr. A. C. Roy in his plaint. Babu Sarat Ch. Ghose (Sr.) argued the case for the defence. Mr. Roy then replied. After the conclusion of the defence, Mr. Roy prayed to the Magistrate to allow him to examine Mr. Dey in Court but it was rejected. No order was passed to-day.

A NEW RIVER MONSTER. Something new was always coming from Africa in the days of Pliny the Elder and that apparently inexhaustible country has kept up the supply of its novelties till the present time. In Sir Harry Johnston's had not recently returned from Uganda with the first skins of the okapi, there would be more reason for receiving with incredulity the story of a French traveler, quoted by "West Africa." This gentleman M. Trilles by name, writing from Njole, states that while exploring the Northern Congo three years ago, he heard from the natives of "an enormous amphibious animal, something between the elephant and the hippopotamus in size, and in nature very ferocious towards man." Unbelieving, he paid little attention to what had been told him. "However, later, when in the neighbourhood of Djali, near the Great Falls the accounts were given with more detail. The animal in question, or at least one of its species, lived near the source of the Mouk; it laid in wait for the canoes, upset them, and in preference attacked the women and children. Twice the natives fetched me to see it as it slept on the sandbank. But on each occasion it had disappeared when I got there. On returning from my travels I asked many questions about this animal, but it was unknown. On the coast I never heard it spoken of. But since my arrival here I have had repeated descriptions of it. The people of the upper Ogue give it the name of the Nzemedzin (he water tiger). Sergeant Sans, of the Njole Trailles, shot one recently at less than twenty metres, but, unfortunately, the wounded animal escaped him. The people here make out that the Nzemedzin is smaller than the description given by those of the interior. Its colour is a light tawny grey, dotted with black spots; the hair rough, instead of smooth, as in the okapi; the tail long and powerful, the paws short and webbed, and fitted with very sharp nails six or eight centimetres in length. The tail is horny, as in the tiger. The animal only lives near waterfalls, and is very carnivorous. It snatches women and children as they bathe, and defies even the crocodile."

SAVED FROM SHARKS.

STORY OF A SPLENDID DEED.

Particulars of a splendid deed of bravery performed by storekeeper of the Aberdeen Line steamer Moravian while the vessel lay at anchor in the Natal Roads, off Durban, have been published.

A passenger fell overboard, and was rescued by the storekeeper, a young man named Lancaster, notwithstanding the proximity of a number of sharks. Lancaster told the story of his exploit to an "Express" representative.

"I was in the 'glory hole,'" he said "and seeing several members of the crew and passengers running along the deck, I thought sharks had been caught.

"Looking over the side, I saw a man in the water. He disappeared almost at once. I tried again, he was carried towards the stern, and the fourth officer managed to catch him by the collar; but it gave way, and he sank again. He rose a second time off the stern, and I dived in and caught him.

"I managed to hold him until the boat reached us. Of course, there were plenty of sharks about; but I never thought of them at the time."

The chief officer described Lancaster's act as one of remarkable pluck.

"We knew there were hundreds of sharks about," he said, "for we had been shooting them all the previous morning. The men of the gunboat Partridge had just captured an enormous specimen, seventeen feet long, and it was being exhibited to crowds of people in Durban.

"When Lancaster plunged in, several of the monsters were quite close to the ship. We all saw them, and were fearful of what might happen. Not long before I had seen a man fall overboard and disappear among the sharks almost at once, leaving nothing but a tinge of red in the water.

"Sharks are great cowards, and in this case the shouting, and the splashing caused by Lancaster's plunge and strong strokes, and the noise made by the launching of the lifeboat kept them at bay while the plucky fellow bore up to the half-drowned man.

"Lancaster had a splendid reception when he regained the ship, the entire crew and passengers cheering him to the echo. The passengers presented him with an inscribed silver cigarette case."

The rescued passenger fell overboard through losing his balance while sitting on the rail. When the ship arrived in London he made Lancaster a present of £50.

THE DHULIA INCIDENT.

The Dhulia incident in the late Mr. Ranade's career has attracted a great deal of attention of late. Mr. Gokhale who first publicly described the incident has now published a note in the "Times of India" prepared by him, purporting to be Mrs. Ranade's version of the same. The following is the full text of the note.

"I remember full well the misery of those days. We had already been sent to Nasik on suspicion—the suspicion of creating unrest and discontent in the Deccan—and when the rebellion of Vasudeva Bultant came, the feeling against us increased still further. My husband suspected that all his movements were watched and this caused him the utmost annoyance. At the beginning of May, 1879, we came to Poona for the summer vacation and within a week the two palaces of the Peshavas were burnt by incendiaries. I can give you no idea of the excitement caused by the event and my husband naturally felt most anxious. Within three or four days came the confession of the depot keeper's son—unfortunately surnamed Ranade—and in two or three days after that, Government transferred my husband to Dhulia and though it was vacation time temporarily ordered him to leave Poona at once. We felt bitterly the cruel injustice of this order, but of course we had to go. On going to Dhulia, we found that something was wrong with our correspondence. You know how particularly my husband was about replying to letters as far as possible by return post and he always wanted to get his post as early as practicable. Our suspicion was first roused by the fact that our letters used to be delivered at least an hour or two later than those of others and we sometime found them especially the Poona side letters—in a half-open condition, with the gum wet and everything pointing to their having been recently opened. We therefore sent first one of our peons and then a clerk to take window delivery but that was refused, the answer given to both being that there were no letters for us to be then delivered. So my husband felt quite convinced that his post was being watched and he resigned himself to the situation with the remark—"Very well, let them satisfy themselves in any way they please," the only precaution he took being to hand over to the Police all suspicious letters and curiously enough at that very time he began to get letters purporting to be reports from decoits of their supposed movements. After about a month, all this stopped, our post came to us at the proper time and in proper condition and there was no further trouble in the matter.

Shortly after this, one day Dr. Pollen—he was then Mr. P. Pollen and was Assistant Collector and First Class Magistrate—came to our house and asked my husband to come out for a walk with him. What the actual conversation was I did not of course myself hear, but my husband, who returned from the walk greatly relieved in mind told me as soon as he came back that his suspicion about the watching of his post had been confirmed, that Mr. Pollen has expressed regret for such treatment being meted out to him and that he had assured him that the authorities were satisfied that their suspicion was unfounded. As this was the first time that my husband and Dr. Pollen had met, we thought that he had come specially to give us some kind of assurance."

WH OPING COUGH.—This is a very dangerous disease unless properly treated. Statistics show that there are more deaths from it than from scarlet fever. All danger may be avoided, however, by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It liquefies the tough mucus, making it easier to expectorate, keeps the cough loose, and makes the spasm of coughing less frequent and less severe. It has been used in many epidemics of the disease with erect success. Ado 1/4q

Smith Stanstreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., and Abdool Bahaman and Abdool Karim, Calcutta.

THE SEA-EAGLE OF KOREA.

Off the south-western coast of Korea there rises an immense isolated rock of black basalt, which forms an island-like peninsula. During the days of Chinese supremacy over Korea (says the "Country Gentleman") this mass of mountain projecting into the sea was seen as an eagle preserve. The young eagles were netted each year and sent to the Emperor of China at Peking, though whether they were trained to catch wolves and antelopes, or merely kept as pets, is not certain. The Tartars regularly use eagles for the former purpose, but these birds were probably Korean sea eagles, and rather less suited for the chase than the golden eagle. With the exception of Stellar's sea-eagle which preys upon young seals, the Korean sea-eagles are the largest of any species found in temperate countries, though probably the great forest eagle of the Philippines is larger. Their plumage is very dark, becomes almost black with age, and the beak is very pale buff, approaching white.

DESTRUCTION OF THE MOSQUITO.

A striking testimony to the efficacy of the destruction of the mosquito in reducing malaria was given in a paper which Prince d'Arenberg read at the last meeting of the Paris Academie des Sciences, and which described the methods employed by the Suez Canal Company as suggested by Major Ronald Ross. By the use of petroleum in places where refuse and stagnant water are found, by increasing watchfulness, and the use of quinine on a large scale, the number of malaria cases has been reduced from two thousand a year at which it stood during the five years before 1902, to two hundred in 1903. The instances in which the methods advocated by Major Ross do not prove lastingly successful are those where the "unceasing watchfulness" is not maintained. It is hard to maintain on the West Coast, for example, where the habits of the native black are irredeemably insanitary; and malaria thus proves almost impossible to hold in check where the native population is large. It is the case in Madagascar, as appears from a paper also recently read to the Academie de Medecine. Here, in spite of quinine, mosquito nets, and other measures, the mortality from malaria among French soldiers is over 30 per 1,000.

PLAGUE IN BHAGALPORE.

A PUBLIC MEETING.

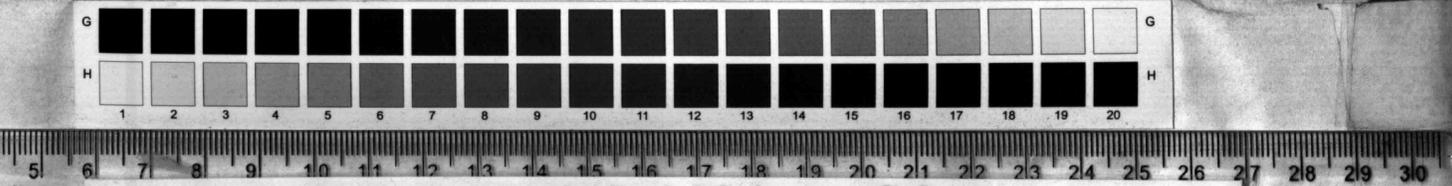
At a public meeting held on the 16th April, 1904, in the presence of the Tej Narain Jubilee College, Bhagalpur, to consider what action should be taken to prevent or alleviate a further outbreak of plague, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

- I.—That with a view to eradicate the plague poison, if possible, and to minimize the chances of a recurrence of the disease it is very desirable that disinfecting operations should now be thoroughly, systematically and vigorously carried on for some further time in those parts of the town which are, or are suspected to be affected with the poison.
- II.—That it is desirable to form a reserve fund to meet the initial expenses of a possible outbreak of plague in the next cold weather for constructing a sufficient number of segregation huts to induce the number of affected quarters to evacuate their houses for paying adequate compensation for the burning or affected "kachas" houses and for other necessary operations as may be demanded by the exigencies of the situation.
- III.—That with a view to make satisfactory arrangements for the proper treatment of the plague patients, it is very desirable to have a suitable "pucca" hospital in a convenient locality.
- IV.—That in order to have sufficient means to carry out the Resolutions II, III and IV, it is absolutely necessary that Government should be moved to lend its benevolent aid towards the performance of the plague operations of the town with a suitable grant.
- V.—That in order to give effect to the above resolutions a committee be formed consisting of the following gentlemen with power to add to their number; and the members of the said committee be authorized to draw up a memorial to Government to sign it on behalf of the inhabitants of the town and otherwise to represent them before Government in connection with matters concerning the above resolutions.

Raja Shib Chandra Banerji, Mohanray Barak Nath Ghose, the Hon'ble Rai Tarun Prasad Bahadur, Rai Sarada Prasad Chatterjee Bahadur, Babu Kirti Chandra Chatterjee, Babu Nibaran Chandra Chatterjee, A. Majumdar Esq., S. K. Hossein Esq., W. Ahmed Esq., Munshi Shujayet Ali Khan, Munshi Elahi Bux, Syed Mohammad Yusuf Hossein, Babu Chandra Sekhri Sircar, Babu Dino Bandhu Banerji, Babu Jagannath Prasad, Babu Siva Sankar Shahai, Babu Hari Prasanna Mukherji, Babu Sri Mohun Thakur, Babu Pran Mohun Thakur, Babu Sukh Raj Rai, Babu Baranasi Prasad, Babu Debi Prasad, Babu Anant Ram Babu Sakhi Chand, Babu Moti Lal, Babu Charu Chandra Bose, Babu Satish Chandra Ray.

VII.—That this meeting accord its cordial thanks to S. K. Agusti Esq., Joint Magistrate, in charge of the plague operations of the town on behalf of Government, to Babu Upendra Nath Bagchi, Municipal Chairman and to Swami Sadanand and his party of the Ram Krishna Mission for their laudable and energetic efforts in carrying out the plague operations of the town.

One Rabadat had dishonoured the daughter-in-law of a certain person named Ram Lal. One morning the latter saw the former coming out of his house. His blood was up. He chased Rabadat and killed him. Ram Lal was convicted under section 302 of the Indian Penal Code and was sentenced to death by the Sessions Judge of Gorakhpur. The case was submitted to the U. P. High Court for the confirmation of the sentence;—also Ram Lal appealed from the conviction and sentence passed thereon. The appeals were heard on Friday last by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Knox and Mr. Justice Aikman. The appeal was dismissed and the conviction and sentence passed by the Sessions Judge were confirmed.



Notes on Russo-Japanese War.

FORTIFICATIONS ALONG THE YALU.

Thousands of coolies are employed in the erection of fortifications extending from Anju on the west side of Korean to Fort Lazareff (Wonsan) on the East Coast.

HOW LONG WILL THE WAR LAST?

A French gentleman who has returned from St. Petersburg, and has had good opportunities of obtaining information, says that, from all he has heard, his impression is that the war will certainly last two years.

JAPAN'S PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

There are indications that the Japanese Commander-in-Chief is concentrating all his efforts to land a large force in the Gulf of Liaotung, probably near Nanchang, while keeping a sufficiently large force in Korea to control the population and secure an eventual line of retreat.

STRENGTH OF PORT ARTHUR.

In the view of a recent visitor, Port Arthur can never be taken by assault, and will not easily be starved out. There are provisions for at least 18 months, and meat, of which alone there is likely to be any scarcity, can be brought in easily from Manchuria by the railway. So complete are the supplies of flour that an American ship in port was allowed to leave with 6,000 bags on board.

RUSSIAN TROOPS IN THE FAR EAST.

A St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Figaro" claims to have had access to a detailed list of Russian troops sent to the Far East. He says that, on the 28th ultimo, there were in Manchuria 177,000 Infantry, 17,000 Cavalry, and 256 guns. Of these, 25,000 men and four batteries are engaged in guarding the railway. By June 28th, the Russians will have 130,000 more Infantry, 30,000 more Cavalry, and 250 more guns in Manchuria. According to the same authority, the Japanese have landed only 80,000 men hitherto, and 100,000 are waiting for transport when commissariat arrangements will permit of it.

STATE OF THINGS IN S. MANCHURIA.

A Port Arthur correspondent of "Russia," who has returned to that place after making a tour in Southern Manchuria, telegraphs to his journal that he was everywhere most favourably impressed with what he saw. The troops, he declares, are burning to fight. All sections of the native population, including the trading classes, are well disposed to the Russians, and have confidence in the Russian arms. The appearance of the Volunteer Corps, organized among the Chinese, is excellent. Only one Mandarin among the Chinese maintains an attitude of reserve.

ON GUARD IN MANCHURIA.

A Polish newspaper publishes the following letter sent home by a Russian soldier serving in Manchuria:—

"We are posted in an impenetrable forest along the railway. The mountains are so high that their peaks are lost in the clouds. We go to and fro in the forest, for we are watching the railway and the forest. Every five versts there is a guard of twelve men. There is a tremendous amount of game here, also wild beasts tigers, bears, etc. We go out hunting, shoot a deer or a stag, and have meat in plenty—as much as anyone can eat. We also shoot all kinds of game, and make a stew of it. There are three other Poles in my detachment. . . but we will not be allowed to go into the firing line, for they won't let us leave the railway. We are on guard to prevent the Chinese from pouncing on the line. Every five versts there are little guard-houses here, something like the houses at home, and each guard house holds nine soldiers. One day we are on duty, the next we rest. We are in clover here, for there is plenty of game. I have just come in from hunting. I shot a wild pig, and it was so big that ten men could hardly carry it to the guard-house. We have also shot a lot of deer. We are fighting the Japanese, but the Chinese Emperor is helping the Japanese.

THE WAR—WHICH SIDE WILL WIN?

Which of the two combatants, asks the "Pilot," is capable of holding out longest? "How will they compare in point of weakened strength and resource one year, two years, three years hence? In the case of Russia we have no better means of judging now than when the war began. There has never been a time in living memory, indeed, when the substantial fighting resources of Russia could be estimated with confidence. All we know about the matter is that the expenditure of the Russian Government upon the various ways and means of conquest, its supplies of money, men, and material have been a constant surprise. At this moment these supplies may be as much reduced as it is reasonable to think them; but there are no data for a confident estimate where every previous reckoning has been exceeded. There is much less mystery in the case of Japan. The revenue of that country is known, and known to be small.

In the "Pilot's" judgment, the Japanese will do their utmost to destroy the Russian warships, to recapture Port Arthur, to drive back the Russian troops upon Manchuria and break their communications. But it will be found that their main pre-occupation is to contrive so firm a hold upon Korea that it will be more than a South African job to dislodge them.

THE CRISIS IN KOREA.

Mr. F. A. Mackenzie, correspondent of the "Daily Mail," wrote a message at Seoul on March 24. It was cabled from Chefoo on March 29. The message runs thus:—

The internal situation in Korea is grave. Outside the reach of Japanese bayonet anarchy practically reigns. The suppression of the Peddlers' Guild has been followed by numerous small rebellions. Even the main road between Seoul and Ping-yang is perilous; messengers proceeding along it are continually being robbed and beaten.

The inhabitants in the extreme north of Korea still remain in the mountains, and they are suffering acute distress.

The Tonghaks, who are now avowedly Russo-ophile, displayed great activity in the Ping-yang

Province before the Japanese advance. They have now revived the ancient prophecy that in May of this year the present Korean dynasty will be overthrown and that a new era will be begun. They have compelled the inhabitants in the north provinces to subscribe money and rice.

It is announced by the Tonghaks that their followers will soon have the palms of their hands marked, and that all who have their palms unmarked, with all foreigners and all Christians, will be killed in May.

While the Japanese are successful the Tonghaks are powerless, but a Japanese retreat will certainly be followed by a rising. The foreigners are safe at present, as the rebels are cowards. They fear the foreigners, knowing that they are usually armed.

Troops have been moved against the rebels in the Hungyang province.

An army of Japanese camp followers and men has landed at Chemulpo, including sutlers and mechanics, who are seeking their individual profit. They are overbearing in their conduct towards the natives.

Seoul is flooded with counterfeit Korean money. The native financiers are being ruined, and many are already bankrupt. The native markets reflect the distress of the people; even crows are being offered as food.

The Japanese Press censorship is rapidly tightening. It now extends beyond the military movements, and even includes references to the local disturbances mention of which is del-ted. The censorship applies to private letters in addition to telegrams. The Japanese authorities are striving to prevent news and messages leaving the country in any way, even on board private ships.

The attitude of the Japanese authorities towards correspondents, in conjunction with the delays that have arisen and the contradictory orders that have been issued, are exciting deep resentment. Many correspondents who on their arrival at Seoul from Tokio were strongly pro-Japanese are now foolishly allowing their personal grievances to obscure their vision, and have completely changed their attitude.

CHASED BY DESTROYERS.

Mr. Ernest Brindle, the correspondent of the "Daily Mail" cabled from Chefoo on March 25:—

This morning I went on the "Daily Mail" despatch boat in the direction of Port Arthur, with the intention, if possible, of entering the harbour and obtaining an interview with Admiral Makaroff.

The voyage was attended by an exciting incident. When we were ten miles off Golden Mountain, and within good view of the first of the forts, two destroyers came out from the entrance to the harbour and steamed towards us, one along the eastern shore, the other on the west. Our captain set his course, west six miles from the coast towards the Liao-tsi-shan promontory. When we were eight miles distant from the lighthouse both destroyers came close. The one on the inshore, which was ahead and had slowed down, suddenly gathered speed and dashed across our course, while her companion approached within a hundred yards of us and fired a blank shot.

We stopped, and the commander of the destroyer which had fired shouted an order to us to follow him into the harbour. I explained the nature of my mission, and a search party was sent on board. The officer in charge examined the ship's papers, searched every part of the vessel, and even pulled the pig-tails of the Chinese crew to discover whether they were Japanese in disguise.

When he had satisfied himself that there was no contraband on board he entered into conversation with me, and was most eager for news. I gave him some photographs of the Variag and Korietz, which were taken after the naval fight at Chemulpo, as he said they would be of intense interest to the officers of the Russian fleet.

I questioned him as to the conditions of life in Port Arthur, which he described as much the same as before.

Meanwhile the Russian destroyer had come alongside with collision mats down, and was made fast to the despatch-boat with rope. She was crowded with men, who caused both mirth and consternation to our Chinese crew. The majority of the Russian crew I estimated as under twenty-five years of age. They were black with coal-dust and worn with toil and the strain of active service. Nevertheless they were alert and cheerful, and looked full of fight. The deck of the destroyer was stacked with briquettes.

The commander of the other destroyer also general, informed me that he could not permit us to go within the roadstead.

The commander of the other destroyer also visited our ship. I was able to gather from a brief conversation with him that since Admiral Makaroff has assumed the chief command there has been an improvement in every department of the Russian fleet. His personality and tactics have impressed both officers and men and won their unbounded confidence. I left for Chefoo after a detention of thirty minutes.

The new Civil Secretariat Building at Simla, which is now practically completed and is partially occupied, was visited by His Excellency the Viceroy this week. The edifice, which is built entirely of dressed stone of several kinds and much of which was obtained from the local quarries near Kalka, occupies a commanding site on Gordon Castle hill, next to the P. W. Department Secretariat. While being thoroughly substantial, it may also claim to be the handsomest public building in the summer capital, not perhaps even excepting the Viceregal Lodge itself. The original general design was, we believe, the work of Colonel Sir S. Swinerton Jacob, K.C.I.E., Superintendent Engineer of the Jaipur State, but prepared under the instructions of His Excellency Lord Curzon, whose architectural tastes have doubtless introduced many embellishments and improvements which have made the building the handsome and attractive structure, that it is.

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RESULT OF "DISCOVERY" EXPEDITION.

The trend of biological evidence obtained in the "Discovery" expedition shows that antarctic fauna and flora are composed of elements similar to those which once existed throughout the antarctic regions, and that an immense continent was once connected by antarctic land with Australia.

THE SUNKEN SUBMARINE.

The "Daily Mail" states that the submarine A1, which was run down and sunk by the liner Berwick Castle off the Nablighship, near the Isle of Wight, has been raised. The bodies recovered from the vessel were, it adds, found to be in no way mutilated, thus showing that the recent theory of an explosion having occurred on board is unfounded.

A TORPEDOED WHALE IN POSSIET BAY.

The following telegram, dated March 29, has been received at St. Petersburg from Lavoostok:—"A violent explosion recently occurred at sea in Possiet Bay, the cause of which could not be ascertained. Two days later the body of an enormous whale was washed into the bay by the tide, the creature having evidently collided with a mine, causing it to explode."

A WONDERFUL ORCHARD.

Perhaps the largest collection of pears in one orchard in Australia has been grown at Albert Park, Moonah, in the outskirts of Hobart, Tasmania. There are some 3,000 trees of twenty different varieties. The orchard is now seventeen years old, but this season it has borne its first really good crop. It was described as a wonderful sight to see the branches hanging down to the ground with the weight of fruit, and it was estimated that a measured acre could be taken which would turn off a thousand bushels.

REMAINS OF A MAMMOTH.

Reports have reached here, says the Berlin correspondent of the "Standard" on April 4, that while a path was being made through a field at Diebach, near Budingon, a few days ago, the remains of a mammoth were unearthed. Dr. Dormer, of Hamburg, was entrusted with the direction of the further operations, and was successful in recovering an enormous tusk over two metres long and 20 centimetres in diameter. It was broken in two and was full of earth and stones. The fact

that this earth was of a different nature to the soil surrounding the remains, and that the various remains lay scattered apart, indicates that the animal must have been floated to where it became buried. Two molar teeth were also found, one being 30 centimetres long, and weighing 11 pounds. Among the other remains the ribs, thigh, and pelvic bones were also preserved. The remains of another mammoth are also reported as having just been found at Orlean, near the Silesian frontier.

CHARGED BY A RHINOCEROS.

The mail from East Africa brings an interesting account of a somewhat exciting experience which recently befell the travellers on the Uganda railway. The train was in the act of slowing down before reaching Sultan Hamud Station, where it was due to arrive at daybreak, and was travelling at only eight or ten miles an hour, when the engine-driver experienced series of shocks, which convinced him that he had run over something. He immediately applied the brakes, and, as a result, the passengers, who were for the most part attired in sleeping costumes, turned out on to the four-foot way. It was then discovered that the impact was caused by a monster rhinoceros, which was found slowly raising itself from a sitting posture about a hundred yards down the line. The more sportive section of the passengers rushed back for their rifles, but the rhinoceros did not emerge unscathed from the ordeal may be gathered from the fact that portions of its skin were subsequently found adhering to the train.

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- 9. DR. R. MONIER, M. B. C. M. (Edin.), Resident Surgeon, 11k Street, Government Charitable Dispensary, says:—" . . . Healing Balm was used by me in several cases of Gonorrhoea and was found successful."
- 10. DR. R. A. FERMIE, L. R. C. P. & a. etc., says:—" . . . I used Healing Balm for Gonorrhoea in a number of my patients and found it very efficacious."

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