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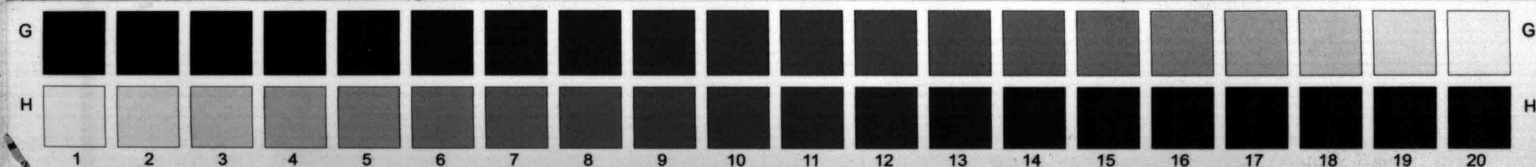
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## NOTES FROM GYA.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Gya, Aug 4.

## MATTERS MUNICIPAL.

Formerly the post of Municipal Overseer was occupied by Mr. John Elly drawing a monthly pay of Rs. 95. He discharged his duties to the entire satisfaction of the public. During his illness, Babu Hari Charan Ghose, store keeper, was promoted to that post as an officiating officer during the time of Mr. Oldham. He discharged his duties very well and to the satisfaction of his superiors in office. After the death of John Elly, the post was split up into two—the old and the new town Overseership. This was purposely done to accommodate George Elly, brother of John Elly, in recognition of the good services done by the deceased. The pay was also split up into two—Rs. 55 and Rs. 40 inclusive of horse allowance. Hari Babu, an old and experienced servant of the Board, was appointed in charge of the new town and was allowed to draw Rs. 55 a month, and George Elly, quite young and innocent of Municipal affairs was given charge of the old town on a monthly charge of Rs. 40. The latter was accommodated in order to provide for his impoverished family. Well, matters progressed very smoothly for some time. George Elly applied for horse allowance several times but it was disallowed on the ground that his pay included all his charges and that he was appointed on that understanding. The application was renewed during the Chairmanship of Mr. Forrester, the present officiating Magistrate, and Rs 15 was allowed to him. In the ordinary course of business, the resolution went up to the Commissioner of the Patna Division and it is said it was disallowed.

Babu Hari Charan Ghose had been all along serving in the new town diligently. But somehow or other, he incurred the displeasure of the Chairman. Once in the Municipal meeting Mr. Forrester said that the new town Overseer did not properly supervise the cleansing of the drains and the roads and that he was unfit. Some of the Commissioners explained to him that the drains and the roads in the new town were "kucha" and therefore no amount of exertion and supervision was of any avail, whereas in the old town, the drain was pucca and underground and the roads there were for the most part pucca; hence the difference. Well, it so happened that a very neat and clean muster sheet was put up before the Chairman. It is to be borne in mind that muster sheets are attendance rolls of the domes and mehtars that are daily prepared by the ward Jamadars and only checked and countersigned by the Overseers. The Chairman suspected that the muster sheet submitted was only a fair copy and not the original as according to him, a paper that was written every day for 30 days in a month could not be so neat and clean at the end of the month and therefore fined him Rs 5. Then in the next month another muster sheet was presented to the Vice-Chairman, the lower and unwritten portion of which was damaged, and a piece of paper pasted on its back. On explanation being called for from Hari Babu it was said that the portion was eaten away by a calf. It was forwarded to the Chairman who characterised it as impertinent and ordered it to be put up before the meeting.

On the matter having come up before the meeting, a hot discussion took place which was to the following effect:—

Chairman—This is the man who was punished with fine last month, and this time he has submitted a very impertinent explanation which can not be excused.

Babu Ram Prasad—I don't see any impertinence in it. The matter may be referred to the Vice-Chairman.

Vice-Chairman—It is impertinent.

Chairman—I consider it as such. Well, what do you think? (addressing Deoki Babu, Editor of the "Kayesth Messenger").

Deoki Babu—It is a statement of facts and so not impertinent.

Anup Babu—I admit that the man has not been able to clothe his thoughts in good English but if the facts stated are correct, the explanation is not impertinent.

Mr. Hakim—The explanation is wrongly worded, but not impertinent. He does not deserve any punishment.

Chairman—Besides, he is a worthless man utterly incapable of supervising the business.

Mr. Hakim—That matter is not before us to-day. If it is so, he may be dealt with hereafter, but I always see him moving about.

Chairman—I know he knows to ride.

Anup Babu—He makes his subordinates work, but the kucha nature of the drains and roads render his attempt futile.

Chairman—How is the old town kept so neat and clean?

Anup Babu—It is because there the drain is pucca and underground and the roads too are mostly pucca. You may depute one of your best men to the supervision of the new town, give him a trial for a fortnight, and I dare say you will not find the state of affairs improved in the least. The kucha drains are cleaned and in half an hour they resume their old state of uncleanness.

Chairman—Well, gentlemen, I came prepared to dismiss the man, but as I find the sense of the meeting against it, I shall deal with him in my executive capacity and order him to be suspended for 3 months.

Vice-Chairman—What am I to say in the resolution?

Chairman—Say that the matter was considered.

Mr. Hakim—Don't let it appear in the resolution book of the meeting because we do not wish the man to be punished.

Chairman—(addressing the Vice-Chairman) Yes, don't embody it in the resolutions of the meeting.

Well, the order came down upon the poor Overseer like a thunderbolt, as neither he nor the public was prepared for such a hard punishment. At a result of this communication, the Overseer got very high fever that very day, and since then he has been confined to bed.

I am afraid, the end of his trouble is yet to come. The above needs no comment.

A COSTLY LUXURY.

You all know that the Gya Municipality was compelled to maintain a costly system of light tramway for the removal of the night-soil in spite of the strong protest of some of

the municipal Commissioners. The of the Engine and the establishment of the imposition of an additional tax the extent of 5 p.c. on the annually letting value of the houses; or in other words, rate-payers were made to pay 12½ p.c. tax for their houses. The fiat went forth and the will of the then Magistrate was carried into effect. At times the Engine resisted the sovereign authority and would not move to the great inconvenience of the public. But this time it has gone to sleep perhaps never to rise again. All human attempt available at Gya has failed to set it right, and it has been given up as hopeless. It is not working since January last, but still the rate-payers are made to pay for it in the same manner as to the same extent that they used to pay for it when it was properly and regularly working. Is this not too much and are the rate-payers not entitled to get a refund of the amount paid by them in that behalf and discontinue paying it in future?

## CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

The following is the annual Report of the Civil Veterinary Department, Bengal, and of the Bengal Veterinary College for the year 1903-04.—

During the year under review two new dispensaries were opened, one at Noakhali and the other at Dinajpur; a third dispensary was established at Purnea, but could not be opened as it was impossible to secure the services of a qualified Veterinary Assistant. The total number of dispensaries working at the close of the year was 22. The most marked feature in the work of the Department was the increase in the number of cases treated in the villages by itinerant Veterinary Assistants; 60,151 animals having received treatment from these officers as against 21,439 in the previous year and 7,346 in the year 1901-02.

The number of animals (57) admitted into the Belgachia Contagious Diseases Hospital was the same as in the previous year. Of these, 43 were found to be suffering from Glanders and had to be destroyed, and one died of that disease.

There was a slight increase in the total number of cases of cattle disease reported from the districts during the year. There was a very marked increase in the number of animals attacked by foot-and-mouth disease, and a noticeable decrease in the number of those suffering from rinderpest. There were over 25,500 cases of the former disease as against 8,436 in the previous year; very severe outbreaks occurring in Backergunge and Palamau, from each of which districts over 9,000 cases were reported. The preventive measures taken in the former district were most effective; practically every animal affected received treatment and it is satisfactory to observe that the percentage of deaths was as low as .04. On the other hand the number of animals attacked by rinderpest (15,226) was the lowest on record during the last four years; and it is clear that there has been a steady and general decrease in the number of such cases since the year 1900-01 when they reached the large total of nearly 64,000. As in the previous year, this disease was specially prevalent in the districts of Khulna and Palamau, nearly 3,000 animals being attacked in the former and over 4,500 in the latter district. Altogether 9,454 cattle were immunised, but unfortunately these operations had to be suspended owing to a deficiency in the supply of serum and partly also in consequence of the smallness of the staff available.

The question of establishing depots for the rearing of bulls in this Province came under the consideration of Government shortly before the close of the year. The scheme which has been approved by the Lieutenant-Governor is that animals should, in the first instance, be selected for cattle-breeding operations from the farms at Pusa and Sirpur, and that, where the conditions of climate vary, they should be sent away to be acclimatised before being used. For this purpose, it is proposed that the farms at Pusa and Sirpur should be utilised for young bulls intended for service in Bihar and Bhagalpur and that depots for Central and Northern Bengal should be established at Belgachia and Rampur Boalia. The purchase of cattle for breeding operations at the Pusa farm has been entrusted to the Bengal Veterinary Department, and Major Raymond was engaged during the year in making arrangements for the purchase of suitable animals.

Altogether 43 students were under instruction throughout the year. The results of the examinations of the three classes were extremely satisfactory.

There was an increase of 434 in the total number of cases treated in the infirmary during the year, which was mainly due to the large number of in-patients received. Altogether there were 2,819 patients of all classes; and 723 operations were performed as against 623 in the previous year.

The Provincial cost of maintaining the Department exceeded that of last year by over Rs. 15,000. The increase was chiefly due to greater expenditure on account of the pay of lecturers, increased establishment, the feeding of animals and contingencies.

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the municipal Commissioners. The of the Engine and the establishment of the imposition of an additional tax the extent of 5 p.c. on the annually letting value of the houses; or in other words, rate-payers were made to pay 12½ p.c. tax for their houses. The fiat went forth and the will of the then Magistrate was carried into effect. At times the Engine resisted the sovereign authority and would not move to the great inconvenience of the public. But this time it has gone to sleep perhaps never to rise again. All human attempt available at Gya has failed to set it right, and it has been given up as hopeless. It is not working since January last, but still the rate-payers are made to pay for it in the same manner as to the same extent that they used to pay for it when it was properly and regularly working. Is this not too much and are the rate-payers not entitled to get a refund of the amount paid by them in that behalf and discontinue paying it in future?

## ROBBERY BY SOLDIERS.

At the instance of Mr. R. V. Raghavulu Naidu, junior partner of Messrs. Venkiah Brothers, photographers on the Mount Road, Madras, Superintendent Bradbury charged two Gunners of the Royal Garrison Artillery, Fort St. George, named Newland and Dougherty, before the Madras Police Court, with having, on the evening of the 4th instant, committed robbery in respect of a gold chain valued at Rs. 200, belonging to the complainant. The complainant deposed that on the evening of the 4th, as his premises were being closed, he was standing outside, when both the accused came up to him and asked him to direct them to the Fort. This the complainant did, when Newland caught hold of the complainant by the waist and snatched away the gold chain he was wearing, which on being pulled out, snapped into three pieces, one of which the accused had in his hand when arrested by European Head Constable Fellows. The second accused, on finding the first being confronted by the complainant, attempted to strike him with a stick. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge and submitted that they were under the influence of liquor at the time and did not know what they were about. His Worship, in sentencing both the accused to three months' rigorous imprisonment each, observed that the plea of drunkenness set up by the accused could hardly be accepted as an excuse, and the act they were guilty of was a disgrace to the Army. The offence was of an audacious nature and the Court found no extenuating circumstances in the case, but as this was the first charge against them, the Court would deal leniently with them. Captain Fanshawe, R.G.A., watched the case on behalf of the Military authorities.

## AN INTERESTING RAILWAY CASE.

A case of some interest to Indian Railways and their customers is proceeding in the Court of the Sub-Judge at Khandwa. On the 19th April, 1903, Mr. Hari Dass Chatterjee, a well-known Pleader of Indore and Khandwa, booked two horses from Indore to Khandwa by the evening train. On arrival at Khandwa, the more valuable of the two animals, a mare, said to have been presented to its then owner by Prince Tatya Sahab Holkar some time previously, was found seriously injured between the hind legs, and the horse box was considerably damaged in its interior. The railway presented Mr. Hari Dass Chatterjee with a claim for the damages done to the horse box, which he declined to pay, and in his turn he claimed damages to the amount of Rs. 500 the maximum claim possible for an uninsured horse under the published rules of the railway, on the ground that his mare had received her injuries, which he alleged, resulted in her death within a few days, owing to the defective condition of certain fittings in the horse box. The Railway Administration repudiated this claim and denied the allegation that the horse box was defective and after the usual notice in July, 1903, Mr. Hari Dass Chatterjee instituted legal proceedings against the B. B. and C. I. Railway in April of the current year. The plaintiff is represented by his son, a young Barrister lately returned from England, and by Mr. Mitra, Barrister-at-law, and Mr. Sohni, Pleader. The Railway Administration is represented by Mr. Habibullah, Superintendent. A large number of witnesses are summoned for each side and Prince Tatya Sahab, and an Indore lawyer, Mr. Joshi, are to be examined at Indore by commission on behalf of the plaintiff. It appears that the Railway authorities essay to prove that there was no defect in the horse box prior to the damages caused by the mare and that her injuries were due to her own restiveness and the negligence of the syce. They also dispute the contention that the mare's death was due to the injury sustained on the journey, and that the value of the mare was not so much as is claimed. The plaintiff's version appears to be that the injury was caused by some defective fittings and its serious nature increased by delay in unloading at Khandwa where the horse arrived in the middle of the night.

## CROWS ON THE ANAMALAIS.

"Big Bore" writes to the "Madras Mail":—A short time ago a correspondent "Ignorant" wrote that there were no crows or

CHANCE OF WATER often brings on diarrhoea. For this reason many experienced travellers carry a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with them to be used in case of an emergency. This preparation has no equal as a cure for bowel complaints. It can not be obtained while on board the cars or steamship, and that is where it is most likely to be needed. Buy a bottle before leaving home. Sold by Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Addool Rahaman Addool Karim, Calcutta.

Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Addool Rahaman Addool Karim, Calcutta.

about crows reminds me of an instance of their great sagacity, which recently came to my knowledge, and many persons will not believe it, as I did, until I saw it myself. A short time back the hen ostrich in the Maharajah's Zoological Garden in Mysore was laying. I happened to visit the Garden just then, and noticed a man with a loaded gun guarding a fresh laid egg on the ground. I asked Mr. Hughes, the Superintendent, why he placed a guard on the egg, and was informed that it was to drive away the crows, which would otherwise break and eat the egg. Knowing as I did the size and harness of an ostrich's egg shell which no crow could break with its bill, I naturally thought my leg was being pulled, but Mr. Hughes assured me that it was true, and that I could see for myself. The man on guard was called back a little distance and we watched. Soon we saw a corbie crow come flying low in the direction of the egg, and as it got immediately over it we saw it drop a stone which it had carried in its feet; the stone missed the egg, and as it was no doubt a "sighting shot," the next one would have been truer. Mr. Hughes told me he had several eggs thus broken by these corbie crows; several stones, however, were dropped on an egg before it was broken. The above reads like a nursery story, but the fact remains. These crows never saw an ostrich's egg during their whole life, and could not have learned the trick of breaking them from their parents or from watching other birds doing it! Who would have imagined that crows were so intelligent?

## A COPYRIGHT SUIT IN LAHORE.

## INJUNCTION AGAINST AN INDIAN BARRISTER.

Captain A. A. Irvine, District Judge, Lahore, had before him recently an interesting case in which the proprietors of the "Punjab Record" (namely the proprietors of the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press, Lahore, acting through Mr. J. P. Wilson, their Manager) as plaintiffs, applied for a perpetual injunction, under section 54 of the Specific Relief Act of 1877, to restrain Bhagat Ram, barrister-at-law, of Lahore, as defendant, from copying and republishing the entire series or any portion thereof of the publication belonging to the plaintiffs known as the "Punjab Record," and for costs of the suit.

Mr. Alwynne Turner, Officiating Government Advocate, appeared for the plaintiffs. The Court delivered judgment in the following terms:—The plaintiffs, proprietors of the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press of Lahore, sue the defendant for a perpetual injunction under section 54 of the Specific Relief Act to restrain him from copying and republishing the entire series or any portion thereof of the publication known as the "Punjab Record," of copyright in which publication the plaintiffs are the alleged proprietors.

The plaintiff sets forth that the "Punjab Record" consists of two parts. Part I consists of selected Rulings of the Chief Court and Financial Commissioner, with selected numbers and headnotes, arranged according to the skill, learning and taste of the editor, who is an employee of the plaintiffs. Part II contains selected Orders of the Punjab Government, Chief Court, and various offices, arranged also by another employee of the plaintiffs. That in April, 1904, the defendant published and circulated a circular intimating to the public that he intended to republish or induce some respectable firm in Europe to publish the entire series of the "Punjab Record" from 1866-1903. Correspondence and notices then passed between the parties and the plaintiffs allege that it is clear from the circular and the defendant's letter that the defendant has threatened to invade the plaintiffs' copyright in the "Punjab Record."

The defendant in his written pleas and in his statement made before framing issues disclaimed all knowledge as to whether the plaintiffs are owners of copyright in the "Punjab Record." He alleged that he never intended to publish himself, but intended to try and induce some respectable firm to do so. He denied that there was any threatened invasion and asserted that the suit does not lie and is premature.

In his statement made before the framing of issues the defendant said that he had now abandoned his whole project. He admitted having issued the circular and the letters to the plaintiffs. He did not, however, abandon his pleas. He denied that the numbers and head notes would have been the same as in the present Punjab Record, and stated that the projected publication would have some name distinguishing it from the present "Punjab Record;" further, that he would not have copied anything infringing the plaintiffs' right, which right he does not believe the plaintiffs to be possessed of.

The issues framed were:—

AS USUALLY TREATED a sprain will disable the injured person for three or four weeks, but if Chamberlain's Pain Balm is freely applied a complete cure may be effected in a very few days. Pain Balm also cures rheumatism, cuts, bruises and burns. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Addool Rahaman Addool Karim, Calcutta.

Smith Stanistreet and Co. Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Addool Rahaman Addool Karim, Calcutta.

pracy of the Urdu translation of the "Punjab Record." The Hon'ble Judges have therein held that "Copyright had been secured according to law by the proprietors of the Punjab Record." I fail to see why I am to accept the argument of the defendant's counsel and disregard these words as obiter dicta. From the uncontroverted evidence of Mr. Wilson and the clerk of the editor of the "Punjab Record," we see the arrangement made with the Chief Court and how the selections are made, the printing of portions of the Lower Court decisions, and so forth. Following the principles laid down in "Punjab Record" 15 of 1893, I find that the plaintiffs have copyright, not in judgments of the Chief Court simply as judgments, but in the arrangement of selected judgments, that is, the order in which they stand in the publication, the arrangement as to what portions shall be omitted or explained by selected additions, from the Lower Court decisions and the like. They have also copyright in the numbers as they stand in the present "Punjab Record," in the head notes, and in the arrangement of the selected rules and orders, and in the indices. I have seen the authorities cited by either side and I would go even further and say that plaintiffs have also copyright in the name "Punjab Record," this being, in my opinion, a special case, for the "Punjab Record" is a standard work quoted in all Courts and rulings.

As regards issues 2, I decide that defendant has undoubtedly "threatened to invade" plaintiffs' rights in the said copyright within the meaning of section 54 of the Specific Relief Act. He has committed a tortious act. It is only necessary to read the circular and his letters to plaintiffs to see the threat that was made. I cannot see that his now stating that he has abandoned his project alters the fact that he was actually threatening to invade at the time the suit was brought; nor can I believe that he did not project a publication similar in all respects (except its price) to the present "Punjab Record" from his letters, his circular, and the order form attached to his circular, it is perfectly evident that he intended to try and get published a facsimile of the present "Punjab Record." That is what the public and any reasonable man who used the order form, would be expecting to get for their money, and there is not a single written indication to the contrary. As I have said the "Punjab Record" is a standard work referred to in all Courts and rulings. What construction can I help putting on these words in the circular: "If you are not prepared to send even Rs. 50 in advance. . . . for such a valuable set which is offered at one-fourth the 'Civil and Military Gazette' Press price," &c. And again, in the order form, the projected publication is referred to as "the Verbatim Report of the Punjab Record from 1866-1903." The projected publication is not yet in existence, so what is this "Punjab Record" which is to be reprinted verbatim, if it be not the publication of which plaintiffs possess the copyright? I cannot accept the argument of defendant's counsel that plaintiffs are obliged to wait until the injurious result becomes "inevitable." It appeared inevitable at the time the suit was brought (vide defendant's letters) and defendant's mere statement that he has now abandoned his project does not do away with the fact that there was a most clear "threat to invade."

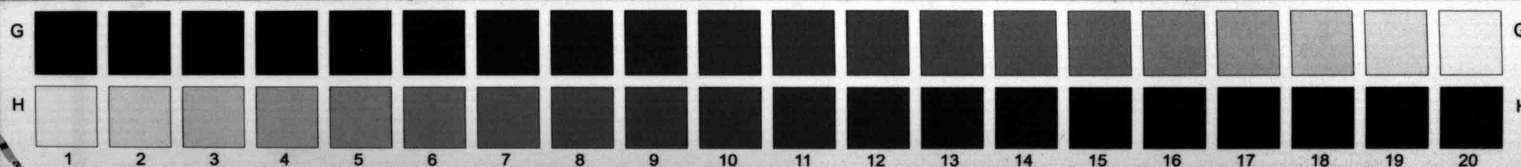
Consequently, in accordance with the claim for relief prayed for in paragraph 5 of the plaint, I grant plaintiffs a perpetual injunction (under the provisions of section 54 of the Specific Relief Act), preventing the defendant from performing any of the acts he has threatened to do in respect to the reprinting of the said "Punjab Record" as set forth in his circular of the 3rd April 1904, and his two letters to plaintiffs of 17th April, 1904, and 2nd May, 1904, respectively; and also restraining him from at any time publishing or making by any means whatsoever, or selling any reprint or reprints or publication of the plaintiffs' periodical known as the "Punjab Record" or of any part thereof in respect of which plaintiffs in this decision have been found to be the proprietors of copyright.

Since it appears that no reprints or copies have yet been made, I pass no orders on the prayer for their delivery or destruction. Plaintiffs will have full costs in the suit against defendant. As regards the prayer for interest on costs, I fail to see on what grounds they are entitled to such interest, and I disallow the claim.

## "No Doctors to Treat Me!"

"In my distant village home, and the consequence is, that the baneful effects of Malaria, have reduced my health to the present state. I am shattered, weak, pale, emaciated and uncared for in my own home." Complaints of above nature come to us every now and then and we would advise the complainants to use our PANCHAITIKTA BATIKA, the infallible specific for Malarial and other periodical fevers which will do away with the necessity of calling a doctor and will cure him thoroughly at a nominal charge.

Price per box . . . Re. 1.  
Packing and postage . . . As. 4.  
Kaviraj N. N. SEN,  
Govt. Medical Diploma-Holder,  
18/1, Lower Chitput Road, Calcutta.





THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, AUGUST 14, 1904.

## LORD CURZON ON INDIA.

The Guildhall speech of Lord Curzon, delivered on July 20, in reply to the Lord Mayor of London, is of the usual type. It is full of fervid eloquence, but there is very little in it which is correct, from the Indian standpoint of view, or for which the Indian can feel grateful to him. We freely admit that there are some lofty sentiments in the address; but they were uttered more to produce effect than to benefit humanity. For instance, His Lordship says that "India was the first love, and throughout the last seventeen years it has been the main love of my political life." Every Indian ought to thank Lord Curzon for having spoken of his unfortunate country in this affectionate term. Yet, it seems, this ardent love of his Lordship for India is something like the feeling entertained by the milk-man for his cattle. The latter loves his milk cow and gives it a bundle of hay to keep its body and life together, not that he cares a straw whether it lives or dies, but, because, it yields him a good quantity of milk to enable him to live in comfort. In thus characterizing his Lordship's love for India as selfish, we do him no injustice; for he himself, possibly unconsciously, admits it in the beginning of his speech why India is so dear to him.

In short, England, says Lord Curzon, would have been nowhere if it had not India to help her. India is an excellent training ground for the English army. India pays the money; and England trains her soldiers, and makes costly military experiments at its expense. Is not the arrangement beautiful, and should not every Englishman love India? That is the reason why India has such strong attraction for Lord Curzon. And his Lordship describes in eloquent terms the benefits which the English people have received at the hands of India.

But for the help of India, says Lord Curzon, Natal or the Peking Legation would not have been saved. India is also the land of coolies. It is with the Indian coolie labour that the English exploit the plantations, equally of Demerara and Natal. India, again, is likewise the place where the surplus population of England find employment, where officers are trained to irrigate Egypt and dam the Nile, where forest officers are educated to tap the resources of Central Africa, and where surveyors are available "to explore all the hidden places of the earth."

And, above all, if England were ever engaged in an international war, it is the Indian frontier where the chief battles would be fought. We think, it is now quite plain why India aroused the first political love in the breast of Lord Curzon. He loves India, not that he has any attachment for its people; but, because, it serves the interests of England in a magnificent manner. India, in short, is a country which was created for the benefit of the English nation, and hence his Lordship could not help loving it so warmly.

Let us quote a few more noble utterances from the speech of Lord Curzon. What is the basis of British rule in India? He answers the question thus:

"The basis is not military force, it is not civil authority, it is not prestige, though all these are part of it. If our rule is to last in India it must rest on a more solid basis. It must depend on the eternal moralities of righteousness and justice."

He is not content with merely expressing these sublime sentiments. He takes care to make it plain that he is in terrible earnest as the following sentences indicate:—

"This I can assure you, is no mere phrase of the conventicle. The matter is too serious on the lips of a Governor-General of India for cant. Unless we can persuade the millions of India that we will give to them absolute justice as between man and man, equality before the law, freedom from tyranny and injustice and oppression, then your Empire will not touch their hearts and will fade away."

The rules laid down above for the government of India are golden in their character. That is exactly the way to establish the British Empire in India upon a permanent basis. Strangely enough, though Lord Curzon has governed this country for nearly six years, he seems to be yet not aware that the rules, which he recommends for the permanence of the British Government in India, have been honoured more in the breach than in the observance, even by his Lordship himself. Nay, he goes further. He says that never was India more wisely governed than it has been by its present rulers. He does not even stop here, but presents the following brilliant picture before his English audience:

"I believe we have it in our power to wield the people of India to a unity beyond anything they have dreamed of and to give them blessings greater than any they now enjoy."

Yes, this is possible if the golden rules, laid down by Lord Curzon in the above, are followed; that is to say, if righteousness and justice guide the actions of the ruling authorities. But can Lord Curzon say honestly that he himself or his predecessors followed the principles at all? We have the three hundred millions in India? On the other hand, is it not true that these principles have been often trampled down by every responsible ruler of India? We never question their good intentions. We sincerely believe that, every Viceroy, when he comes to India, takes the noble resolve that he will govern the people on the lines of justice and righteousness. But, in the end, he finds, though he may not acknowledge it, that the people of India have made very little progress under his rule; on the other hand, if the people were to be believed, they were perhaps getting worse and worse under every succeeding Viceroy. Lord Curzon may not admit it but any honest Indian will tell him, if he cares to ask him, that the Indians were far better off twenty-five years ago than they are now, and that they have rarely experienced the disastrous effects of so many retrograde measures in rapid succession as they have done under the Viceroyalty of his Lordship.

Lord Curzon talks of "absolute justice as between man and man, equality before the law, freedom from oppression, etc." Are not these mere cant? An Englishman is the

same human being, coming from the same common Father, as an Indian is. Yet, in the event of a collision between an Englishman and an Indian, "absolute justice" is never meted out—the latter invariably goes to the wall. And we can cite Lord Curzon himself to bear witness to this fact. If there is equality before the law in India, how is it that the Europeans have got one set of criminal laws for themselves and the Indians another? Not only this; the laws are administered in such a way, as a rule, that the European offender is let off, or, if convicted, gets very little punishment, while conviction and ferocious sentences are almost always the lot of the Indian. As for the oppression, is Lord Curzon really not aware how the District Magistrates, of course with honourable exceptions, treat even the highest of our people as if they were no better than sheep? Indeed, the police and magisterial rule hangs like a sword of Damocles over the people and is sacking away all manliness from them.

Let us now present the other side of the picture, and let Lord Curzon dispute its correctness if he can. There is no country in the world so poor as India, and yet there is no country where administration is so costly. There is no country in the world, except India, which has to remit 30 crores of rupees to a foreign land annually without receiving any adequate return for the same. There is no country in the world, except India, whose people have been so thoroughly ostracised from the higher grades of the public services of their country and which services have been filled from the top to the bottom with princely-paid foreigners. There is no country in the world, except India, where the people have not only to learn but master a foreign and difficult language to be able to hold even petty appointments in their land of birth. There is no country in the world, except India, whose people have been completely disarmed, and who are excluded from the military service. There is no country in the world where the police and the Magistrates wield such irresistible powers as their conferees in India do. And there is no country in the world which is defended by mercenaries imported from a foreign country at enormous costs as India is.

And it is thus that, not only is famine chronic here but Lord Curzon had to administer the greatest famine of the century which, to quote his own words, "would wring blood from stone," and it is thus that the plague, though in its seventh year, is yet "defying analysis, defeating the utmost efforts of medical skill and administrative energy," inscrutable in its origin, merciless in its ravages, sweeping off, as official records show, very often tens of thousands in a week. No country on the face of the globe has ever presented such unique and sad spectacles; and India would have not been an exception if the "eternal moralities of justice and righteousness" had guided the rulers of this country.

## THE ABOLITION OF THE SERVICE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS.

By a simple cleverly-worded executive order, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has for ever destroyed the chance of really competent men to enter the public services. Here is the order doing away with the competitive examinations:—

"It is notified for general information that no competitive examination will be held next year for appointments to the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service and to the Subordinate Civil Service and that appointments will be made by selections from among University graduates under rules to be hereafter notified."

In order to understand the real situation, we refer the reader to the following passages in the famous Resolution on Education in India by Lord Curzon, of which the executive order, referred to above, is an offshoot:—

"The principle of competition for Government appointments was unknown in India until a few years ago; it does not spring from the traditions of the people, and it is without the safeguards by which its operation is controlled in England. It sets aside, moreover, considerations which cannot be disregarded by a Government whose duty it is to reconcile the conflicting claims of diverse races, rival religions, and varying degrees of intellectual and administrative aptitude and adaptability. For the higher grades of Government service there is no need to have recourse to the system since it is possible in most cases for the Government to accept the various University degrees and distinctions as indicating that their holders possess the amount of knowledge requisite to enable them to fill particular appointments; while in the case of the more technical departments, a scrutiny of the subjects taken up by the candidate and of the degree of success attained in each, will sufficiently indicate how far he possesses the particular knowledge and bent of mind that his duties will demand. The Government of India are of opinion, therefore, that special competitions should, as a general rule, be dispensed with; and that the requisite acquaintance with the laws, rules, and regulations of departments may best be attained during probationary service and tested after a period of such service. In short, the Government of India hold that the multiplication of competitive tests for Government service neither results in advantage to Government nor is consistent with the highest interests of a liberal education. In fixing the educational standards which qualify for appointments, the natural divisions of primary, secondary and University education should be followed; school and college certificates of proficiency should, so far as possible, be accepted as full evidence of educational qualifications, regard being paid, within the limits of each standard, to their comparative value; and due weight should be attached to the recorded opinions of collegiate and school authorities regarding the proficiency and conduct of candidates during their period of tuition."

Let us analyse the sentiments contained in the above. It is by competition that public offices are fulfilled in England. The Government has "therefore to justify why, what is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander; that is to say, if it is suited in England, why it is not suited in India. Hence we are told that the principle of competition is unknown in this country; that it is against the traditions of its people; that conflicting interests are to be reconciled

and so forth. First of all, if there was no competitive examination for the recruitment of public services in India, there was also no foreign and absentee Government here. And, secondly as the principle of competition means only this that those who can pass certain necessary tests in public examinations are considered more fit to hold appointments than others who cannot do it, we are at a loss to understand why it will operate in one way in England, and in another way in India.

It is quite true that conflicting interests of diverse races are to be reconciled, but the established policy of the Government is to prefer merit to colour or creed. We see now and then the spectacle of unreasonable prayers preferred by communities, for larger Government appointments, on the ground of their backwardness. And the inevitable reply of the Government to such prayers has been this that they must improve themselves and secure the appointments by their superior attainments, and not by pleading their want of education. Only the other day Sir Andrew Fraser gave the same sound and reasonable advice to a body of Mussalmans who approached him at Muzafferpur and asked for employment by reason of their being less advanced than some other races of India. Three or four days ago, he told the same thing to the Mussalmans of Bhagalpur. And the rulers in every Province have repeated the same principle over and over again. The ground of conflicting interests now advanced is thus a plea, mere plea; and, in this attempt, we see a clear somersault.

In recruiting men for public services, the Government should be guided by no other consideration than that of merit, and the only available method of testing merit—if not the best and the surest but yet preferable in the absence of a better one—is a competitive examination. It has not failed in England, neither has it produced bad results in India, though the system prevalent here is a combination of competition and nomination. Why should it be then abolished here? By keeping the right of nominating a certain percentage of appointments in its own hands, the Government has made ample provision for meeting the conflicting interests of different communities in India. Thus, from whatever point is the question viewed, there is absolutely no necessity for doing away with competitive tests, unless it is contended that favouritism is the object of Government, a charge, which, of course, it will indignantly repudiate.

As a matter of fact, when the famous circular of Sir James Westland was published in these columns and the Government of India interpellated on the subject, Lord Elgin found himself in an embarrassing position that he was obliged to burke the question; for he could not admit the fact without humiliation that, the Finance Minister had issued an order to the effect that Europeans might be directly appointed to sixty-rupee grades in his department without passing any examination! It is too late in the day, even in India, to contend that nomination is better than competition.

But the greatest danger of nomination is that, really worthy men will have very little chance of entering the public offices unless they can influence the higher authorities either by sycophancy or other objectionable means; and thus the services will, in due course, be filled by mediocres or incompetent persons who will gradually bring disgrace upon every department where they are admitted, and make it impossible for the Government to carry on its work of administration with efficiency. It was by nomination that the Indian Civil Service was previously manned; and it had at last to be replaced by competition when it came to be discovered that the recruitment was by undiluted favouritism, the Indian Civil Service having been converted into a haven of refuge for the failures of influential English families. Why does not Lord Curzon try to do away with the competitive system in England? That he does not venture to do. It is in helpless India that the attempt is to be made, for here he can do it safely.

Conflicting interests, forsooth. That is to say the Government is anxious to hold the balance even, is it that? Let us remind the Government what it is going to do. It at first appropriated all the high posts for the members of its own community, ostracising the natives of the soil. In the same manner, it gradually appropriated others the next in value and importance. This done, the officials that remain are to be distributed with very great care, keeping in view all conflicting interests! But this question of conflicting interests was forgotten when Indians were ostracised.

In this measure, the Government will find supporters in such papers as the "Times," the "Globe," the "St. James's Gazette" and so forth. "The measure will expel the Bengali Babu from the service," that is what they will say in the ecstasy of their heart. And why are the Bengali Babus so unpopular? Because they are better men than their critics; and a class of Englishmen cannot therefore bear them.

We shall deal with the other features of the question in a subsequent issue.

## GOVERNMENT BY EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

It was on the 14th March, 1878, when we opened our morning papers, (this journal was at that time a weekly and a diglot)—we found an announcement to the effect that the Government intended to make a law for "the better control of the press, conducted in oriental languages." At 4 p.m., on that day, the vernacular and the Anglo-vernacular press was gagged.

On Wednesday we saw also another almost similar announcement, shewing even more speedy work. By a few lines, contained in an executive order, a revolution was effected, namely, Competitive Examinations for the public service were abolished in Bengal. What next? What will prevent the Government henceforth to effect more momentous changes by a mere executive ukase? In England it would have taken at least five years to effect such a revolution.

And why were the people taken by surprise in this manner? Why were they not consulted? We have seen it announced by Lord Curzon himself that his love for India is profound, but nobody can deny that the Indian's love for India is profounder. The Indian, besides, is vitally interested in the affairs of his mother country. An English-

man is, with all his love for India, a bird of passage. He comes here to make his pile, and goes home for good when that object has been attained. Why were not then the Indians consulted before introducing such momentous changes of almost a revolutionary character? Surely, it is no ordinary change to abolish the competitive system and place the entire patronage of this vast Empire into the hands of single individuals! The change is all the more startling as, with the progress of the time, the educated people here fondly expected that, the present restricted system of competition, which is a combination of competition and nomination, would be expanded and made more liberal, and not extinguished.

May we enquire, why were not the Indians consulted when such a momentous change was going to be effected in their country? Surely, they are not donkeys, or savages, or so stupid as to be unable to discuss subjects of this kind, in which they are vitally interested. That they are quite competent to pass an opinion on these matters is evident from the fact that, the Government have always consulted them about questions of public importance in which they are interested.

No, it can never be that the Indians were so contemptuously ignored because they are donkeys. When Mr. Herbert Paul's motion, relating to simultaneous Civil Service Examinations in England and India, was carried in Parliament, it was announced by the "Times" and some other newspapers that the educated Indians would capture every post in the Indian Civil Service. This means an admission that, in a fair competition, Englishmen have no chance with an Indian. The fact is no longer concealed that the educated Indian is an eye-sore to a certain class of Englishmen. The educated Indian is hated, because, he is a much better and abler man than those Englishmen whose mouth-pieces are the "Globe," the "St. James's Gazette" and others like them!

So the Indians were ignored and taken by surprise by this surreptitious and underhand action, unworthy of a great and strong Government, not that they were not able to offer advice, but because, the authorities dared not put the matter before an intelligent public for discussion.

It can be seen at once that the position taken by the Government is hollow and utterly indefensible. It is contended that the Government has to reconcile conflicting interests. Assuming that it has to do so, but how have the authorities managed it so many years? And have they not always declared that the best way for one to get into the public service is to qualify himself by education?

Let us begin from the beginning. The Government has to reconcile conflicting interests. It is an eminently just Government, and it has to hold the balance even. Such an intention on the part of the Government is very noble. Perhaps our rulers do not know how the funeral ceremonies of the Hindus are sometimes mismanaged. All the communities are invited, and the charge of distributing the food is entrusted into the hands of the Bramhins. Sometimes the acts of these Bramhins are very much like those of the Government in regard to the distribution of public offices. In short, they make a lot of all the good things placed at their disposal for feeding all classes of people; that is to say, they, their wives and children, carry home as much as they can lay their hands on; and what remains, they sit to distribute among the invited guests.

Of course the inferior classes clamour for their share; they insist that they too are guests and have equal claims with the others; and they are, besides, hungry. And then the Bramhins gravely take shelter under the plea of "conflicting interests." They declare with solemnity that all men are equal before God; that a Chandal has as much right to the feast as the highest; and that, therefore, they have to satisfy all conflicting interests. These Bramhins only forget that at the time when they carried home the good things, they altogether ignored the claims of these conflicting interests.

When the English rulers first sat to divide the public offices, the claims of conflicting interests were clean forgotten by them. Then it was confiscation—almost every post worth having was appropriated. And now the claims of conflicting interests are brought forward in dividing the offices!

As regards the question of conflicting interests, will not the present arrangement increase the difficulty immensely? Previously when conflicting interests preferred claims, the Government had a reply. The former were told to qualify themselves for public employments. But the clamour will increase hundred-fold now that the Government will have no such reply to give.

Sir Andrew Fraser has taken a vast responsibility upon himself. We wonder how he will be able to dispose of this immense patronage, put in his hands, to the satisfaction of the public and his own conscience. The task that has devolved in his hands is impossible for a human being to perform satisfactorily. This retrograde measure will throw the progress of the country a century back; it is a measure which is suited to dark ages and not the present days of enlightenment.

When Lord Curzon had just begun his administration, it came to be believed by the Indians that he would throw himself into their arms completely. Indeed, an attempt was made to organize a garden party where His Excellency would meet the Indians as a private gentleman divested of official authority. It was when the country was in this state of infatuation that a paragraph appeared in this journal appealing to Lady Curzon to cultivate Hindu music. The writer assured the Vicerine that the music of the Hindus was superior to that of every other nation in the world, and that by cultivating it she would be able to increase the fund of her happiness. She was advised to begin with instrumental music as it was feared she might not be able to appreciate fully the higher vocal music of the Hindus. We have before us a pamphlet by a European lady on Hindu music, Mrs. Anne C. Wilson. She was attracted by the mereest chance to the subject. Says the authoress, "One evening I heard a man playing a violin, and as I listened I thought I had never heard anything more beautiful." Well, that would be the verdict of every man or woman with musical ears who

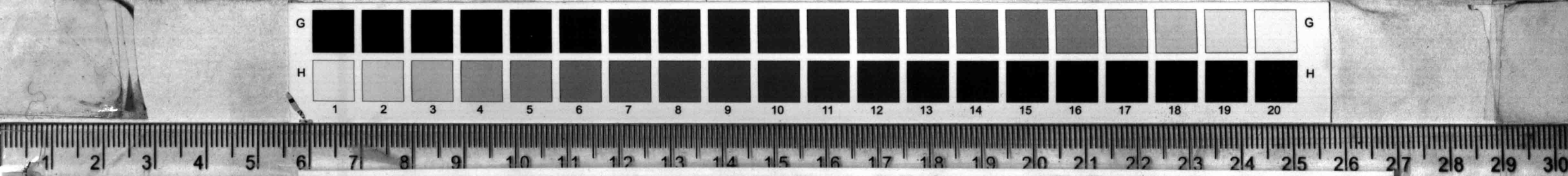
has cared to listen to Hindu music. The mischief is the Europeans never care to listen with attention; and, therefore, remain deprived of the most innocent and delightful pleasures that Hindu music affords. After this awakening, the authoress began systematically to study Hindu music. In her book she has given a short account of music, which we fear will not be quite understood by the European. The science of music was more developed here than in Europe. It has quarter tone; thirds of a tone; it has "sruties," and it has what may be called the "moer" or continuous tone. So complex is the Hindu system that it is impossible to express it by European notation. We see the authoress has attempted to express some of our "rags" and "ragines" by European notation, but she must have avoided their complex parts. We join in the hope of the authoress who says: "My hope is that others may begin where I end; my certainty is that they would find in the attempt it is that they would find in the attempt it is London reward." The book is printed in London and to be had of Golab Singh and Sons, Lahore. The authorities has thoroughly grasped the subject and deserves thanks from her countrymen for her efforts to bring the subject of Hindu music within their reach.

Our readers may remember that at the last Sessions of the Calcutta High Court there was a case in which one Maher Ali was charged with murdering one Prio Lal Sil and the accused was found guilty of murder by the jury. The jury, however, recommended the prisoner to the mercy of the Court, and the presiding Judge Mr. Pargiter sentenced him to transportation for life. In the trial it seems, a very important point of law was raised by the Counsel who defended him. The learned Counsel in order to contradict certain witnesses for the prosecution desired to put in their statements before the Coroner. But the learned Standing Counsel having opposed it on the ground that the statements should be proved by calling the Coroner according to the practice of the High Court, those statements were not allowed by the presiding Judge to go in. The defence Counsel thereupon asked the Judge to reserve the point but the Judge refused to do so. We understand that the prisoner has submitted a petition to the Advocate-General for a certificate. Inter alia the petitioner has mentioned that the exclusion of the evidence before the Coroner's Court merely on the ground of practice was illegal and that by such exclusion the prisoner was seriously prejudiced. As the matter is still under consideration by the Advocate-General we reserve our remarks. But we can not but express our earnest hope that the Advocate-General will see his way to grant a fiat in the case. It is undoubtedly a very serious matter and the prisoner ought not to be denied the privilege which law allows him, merely on the ground of practice. And as far as we can see it is a very important point of law raised by the defence and the matter ought to be settled once for all in the interest of justice.

In their address to the Lieutenant-Governor during His Honour's recent visit to Khulna, the people of that district prayed for the privilege of trial by jury. Sir Andrew Fraser replied that he was not prepared to dispose of the question then and there, but would consider the matter after consulting with the local authorities. Ravana was a great administrator; so, when, on his death bed, he was asked by Rama to give him some advice which would enable him to benefit his subjects, Ravana replied "Very well. Here is one. Do not postpone a good measure which you can introduce at once." The jury system obtains everywhere except in India; but, if any country is in absolute need of it, it is India. The administration of justice here is in the hands of alien Judges, who know very little about the language, manners, customs and habits of the people and thus absolutely require the assistance of the peers of the accused and the complainant to arrive at a correct decision. Trial by jury is however not only an eye-sore to the executive authorities in this country but, strangely enough, to the Sessions Judges also, generally speaking. Many of the latter would often go against the verdict of the jury, and curse the system, because it would not convict. In other countries the Judges thank the jurors when they acquit the accused and thus save them from the awful responsibility of punishing a fellow-being. In India, it is quite different. As regards the bitter hostility of the authorities towards it, the Governments of Lord Lansdowne and Sir Charles Elliott went so far as to practically abolish the system in this country, not that Indian jurors showed any perversity, but, because, in the honest discharge of their duties, they had to acquit prisoners for want of sufficient legal evidence.

It should be noted here we have no real jury system in this country. We have only the shell and not the substance. Indeed, there is now very little difference between a juror and an assessor, the Sessions Judge being empowered to refer to the High Court any case he happens to differ from the jury. That being the case, we do not see why there should be the slightest objection on the part of the authorities to extend the system even to some of the backward districts. The people of Khulna are as enlightened as those of Jessore. Indeed, Khulna, only a few years ago, was a part and parcel of Jessore. So it is but meet that when the people of Jessore are enjoying the privilege, it should be shared in by those of Khulna also. What the people of Khulna should do immediately is to submit a formal petition to the Lieutenant-Governor, showing by a list of the educated residents of the district that, they have got a sufficient number of persons fit to serve as jurors for the Sessions cases tried every year at Khulna by the District and Sessions Judge.

The reader will remember how the two Rajahs of Calicut, nephews of H.H. the Zamorin, were not only publicly disgraced by the local authorities but sentenced to jail for three months each. The allegation against them was that they had directed their men to rob a man, with whom they were at enmity and that these men not only stole some fruits belonging to their enemy, valued at Rs. 16, but also committed a dacoity at his house. The men were charged with the commission of theft and dacoity, and the Rajahs with





abetting them. A Sessions Judge tried the dacoity case and acquitted all the accused. A subordinate Magistrate, who tried the theft case, however, convicted the Rajahs upon the same evidence which was rejected by the Sessions Judge, and sentenced them each to three months imprisonment. As soon as the sentence was passed, the unfortunate Rajahs were marched off to jail in triumph and made to rot there for three days till they were released on bail by the High Court. A more mean and unjustifiable act cannot be conceived; it shows only wanton perversity without reason or rhyme. For the authorities might have very well avoided these outrages and bailed out the accused, till the results of their appeal were known. Mr. A.R.L. Tottenham, Special Assistant Magistrate, to whom an appeal was made against the decision of the subordinate Magistrate, not only confirmed the sentence, but took that opportunity of abusing the people of this country as a race of liars, and expressing his regret, though in an indirect manner, that the Rajahs were not dealt with more severely. The High Court of Madras was next moved to revise the decision of Mr. Tottenham, and here is the judgment of the Criminal Bench composed of Justice Davis and Boddam:—

"We are of opinion that there is no evidence to justify the conviction of the petitioners for abetment. Assuming that the direct evidence was true, it does not prove abetment, for it does not prove that the petitioners aided or instigated the acts of the theft of the other accused. The words themselves may have referred to a perfectly legitimate order and not in any way to any orders to commit a crime."

"Again, the evidence that the words were used, is the evidence of accomplices who are uncorroborated, and finally the evidence of these witnesses had been already discredited elsewhere by jury. The circumstantial evidence relied on by the Judge for proof of abetment proves nothing against the petitioners."

"We, therefore, set aside the conviction and sentence and direct that the fines, if paid, be refunded forthwith."

The Hon'ble Judges thus disposed of the learned and elaborate judgment of Mr. Tottenham, in which he introduced the name of George Washington and other matters to show his vast erudition, and of which he was apparently very proud, in less than half-a-dozen sentences. The judgment of the High Court, when analysed, means this: It was an unjustifiable act on the part of Mr. Tottenham to confirm the sentence, as there was absolutely no evidence to show that the accused had abetted any offence. Even granting that the men had committed the theft, there is nothing to show that they did it at the direction of the Rajahs. Thirdly, as the prosecution witnesses were only accomplices, their evidence should have been at once rejected, first, because, it was not corroborated, and secondly, it was discredited at the Sessions Court where the dacoity case was tried and dismissed. In short, the High Court says in effect that Mr. Tottenham is incapable of weighing evidence and ignorant of the elementary principles of jurisprudence; and yet he is the custodian of the liberty and honour of tens of thousands men and conceived enough to fancy that he is one of the best judges in India!

The Russians complain that the Japs have wooden cannons for the purpose of deceiving enemies. As there are smokeless powders, it is difficult to find out the true character of these false cannons. The result is that the enemy is deceived. It is believed in Europe that a superior knowledge in chemistry has enabled the Japs to beat Russia. Says the "Lancet":—

"Chemistry is a powerful weapon in war, and there can be little doubt that among other things which have so far contributed to Japanese successes is a sound knowledge of explosives, their composition, action, and behavior under a variety of conditions. When there is no longer any need for the implements of battle, and may that soon be, we may be pretty sure that the same subtle insight which is so marked a feature of the Japanese intellect will turn with equal success to the application of science to peaceful pursuits."

"Probably no Eastern nation is more strongly represented than the Japanese in the English annals of science, and more particularly in the literature of chemistry. They possess an undoubtedly strong faculty for original research and they combine this faculty with a sharp-sightedness as to the possibilities of practical application of the fruits of research. The Japanese chemist, in fact, unites the power of originality of the English chemist and the practical intuition of the German. At the University of Tokio practical study is very much favored and splendid facilities for work are provided in the laboratories and workshops. There are several distinguished Japanese chemists who are fellows of the English Chemical Society and who were elected to the fellowship on account of the excellence of their contributions to original science."

"The Japanese chemists discuss with a freedom which astonishes the Western chemist all the modern abstruse theories bearing upon the atomic theory, the constitution of matter, the theory of dissociation, and so forth. They write powerful dissertations on the views advanced by such esteemed thinkers as Ostwald, Arrhenius, Van't Hoff, Kelvin, Thomson, Lodge, Crookes, Ramsay and others, and have offered valuable criticisms on the methods of systematizing and compiling atomic weights adopted by Western chemists."

POLITICALLY Hindu and Mahomedan residents of India have no separate interests, the well-being of one community being the well-being of the other. Those Hindus and Mussalmans who try to advance the political interests of the one at the cost of the other are therefore enemies of the country. We are surprised to hear that, as at Muzaffarpur, so at Bhagulpur, a number of Mussalmans approached the Lieutenant-Governor with a most unreasonable prayer. The Bhagulpur Mussalmans, in their address, made the astounding proposition of stationing two Mahomedan Deputy Magistrates and one Mahomedan Munsiff at Bhagulpur "in the interests of public service." There can be but one meaning of this prayer, namely, that the local

Hindu Deputy Magistrates and munsiffs were inimical to the interests of the Mahomedan community of Bhagulpur, and hence the services of Mahomedan officers were needed. That being so, the authorities should have not allowed the Mahomedans to present such an address to the Lieutenant-Governor. But, if the local authorities were led to commit this blunder, His Honour more than rectified it by his apt and sarcastic reply to the prayer of the Mahomedans. Let our Bhagulpur correspondent, however, describe the situation:—

"As you are already aware the Mahomedans of Bhagulpur prayed to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal during his visit to that town the other day, that two Mahomedan Deputy Magistrates and one Mahomedan Munsiff might be permanently stationed there "in the interests of public service." The following figures will show the monstrous character of the proposal. Of the 5,83,655 population of the Bhagulpur Sadar Sub-Division, 5,06,147 are Hindus and only 78,548 are Mahomedans, that is to say, Hindus and Mahomedans stand in the ratio of 6 to 1, and the Bhagulpur Thanna claims a population of 1,89,407 of whom 1,50,714 are Hindus and 38,693 are Mahomedans, in other words, they stand in the ratio of 4 to 1. The number of really educated men among the Bhagulpur Mahomedans can be counted upon one's finger's ends. We know of a couple of them or two who are worthy of commanding the respect of their countrymen, Hindus and Mahomedans, by virtue of the nobility of their birth, education and character, but who are incapable of making a prayer so frivolous in its nature and so impotent in its meaning. There are ordinarily three Deputy Magistrates and two Munsiffs at the Head Quarters station of Bhagulpur, and our Mahomedan friends are eager to monopolise two and one of them respectively. The request, apart from being desperately insane, reveals a wonderful sense of proportion on the part of those who at a private meeting of "friends" assembled at a private gentleman's residence, framed and passed a resolution to that effect, drew up the memorial in terms of the resolution, supported and read it before Sir Andrew Fraser on the 9th at 4-30 p.m. in the Thomson Memorial Hall. The reply which Sir Andrew gave to the Mahomedan address is worth quoting here:—

"Now gentlemen, I come to the Mahomedan address. I don't think I have much to say about it. On several occasions before this I have enunciated the policy of my Government and of the Government of India with regard to the Mahomedan community. Government have always evinced a keen interest in the welfare of the Mahomedan community. But it would not do, gentlemen, to be active, energetic and busy in presenting an address to the Lieutenant-Governor on the occasion of his visit to your town. You must keep pace with the progress that is going on around you."

"Such is the healthy advice and sensible reply of the Lieutenant-Governor to the delightful address of the Mahomedans of Bhagulpur, who got up a so-called association for the purpose of this address only, as none had existed before. Shoals of addresses have been presented to His Honour during his recent tour in Bengal and Behar but we do not remember to have read one in which so preposterous a request has been made by the Mahomedan community or for that matter by any community whatsoever. There are places in Bengal where the Mahomedan population vastly preponderates over the Hindu but none so cruelly unreasonable as Bhagulpur. To the people of Bhagulpur it does not at all matter who their judiciary or the Magistracy are,—Mahomedan or otherwise,—so long as even-handed justice is dealt out. But the principal figures in this pie are, we presume, a few Mahomedan legal practitioners at Bhagulpur. Surely their interest is not the "interest of public service." And if they consider that the presence of two Mahomedan Deputy Magistrates and one Mahomedan Munsiff is necessary "in their interest," the presumption is irresistible that they have a very poor opinion of their co-religionists in the service."

The advice of the Lieutenant Governor is that the people of this country must keep pace with the progress of the time. Entertaining such enlightened notions how could His Honour abolish the competitive examination for the public service and introduce a retrograde measure of the dark ages like that of nomination?

When last noticing the extraordinary doings of Mr. Foster, Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribag, in connection with the case of the Gya Zemindars and Mr. Christian, we made the following remarks:—

"The High Court has directed the Deputy Commissioner to release the petitioners upon their personal recognizance of Rs. 2,000 each. We have now to see whether Mr. Foster obeys this order or disputes the authority of the High Court. Up to this time Mr. Foster has suffered nothing by defying the authority of the High Court. We therefore do not see why should he not do it again."

It will be seen from the report of the proceedings before the Criminal Bench of the High Court, published elsewhere, that what we apprehended has really happened. In short, Mr. Foster again disobeyed the order of the Hon'ble Judges! And when the fact was brought to their notice, what did their Lordships do? Did they show any indignation? Did they protest against such deliberate contempt? Nothing of the sort. Mr. Justice Pratt only remarked, "this is disobeying the order of the High Court." We admire the Buddhistic patience of his Lordship, but then he ought to have also upheld the dignity of the High Court. If Magistrates are allowed to treat the orders of the High Court with contempt, surely very few people will care to seek its protection when oppressed by the executive. And will not lawlessness prevail over the country if the mandates of the Hon'ble Judges are not obeyed by the District authorities? The complaint is not giving satisfaction. Need we explain, why? We trust, the Chief Justice and other Hon'ble Judges will see their way to take due notice of the conduct of Mr. Foster, if Justice Pratt will not do it, though this is, we believe, the third time that Mr. Foster disobeyed the order of the High Court. And why should he not do it when he could do it with impunity? We again draw the attention of the Lieutenant Governor to the doings of Mr. Foster.

WHAT Prof. P. C. Roy of the Presidency College did for Hindu Chemistry, Prof. Jogesh Chandra Roy of the Cuttack Ravenshaw College has done for Hindu Astronomy. The former wisely wrote his own interests, wrote his book in Bengali, on patriotic considerations. He wrote it in Bengali because his mother language, which is Bengali, has no good book on Astronomy. But he has personally suffered by responding to his patriotism. For if he had written his book in English it would have by this time acquired wide celebrity, not only here but in the West. Besides he had to overcome the insuperable difficulty of expressing his ideas in a language, which is not as yet rich in scientific terms. He had, therefore, to borrow largely from Sanskrit. Prof. Jogesh has also the credit of being the discoverer of Chandra Shekhar, the illustrious Astronomer of Orissa, who died the other day. Possibly Chandra Shekhar would have been never known to the outside public but for the learned and able introduction which Prof. Jogesh Chunder added to the Sanskrit work "Sidhanta Darpan" of the former. The book before us in Bengali by Prof. Jogesh Chandra Roy M.A.F.R.A.S. vol. 1 is called "Our Astronomers and Astronomy" being a short account of Hindu Astronomy. The amount of research,—and laborious and intelligent research,—that the book displays is simply staggering. And if Chandra Shekhar was a self-taught Astronomer, what is Jogesh Chandra? He had imbibed only a smattering of the science in the College where he was educated; for here in India, scientific education in our Colleges is a farce, a delusion and a snare. With this elementary knowledge in possession, and a profound knowledge of mathematics, Professor Jogesh Chandra began his studies and researches. And now he can be safely called a master of the subject, an astronomer, worthy to be put in charge of an Observatory, and ranked among the astronomers of the day. We have no space to-day for a more detailed and intimate review of the book. But will Sir A. Fraser send for this scientist and grant him an interview? We fervently trust he will; for His Honour will find in this humble Professor of the College much to deserve his admiration. And will His Honour furnish him with an Observatory? The book which is priced at Rs. 4 was published under the auspices and patronage of His Highness Maharaj Dhanurjoy Narain of Keonjhar. It can be had of the publisher, Kedar Nath Bose 28-4, Akhil Mistree's Lane, Calcutta.

In 1899 Prof. William H. Pickering from an examination of photographs taken for the purpose with the 24-inch Bruce telescope, discovered a new and faint satellite of Saturn, having a period of about a year and a half. A further discussion of a large number of photographs has served to determine the elements of its orbit. Eleven photographs taken by Mr. Frost at the Arequipa station, under the direction of Prof. Bailey, enable us to follow the satellite from April 16 to June 9, 1904, and to correct its ephemeris. A full discussion by Prof. Pickering will appear in a few weeks in a forthcoming volume of the Annals. Meanwhile, to enable astronomers elsewhere to observe it at once, its position, angle and distance from Saturn may be stated to be on July 14, 77.4 degrees and 17.8 minutes; on July 24, 79.8 degrees and 14.8 minutes; and on Aug. 3, 1904, 84 degrees and 10.5 minutes respectively.

We understand our paragraphs regarding the Government Printing, Book Department, have had their desired effect, as the order fixing the office hours from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. has been cancelled. Our first notice regarding this extraordinary order, we are told, attracted the attention of the higher authorities, and at their instance, it has now been withdrawn. We would have been much more glad if Mr. Cogswell, the Controller of Press, had, of his own motion, cancelled the order as soon as the great hardship and discomforts of the poor clerks were pointed out to him.

THERE is another paper called "Land and Meer" which has also something to say on our article on heat which was commented by the "Morning Leader" noticed yesterday:—

"What India thinks of Europe is shown by the advice given in the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' to Europeans, who are afflicted by heat. 'Such of them as are wealthy, let them go home at once. Those who are poor, let them seek their fortune in a cold country. By-the-bye, cannot they all go the hills? Money? Well, only for two months, say May and June. We dare say the people of India, who find the money, will cheerfully vote any expense for such a desirable object. If they all go to the hills for May and June, leaving the natives of the soil alone, will not the latter breathe freely, at least for two months? That is a deliverance which is worth any amount of money.'"

The "Land and Meer" is an Anglo-German paper of London.

At a General Court-martial assembled at Kohat recently three sepoys, named Mashraf Khan, Gulzard, and Rakhim Din—all of the 61st Sikhs (Frontier Force)—were arraigned on a charge of causing mutiny. The allegation against them was that on the 6th June, when being marched to lines at Kohat by a Jemadar and on their double company receiving the order "left wheel," the three accused sepoys mutinously shouted to the rest, "Don't go by that road, any one who goes by that road is 'aurat tilakh.'" We will go straight to the Double Company Commanders' bungalow! The consequence was that the double company halted. It was further alleged that the three accused sepoys by their words and conduct mutinously incited the men of the double company to put down their arms, with the result that many of the men did actually lay down their arms with the intent thereby to bring pressure to bear upon the Jemadar to march direct to the quarters of their Double Company Commander. The Court found all the accused guilty, and sentenced them each to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and in addition to the forfeiture of all medals. The accused had seen service on the North-West Frontier and China, and had taken part in the relief of Peking. Lieutenant-General Sir Bindon Blood has confirmed the sentence.

## ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

[From our own Correspondent.]

LONDON, JULY 22.

### A GRAVE CHARGE AGAINST WESLEYANS IN INDIA.

The Rev. J. Findlater has exposed in the "Times" what looks like a grave scandal in the Wesleyan Church in India. A Wesleyan minister himself, he charges the officials of the Church with dishonesty in increasing the revenues of that body by illegal profits from Indian travelling allowances. The Indian Government, it would seem, allows travelling expenses to chaplains, but it explicitly forbids them to charge at a higher rate than the amount actually spent, so making the allowance a source of profit. Yet in face of this condition of the Government, Mr. Findlater declares that the chaplains of the Wesleyan Church have regularly worked on a system of travelling by a lower class accommodation, by this means they have been able to make a profit year by year amounting to several hundreds of pounds sterling. In some cases even, the ministers have converted the money to their own use. Some have arranged, he states, unnecessary journeys to out-stations in order to increase the income of their circuits, and the Wesleyan authorities have connived at the practice by permitting them to record the receipts under colourless headings, such as "sundries," "other items," or "additional receipts," thus completely concealing the true source. In view of these explicit charges, Mr. Findlater does well to demand a fair and impartial inquiry into the whole unsavoury matter. The Rev. J. H. Rigg, Clerical Treasurer of the Wesleyan Conference has replied, also in the columns of the "Times," promising that the matter shall receive the attention of the annual Conference which is now sitting in Sheffield. Meanwhile, until the result is known, criticism must be reserved. The charges brought forward by Mr. Findlater are so grave that judgment must only be delivered after due consideration. It is not as if these charges were brought against a lay organisation—even then they would be serious enough—but they are made by a teacher of religion against his own religious body. It is hardly needful to say that the true influence of Wesleyanism in India is on its trial, and it is to be hoped that the Sheffield Conference will deal with the matter openly and with unflinching courage.

### NOTES IN BRIEF.

A cricket writer in the "Black and White Illustrated Budget" dreams a dream that is not perhaps altogether visionary. It may be, he writes, that the time is not so far distant when we shall follow the progress of the "Test Matches" in India with the same enthusiasm with which we followed the doings of Warner's team recently returned from Australia. Certainly, such an enthusiasm would be good for India and for England. A friendly rivalry in sport is a factor not to be despised in making one country well known to another.

The "Daily Express" follows its announcement of Kuropatkin's plans for the invasion of India by a short article from a pen of one who is somewhat quaintly described as "An Indian Expert." The purpose of the writer is to show that there are no great transport difficulties between Russian territory and Herat, that an army could live on the land, and would find little difficulty in surmounting the Paropamisus Mountains in its advance from Merv. "The military obstacles to an advance towards India as far as Herat met away." This may be true, or it may not. "Indian Expert" forgets that it is after an expedition had left Herat, not before it reached it, that difficulties would accumulate. But, after all, there is no need to discuss chimeras such as Kuropatkin's scheme. It is mere waste of time.

The "Iron and Steel Trades Journal" contains a portion of a lecture recently delivered before the Staffordshire Section of the Institute of Mining Engineers by Mr. F. H. Wynne. Mr. Wynne deals with the smelting of iron in Jubbulpur, Central Provinces, by the primitive methods which have been carried on for probably more than two thousand years. "It is curious," he writes, "that in the Twentieth Century, when the operations of iron smelting are carried on on such a colossal scale, that there should still be a field for iron produced by the ancient, elementary method of improvisation. The demand is limited, of course, but the great reliability of the native product will ensure for it a field for certain uses peculiar to India for many a day." If this be so, then, when the late Mr. Tata's schemes are realised, we shall see in India the most modern and the most ancient methods of obtaining iron working together side by side.

Sir Mancherjee Bhownagree, M. P., extracted the information from Mr. Gerald Balfour in the House of Commons this week, in answer to a question with regard to India and the Imperial Institute, that India benefits considerably from the white elephant which has been presented to the nation, and that there is absolutely no money available for the reception at the Institute of research students from India.

In a cricket match in which London County gained a victory this week, Ranjitsinghji and the Madras cricketer, Jaya Ram, played for the county. Neither the Indian cricketer of reputation nor the Indian cricketer whose reputation, though made in India, is not universally known in England, had good fortune in the match. Neither player scored double figures.

### A SERIOUS ANOMALY IN THE CRIMINAL ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Darjeeling, Aug. 9.

There is a serious anomaly in a case just decided at the criminal sessions in which the accused was committed on a charge of rape. The man has been acquitted, but strange to say, the abettor in the alleged offence was convicted more than two years ago and sentenced to four years' imprisonment. The previous case was tried by Judge Mr. Fisher and the present by Judge Mr. Hamilton.

## Calcutta and Mofussil.

High Court Vacation.—The annual vacation of the High Court will commence from Friday, the 2nd of September next, to Saturday, the 12th of November, 1904, both days inclusive. It is said that Mr. Justice Harington and Mr. Justice Pargiter will be the Vacation Judges.

Financial Secretary.—Mr. G. Rainy, Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial and Municipal Departments, is confirmed in that appointment, with effect from the 12th July.

Dacca Survey School.—The following is the result of final examination of the Dacca Survey School for the year 1904:—First Division—Jagnewar Bhattacherjee, Mahananda De, Nasruddin Ahmed, Chinta Haran Roy, Umesh Chandra Mitra.—Second Division—Aswini Kumar Roy, Kali Kumar Chakravarti, Basanta Kumar Bhoomick, Dina Nath Paul, Osmuddin Sarkar, Sikshi Bhushan De, Benode Chandra Roy, Surendra Kumar Bhattacherjee, Mukunda Lal Guha, Satish Chandra Roy.—Third Division—Sita Nath De, Basanta Kumar Sikdar, Balamram Ghosh, Hem Chandra De, Kalimuddin Miah, Prasanna Kumar De, Abdul Salim Miah.

A Brutal Son Convicted.—On Wednesday Inspector Daly of the Alipore Thanna charged one Imam Ali Khan before Mouvi Serajul, Hug, Police Magistrate of Alipore with having mercilessly assaulted his old father. The complainant on account of his old age was little peevish and used to find fault with the young wife of the accused. One day while he was quarrelling with his daughter-in-law, the accused came and belaboured his old father with a thick club, causing fracture of his right arm and turned him out of the house. The court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

An Application for Sanction to Prosecute.—Mouvi Basal Karim, the third Presidency Magistrate heard the case instituted by Dr. P. L. Mytee against Babu Purna Chander Gupta, Editor "Novo Yug," which it will be remembered by the readers of the "Patrika," ended in the acquittal of the defendant. On Wednesday Mr. J. N. Roy instructed by Babus Joindra Mohun Ghose, Yakil and Gyan Chander Guha appeared before the Court and made an application on behalf of Babu Purna Chander Gupta, for sanction to prosecute Dr. P. L. Mytee, under section 211 I.P.O., for bringing a case against him. The Court ordered the issue of a notice on the defendant to show cause why the sanction should not be granted.

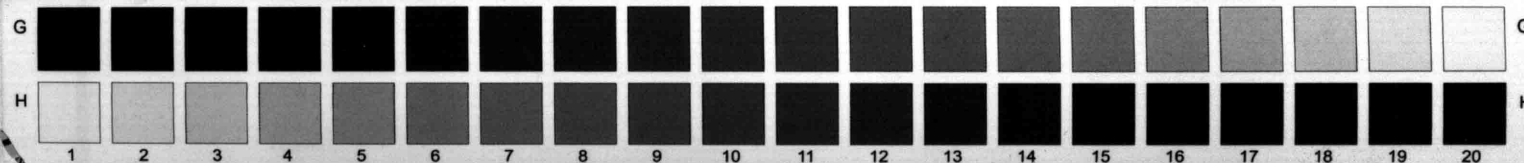
Provincial Civil Service.—It is notified for general information that no competitive examination will be held next year for appointments to the Executive branch of the Provincial Civil Service and to the Subordinate Civil Service and that appointments will be made by selections from among University graduates under rules to be hereafter notified.

Honorary Magistrates.—The following gentlemen are appointed Honorary Magistrates to the benches opposite their names:—Babu Srinath Sen, Independent Bench at Narayan-ganj, in the district of Dacca. Babus Satis Chandra Sen and Arun Chandra Mukherji, Independent Bench at Palong, District Faridpur. Kazi Abdus Samad, Independent Bench at Bhangra, in the district of Faridpur.

Alleged Confining and Branding a Wife.—On Wednesday morning before Mr. D. Weston, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Joindra Mohun Ghose, Yakil, at the instance of a young man named Shaik Issak, applied on behalf of his sister for a process against her husband on charges of wrongful confinement and branding her. The facts as stated by the Yakil are these: The applicant received information that his sister had been wrongfully confined by her husband Babu Khan. He at once called at the house of Babu but he was not allowed an interview with his sister. Afterwards he learnt that she had also been burnt and branded on several parts of her person. The Court after hearing the facts, ordered the police to inquire and report at the first instance.

Wife Murder at Basirhat.—On the evening of Wednesday last a most shocking murder was committed at Basirhat under the following painful circumstances. The girl wife of one Nibaran Chander Dass aged about twelve years used to run away from time to time from her husband's house to her father's. Nibaran was quite disgusted with the behaviour of his wife and on the last occasion when she fled to her father's place Nibaran was so much enraged that he at once proceeded to his father-in-law's house with a heavy club in his hand and dashed his wife's brains out with one blow with it, when the poor girl was taking her evening meal. The brutal husband then proceeded to the local Thannah and surrendered himself to the Police. The accused well shortly be placed on his trial.

Subordinate Educational Service.—Babu Anil Chandra Gupta, B.A. Assistant Head Master of the Jessore Zilla School having returned to duty, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him is cancelled. The following arrangements are sanctioned consequent on the appointment of Babu Baladev Misra, Dy. Inspector of Schools, Patna, to be Assistant Inspector of Schools, Chota Nagpur Division; (1) Babu Kali Pada Sarkar, M.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Patna, to be Deputy Inspector of Schools, Patna, vice Babu Baladev Misra. (2) Babu Mangal Dayal Singh, a Sub-Inspector of Schools under the District Board of Patna, is appointed to be Deputy Inspector of Schools, Patna, on probation for one year, vice Babu Kali Pada Sarkar. Babu Mangal Dayal Singh is also appointed substitutively pro tempore to class VII in the resulting vacancy arising from the transfer of Babu Baladev Misra to the Provincial Educational Service. Maulvi Muhammad Ismail, B.A., an Assistant Master in the Patna City School is appointed to act as a Sub-Inspector of Schools in the Santal Parganas, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Kamala Prasad, until further orders. Babu Mohendra Nath Datta, B.A., an Assistant Master in the Balasore Zilla School, and now Officiating Assistant Head Master of the Puri Zilla School, is allowed leave of absence for four months, vice Babu Aswini Kumar Das, M.A., Deputy Inspector of Schools, Shahabad, is appointed to act as Additional Deputy Inspector of Schools, 24-Parganas. Maulvi Abdul Quader, M.A., Assistant Master (Maulvi) in the Patna Collegiate School, on leave is appointed to act as Deputy Inspector of Schools, Shahabad.





**Appointment of Mauzadars.**—The current issue of the "Assam Gazette" contains a resolution by the Chief Commissioner containing instructions in regard to the appointment and duties of mauzadars. Subject to the general control of the Chief Commissioner, mauzadars will be appointed by Deputy Commissioners with the Commissioner's approval. The office is usually to be regarded as a hereditary one and qualification for appointment will include a fair vernacular education such as is required for the keeping of the mauzadari accounts. A number of special duties come within the scope of the mauzadar's office, but his primary duty is the collection of land revenue. In his spare time he is to be encouraged to act as arbitrator in cases of petty disputes and generally the usefulness of the mauzadar is recognized by the Chief Commissioner and the new rules should serve to increase his efficiency.

**Public Works Department.**—Babu Bholanath Banerjee, Assistant Engineer, second grade, Eastern, Some Division, is granted privilege leave for three months. Mr. C. Adair Williams (Assistant Engineer, first grade), Under-Secretary to this Government, is granted privilege leave for two months and fifteen days, combined with furlough on medical certificate for nine months. The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to make the following promotions and revisions in the Engineer Establishment:—Mr. Edge, R.C. from Executive Engineer, 3rd grade, temporary rank to Assistant Engineer, 1st grade. Messrs G. T. Huntingford, Bishnu Charan Das, Janaki Nath Kar, Shishu Chakravarti, H. Wardle, from Assistant Engineer, 1st grade to Executive Engineer, 3rd grade.

**Cuttack Survey School.**—The following is the result of the final examination of the Cuttack Survey School for Sessions 1903-1904:—First Division—Hari Pada Maity, Bishnu Charan Das, Janaki Nath Kar. Second Division—Debendra Nath Das, Sita Nath Mazumdar, Satish Chandra Dutta, Binod Lal Das, Bipin Behari Bera, Sukumar Ghosh Nava Kumar Das, Radha Nath Mahapatra, Nityananda Dora, Jadu Nath Gangooly, Nimy Chand Kuar, Narayan Goswami, Koolmani Bishui, Hrishikesh Maity, Bejoy Bhushan Rakshit, Muhammad Nasir Ahmad, Ram Krishna Das, Patit Paban Shing, Somayajula Satavilla, Rajendra Nath Sarma Chakravarty, Batai Krishna Misra, Raghu Nath Mahanty, Upendra Nath Chatterjee, Vikari Charan Mahanty, Malluvarapa Bhanumurti, Niladhar Sirkar, Mahendra Nath Das, Kuchi Kumar Swamy. Third Division—Jagannath Misra, Krishan Chandra Kar, Damodar Mahanty, Nityananda Kar, Baman Misra, Surendra Nath Chatterjee, Sonti Venkata Krishniah, Chintamani Nanda, Govinda Mohanty Appana.

**Wife vs. Husband.**—On Thursday before Mr. D. Weston, the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Annada Prasad Dutt, on behalf of one Mrs. Power, applied for a process against her husband on charges of mischief, using abusive language and criminal intimidation by threatening to stab her with a knife. It would appear that on the 24th July last, the defendant while under the influence of liquor, broke some household furniture worth about Rs. 70. His wife remonstrated and he then abused her and threatened to stab her with a knife. The Court after hearing the facts, ordered the police to enquire and report on the matter. A similar application was made by Mr. Moses, on behalf of one Mrs. Dronven against her husband on a charge of habitual ill-treatment. It was alleged that she had been assaulted day before yesterday and also on other occasions previous to this. Mr. Moses said that his application was for a police warning which would serve the purpose as he did not like to widen the breach between the wife and the husband. The Court ordered the police to warn the defendant.

**A Shocking Murder at Barraset.**—Early in the morning of Thursday last the Barraset Police was informed that an atrocious cold-blooded murder was committed at Kawbaria near Barraset. The Sub-divisional Officer along with the local Police went to the spot and found a young Mahomedan was lying on his bed in a pool of blood with his head almost severed from his body. On enquiry it transpired that the deceased Kachimuddy Mondal, son of a rich local Mahomedan had a mistress and another rich young Mahomedan of the locality named Kachimuddy Traffier used secretly to visit her. The deceased having been aware of this threatened the woman with bodily injuries if she would allow his rival to visit her any more. On the night of the occurrence Kachimuddy Traffier went to her house but she refused to receive him. This disappointment so wrought upon his feelings that he at once went to the house of his rival and finding him asleep alone in his parlour with one stroke almost severed the head from the trunk with a sword. The alleged murderer was arrested subsequently besmeared with blood and he made a clean confession of the whole thing before the Sub-divisional Officer.

**A Discharge.**—On Friday before Mr. W. A. Bonnard, the Second Presidency Magistrate, the case in which one Mr. C. Cardozo, charged one Mr. Bampton, with criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs. 250, the facts of which were fully reported, was resumed. Babu Jotindra Mohan Ghose Vakil for the defence succeeded in eliciting by cross-examination the complainant that in his first information at the Wana he stated that he gave the defendant Rs. 250 to purchase ornaments. When Mr. Bampton was arrested and when he made statement, the complainant, changed his first statement and made a second statement. Accordingly Mr. Bampton was discharged. Then Amat Hossain was charged with cheating in respect of Rs. 250. Complainant made a new statement before the third Presidency Magistrate, who ordered the discharge of Amat and finally when Mr. Bampton was placed on his trial, the complainant made a fourth statement. Mr. Mahapatra, the Court Inspector also drew the attention of the Court to these four statements of the complainant. His Worship disbelieved the case for the prosecution and ordered the discharge of the defendant.

**Alleged Adultery By A Clergyman.**—On Wednesday before Syad Mohamed Khan Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore a case of a very sensational character came on for hearing in which one Debi Mahakhal, a native Christian of Khanjra charged his son-in-law, Hira Lal Bar with having trespassed

into his house, dragged his daughter from the house and assaulted him. The accused while admitting the assault said that he did it under very grave provocation. His young wife Surabala and Rev. Biswaswar Bhattacharjee were committing adultery in the vestry of "All Saint's Day" church of the S. P. G. and he was watching from outside for his wife to come out. When she came out he caught hold of her hand and began to beat her near the church door. The complainant Debi Mahakhal came to the spot and remonstrated with him. Thereupon he assaulted the complainant. The accused has also brought a charge of adultery against the Rev. Biswaswar Bhattacharjee before Mr. Denteth, Joint-Magistrate of Alipore who would pass order after the present case was disposed of. The trial is proceeding.

#### PLAGUE MORTALITY.

Simla, Aug. 11. Plague continues to increase in Western and Southern India. The number of deaths last week rose in the Bombay Presidency to 2,927 and in the Madras Presidency to 390. The Mysore State had 506 deaths last week. United Provinces 240, Hyderabad State 187, Bombay City 44, Karachi 2, Calcutta 8, Bengal 191, Punjab 24, Central Provinces and Berar 39, Coorg one, Central India 90, and Rajputana 46.

#### THE AGRA-DELHI CHORD LINE.

Simla, Aug. 11. The rails of the chord line from Agra to Delhi via Muttra, about 120 miles in length, were linked up on the 2nd instant and it is expected that the line will be opened for traffic by the end of next December. Of the plate laying 53 miles at the Delhi end were done by military labour furnished by the 48th Pioneers during the period from December to March last at an average rate of 1.2 miles a day with 476 men and at an average cost of about Rs. 135 per mile which is a most satisfactory example of employment of this kind of labour. The line was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in September 1898 and orders for its construction issued in October 1902.

#### PUBLIC WORKS POSTINGS.

Simla, Aug. 11. Mr. E. S. Bellasis, Executive Engineer, Punjab, officiates as a Superintending Engineer, vice Mr. H. V. S. Baker, on special duty in the Public Works Department Secretariat of the Government of India. Mr. Devon, North-Western Railway, is permitted to resign the Government service. Mr. Brighton officiates as Deputy Locomotive Superintendent, North-Western Railway, Mr. Gilmore officiates as Deputy Traffic Superintendent Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway. Mr. H. S. Harrington, Chief Engineer and Agent of the Simla-Kalka Railway will sever his connection with the Railway in December next, when he proceeds on two years' furlough. He will be succeeded by Mr. J. A. Kellie, late of the Bengal and North-Western Railway. The latter arrives in Simla in October and will act as Deputy Agent till December. Mr. Harrington on his return, reverts to Government Service, having been lent to the Kalka-Simla Railway for five years.

#### AFGHAN NEWS.

Allahabad, Aug. 11. The family and retainers of the late Umr Khan of Jandoul, the trans-frontier chief who figured so prominently in the Chitral campaign of 1895, recently applied to the Amir of Kabul for permission to return to Bajour, praying at the same time that their allowances might be continued. His Highness intimated that so long as they remained anywhere within the borders of Afghanistan their safety and comfort would be guaranteed, but he declined to be responsible for them in any way if they left his territory.

The Amir has recently passed orders regarding State prisoners sentenced to exile. They are no longer to be allowed to take refuge in India, but will be sent to the extreme north-west districts of Afghanistan.

Mr. Dobbs and Major Wanless arrived at Landikotal yesterday morning. Their journey from Kabul to Landikotal was without incident. All possible arrangements were made for their comfort on the way.

#### TIBET AFFAIRS.

Allahabad, Aug. 12. News from Lhasa shows that the Chinese Umban is still most accommodating and anxious to do what he can to bring about a settlement. Colonel Younghusband's visit to him in the city went off quite satisfactorily. It remains of course to be seen whether the Dalai Lama and the principal officials will negotiate seriously, but a permanent and binding arrangement seems within the bounds of possibility. The mission will certainly be hurried back in any case.

A bazar has been opened in the British camp and some 340 Tibetans appeared offering things for sale.

#### THE CALICUT CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

Thariyod Murder Case. Kallai, August 9. Four accused were sent up for trial for the offence of murder by the Magistrate of Vythiri. In this case our Judge Mr. Moor pronounced judgment to-day. The first, second, and the fourth accused have been sentenced to be hanged and the third accused to transportation for life. The facts of the case are that the first accused Mapilla had criminal intimacy with an unmarried woman of his caste. She became pregnant. When this was known to his caste people, some authorities of his caste advised him to marry her. A certain day was fixed for the marriage. In the meantime the first accused with the assistance of the three others murdered her.

#### CRIMINAL BREACH OF TRUST.

Darjeeling, Aug. 9. Mrs. Smith, late matron, Queen's Hill School, Darjeeling was brought under arrest from Silliguri while escaping and sentenced to six months on a charge of criminal breach of trust and misappropriation of the money paid for stores supplied by Chumilal.

#### THE AMRITSAR SEDITION CASE. EDITOR CONVICTED.

Amritsar, Aug. 10. The judgment in the sensational sedition case has been delivered. The Editor of "Abulwalia" has been convicted and sentenced to undergo six months' imprisonment and fined Rs. 100. The printer, too, has been mulcted in the sum of Rs. 500.

#### EN ROUTE TO KABUL.

Allahabad, Aug. 12. Sirdar Khushdia Khan, Ayab Khan's Wazir, has left Lahore accompanied by his four younger brothers and about 40 of his relatives and servants for Kabul.

#### AGRA-DELHI CHORD LINE.

Allahabad, Aug. 12. It is expected that the chord line from Agra to Delhi via Muttra, about 120 miles in length, will be opened for traffic by the end of December.

#### OPENING OF THE CURZON DISPENSARY.

Berhampur, Aug. 12. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor opened this evening the Curzon Charitable Dispensary at Cossimbazar, established by Maharaja Manindra Chandra Nandy to commemorate the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Sossimbazar. His Honour and lady Fraser with the Divisional Commissioner arrived at 6-30 p.m. and was received at the pandal gate by the Maharaja, who conducted His Honour to the foundation of the dispensary. His Honour then went to the new dispensary building close by and unlocked the main entrance. His Honour next visited the dispensary and returning to the pandal declared the dispensary open.

#### IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Emigration Act. Simla, Aug. 12. The first meeting of the Council this season was held this morning and lasted five minutes. The Viceroy presided. Sir Denzil Ibbetson introduced a Bill to amend the Emigration Act, and said he had nothing to add to what appears in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The object of the Bill, accordingly to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is to remove two difficulties disclosed in the working of the new Chapter 14, which was inserted in the Indian Emigration Act of 1883 by the Indian Emigration (Amendment) Act, 1902. In the first place the words "terms" and "conditions" in section 108 do not permit the imposition of any fee on the registration of natives of India departing by sea for any of the purposes specified in section 107, similar to those levied in the case of emigrants under sections 35 and 72. In the second place, section 107 limits the power to apply the Chapter to ports from which emigration is lawful, whereas it is occasionally desirable, as in the case of Karachi, to permit the departure by sea for the purposes in question from a port from which it is not expedient to allow emigration generally. The principal object in such cases is to secure adequate supervision, and this is sufficiently attained by conferring a power to appoint an officer for the performance of the duties, to which the Chapter may be specially applied of the duties which the Chapter assigns at ports from which emigration is lawful to the Protection of Emigrants.

#### INDIAN ARTICLES OF WAR.

Sir Edmund Elles introduced a Bill to amend the Indian Articles of War, and said the object of this Bill is to provide for the confirmation of findings and sentences of courts-martial in the case of persons subject to the Indian Articles of War (Act V of 1859) who are serving in any place other than India, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The Government of India are advised that the power conferred by the Army Act, Section 180, sub-section (2) clause (a) to convene courts-martial does not include the power to confirm the finding. The opportunity has been utilised for repealing the second appendix, which at present is not strictly in accordance with the articles, and which, with the necessary alterations, can more conveniently be from time to time prescribed in the exercise of the rule making the power conferred by article 190. This will be in accordance with the practice under the Army Act, and obviates the necessity for legislation every time any alteration in the form, for a summary general court-martial, is advisable.

The Council was adjourned to 9th September.

#### AN AGRA MYSTERY.

Agra, Aug. 12. The body of a soldier belonging to the 2nd Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment at Agra has been found in a well near the barracks. A magisterial inquiry is being held.

#### REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT.

Captain G. A. Bazeley, R. E., is granted six months' leave.

Mr. R. C. Wroughton, Inspector-General, Forests is permitted to retire, and Mr. Fradley Wilmot is confirmed in his place.

#### FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Recognition is notified of the appointment of Mr. C. S. Anderson, as Acting Consular Agent, Karachi, for Austro-Hungary.

#### FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Henosman, Chief Superintendent, Office of Accountant-General, Madras, is granted to six weeks' leave. Mr. Krishnaswami Chetti to officiate.

Mr. G. B. Bleazley is granted two and a half months' leave.

#### HOME DEPARTMENT.

Capt. C. J. Robertson Milne, I.M.S., is posted to Bengal. Lieutenant-Colonel Henderson, I.M.S., Civil Surgeon, Poona, is posted temporarily to military employ.

Restrictions are notified on the pilgrimage to the ensuing festival at Adoni, Bellary district.

Constantinople notifies disinfection against arrivals from Port Said.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Wyllie is transferred from Mianmir to the Bombay Presidency as a Cantonment Magistrate.

Mr. H. J. Stanyor, officiates as Judicial Commissioner, Berar, vice Mr. Batten on leave.

The Hon. Mr. H. A. B. Rattigan is to officiate as a temporary Additional Judge of the Punjab Chief Court.

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Mr. A. Devon, Officiating District Locomotive Superintendent is permitted to retire.

#### TELEGRAMS.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

#### THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, August 9. Earl Percy in the Commons declined to state what policy we should follow in the event of the lease of Wei-Hai-Wei determining.

The removal of the difficulty respecting the passage of the Russian Volunteer ships through the Dardanelles as stated in the telegram of the 7th was premature, though it is most probable that such a note was sent as a last resource. In the meanwhile Turkey supported by Great Britain, persists in asking Russia for a written communication.

A despatch from General Stoessel says the Russians abandoned Wolfshill on the 30th ultimo before the numerical superiority of the Japanese.

General Stoessel reports that the Japanese attacks on the 27th ultimo extended along the whole front and continued till eight in the evening, when the enemy were everywhere repulsed with enormous losses. The enemy numbered 70,000.

The British India steamer Manora from Calcutta encountered off Finisterre a German liner, now converted into a Russian cruiser, which required the Manora to hoist her ensign. The Manora complied and was allowed to proceed.

A Berlin telegram from Constantinople says that the Porte has consented to the passage of the Russian Volunteer ships through the Dardanelles.

Admiral Alexieff reports that an engagement took place on the 26th ultimo between the Russian and Japanese squadrons at Port Arthur, in which three Japanese ships, including a gun-boat were damaged.

London, Aug. 10. General Kuropatkin, in a despatch dated 9th, says the situation in the east and south is practically unchanged. Daily fusillades with outposts take place ten miles north of Hancheng.

The Russian Volunteer Cruiser question has been finally settled as telegraphed on 7th instant.

The "Daily Telegraph" publishes a telegram from Chefoo, dated the 9th, which says that messengers from Port Arthur to-night report, that on the night of the 4th instant, the Japanese attacked the main line of fortifications extending over the left flank of the Russians. Both fleets were engaged and a fierce engagement raged till the early morning. The Japanese stormed the fortresses repeatedly and were repulsed with heavy losses. The Russians are reported to have lost over a thousand killed.

London, Aug. 11. Reuter at Chifu says that for the last five days Japanese shells from Wolfshill have been dropping into Port Arthur.

Reuter at Tokio wires that Admiral Togo has closed on the escaping Russian ships and a severe engagement followed, lasting till midnight. Afterwards the Japanese torpedo boat destroyers and torpedo boats made a series of attacks. The Japanese fleet withdrew during the night. The Guardship left to watch the harbour reports that it saw at dawn to-day the Retvisan and Pobeda steaming towards the harbour. Admiral Togo does not report any results of the action.

The Hospital ship Mongolia with women and children accompanied the escaping fleet.

Reuter at Chifu wires that the Russian destroyer, which came from Port Arthur, named the "Rechtelni" has been dismantled in compliance with the demands of the Chinese Admiral. The Russian fleet left Port Arthur in accordance with the imperative orders of Admiral Skrydloff.

In the Lords to-night, Lord Lansdowne said that we cannot admit that the destruction of the "Knight Commander" was justified or that the proceedings of the Prize Court were valid. Such measures affect most injuriously British commerce. His impression, however, was that, despite the onward incidents which have occurred, both Governments would really be glad to discover a reasonable means of settling difficulties. He was glad to say that the language of the Russian Government in reply to British representations justified the hope that the destruction of neutral prizes is unlikely to be repeated, although he could not announce anything tantamount to a distinct settlement.

London, Aug. 12. Reuter at St. Petersburg says that a Commission of high officials has been appointed to examine the position of the volunteer fleet from the standpoint of International Law.

Reuter's correspondent with General Kuropatkin wires on the 11th that there is every indication that the Russians are preparing to give battle in front of Liaoyang, where they are constructing new defences.

Reuter wires from Chifu to-day that two large Japanese torpedo boat destroyers entered the harbour in the night without lights and anchored a quarter of a mile from the Reichtelni.

A boarding party boarded and dismantled the Reichtelni; the firing of small arms took place during which one Russian was wounded. Daybreak showed a third Japanese towing the Russian out of harbour, and all have now disappeared.

The Japanese Consul asserts that the Japanese are ignorant of the dismantling.

#### GENERAL.

London, Aug. 10. Lieutenant Witton, sentenced to life imprisonment for killing unarmed Boers in the war, has been released.

Derby has beaten London County by 139 runs.

Worcester has beaten Somerset by five wickets.

The following matches were drawn:—Yorkshire vs. Middlesex; Surrey vs. Warwickshire; Gloucester vs. Kent; Sussex vs. Lancashire; Notts vs. South Africans.

The death is announced of Mr. Waldock-Rousseau, the French statesman.

Mr. Balfour, replying to a question said that Colonial Conferences were a great addition to the machinery of the Empire, and he hoped they would be repeated frequently, but it was not proposed to take steps at present.

#### TELEGRAMS.

#### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

#### GENERAL.

The Commons have read the Indian Councils Bill a second time.

Lord Selborne in the House of Lords replying to criticisms on the Naval Programme said that Lord Goschen's offer to gradually reduce armaments by agreement with foreign nations has not been withdrawn. A few years ago it would have sufficed if France and England had agreed to diminish their Navy but the case was altered, and neither power can afford to reduce its own expenditure without considering its neighbour's expenditure.

Several cases of cholera have occurred at St. Petersburg, and the prospect of an epidemic is viewed with alarm.

London, Aug. 11. The following is the result of the election for the vacant seat at North East Lanark rendered vacant by the death of Sir William Rattigan:—Mr. Findlay, Radical candidate, polled 5,619; Mr. Touch, Unionist, 4,677; Mr. Robertson, Labour candidate, 3,984.

An Egyptian Blue Book has been issued. Lord Cromer forwards with approval, the loan report of Sir William Gastin, proposing a vast scheme for the irrigation of Egypt and the Sudan, costing about 22 million pounds.

London, Aug. 12. A foreigner has been arrested charged with espionage at Milford Haven, where torpedo and sub-marine manoeuvres are proceeding. Milford Haven is also protected by the most modern forts.

The Commons have read the India Councils Bill a third time.

The Tsarina was delivered of a son to-day.

#### INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

#### THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

Allahabad, Aug. 11.

The London correspondent of the "Pioneer" wires under date 10th instant:—

The "Times" Tokio correspondent authoritatively contradicts the reports of heavy Japanese losses at Port Arthur.

The "Times" states that German steamers are accepting consignments for the Far East, which, for fear of difficulties with Russia, compels British Companies to refuse. It protests against the inaction of the Government. The opinion is that the policy of the Cabinet is determined by a desire to prevent a combination of France and Russia.

Allahabad, Aug. 12.

The London correspondent of the "Pioneer" wires under date 11th instant:—Mr. Balfour's statement respecting Russia is regarded as entirely satisfactory in Parliamentary circles.

Bombay, Aug. 12.

According to reports hitherto received a Russian squadron emerged from Port Arthur was attacked by our fleet south of Yentao and dispersed. Askold, Novik and another cruiser and a destroyer took refuge in Kiaochow and another destroyer in Chefoo. On the 11th instant the enemy's five battleships, one cruiser probably Diana, one hospital ship and several destroyers seemed to have regained Port Arthur. On the same day our fleet were believed to have been undamaged.

#### The Tibet Expedition

#### A CEREMONIAL VISIT.

Lhasa, via Gyantse, (Tibet), Aug. 10.

This morning two Tibetan members of Council paid Colonel Younghusband a visit. He informed them that they must appoint three or four delegates to conduct negotiations. So far no beginning has been made. It appears that the politicals themselves are unaware how long the force will stay in Lhasa.

Supplies here are not coming in freely. Both men and animals are in splendid condition, but the onset of winter has to be considered. Enough transport was not available to bring up winter clothing for all the troops, besides the march back in winter over the Karoia is almost impossible owing to the difficulty of feeding transport animals.

The market which has been established outside the camp is an extraordinary sight. The day we arrived a woman brought some packets of sugar which were immediately sold. Yesterday country people brought in some vegetables, a few hawkers also came in from the city to-day. All Lhasa bazaar seems to have been removed to our camp. Some cloth and other merchants have set up really fine tents. Most of the things produced for sale are eatables. Curiosities are not at present obtainable, but may be when the people realise that they are wanted. The camp also attracted hundreds of idlers in the city. The meadow outside the camp presents the appearance of a busy fair. Most of the booths are kept by women loaded with turquoise jewels. Strangers are not permitted to enter the precincts of the camp itself which is being put in a strong position of defence though no more hostilities are anticipated.

Allahabad, Aug. 12.

Another corps of coolies is being collected for Tibet by Captain Leicester.

Simla, Aug. 12.

The latest news regarding the Dalai Lama is to the effect that he is now about two marches from Lhasa. The exact spot where the monastery is situated is unknown as it has not been located on the present maps.

The Administrator of Natal wires on the 9th instant:—One fresh case of plague has occurred which has proved fatal. Every precaution is being taken.

The Government of India will, as usual move from Simla to Calcutta in the beginning of November. The offices will reopen in Calcutta on Monday, the 7th November.

The "Gazette of India" publishes a regulation to provide for the apportionment and recovery of expense incurred by the Government in certain Settlement proceedings taken under section 9 of the Southern Parganas Settlement Regulation, 1891.



## POTATO CULTIVATION.—VI.

(Special for the Patrika.)

## TUNGI OR INSECT PESTS.

If you wish to be a good potato-grower, you should possess some knowledge of the science of entomology, which will make you familiar with the nature of the voracious insects which do immense injury to potato-crops. It is not necessary to go into the details about the nature and habits of all the insect pests, generally seen in India, and which are great enemies to crops of all descriptions. I shall mention here only some of those that commit depredations upon potato-crops.

There is a kind of insect, known as "Solapoka," embracing several species in this country, which are more destructive than any others to potatoes. I have noticed two other kinds of insects of allied species, but they differ in colour from the first, which is of a light green colour and resembles in some respects the caterpillar of the British Isles. The second is of a deep ash-colour and the third is white. The latter has white linear spots on its body. These insects lay eggs in the field, which should be destroyed long before they are fully developed, either by fire or by Kerosine oil.

There is a fourth kind of insect, which also is injurious to potato-crops. It is a sort of beetle, resembling the flour beetle (Tribolium nigrum) of the British Isles. It is of a deep black colour. Some kinds of ants too, do much damage to the young roots of the potato-plants.

The best way of destroying the Solapokas is to pick them up and burn them. If you kill them on or near your land and allow them to remain there, a future generation, may spring up if they be impregnated with eggs. I have sometimes noticed eggs in their embryo, from which innumerable new offspring spring up. It is therefore advisable to burn them or bury them, at least three feet underground.

You may not at first sight notice any of those insects in your field. But on a searching enquiry being made you will discover that in some place or places of your field, leaves of your potato-plants are withering. From this you should know that your plants must have been suffering from the attack of those insects. They commit depredations during night and conceal themselves during daytime under ground. They never expose themselves to sun-shine which they can not bear.

Get the earth around the plant, the leaves of which are withering, removed by a "Khurpie." You will then find these insects about the roots or the stem of the plant, where they have taken shelter. Get them out immediately and destroy them as stated before. They do harm not only to the plants but also to tubers, in which they make small holes by eating the flesh.

Caterpillars and beetles may also be found out in the above manner. They should also be destroyed in the same way. I have never seen them laying eggs in the field nor did I ever notice their eggs.

Ants may easily be driven out by sprinkling heated sand over them repeatedly till your land is completely freed from these insects.

There is another kind of enemy of potato-crops, which resembles mildews (Chhatapoka). But these are very rarely to be found in potato fields.

There are besides the above, some other sorts of insect pests, which do very slight injury to potatoes and are not worth noticing here.

Various kinds of insecticidal powders and solutions, may now be had in the Bazaar, as preventives of the attacks of these pests. I have tried a few of these with no benefit. Besides they are too costly and are not within the reach of all for many reasons. Some say that farming of potato land before preparation and planting is rather conducive to the destruction of insects. But in that case there is apprehension of some other evil to ensue, as I have found by experiments. Burning of the surplus growth of land does much good to some crops; indeed under certain circumstances it becomes materially necessary to burn the overgrowth of lands. But I never allowed the weeds and grass of my potato-land to be burnt for many reasons. Application of a light solution of lime and water at the time of ploughing is rather effective in checking the progress of insects.

Too much manuring and the using raw animal manure sometimes give birth to these insects and worms, in proof of which I would here give a few illustrations. Some of my readers may laugh at me, on my informing them that insects and worms are spontaneously born in manures and other things. Fermentation takes place in animal manure very rapidly, through the action of the sun and micro-organisms. It is not possible to explain to my readers in the short space of a newspaper article, what is micro-organisms and how sun acts upon animal manure directly, as the subject will, I fear, be rather too lengthy for the present purpose. I would therefore ask my readers to accept it as an axiomatic truth that fermentation and decomposition of inorganic matter generate ammonia and carbonic acid gas, which are the principal elements that go to form and nourish plant life as I have said before.

Now, one illustration will convince you that insects and worms are naturally born in manures. Fill a pitcher with water and put in it some betel-nuts (areca catechu) with their shells, intact, cover its mouth with a piece of rag, wood, or any other thing. Keep it in this state for a few weeks, and then open the cover. You will now notice lots of mosquitoes inside the jug. Have they not been brought into existence by nature?

Take a ripe mango in your hand. You see nothing in its outer surface or skin. Then cut it. You now find some worms in it. Have they not been created by nature? You must say, yes. This much is enough to give you a fair idea about the origination of fungi, I shall convince you fully, how this takes place in nature by separate articles on "Fermentation" and "micro-organisms" so far as relates to agriculture.

Mr. Fuller, Chief Commissioner of Assam, accompanied by Mrs. Fuller passed through Allahabad on Thursday afternoon.

It is understood, as regards the force at Lhasa, that no difficulty is likely to be experienced regarding local supplies of grain and forage for all transport animals.

## NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

## THE CASE OF THE KNIGHT COMMANDER.

London, Aug. 1.

It is generally believed that Germany is passively supporting Russia's resolution to uphold her right to pass volunteer cruisers through the Dardanelles under the guise of the commercial flag and afterwards to utilise them as warships.

The British steamer "Tsinin" has brought the crew of the "Knight Commander" to Yokohama. The captain of the "Tsinin" reports that the "Knight Commander" met three Russian cruisers, when the Russian ordered the captain and crew to come aboard the warships within ten minutes. They then sank the steamer. In the afternoon the Russian cruisers stopped the "Tsinin" and placed the "Knight Commander's" crew aboard and boasted that they had sunk two small Japanese vessels, captured a German steamer and sunk the British steamer "Cheltenham." The warships look very foul. The Russians directed the "Tsinin" not to move until the cruisers disappeared. They were last seen steaming towards Tokyo Bay. The "Times" declares that the sinking of the British steamer is the worst outrage the Russians have yet committed, and insists that it is absolutely inexcusable, and unless resistance was offered it was a gross violation of the rights of belligerents, even if part of the cargo was contraband. Under Russia's extravagantly wide definition of that term a ship's destruction makes all investigation of a judicious nature by a competent court impossible. It urges that a committee comprising representatives of the Foreign Office should deal with such cases. It is reported at Tokyo that the "Tsinin" escaped a similar fate to the "Knight Commander," because the Russian warships were unable to take their women and children passengers aboard.

Mr. Balfour in the Commons made a statement regarding the Malacca incident and showed that the British Government took the strongest possible exception to the seizure, on the ground that no ship of war could issue from the Black Sea. It was intolerable in view of the existing treaties that an apparently peaceful vessel leaving the Black Sea should be transformed into a warship immediately after she passed the Dardanelles. Russia without admitting the general principle met Britain by promising to release her. The sinking of the "Knight Commander" was an infinitely more serious case. Britain held that it was not proper for the captain of a cruiser to remove from a merchantman alleged contraband without the intervention of a prize court; otherwise the necessary foundation on which the equitable relations of belligerents and neutrals rested would be cut at the root. The sinking of the "Knight Commander" was a very serious breach of international law and was entirely contrary to the accepted practice of nations. Britain accordingly made a strong remonstrance to Russia accompanied by a request for the prevention of similar occurrences and demanded the release of the steamer's British crew. The British Government is under the strong impression that Russia would disavow the conduct of the persons concerned in the outrage and would give orders to prevent the recurrence. The question of compensation is still open.

When the Malacca was seized Russian engineers replaced the British and the consequence was that many bearings became heated before Suez was reached, and the Russians were obliged to ask the British Engineers to put matters right.

General Kuropatkin in a long despatch describes two days' stubborn fighting on the heights south of Tashichiao. The Russians repelled all the enemy's assaults and finally withdrew northward unmolested. Kuropatkin admits that the Japanese captured Pangling Pass after a fierce struggle. Other accounts indicate that a series of desperate bayonet charges, a prolonged artillery duel and finally an enveloping movement enabled the Japanese to turn both flanks of the Russians and compel them to retreat. Both armies suffered severely; but there are no reliable estimates of the losses on either side.

The St. Petersburg Government Journal states that the Japanese permitted the Russian cavalry to approach to close quarters and then moved them down with a terrible fire. Finding that the Russian fire prevented a general advance General Oku halted and prepared for a night surprise. Suddenly the entire Japanese right was hurled at the Russians. The first position east and west of Tai-pingling, was easily captured. The enemy's second position was attacked at midnight and at dawn the Japanese occupied an eminence to the east of Shanshitun. They seized Changshishang without resistance and pursued the Russians towards Tashichiao. The Japanese casualties were 800.

General Zaboubaieff who commanded the Russians at Tashichiao asserts that the Japanese had an enormous superiority. Their numbers were overwhelming, and there was a preponderance of artillery. He claims that the Russians displayed splendid endurance throughout what he describes as a glorious fight. He says they did not yield an inch of ground though they were under a terrific fire for 14½ hours, fighting on four occasions at close quarters with the bayonet, which the Japanese were unable to withstand. General Zaboubaieff states that owing to the Japanese superiority he felt it unwise to continue the action and consequently ordered the army to retire northwards, which movement was effected in complete order. The capture of Tashichiao, it is urged, is of no real importance. A Japanese newspaper correspondent reports that General Kuropatkin was wounded in the left shoulder in the fighting at Tashichiao, the Japanese pursuing the Russians northward.

The Kashmir Durbar have applied to the Government for an extension of the appointment of Pandit Mannohan Nath as Governor of Kashmir for a further period of three years.

The Rangoon Municipal Committee on Thursday voted £600 for four weeks as a professional fee to Mr. Ault for putting in order defects in the Shone and Ault drainage system which is at present working most unsatisfactorily. Besides this fee the committee also agreed to pay ten guineas for every day Mr. Ault was detained beyond that period. These terms were telegraphed, and Mr. Ault is expected to sail for Rangoon this month.

## High Court—Aug. 12.

## CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Pratt and Bodilly.)

## THE HAZARIBAG SENSATION.

## MR. FOSTER AGAIN.

[Another chapter is added to the drama now being enacted at Hazaribag. It will be remembered that several zemindars of Gaya fell into troubles for having brought a case against one Mr. Christian a lessee of a portion of their Zemindaries—how they were prosecuted under section 107 Cr. P. C., how they were made to rot in hajut, how they were refused, how though ordered by the High Court bail was refused on the ground of insufficient security and how they were finally liberated by the order of the High Court to be released on personal recognizance. The following affidavit made by Babu Raghunandan Persad Sing, one of the Zemindars, will show how even the last order of the High Court, giving the persecuted zemindars partial relief, was sought to be made inoperative by the overzeal of Mr. Foster, the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribag.]

## AFFIDAVIT.

The following is the affidavit of Raghunandan Prosad:—

1. I am one of the petitioners in the above Revision case now pending in this Hon'ble Court.

2. That on the order of this Hon'ble Court passed on the petition of myself and my co-petitioners reaching the learned Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribag, Mr. Foster, on or about the 31st July 1904 the said learned Deputy Commissioner released myself and my said two co-petitioners on the 1st of August 1904 on our personal recognizance with directions to appear before him on the 2nd instant.

3. That on our appearing before the said Deputy Commissioner on the 2nd instant we were ordered to present ourselves daily before him on execution of new recognizance bonds.

4. That on our appearing before the said Deputy Commissioner on the 4th instant, we prayed to him by a petition that he would allow us permission to leave Hazaribag for Calcutta as we intended to attend personally (to the matter) in order to instruct counsel and vakils fully in the matter of the Revision case now pending in this Hon'ble Court. The said learned Deputy Commissioner was pleased to reject our said petition and he verbally acquired of us whether we intended to go to Mosnodi to which we replied that we intended to come to Calcutta. The said learned Deputy Commissioner thereupon ordered us to appear before him on the 5th instant.

5. That realizing that our presence in Calcutta was absolutely necessary we prayed again by a petition on the 5th instant that the learned Deputy Commissioner would at least be pleased to allow us to come to Calcutta for 15 days whereupon the said Mr. Foster allowed us time till the 19th August 1904 to absent ourselves from Hazaribag and warned us that we would be arrested at once on our being seen in the vicinity of Mosnodi.

6. That we arrived in Calcutta on the 9th instant and that the said Revision case has been placed on the ready list of cases only this day.

7. That I was present in court this morning when Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, mentioned the said Revision case to their Lordships, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pratt and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bodilly, and got the case postponed.

8. That I respectfully submit that inasmuch as there is no likelihood of the said Revision case being disposed of by the Hon'ble Judges of this court within a day or two, it would be a great hardship on us to present ourselves on the 19th instant before the said Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribag inasmuch as further proceedings in the said matter has already been stayed by the Hon'ble Judges of this Court.

9. That I say that the facts stated above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. S. P. Sinha, who with Babu Charu Chandra Ghose appeared for the petitioners, stated all the facts of the case.

Mr. Justice Pratt:—This is disobeying the order of the High Court. What he had to do is to accept that recognizance.

Mr. Sinha:—Our prayer is that your Lordships will allow my clients to be here till this matter is disposed of. They are in Calcutta now and the case is not likely to be heard within two or three days.

Mr. Justice Pratt:—What do you apprehend?

Mr. Sinha:—After this matter is disposed of, probably I may be hauled up and kept in the "hajut." Your Lordships would be pleased to pass an order so that the petitioners may remain in Calcutta and have sufficient time to go to Hazaribag afterwards, and that it may not be said that I have disobeyed the order of the Deputy Commissioner.

Mr. Justice Pratt:—On the application of the petitioners through Mr. Sinha we give them permission to remain here until the disposal of this rule.

## ALLEGED CRIMINAL INTIMIDATION.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal with Babu Hemendra Nath Sen moved on behalf of Tralokhya Nath Messer, a rate-payer of Daihati Municipality for a rule upon the District Magistrate of Burdwan to show cause why the case under sec. 506 Indian Penal Code for criminal intimidation instituted by one Ashutosh Mukerjee against the petitioner now pending in the court of Babu Sham Lal Gupta, Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Katwa should not be transferred to any other Magistrate in the Sudder Station of Burdwan competent to try the case.

It appears that one Bistoo Charan Bhattacharjee of Daihati having constructed a privy adjoining the entrance of the petitioner's Thakubari the petitioner made an application to Babu Shyam Lal Gupta who is also the Chairman of the Municipality for removing the nuisance. The Chairman on enquiry found the application was reasonable and was of opinion that Bistoo Charan should not be permitted to keep the privy in that way but by a subsequent order permitted Bistoo Charan to keep the privy. The petitioner then instituted a suit in the civil court for removing the nuisance. Sometime after, it

was alleged, the Municipality having encroached upon a small strip of land belonging to the petitioner an application was made to the Chairman for redress but without success. The petitioner then instituted a suit in the civil court against the Chairman for possession of the land in question. During the pendency of the suit it was alleged the Overseer of the Municipality with some municipal servants came to cut a part of the land in suit for making a drain and to remove the boundary fences, but the petitioner objected. A notice was then issued on the petitioner under the signature of the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality regarding the petitioner to remove the fence. The petitioner then applied to the Munsiff for a temporary injunction restraining the Municipality from removing the fence and cutting the land and the Munsiff issued a notice to the Chairman to show cause why the injunction should not be issued. Thereafter one Ashutosh Mukerjee who was a witness cited by the Chairman in the civil suit, complained before Babu S. L. Gupta, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, alleging that he was asked by the petitioner to give evidence in the civil suit in support of his claim and on the complainant's refusal your petitioner intimidated him. On the said complaint being filed Babu S. L. Gupta issued a warrant against the petitioner who after wards surrendered before the Magistrate and applied under section 526 Cr. P. Code for time to enable him to move the High Court for the transfer of the case. Babu S. L. Gupta thereupon recorded an order stating that the case is practically an off-shoot of a case between the petitioner and the Daihati Municipality of which he the Magistrate happened to be the Chairman and he thought the case had better been tried in some other court. He therefore submitted the record to the District Magistrate for order. The District Magistrate however refused to transfer the case, specially having regard to the fact that the transfer would cause considerable inconvenience to the complainant.

Their Lordships granted a rule to show cause why the case should not be transferred from the file of Babu S. L. Gupta.

Their Lordships further directed that proceedings be stayed pending the hearing of the rule.

## THE BOGUS TELEGRAM CASE.

## FIFTH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Darjiling, Aug. 12.

The Darjiling Bogus Telegram case was continued to-day.

Mrs. D'Cruz who is afflicted with blindness and had to be led into the witness box was examined.

A discussion arose here over Mrs. D'Cruz's evidence as she was blind and had to speak chiefly from hearsay. The question of fixing Elliott's identity was argued and the judge ruled against its being admitted in this particular connection.

Her son told her he was going to Darjiling for a Mr. Elliott. She remembered nothing else. He was away five or six days. When he returned he went out for a little. He said who she came back he had been to church as he had made a vow. He was frightened because he had sent a telegram given him by a person (mention of the name here was objected to.) He said that at Silguri he was asked if he was the man who sent the telegram. He denied it. He said he received 20 rupees and was to get more by and bye. D'Cruz quarrelled with his brother. This was not uncommon. When D'Cruz left her house witness did not know where he was living. She received a letter from him about 20 days before he came back with Mr. Elliott; the letter was received from Pickett's house. Her son asked to see one of the family and witness asked Daniel, her son-in-law to go and see him.

Mrs. D'Cruz cross-examined by Mr. Gregory said that she had seen her son that morning. They had not spoken of the case as she knew it would be wrong as she was to give evidence. She was present when Mr. Ellis took her son's statement. She did not know what was going on.

Mr. Gregory said if Mrs. D'Cruz's evidence to the effect that D'Cruz mentioned Elliott's name to her was ruled out he would not further cross-examine her. The Judge allowed such evidence to be ruled out and the Court rose for lunch.

After the Court resumed Sub-Inspector Lama Aho, of the Darjiling Police deposed to having seen D'Cruz at the station on his arrival and departure in January. Witness related the conversation with D'Cruz.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gregory witness said he understood English.

Mr. Charles Hardless Government handwriting expert was next examined. He stated he had many times given expert evidence. He had examined exhibit 1 (the bogus telegram). He saw the telegram first in the detective department. The letters from Thomas to Rose and Fernandez were also placed before him. He believed the two letters and the text of the telegram were written by the same hand. The words "Englishman" and "Newman" on the "sent" message form were also written by the same hand. Also "press ordinary" the signature "A. Newman" on the lower slip witness did not think was there and he did not report on it. Witness explained in detail his reason for thinking the various hand writings were by the same hand. He explained to Mr. Morison that two men could not have a complete combination of characteristics. He knew no such case while he had examined the handwriting.

Cross-examined by Mr. Edwards witness said in the Telegraph Department he had facilities for examining a vast number of documents. He had studied under no master. In comparing handwritings he had omitted measurements only. Mr. Edwards questioned witness about other cases in which he had given evidence. Witness had paid no attention to the character of persons in relation to their handwriting. Witness explained the difficulty between comparing pencil and ink writing. Witness was examined on many technical points. Mr. Edwards said he admitted that the same hand wrote the body of the telegram (exhibit 1) and the two letters to Rose and Fernandez. This amounted to an admission that Thomas wrote the body of the telegram.

Witness said his attention had not been particularly directed to the body of the telegram. He had examined the address and the signature with the same care.

## ALLEGED DEFAMATION.

At the Bombay Police Court, Mr. Kurson-das Chhimbilas disposed of the case in which one A. Prior, a Portuguese clerk, lately employed under Mr. H. P. Kennedy, Bridge Superintendent on the B. B. and C. I. Railway, charged the latter with defamation. The Magistrate said that he was satisfied that the allegation that complainant was dismissed from the railway because of the telegrams sent by Mr. Kennedy to the Resident Engineer was false. The message disclosed no malice or ill-will on accused's part. He was bound to report on the complainant and had acted properly in the discharge of his duty on receipt of sufficient information about the complainant. The action of the accused was fully privileged, and he was entitled to the protection of the law. The Magistrate observed that Mr. Kennedy left the Court without a stain on his character.

## ELECTRIC RAILWAY AT KASHMIR.

It seems probable that if any railway is made into Kashmir it will be worked by electricity, for there is ample water-power available. It can be "harnessed" Major Joly de Lotbiniere, whom the Durbar have invited to advise them on the subject as an electrical expert, may be able to say how the power can be most economically generated and transmitted and upon his report a good deal will depend. The alignment of the railway will also be a most important point to be settled, with a view to the possible development of the Kashmir coalfields. Last year the Indian Geological Department investigated the known deposits of coal in Jammu and the results will be made known shortly. Briefly it may be said that there are some millions of tons available, but much of it will be unworkable. The rest may prove a valuable asset to the railway, but so far as can be seen there will not be a very decided margin of advantage over Bengal coal, though the latter is handicapped by heavy freight charges.

## THE ATTITUDE OF THE THIBETAN.

Advices from Tibet, dated 5th, show that the situation at Lhasa remains unchanged. The Dalai Lama is staying at a private monastery at Reteng, eighteen miles from Lhasa, and State business is being carried on by his Regent. The attitude of the Tibetans has undergone a marked change, and they are beginning to look upon the Mission with a friendly eye. The Tibetan Government is also sending necessary supplies and showing the courtesy due to guests. Colonel Younghusband was visited by the Amban and a number of leading men of Lhasa on the 5th, and they went back well pleased with the reception accorded to them. The Tibetans are showing a strong desire to treat with the Mission, but no formal negotiations have yet begun. The attitude of the Shapas is now also friendly. The Tongsa Penlop, has arrived at Lhasa, and is doing his best for the negotiations. Colonel Younghusband, Mr. Walsh, and several other officials, accompanied by the Amban, visited Lhasa and passed through the City without any difficulty.

## PLOT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT.

A Meiktila (Burma) correspondent writes on the last instant: About the middle of last month Maung Po Thin, Township Officer, Meiktila, received information that a plot was being hatched in a monastery in Show-aisin village, not far from here, to overthrow the British Government in Burma. The conspirators were a hpoingyi, a follower, and two bad hats who are wanted by the Myingyan Police. This information was at once laid before the Sub-divisional Officer, Maung Nyo, who, with his lieutenant, Maung Po Thin, immediately organized a hunt to capture them. On approaching the monastery the two Burmese officials and their party of police officers saw a man at the top of a flight of stairs with a revolver in one hand and a dah in the other. When called on to surrender he threatened to shoot; but the sight of half a dozen rifles levelled at him unnered him and he tried to jump over a wall and escape, but fell into the arms of a study Punjabee in waiting. This was one bad hat. The other was armed likewise, and was caught somewhat similarly. His "Reverence," and his follower, who gave themselves up quietly, have since been released, as there is not sufficient evidence to bring them to trial! Their associates are to be prosecuted under the Arms Act.

Under the Foreigner Marriage Act a fee of Rs. 5 has been prescribed for every certificate to the effect that notice has been given and published under the Act. A discretionary power has been given to the Authorities to remit a part not exceeding one-fourth of the fee to any person who appears to be in indigent circumstances.

## ADVICE TO STUDENTS AND LITERARY MEN.

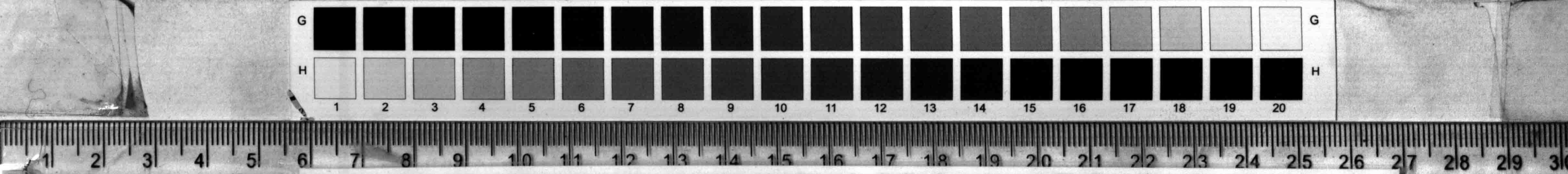
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ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH  
TOPICS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

LONDON, JULY 22.

## PHRASE FOR THE WEEK.

"Then what is your religion?" said the Indian to the Japanese. "Are you Buddhist, Shintoist, Christian?"

"I am none of these," answered the stranger, and he added quietly, "Japan is the religion of the Japanese."

—Extract from a recent conversation in London.

LORD CURZON ON HIS DEFENCE:  
ONE NOTABLE DECLARATION.

The remarkable point about the reception accorded to Lord Curzon in the City of London last Wednesday was the trouble which the latest freeman and youngest citizen took to justify the principal features of administration in India during the time he has occupied the distinguished position of Viceroy and Governor-General. The India of his speech—a speech which occupied well-nigh sixty minutes—was one to comfort the heart of those who toil unceasingly for her welfare. Progress everywhere; prosperity increasing; railways, irrigation, education, all making strides in advance, the routine of the Government offices more efficient, and a peaceful frontier policy until "real and imminent danger" demanded vacillation no longer, but resolute action in Tibet. I need not to-day deal with further points in this presentation of the case for the administration, but, even in it, can be found traces of the new spirit which is permeating India. Said Lord Curzon:

"I believe we have it in our power to will the people of India into a unity beyond anything they have dreamed of and to give them blessings beyond those they yet enjoy."

Through the Indian people may object to be "willed" into unity, yet the utterance of the possible fact of that unity, in the heart of the Empire, is not without a deep significance. For the rest, the outward show was interesting and impressive. The gold casket which contained his lordship's freedom was entirely Indian in design. It so happened that while Lord Curzon was speaking two objects lay ready to his hand to be gracefully tossed with the casket and the mace—the one his own property when he had promised "to be good and obedient"; the other the symbol of the City's power which, together with that of His Majesty, he undertook to obey. A Councillor of the City, in speaking of the privileges of a freeman said to me: "I believe the only right left by Law of the Freedom of the City of London is that of keeping pigs in the parish of St. James." However this may be, the City did honour to Lord Curzon, and great men have been proud to inscribe their names upon the City's Roll of Fame.

## MR. BONNERJEE'S RETIREMENT.

A few weeks ago I mentioned that Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee would be obliged to resign his candidature of the Walthamstow division owing to a lamentable break-down in health. The retirement has now been officially announced, and in a deservedly eulogistic notice of his career, the "Walthamstow Recorder" ably expresses the deep regret which is felt in the district where Mr. Bonnerjee had rapidly made friends and won enthusiastic supporters. In the course of his remarks, the Editor of the "Recorder" makes reference to the conduct of certain sections of Mr. Bonnerjee's political opponents—conduct which recalls the blackguardly incivilities of the late Lord Salisbury towards Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji. The "Recorder" writes: "We will not dwell upon the scandalous attitude taken up against Mr. Bonnerjee by the vilest section of his political opponents and the local Tory press. It was as disgusting as it was contemptible. Unable to discover a blemish in Mr. Bonnerjee's public or private character, incapable of refuting his political statements, for criticising his political actions, they resorted to disgraceful attacks upon his personal appearance, although Mr. Bonnerjee is a gentleman of polished and attractive exterior and great charm of manner. Inspired by the baneful example set them by the late Lord Salisbury, they did not scruple to scatter scurrilous and insulting references and reflections upon Mr. Bonnerjee's nationality, colour, and creed, forgetful of the fact that in the neighbouring constituency of North-East Bethnal Green, an Indian gentleman—Sir Mancherjee Merwanjee Bhownagree—has been returned to the House of Commons as a Conservative Member. Those who boast of being able to 'think imperially' and who prate about the unity of all parts of the British Empire, did not hesitate to hurl contemptuous epithets at Mr. Bonnerjee, who is one of the best representatives of a Nation that was highly civilised, centuries before the dawn of the Christian Era, that rejoiced in its literature, sciences, and arts, when Britain was steeped in barbarism, and which is to-day claimed to be the brightest gem in the Imperial crown."

It was not only the Conservatives who acted thus; a body of Socialists ever restored to these tactics. But in the present sorrowful circumstances one hardly cares to dwell too much on these instances of rancour and bad taste. It is better to end this paragraph with the tribute of the "Recorder" to one who cannot, alas, now be the Liberal Member for Walthamstow: "Mr. Bonnerjee's unflinching courtesy, urbanity, and tact; his profound knowledge and great abilities; his undoubted political capacity and high aims; his thorough grasp of political, industrial, and social questions; his transparently honest and fearless advocacy of them; his thoughtful, intellectual, withal strenuous, exposition of his views; all appealed with irresistible force to the intelligent electors of the Walthamstow Division. And as time advanced, he became more and more respected, admired, and trusted."

Here is a spontaneous tribute of an Englishman towards an Indian political leader. LORD DUFFERIN TO MR. BRADLAUGH. This week's issue of "India" contains the conclusion of the interesting correspondence which passed between Lord Dufferin and Mr. Bradlaugh shortly after the return of Lord Dufferin from India. The letters have appeared in full in this month's "Re-

former," the magazine which is edited by Mrs. Bradlaugh Bonner, the daughter of the great "Member for India." The occasion of the letters was a speech by Mr. Bradlaugh at Newcastle criticising Lord Dufferin's attack upon the Congress in a speech delivered at Calcutta, which attack created intense excitement throughout India towards the end of 1888. What is particularly noteworthy in all the letters, apart from the views expressed, is the friendly spirit displayed by both writers. In his second letter Lord Dufferin had discarded the imperial style of his first communication and addressed Mr. Bradlaugh as "My dear Mr. Bradlaugh." He suggested a personal interview during the course of the following week and the meeting appears to have taken place at his town residence. No notes of the conversation exist, so its subject can only be guessed at from the tone of the next, and last, letter written by Lord Dufferin from the British Embassy in Rome. In it he declares that the efforts of the Indian Government should be applied rather to decentralisation than to unification, but in this statement he was referring to details of the administrative system and not to the wider problems of Indian statesmanship which Mr. Bradlaugh was endeavouring to raise. Concluding, he pays tribute to his antagonist. "I am very glad," he writes, "that the conduct of the debate in the House of Commons should be in the hands of a prudent, wise, and responsible person like yourself instead of having been laid hold of by some adventurous 'franc-tireur,' whose only object might possibly have been to let off a few fireworks for his own glorification." This is handsomely expressed, but it may be doubted if fireworks were ever the customary illumination of Indian reformers though Lord Dufferin seems to hint at it. Had he written a quarter of a century later, he would have been obliged to confess that it is the Viceroy who indulges in fireworks now-a-days: reformers have to put up with the less exhilarating light of common sense.

## THE FUTILETY OF COMMON SENSE.

## PARLIAMENT.

With regard to the matter of Indian petitions to Parliament, which Mr. Galloway Weir brought forward in the House of Commons a few days ago, it may be well to make clear to petitioners in India that the Government reply is what the Hon. Member for Ross and Cromarty stated as his own belief, with a shake of the head: "No good, absolutely no good! Mere waste of time and money!" A special Report of the Select Committee on Public Petitions deals with the question of petitions from India. It declares that petitions are forwarded from "fellow subjects in India under the misapprehension that Parliament must take action upon them. Nothing is further from the mark than this belief. The report explicitly states that nothing happens beyond the printing of the petition in the appendix to the report of the Committee, unless, "which is scarcely ever the case, the subject of the petition is of such urgency as to be formally brought before the House of Commons on the motion of a Member." The misapprehension, it is stated, arises from the fact that the word petition, may mean appeal, application, memorial, etc., and the people of India assume that Parliament can deal with judicial disputes and decisions for which the final authority is the Privy Council, and with executive acts of the local administration, in respect to which the final authority is the Secretary of State in Council. So, the Committee wish to make it clear that petitions to Parliament are needless expense and likely to affect nothing. In its disinterestedness, the Committee wishes to put petitioners on their guard to save unnecessary expenditure and to prevent disappointment. I need only repeat what I have so often stated the one aim and goal of all agitation in India should be representation, and what I have just written emphasises the need.

## BRITISH INDIANS IN NATAL.

The most notable incident in last night's sitting of the House of Commons was Mr. Lytton's announcement that a measure of representation would be granted next year to the people of the Transvaal in the government of the Colony. So far as his new remarks may be interpreted, the change in status will place the Transvaal Legislature in much the same position as the Viceroy's Legislative Council in India. Mr. Lytton carefully explained that the representation would not be large. "Let it not be misunderstood," he said, "I use the words 'representative institutions' perhaps in a technical sense. Full self-government is called responsible government, but the decision of His Majesty's Government is to substitute for the present nominated element in the Transvaal an elected element, so that upon a question upon which they were to ascertain the views of the country as a whole, they would always have the machinery by virtue of the elected members, wholly apart from or not a measure was consistent and in harmony with the opinions of the country. That measure we shall have next year." This announcement took place on a motion by Sir Henry Fowler to reduce the vote for the Colonial Office as a protest against the Chinese Labour Ordinance. Sir Henry defended his own Guiana regulations of 1893, and subsequently the status of British Indians in South Africa was raised by Mr. Chamberlain. The ex-Colonial Secretary took up the attitude that while the denunciations of the Indian immigrants were totally unfounded, yet the South African people had a complete right, if they thought fit, to forbid their entry, and to confine South Africa solely to the races at present occupying the land. He did not, however, seem to pay sufficient attention to the question of the justice which ought to be granted to the Indians already in the country. Footpath regulations and location ordinances are not direct honest attempts—if any such attempts could be honest—to bar the country to further Indian immigration. They are, instead, mean and underhand efforts to place the Indian settlers upon a footing of degradation which altogether neglects their sterling qualities and their right to fair treatment. It was a strange commentary upon Lord Curzon's mock-heroics in the City on Wednesday to hear Mr. Chamberlain object to the possible flooding of the Transvaal with the "under-fed, over-nourished population of India. Somewhat, Lord Curzon does not lay much stress upon the under-feeding of India. His mind is fixed upon the shallower, showier aspects of the Indian Empire. Mr. Chamberlain stultified the good

effects of his compliments regarding the Indian immigrant in South Africa by openly declaring that he considered the Indian Government wrong in refusing to permit the wholesale immigration of slave coolies unless the regulations were altered and other changes made in the attitude of South Africa towards Indians. Sir Mancherjee Bhownagree would not permit this criticism to pass without an answer. From India, he declared, a supply of labour might have been obtained which would have been adequate for the requirements of the Transvaal. All the Indian Government required in order that the supply might be forthcoming was a promise that the British Indian subjects of his Majesty should be secured against the degradation and the humiliation from which they had suffered in the past; and Lord Curzon, he continued, never did anything more popular and just than when he stood up for the rights of the Indian subjects of the Crown. At this point loud cheers from the Opposition greeted the hon. Member for Bethnal Green, for these gentlemen are never backward in their appreciation of that which deserves unstinted praise in Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty. Since British supremacy has been established in the Boer territories, said Sir Mancherjee, the position of the British Indian has gone from bad to worse, and he warned the House that though, by their present action, they might be pleasing a few thousand colonists they were causing great discontent among three hundred millions of British subjects. At the conclusion of a lengthy reply, Mr. Lytton dealt with the Indian question, and his answer, judging from the actual words employed, can only be regarded as entirely satisfactory. It was impossible, he stated, consistently with national honour and dignity, to say that Indians now resident in the Transvaal should not have privileges which the Boer law, rightly interpreted, gave to them, and which Great Britain had demanded. Therefore, in his opinion, the matter had only to be placed clearly and definitely—as he had attempted to place it if despatches not yet published—before the Transvaal Government which valued the honour and dignity of the British flag as much as anybody, and they would fairly grant these rights to Indians now in the country. "If only one could be quite sure that Mr. Lytton is strong enough to over-bear Lord Milner, then the Indian difficulty in the Transvaal may be regarded as largely mitigated. But where is our national boast that full justice to British Indians in South Africa was one of the causes of the recent war if we now only grant them the privileges which they enjoyed under the Boer administration? And, as regards Mr. Lytton, the reduction of the Chinese wages against the definite pledge of the Colonial Secretary, does not establish great confidence in him; rather does it prove that he is a weakman who gives way to a mere show of opposition."

THE POLICE VS. THE SUBORDINATE  
MAGISTRATE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Trichinopoly, Aug. 5.

An unique spectacle was witnessed here the other day which is still exercising public mind. A Sub-Magistrate from his bench remarked that a particular Police case was not satisfactorily proved and that the Police would do well not to waste the time of his court with such charges. Expressions to this effect are too strong for the Police dignitaries to brook or bear. As is everywhere the case, the subordinate Police officer reported it to his superiors, and the result was that the District Magistrate, a Civilian, hastened to order the Sub-Magistrate, a "native," to tender an apology to the Police. Your columns often baste with such incidents as personal fights between District Magistrates and District Judges, in which the District Superintendents of Police play no mean part. Games worthy of angels' sight! It was unfortunate that in this instance a Civilian District Magistrate after all but a junior in that Heaven-born service—accidentally acting in that responsible office—should have taken to task a Sub-Magistrate for observations made from the bench in the course of judicial business and about matters brought to his cognisance. Let us not be so uncharitable as to suppose that he did so to maintain the dignity rather, in the official language, the prestige of the Police Department. It is not unfair to say that the Sub-Magistrate did not go beyond his privilege as a Judge when he characterised the particular case as unworthy of Police efforts and that the Police had better bring up better work for his court. Mr. Spencer, the District Magistrate, must be aware of the most seething observations on the Police constables, from the lips of the High Court Judges and of the equally strong criticisms by them on the Magisterial work in the mufasil. If such remarks were not thrown out from the bench, they would be in the eye of law objectionable. But does the law deny to the Sub-Magistrates the protection and the privilege of judicial pronouncements on the cases actually tried by them? But Sir, this tale has another ludicrous aspect. The order to the Sub-Magistrate to tender an apology was a triumph to the local Police which the officers endeavoured to make a show of. One afternoon, the Police assembled their local force and were in their holiday mood to hear the Sub-Magistrate's apology in open court. The Magistrate to his own humiliation did read his apology. Ah, what a triumph to the Police, what joy there was to see the spectacle of a Judge apologising to the criminal delinquents. The eye-witnesses would declare this scene as quite unwarranted and scandalous. If Mr. Spencer was of opinion that the Magistrate was wrong, he must have simply warned him on the conduct of the Sub-Magistrate. But his order that the apology must be offered to the Police was too hard. In his enthusiasm to maintain the Police prestige, he forgot to protect the judicial protection and privilege allowed to every Judge by the laws of the land and really strange that he should have omitted to courteously treat his own direct subordinate before recompensing the fancied wrong or insult of the Police. But such is the "esprit de corps" of the heads of district-departments that they make a common cause against the poor "native" Sub-Magistrate. And sir what sort of independent judgments are one to expect from these Sub-Magistrates who are so taken to task by their direct masters—the district delinquents! It remains to be seen if the Sub-Magistrate will appeal and if the Honorable members interpolate the Government.

## NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

## WAR NEWS.

London, July 24.

It is stated that a claim for damages against the Russian Government for the seizure of the "Malacca" may be presented by the P. and O. Company through the British Embassy at St. Petersburg.

It is reported on the authority of a high Japanese official in London that some time ago, believing that Russia intended to try to pass her Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles, under her commercial flag, Japan asked and received assurances from Great Britain, France, and Germany that, if necessary, they would bring pressure to bear on Turkey to prevent such a proceeding.

Press telegrams published state that as a matter of formality, the cargo of the "Malacca" will be examined in some Mediterranean port.

The "Times" protests against any procedure that will be tantamount to recognising the volunteer steamer St. Petersburg as a belligerent cruiser.

The inspired St. Petersburg newspapers declare that Russia does not abate her right to use her volunteer fleet for any purpose she chooses.

They argue that the subventioned Cunard and other British greyhound liners occupy a position precisely parallel to that of Russia's volunteer fleet.

It is believed that Russia, besides apologising and paying compensation for the seizure of the "Malacca," has directed the removal of the Russian flag and the re-hosting of the British flag.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" states that the Grand Dukes Alexis and Alexander and Admiral Avellan, of the Ministry of Marine, without the knowledge of Count Lamsdorff, the Russian Foreign Minister, ordered the volunteer fleet to molest British shipping.

Apparently they gave no consideration to the question of the status of the cruisers. According to the same correspondent, Count Lamsdorff was powerfully impressed by the despatch of British warships to Alexandria.

The Czar hurriedly returned to St. Petersburg, where Professor Martens, the eminent international Jurist, was consulted.

The outcome of these deliberations was that Count Lamsdorff insisted upon the "Malacca's" release, and that ultimately Russia decided to examine the P. and O. steamer's cargo at Suda Bay, in order to "save her face," leaving the question of the status of the St. Petersburg undecided.

The Russian volunteer cruiser "St. Petersburg" has arrived at Jeddah, an Arabian seaport in the Red Sea. She telegraphed for orders, but receiving no reply, re-sailed on Friday.

The Hamburg-American liner "Candia" arrived at Suez yesterday, and entered the Canal flying the Russian flag. Naval officers are in command of the steamer, and she is manned by a Russian crew.

The "Candia" left Suez on the 14th bound for Japan. She was seized in the Red Sea by a Russian transport. She had a consignment of ammunition aboard, consigned to Singapore, for the use of the German Government in the South Seas, and another similar consignment for Shanghai, intended for the Chinese Government. Otherwise, the "Candia" carried nothing contraband.

The British Mediterranean fleet, whose movements during the past few days are supposed to have had some relation to the recent seizure of the P. and O. steamer "Malacca," has arrived at Alexandria.

A fisherman reports that Russia's "Vladivostok" squadron has started in the direction of Yokohama.

A Moscow newspaper, the "Russky Listok," states that General Kuroki's army, having driven in the Russians' left flank, is now marching on Mukden.

It is reported at St. Petersburg that three cruisers purchased by Russia in Germany have joined the "Vladivostok" squadron.

Some details have been published of the recent battle on Liaoyang-Saimatse road.

General Kuroki, early in the morning of the 18th instant, unmasked the Russians.

As the Japanese followed them along the river the Russians seemed to be retiring northwards. Suddenly, however, two battalions, with eight guns, turned and vigorously attacked Kuroki's vanguard, which suffered severely. One company lost all its officers before supports arrived. Late in the afternoon the Russian's position developed. They occupied an eminence on the banks of the Chi River, 2,000 metres high, and having the river to protect their left flank and high precipices on their right.

The only approach to the Russians' position was through a narrow defile.

Fighting continued until dark. Two Russian counter-attacks were repulsed.

The Japanese resumed their attack at midnight. Posting their artillery in the valley and high ground to the south, the main body was ordered to attack the Russian centre and a small detachment the right flank, while a third force watched the enemy's left flank.

The general engagement was resumed at dawn.

The Russians with 32 guns vigorously shelled the Japanese for four hours, they as vigorously replying.

The Japanese infantry then moved forward those on the left flank scaling the heights on the Russians' right at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The main force was then ordered to storm the Russian centre. Though the movement was splendidly protected by the Japanese artillery, the infantry, facing a heavy fire, lost severely, but succeeded in taking the heights in their final charge at half-past 5 in the evening.

The Russian retreat being partially cut off, became a rout.

The Russians retired northwards and eastwards.

The Russians comprised seven battalions, including an infantry regiment, cavalry, and artillery.

The Russians left 131 of their dead and 300 rifles on the field.

Prisoners estimate the Russian losses at 1,000.

One Japanese officer and 54 men were killed, and 18 officers and 361 men were wounded.

General Kuroki occupied Kiotung on the 19th.

General Oku has occupied Ching-hsuing. Although 30 hours' rain is delaying their advance, the Russians' positions at Tashinchiao are immensely strong.

The Japanese cremated the dead Russians who were left on the field after the battle of Motien-Ling on Sunday last.

The bodies, it is stated, were so numerous that it was impossible to bury them.

The directors of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., and American line have communicated with the United States Government, stating that they are apprehensive regarding the safety of their cargoes of provisions for Chinese and Japanese ports, and asking for a definition of contraband.

It is rumoured in diplomatic circles that Germany is anxious to co-operate with Great Britain in settling the question of the status of Russia's volunteer fleet.

## THE PURI MURDER CASE.

Before Justices Pratt and Bodley, the appeal preferred by Bhikari Seth and Dinal Chowkidar who were convicted (of murder) under Sec. 302 I.P.C. for causing the death of Kripa Sahu and sentenced to transportation for life by the Sessions Judge of Cuttack came on for hearing on Wednesday.

Babu Dasarahi Sanyal with Babu Amarendra Nath Bose appeared on behalf of the appellants, and Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer appeared for the Crown.

The facts of the case, as alleged by the prosecution, are shortly these: The appellants who were Chowkidars, living in a village named Bajrokot, arrested one Kripa Sahu in a village called Bellapur, one mile south-east of Bajrokot, on the night of the 13th October 1902, for being in possession of illicit liquor. Kripa Sahu was taken to the Krishnapur post, which is ten miles north of Bajrokot. At the Krishnapur post, which was in charge of a Head Constable named Luchman Singh, Kripa Sahu was brought on the morning of the 14th October, 1902. The Head Constable at first placed Kripa Sahu on the lock-up and then it was arranged that Kripa Sahu would be let off on payment of Rs. 30, as bribe to the Head Constable. As Kripa Sahu had no money with him the Head Constable ordered the Chowkidars to accompany Kripa Sahu to his village Ramlenka, which is about fourteen miles south of the post. It was alleged that in the afternoon of the 14th October, the two Chowkidars left the post, having Kripa Sahu in their custody. Evidence has been given to show that the Chowkidars and Kripa Sahu were walking southwards from the Krishnapur post to Ramlenka. At or about Ramlenka Kripa Sahu tried to obtain a loan of Rs. 30 without success. The Chowkidars and Kripa Sahu spent the night at Kripa's house on the 14th October and on the next day Kripa Sahu in company of the Chowkidars, went to the house of one Raghab Biswal who promised to lend Kripa Rs. 30 but did not. It was alleged that the Chowkidars with Kripa Sahu still as their prisoner came to Paigai—a village three miles south of Ramlenka, where one Pursuttam Das, a shop-keeper, deposited that Kripa Sahu came to his shop and asked for betel and betel nuts. Pursuttam Das supplied these to Kripa. It was at 3 p. m. on Wednesday the 15th October Kripa Sahu was not seen after this. On the next morning at about 8 a.m., the body of Kripa Sahu was found hanging from the branches of a banyan tree, in front of the Allessor Temple about one mile south of Paigai. One Bada Paricha, the priest of the temple first discovered the dead body and sent word to the "Kari" of Palghar, who in his turn informed the Head Constable of the Ramnha Police Station.

The Head Constable came and saw the dead body and then went to Ramlenka to inform the relations of Kripa Sahu. The widow and the nephews of the deceased came. The body was taken down from the tree and an inquest was held, in which the case was pronounced to be one of suicide. The body was then sent to Ganjam where a "post mortem" examination was held by a hospital assistant, who found some internal injuries as well as a contusion on the head, which, however, was not observed by those who viewed the body at the inquest. The doctor was of opinion that it was a case of homicide. The Madras police then made a sort of enquiry which was not complete. Sometime after, the District Superintendent of Police of Puri, on an anonymous communication made to him, ordered a police enquiry by Sub-Inspector Azmuddin, while the enquiry was going on Babu Bhudeb Banerjee, the Inspector of the Khurda Division, was ordered to supervise the enquiry. Both the police officers, after enquiry, came to the conclusion that it was a case of suicide. A judicial enquiry was then held by a Deputy Magistrate. Sometime after, under orders of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, another police enquiry was held by Babu Ananga Mohan Mukerjee, Inspector of Police, and the latter was of opinion that the case was one of murder and he sent up the Chowkidars on a charge of murder and other charges of wrongful confinement, etc. Mr. Delevinge, the then District Magistrate of Puri, made an exhaustive enquiry. He was of opinion that there was no evidence to convict the Chowkidars with the murder, and he convicted the Chowkidars of wrongful confinement, and attempting to extort bribe etc. The Crown then moved the Sessions Judge of Cuttack against the order of Mr. Delevinge, discharging the Chowkidars in respect of the charge of murder. The Sessions Judge ordered a commitment to the Sessions Court for a trial of the appellants on a charge of murder. The appellants moved the High Court against the order of commitment but without success. The appellants were then tried by the Sessions Judge of Cuttack with the aid of assessors. The assessors were of opinion that the case might be one of homicide. The Sessions Judge differing from the assessors convicted the appellants of murder, under Sec. 302 I. P. Code and sentenced each of them to transportation for life. Against the said conviction and sentence the appellants moved this Court.

Various points were urged by the learned Vakil in support of the appeal. Mr. Douglas White on behalf of the Crown replied. Their Lordships after hearing both sides reserved judgment.



A Special Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners for the City of Madras will be held on the 9th instant, to select a candidate to be recommended to Government to fill the seat on the Legislative Council rendered vacant by the death of Mr. R. N. Pragasam Moodalliar.

Summary of crop and weather report of the U.P. for the week ending 6th. August 1904.—There has been good rain throughout the provinces. In places agricultural operations have been retarded by excessive rain and a break is wanted. Weeding of "kharif" crops and transplantation of rice are in progress. Standing crops are doing well, and prospects are good. Preparation of fields for "rabi" crops has commenced in places. Supplies and fodder are sufficient and prices stationary.

It is curious how Burmese prefer their own names for streets and roads in Rangoon, rather than adopt the numbers or names given by the Municipality. Some of the names, says a Rangoon paper, are of once well-known men, long since dead. One street is still called New Street, though it has a name, and is no newer than the streets on each side of it. There used to be an old Burmese rhyme signifying:—"The English are hard workers, the Chinese are good tailors, and the Burmese adepts in giving names." They certainly show this peculiarity in naming the various streets in Rangoon.

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Superintendent, Lewis Sanitarium, Darjeeling,

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the results have been very satisfactory. I would

like to recommend it to all females who are in the

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writes:—"I have great pleasure in testifying to

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## High Court—Aug. 11.

## CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Pratt and Bodily.)

## GIVING FALSE INFORMATION.

Mr. G. D. Seal with Babu Mannath Nath Mukherjee moved on behalf of one Kudiram Mandal, who had been convicted by a Deputy Magistrate of Birbhum under sections 211 and 182 P.C. and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment under the former section. On appeal the order was confirmed by the Sessions Judge. It appears that Khudiram Mandal, the petitioner, appeared at the Bolepur Thanna and complained that some persons had looted his paddy. The police reported the complaint to be false. Thereupon he lodged a complaint before the District Magistrate in which he prayed that his case may be investigated and tried and named witnesses who were going to support his case. The District Magistrate without examining the complainant fixed a day on which he ordered the complainant to prove his case. On that day he made over the case to a subordinate Magistrate for inquiry. The Subordinate Magistrate took evidence and eventually reported the case to be false and ordered that petitioner could be prosecuted under sec. 211 I. P. C. Thereupon the District Magistrate ordered the original complaint of the petitioner before the police to be dismissed and sanctioned the prosecution of the petitioner under sec. 211 I. P. C. Mr. Seal contended that the complaint of the petitioner not having been judicially determined and not regularly disposed of the conviction was bad in law. He further submitted that the police having reported the case to be false the petitioner challenged that report and put in a complaint before the District Magistrate to try his case; the intermediate inquiry by the Subordinate Magistrate was wholly without jurisdiction and not in accordance with any of the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Mr. Seal drew the attention of the Court to sec. 4 of the Cr. P. Code to show what was understood by complaint and submitted that the application made by the petitioner on the 4th March 1904 was a complaint. He further drew the attention of the Court to a case reported in 27 Cal. 921. Their Lordships after hearing Mr. Seal at some length issued a rule on the District Magistrate to show cause why the conviction of the petitioner under sections 211, 182 I. P. C. should not be set aside on the ground that the complaint of the petitioner not having been judicially determined the conviction was bad in law. Pending the hearing of the rule the petitioner was admitted to bail.

## AN ALLEGED FALSE CASE.

Babu Dasarathi Sanyal moved on behalf of Makha Sing against whom an order has been passed by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Jehanabad in the District of Gaya for instituting a false complaint for looting his crops. It appears that the petitioner laid an information against some persons, who are said to be Zemindars' men, for looting his crops, because, the petitioners alleged, that he refused to take possession of a plot of land in the occupation of another ryot whom the Zamindars wanted to dispossess. The police investigated into the case and reported the case as false. The report having been submitted the Sub-Divisional Magistrate called upon the petitioner to prove his case. The petitioner was informed that if he failed to prove his case he would be prosecuted under sec. 211 I. P. C. for bringing a false complaint. The petitioner appeared before the Magistrate and challenged the police report and asked the Magistrate to summon his witnesses. The Magistrate examined the complainant and his witnesses and forwarded the case to be false and then recommended a proceeding under sec. 476 Cr. P. Code directing the prosecution of the petitioner under sec. 211 I. P. C.

It was contended by the learned Vakils that the order of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate was premature and without jurisdiction. He should have either dismissed the complaint under sec. 203 or issued summons. The complaint was not finally determined. Their Lordships granted a rule to show cause why the order directing the prosecution of the petitioner under sec. 211 I. P. C. Code should not be set aside. Their Lordships further directed that pending the hearing of the rule further proceedings will be stayed.

## A CASE OF PERJURY.

In the above case Babu Dasarathi Sanyal moved on behalf of Radhi Sing who was cited by the complainant Makha Sing to prove his case and against whom an order was passed by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Jehanabad, prosecuting him for giving false evidence under sec. 193 I. P. C. by making two contradictory statements. It appears that the petitioner deposed to the looting of crops in support of the complainant Makha Sing in the judicial enquiry held by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate. In cross-examination the witness at first said that he did not know Mahabir Sing. The petitioner was then asked if he knew his Zamindar and one Mahabir Sing who used to come to appraise the crops and he stated that he knew Mahabir Sing for a long time. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate holding that the petitioner committed a deliberate perjury by making two contradictory statements, ordered his prosecution.

The learned Vakils submitted that the Magistrate did not exercise a sound discretion in omitting to give a notice to the petitioner to show cause why he should not be prosecuted. If he was given an opportunity he would have satisfied the Magistrate that he did not make any false statement intentionally. The question was put to in the form whether he knew Mahabir and the petitioner did not understand the question. It was not proper to prosecute a man for perjury when he made the two statements almost in the same breath. Besides the enquiry being under sec. 202 Cr. P. C. the other side had no "locus standi" to appear at that stage and cross-examine the petitioner. It was not a proper case in which the prosecution should have been ordered. Their Lordships issued a rule and directed further proceedings to be stayed.

## A MUNICIPAL CASE.

Babus Syama Prosonno Mazumdar, Jnanendra Nath Sarkar and Charu Chandra De, Vakils, applied on behalf of Gora Chand Boral and 3 others for a Rule calling upon the Municipal Magistrate of Calcutta to show cause why his order dated the 7th day of June 1904 convicting the petitioners and directing them to pay fines of Rs. 10 each under sec. 674 read with sec. 444 (2) of Act III (B.C.) of 1899, should not be set aside on the ground that the petitioners were no parties in the former proceedings, for disobedience of the orders passed, wherever they were convicted and fined. Their Lordships after hearing the learned Vakils at some length, issued the Rule as prayed for.

## THE BOGUS TELEGRAM CASE.

## THIRD DAYS PROCEEDINGS.

Darjeeling Aug. 10.

The bogus telegram case was continued today at 11 o'clock before the Sessions Judge, Mr. Hamilton. In spite of the pouring rain there were again many interested spectators. Mr. Wilkins, Telegraph Master, questioned by Mr. Morrison, said that the telegram form on which the bogus telegram was written was worn and old as if it had been kept in a pocket for some days. The cross-examination of Ahmed Khan, Inspector of Police, was continued by Mr. Gregory. Witness was asked why he mentioned the name Chintamani, and answered that it was because he was the proprietor of the shop on which Bertram's name appeared. It was a common practice in Calcutta to give English names to shops which really belonged to Indians. He went to Chintamani's shop on the 24th March after finding D'Cruz and after D'Cruz had been questioned by Mr. Ellis, D'Cruz's statement was recorded on the 25th March. To his knowledge Mr. Ellis never went to Bertram's shop and took no statement of Mr. Wicken. Mr. Wicken had an adjoining stall in the market and he said D'Cruz had disappeared 14 or 15 days. He went there because D'Cruz said he had stayed there. The next time witness met Mr. Wicken was on the 4th or 6th of August. He took him to Mr. Ellis. There was no entry on his diary of interview with Mr. Wicken. He had not brought his diary because he was not asked to. He was present at an interview between Mr. Ellis and D'Cruz. Mr. Ellis took D'Cruz to the Commissioner. For five days the enquiry was taking place. He did not enquire what D'Cruz's statement was. D'Cruz made a statement on the 24th March and added to it during the five days of the enquiry as occasion rose.

Ahmed Khan was then examined by Mr. Morrison. He said that as Mr. Ellis conducted the enquiry he did not keep a diary of events as he was only an assistant. Witness was simply told to look for D'Cruz. No restraint was put on D'Cruz during the enquiry from the 24th to the 29th March. He was not arrested until after the statement was made at Alipur.

Bertram D'Cruz at present a prisoner in the Darjeeling jail was next called. He said he was sentenced for sending a bogus telegram from Darjeeling on the 26th January. He adhered to the statements he had made at previous examinations. While detailing the circumstances of his receiving a telegram from Elliott witness said he received from Elliott the only press telegram form without the "sent form" slip. The telegram was also wrapped in a second form so as not to dirty it. He had opened and read the telegram in the train. He could not understand it. When he handed in the telegram it was, only on a form. There was no "sent form" attached. Questioned by Mr. Morrison, witness said the address "Calcutta Englishman from Newman" was written on a separate piece of paper. He could not remember its appearance exactly as it was so long ago.

On his return to Calcutta witness said Elliott gave him twenty odd rupees and said he would give him more when the telegram was published in the papers. Witness gave ten rupees to his mother and ten rupees to the Church. He gave to the Church because he had made a vow that he would if he were not stopped on the road. He told his mother he had sent a telegram over which there was a lot of confusion on the road. His mother asked why he did such a thing. About a fortnight after his return to Calcutta he wrote to Elliott for money. He was sent two rupees. He did not go to Elliott's house until he heard of the Police enquiries. He went to tell Elliott this. The Court rose for lunch at 2 p.m.

Afterwards the examination of D'Cruz was continued by Mr. Morrison. The statement of D'Cruz made before Mr. Chotzner at Alipore was put in by Mr. Morrison in corroboration of the present evidence. Mr. Gregory objected as it was the evidence of an accomplice. After some argument the Judge admitted the statement as evidence and Mr. Gregory's objection was recorded.

Witness had told Mr. Wicken that he was going to Darjeeling to send a telegram and that Elliott was sending him. He asked him for a loan of an overcoat.

At 3-30 Mr. Gregory began the cross-examination of witness D'Cruz. After several unimportant questions the witness stated that he went to Elliott as soon as Mr. Wicken told him he was wanted. That was two or three weeks before the 22nd of January. He saw Elliott a few times before the 22nd but on business. Elliott used to write to witness whenever there was an entertainment at his house. He received an urgent message on the 22nd. He was not present when Mr. Wicken's statement was taken down. Witness stated that he went to Elliott's house on the 22nd on his own account. He had forgotten about the message Mr. Wicken had given him. His statement that Elliott had sent for him, in his confession, was a mistake. He could not give the reason why Mr. Wicken's statement was taken so late as August. He had forgotten Mr. Wicken's connection with the case until he saw him on Monday. His statement made before Mr. Ellis was brought to him at the jail by a District Superintendent of Police who read it to him. He had heard that his mother was coming up to give evidence from Mr. St. Leger. Neither his mother's or of Mr. Wicken's statements were read out to him. He saw Mr. Wicken on the 13th and told him that a European official of the Municipality had run away with five or six hundred rupees and he was to go to Darjeeling to see if he were there. This was meant to mislead him. He also told him of the telegram on the day he was leaving.

## LATEST NEWS FROM LHASSA.

Lhasa, Via Gyantse, (Tibet), Aug. 10.

The latest rumour is that the Dalai Lama is not at the Potala, but has fled up the Pekin road to a monastery 100 miles away. It is stated, however, that he has left behind the seal of State, so a treaty can be signed in his absence.

Yesterday Colonel Younghusband returned the Amban's visit with a small escort. The force passed through the gate and made a circuit of Lhasa proper. The city on nearer acquaintance proved very dirty. The streets serve the purpose of drainage channels. The whole place is infested with dogs of every description. (The houses, however, are substantial and generally are three storeys high. The Potala seen from the other side is most magnificent. Some of the retaining walls are over sixty feet high. The great cathedral from the outside is rather disappointing, but the glories within were not revealed to us. The populace contrary to all expectations showed no signs of resentment at our entering the city, only great curiosity. The side streets were blocked with hundreds of heads. Large crowds were seen taking short cuts over the housetops in order to get a second view. Women peeped from every window.

The Amban received Colonel Younghusband with every ceremony. Conversation for the most part was purely complimentary. The Amban was much interested in the latest news of the Russo-Japanese war. Before leaving, however, Colonel Younghusband introduced the subject of negotiations. He said the Tibetans had sorely tired his patience by their evasive methods. He would ask the Amban to get them to appoint three or four delegates, not to be changed for others, who would conduct the negotiations. Colonel Younghusband added that perhaps the Tibetans would not mildly delay matters when they learnt that one of the conditions of the treaty was an indemnity which would increase daily so long as we remained in the country.

This morning two Tibetan members of Council paid Colonel Younghusband a visit.

## AN ARRAH SENSATION.

(From Our Special Reporter.)

Arrah, Aug. 8.

In consequence of certain information given to Mr. H. S. Schurr, the District Superintendent of Police, Sahabad, by Sub-Inspector Husmat Ali attached to the Special Department for the investigation of spurious coining, of which Mr. Sharpe, in charge, the former proceeded to village Kaora 2 miles from Karisath Railway Station to conduct a house search there on the night of the 1st June last. The party consisted of Mr. Schurr, Mr. Bromage, Additional Superintendent of Police, Sub-Inspector Dwarka Prasad Singh of Arrah Thanna, Sub-Inspector Hasmat Ali and a posse of about 24 constables.

At Karisath Station, the Assistant Station Master and the Branch Post Master joined the party. They arrived near the village at about 9-30 p.m. There they made a halt, as their informant told them that at that moment, that the coiners had not yet begun operations. They accordingly halted for some 20 minutes. The shop of Moni Sonar at Kaora was searched at about 10 p. m. and the result was, four accused were arrested. At the search, a number of such articles as silver discs (blanks) were discovered. In due course, the accused were put on their trial before Magistrate Mr. S. C. Chunder vested with full class powers. The accused, viz., Moni Sonar, Ghuna Sonar, Bhoghe Teli and Bhannu Teli were then committed to take their trial before the Court of Sessions at Arrah presided over by Mr. E. Pantou, I.C.S., who tried the case aided by two assessors. The latter two having been discharged, the former 2 accused were tried under secs. 232 and 235 of the Indian Penal Code. Mr. Sachidanand Singh, Barrister-at-law of the Allahabad High Court defended the accused. Babu Bijoy Krishna Roy Chowdhuri of the Hooghly Bar specially deputed by the Legal Remembrancer of Bengal conducted the case for the prosecution. The trial was held for three days. Eleven witnesses including Mr. Schurr, the D. S. P. were examined on behalf of the prosecution. The Assessors found the prisoners not guilty. The Sessions Judge delivered judgment on Saturday last the 6th instant convicting and sentencing both the accused to ten years' rigorous imprisonment each.

With the approval of the Secretary of State, the Government of India have sanctioned an important concession to Government servants drawing a salary of Rs. 100 or less per mensem. They will in future be eligible for the grant of three months' privilege leave on full pay.

Grave apprehensions are entertained in Rangoon about the collapse of the sewage system, and in order to remedy the evil, Mr. Buchanan, Chairman of the Port Trust, who represents that body on the Municipal Board, has recommended the Committee in a strongly-worded note to engage immediately the services of an expert in sewage and water works for supervising these two important departments.

On the 31st July, at Karachi, while three Makranis, named Ahmed; Siloor, and Dohamba, were standing talking near the Dhobi Ghat they heard a noise as if the "khosh" (leather bucket) or something had fallen into a well hard by. They immediately went to the spot and saw a woman apparently drowning, when Ahmed pluckily jumped in and rescued her; she is a resident of Kumbharwara. It appears she had a quarrel with her mother and in a fit of anger attempted to commit suicide. She was committed for trial to the Court of the City Deputy Collector, and was sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

## THE MANGAPATNAM RAILWAY DISASTER.

## A SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

The suit brought by Kalidoss Lakshmi Chand, a minor aged 7 years, and Batchu Lakshmi Chand, minor aged 2 years, through their mother and next friend Mena Bai, the widow of Lakshman Chand Harchand against the Madras Railway Company, for damages to the extent of one lakh of rupees, sustained in consequence of the death of the plaintiff's father in the recent Mangapatnam disaster, came on for final hearing on Tuesday, at the Madras High Court, before Mr. Justice Moore.

Mr. K. Ramachandra Iyer, Vakils, appeared for the plaintiffs, while the defendant Company were represented by Mr. C. F. Napier, instructed by Messrs. Orr and David.

Mr. Ramachandra Iyer, in opening the case, observed that, on the 31st March last, it was by consent ordered, that the evidence and findings, with the reasons for the same, of that Court in the last Mangapatnam case, were to be taken as evidence and findings in the present case also. The findings as to negligence having been admitted by the other side, the only issues to be tried in the case were:—(1) Are the plaintiffs entitled to sue as the representatives of the deceased; (2) Is Mena Bai the widow, and are the plaintiffs the legitimate sons of the deceased; and (3) What amount, if any, are the plaintiffs entitled to recover. By virtue of a commission issued by that Court, the evidence of a certain number of witnesses was recorded in Palanpore and Bombay, which went to show that the income of the deceased, who had been a partner of a firm of jewellers in Bombay, was Rs. 2,500, per annum. The learned vakils then read out the reports of the Commissioners, as well as the evidence recorded by them, as to the truth of certain items in the account books of the firm.

Amulak Mulachand, clerk in the firm of Rowchand Muguchand, in Bombay, was called and examined by Mr. Ramachandra Aiyar. He deposed, that the deceased had been employed in the firm as the manager, and his duties were those of purchasing and selling diamonds and jewellery. The deceased was married to Mena Bai, by whom he had two sons, who were the plaintiffs in the case. The entry in the ledger of the firm as against 6th October, 1899, showed that Rs. 2,000 had been paid to deceased as salary for the previous year, the deceased having entered the service of the firm in October 1898. The deceased was not paid in hard cash his salary, but it was credited to his account at his own request, and he was allowed interest on the moneys so credited. The ledger now before the court had been maintained by Manikchand, but Manikchand had been on leave since October last.

Mr. Napier objected to the admission of the evidence of this witness in regard to the accounts, as they were not maintained by him but by another, and as he was only a letter-writer.

Mr. K. Ramachandra Aiyar replied, that the person who had made the entries could not be got at; and, under the Evidence Act, it was open to him to examine any one who was competent to speak to the facts contained in the account books. The witness was thoroughly competent to speak to the facts contained in the ledger, and as such his evidence was admissible.

His Lordship allowed the objection, so far as the item relating to 6th October 1899 re the salary of the deceased was concerned.

Witness (continuing) said, that he was a relative of Rowchand and was learning business as an apprentice during the years 1897, 1898, and 1899. After which he was paid a salary. During that period, he had seen Manikchand make entries in the ledger. The entry of 6th October, 1899, was in the handwriting of Manikchand.

His Lordship remarked, that the item of accounts referred to could not be proved by the evidence of that witness, inasmuch as he was only a volunteer in the firm at the time that entry was made.

Witness next gave evidence in regard to entries on the 23rd October, 1900, and 11th November, 1901, and deposed that the entry on the latter date, was made by him. That entry related to interest amounting to Rs. 276-14 paid to the deceased, on his salary. There was also an entry of Rs. 2,500 against 11th November, 1901, but that entry was in the handwriting of Manikchand.

His Lordship remarked, that the witness could only speak to entries made by himself but not by others.

The entry against 31st October, 1902, showed the amount of interest credited to the account of the deceased and was in the handwriting of the witness; and the interest amounted to Rs. 419-9-9. The first entry on the credit side (viz. Rs. 6,914-3-3) was in his handwriting. The examination of this witness had not concluded, when the Court rose for the day. The hearing of the case will be resumed to-morrow.—"Madras Mail."

It is not generally known, but is nevertheless the fact, says the "Kangoon Times," that for disinfecting ground saturated with filth or malaria, there is nothing better than paddy husk ash.

Planters in the Federated Malay States are about to ask the Government to secure the services of an expert to advise them how to produce a chemically pure rubber. It is thought that although present prices for rubber may be satisfactory, rubber is still sold in varying degrees of purity, and that if buyers could purchase on analysis it would give them great confidence.

The Government of Mysore have prescribed the following rates of rewards for the destruction of wild animals in the forests of Mysore:—Tigers, Rs. 35 per head; panthers, Rs. 20; wild dogs, Rs. 10; wolves, Rs. 10; hyenas, Rs. 5; and jungle cats, Rs. 2. The prices payable at the Treasuries for the skins of wild animals have been raised in the case of tigers to Rs. 6 and of panthers to Rs. 2 each.

Our readers are already aware that the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Ranchi in the latter part of this month is in connection with the proposed removal of the Civil Engineering College from Sipur to that place. We now understand that the transfer of the Presidency College to Ranchi is also under consideration, with a view to the re-establishment of this institution on the scale of a large residential College. It is also rumoured that Ranchi will shortly be made the educational headquarters of Bengal.

Referring to the honesty and strictness of our Magistrates a Bangalore correspondent has sent the following incident to the "Mysore Standard" which occurred in the Mysore province about 40 years back:—The Amildar of a Taluk in the Bangalore District had earned a reputation for his strict integrity. On a certain day, while the Amildar was in his office, a rayot of his taluk went to his house with a bundle of sugar-canes and presented the same to the Mem Sahab which was gladly accepted. A little while afterwards the matter came to the notice of the Amildar who got word at it. He at once sent for his wife "to the cutcherry," questioned her on the matter and "fined her." The lady returned home and immediately sent the amount of fine which was credited to the Government. The Amildar sanctioned the sale of sugar-canes and credited to Government their proceeds also.

In their Order of the 9th of January, 1903, the Government of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore sanctioned the admission into the Maharani's Girls' College, Mysore, of Native Christian girls of approved parentage who have passed a standard equivalent to the English Lower Secondary Examination. It is now proposed, says the "Bulletin" by the Managing Committee of the institution to extend the privilege of admission into the High School and College classes to girls of respectable parentage belonging to the Mahomedan, Parsi, Jewish, Eurasian and European communities also. The Inspector-General of Education, while concurring generally in the above proposal, expresses, we are told, an apprehension that, if admission is extended to Mahomedan girls, special arrangements for observing "goshas" may have to be made. The Government observe that the institution is a public one that peoples belonging to particular communities cannot claim any special privileges or facilities when they seek admission; and that, consequently, it is unnecessary to exclude Mahomedan girls if they choose to study in an institution which is not intended particularly for girls observing "goshas." The Government are, therefore, pleased to sanction the alteration of the rule of admission into the College as shown below:—"The Maharani's Girls' College shall be open to daughters of all respectable caste Hindus; and pupils of approved parentage belonging to the Native Christian, Mahomedan, Parsi, Jewish, Eurasian and European communities who have passed a standard equivalent to the English Lower Secondary Examination, may be admitted to the High School and College classes, each admission being subject to the approval of the whole Committee."—"Madras Standard."

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Well-digested food is the source of strength. Every act, every thought, every movement of muscle or mind uses up some of the substance of our bodies. Food repairs this loss, but only when it is digested. Undigested food ferments in the stomach, poisons the blood, starves the body and lowers vitality. To be strong and healthy, assist your stomach, liver and kidneys to do their work perfectly by taking Mother Seigel's Syrup, which contains food-digesting ferments and gentle tonics for the stomach, and has cured more dyspeptics than any other medicine in the world.

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## Makes Food nourish you.

It aids Digestion, and Food well digested means Strength, Vitality, Health.



## CALICUT MURDER CASE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Calicut, Aug. 4.

The above case came on for hearing before Mr. Moor, I.C.S., District and Sessions Judge of South Malabar to-day. Four accused have been sent up for trial for the offence of murder. Mr. Narasimha, Barrister-at-law, appeared for the first accused, and Messrs. P. Narayana Menon, High Court Vakil, V. Sankara Menon, High Court Vakil, and Mr. M. A. Subramania Iyer, District Court Vakil, appeared to defend the remaining three accused, while Mr. Rama Krishna Iyer, Crown Prosecutor, appeared for the prosecution. Avoir has been made as approved according to the order of the District Magistrate, dated May 4, 1904, and he is the first witness of the prosecution.

In his deposition he said:—When the police arrested me, they put me some questions. I told them some facts of the case. I was produced before the Magistrate the day after I was arrested. Since then I have been in remand. I was pardoned on the 6th May, and I was examined by the Magistrate on the 7th. I have known the Ullanat family for 12 years. I hold no lands belonging to that family. My business is trade. I know Natuvath Kalam, i.e. a branch house of the family where the deceased lived. My house is 6 miles away from the Kalam. I had known the deceased for about 8 years. I have known the first accused for a couple of years. I do not know in which house the first accused was living. I have known the second accused for four years. I do not know his house. I have known the fourth accused for about 12 years. I know his house. His house is situated in the eastern side of Natuvath Kalam. The third accused has married the daughter of the fourth accused about four years ago. I have married. My wife's house is near Ullanat Tarwad, the house in which females and children of the family live. Ullanat Tarwad is within a quarter of a mile of Natuvath Kalam. There was an assault case instituted by one Pythal against the Karistan or agent of the first accused. It was in the Chowhat Magistrate's Court and I was a witness. The fourth accused and the first accused's Karistan came to my house on the morning of the day. I went to the Magistrate's Court with them. That case was compromised by me. After the case was over myself, fourth accused and Kuttan returned to my shop. The fourth accused Atima told me that Kunhi Krishna Paniker must be killed. The first accused Madhava Paniker has wanted to do so, and we were prepared to commit the murder. I told them that I would not join in it. The fourth accused's agent was also there during that time. I told them that I should see them after four days. The fourth accused also said that a sanction case was pending against the first accused and the deceased was not paying maintenance properly to Madhava Paniker, the first accused. Then the fourth accused and Kuttan Menon returned. About 3 or 4 days after I went to my wife's house, and Atima, the fourth accused, came there. He insisted me to join in the murder of Kunhi Krishna Paniker. I refused to join, so I said. Sometime after the fourth accused came again. We had our meals and both of us went to Kootaling Shandy, i.e., one mile off. I made some purchases. The fourth accused asked me a loan of Rs. 5. I paid him Rs. 5. I asked him to return it soon. The money belonged to my mother and it was to purchase paddy. So I said. He went off. After 3 or 4 days he sent his son to call me. I did not go. In the evening of the same day he himself came to me. Then our conversation was about the killing of the deceased. We went to the Choomanamal Madhom i.e., one mile off. When we went there the first accused came out. "Had not 4th accused told you all particulars?" So he asked me. I said yes. The first accused told me that somehow or other the murder should be committed. I replied that I should do so. There were three other members of the family at the Madhom. The first accused also said that "there are only 20 days more for the hearing of the sanction case and before that my uncle must be killed." (The deceased was the complainant in that case, and it was a case of perjury against the first accused Madhava Paniker, nephew of the deceased.) Myself and the 4th accused came away. It took place at about 7-30 p.m. Myself and the 4th accused went to my wife's house, the latter left me then. I returned to my house from my wife's house the next day. I went to the 4th accused's house the same day. The 3rd accused, Saithamath was also there. Both the 3rd and the 4th accused told me that the matter of killing should be carried out at a near day. It was day-time when they said so. They also said that there were others to assist in the matter. They said that the murder should be committed next day. The case is proceeding.

## ROYAPOORAM CROWS.

A correspondent writes to the "Madras Times":—The crows have increased and multiplied so in Royapooram, that they have become a perpetual nuisance. Their depredations are fearful. Nothing can be left in the dining room for a moment, but "corvus splendens" flies in fearlessly and appropriates it. Even eggs on the table are pierced with their beaks and carried off. At night the least sound sends them off in fifties with an uproar of caws, so that sleep is impossible again for half an hour at least. On moonlight nights, one or two demented crows—if crows can be demented—keep up an incessant chorus of caws. What is to be done? Can any one suggest the best kind of poison to carry them off? Rough on rats, corrosive sublimate, and perchloride of mercury have all been tried without success. One or two may eat the stuff, but do not appear to suffer from the same. The noise during day and night made by these restless birds is something too bad. What with the crows, the church bells at 4-30, and the "infernal" steam siren at 4-30, and again at 5 a.m., Royapooram is a place to be vacated if one can possibly live elsewhere.

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## ULUBERA NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Uluberia, Aug. 7.

## AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

The current year is likely to prove a bad year, a year of great stress and want for the agriculturists and poor labourers here. They are already, with few exceptions, in the iron grip of "Mahajans" and frowning "Nature" seems to be up and doing at present for the purpose of setting her seal on their misery. The rains which we have here now almost every day do not prove to be beneficial. The heavy rains have in fact converted several smiling paddy-fields into vast temporary water-areas. In consequence of this heavy rain-fall the mighty river which waters several villages of this sub-division overflowed her banks till at present her sway seems to extend over several green fields. The recent heavy rainfall has been in fact the source of immense damage to the paddy crop here. We must however bow to the inevitable, for who can withstand the steady march of mighty nature.

## A CASE OF JUSTICE NOT TEMPERED WITH MERCY.

Our Sub-Deputy Magistrate Babu Nisi Kanto Chatterjee, B.A., enjoys the reputation of being a Magistrate who generally tempers justice with mercy. The accused in criminal cases generally feel a sense of relief whenever their cases are tried by him. Unfortunately however, his commitment yesterday of a poor Mahomedan to the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Uluberia, on a charge of perjury under Sec. 193 of the Indian Penal Code was on act which gave a shock to the feelings of many people. The Sub-Deputy Magistrate seems to have forgotten while making the commitment, the divine principle embodied in those immortal lines.

"The quality of mercy is not strained  
It droppeth as the gentle rain from  
Heaven upon the place beneath."

The Sub-Deputy Magistrate who was holding a judicial enquiry in a case of mischief asked the name of a certain witness who was put into the witness-box. The witness gave his name to be Asek Shaik while his name was said to be Based Shaik. The witness apprehending an injury to himself at the hands of the Sub-Deputy Magistrate finally touched the Magistrate's feet and begged pardon. The pleaders for the party who cited the man as this witness also implored the Magistrate to punish the man summarily and not to subject him to the fury of another Magistrate but the Sub-Deputy Magistrate would not listen to anybody's word and he exercised his power of commitment under the Criminal Procedure Code.

## A CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNDER THE REGISTRATION ACT.

There is now pending in the Court of the Sub-Deputy Magistrate Babu Nisi Kanto Chatterjee, a criminal case in which a Mahomedan of a certain village in thana Bagnan is undergoing trial on a charge under Sec. 82 of the Indian Registration Act. The accused is said to have presented a receipt before the local Sub-Registrar with the view of taking back a document to wit a deed of sale which had been registered by the local Sub-Registrar some days ago and is said to have made while presenting the receipt a statement to the effect that the whole endorsement on the receipt was in the handwriting of one Easin Shaik; this statement having been found by the Sub-Registrar to be false he committed the accused to take his trial upon the said charge. The trial is proceeding.

## SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION OF INDIANS.

The elite of Uluberia flocked to the Uluberia Victoria Memorial Hall on the 4th August last and displayed great animation and enthusiasm at the meeting which was held under the presidency of our leader Babu Jogendra Nath Mitter. A Committee was formed for the purpose of working out the industrial scheme; the local officials including our worthy Sub-divisional Magistrate Babu Nityanando Bhar granted the occasion with their presence.

## A PROTEST MEETING.

A public meeting of the people of the Uluberia Sub-division was held on the 4th instant to protest against the proposed abolition by Government of the competitive test for the recruitment of officers to the provincial executive service. Babu Sital Chandra Ghoshal took the Chair. Several resolutions were passed at the meeting.

## TERRIBLE DISASTER IN MANILA.

CLOUD BURST DESTROYS A TOWN. A cloud burst occurring to the north-east of Manila on the 13th ultimo has caused the total destruction of Sanjuan del Monte. Hundreds of the inhabitants have perished without warning. The low-lying districts are inundated and a number of foreigners are isolated some in positions of peril. The streets here are canals, boats being resorted to for transportation purposes. There has been a steady downpour of rain for twenty-seven hours, and the rainfall measurement, seventeen and one fifth inches is unprecedented. The damage to property must be estimated in millions. Communication with outside is interrupted.—H. D. P.

The case, in which a Bagada and a Mahomedan of Ootacamund were charged with the kidnapping of two Bagada girls, the Additional Sessions Judge, agreeing with the assessors found both the accused guilty of abducting these girls under Section 366, and sentenced them to undergo six months' rigorous imprisonment.

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## REFORMATORY SCHOOLS IN BENGAL.

The following resolution on the Annual Report on the Reformatory Schools at Alipore and Hazaribagh for the year 1903, is published:—

In the Resolution recorded by this Government on the Report for the year 1902, attention was drawn to the fact that there had been a noticeable increase in the annual number of admissions since the year 1899, when they amounted to 99 only. It is satisfactory, therefore, to observe that the number of admissions in the two schools fell from 156 in 1902 to 107 during the year under review, this being the lowest figure reached in the last four years. Government has often expressed a belief that many of the boys sent to the Reformatories might be more suitably dealt with under the provisions relating to youthful offenders in the Criminal Procedure Code and the Reformatory Schools Act; and the Lieutenant-Governor is, therefore, gratified to observe that the Boards of Management have been careful to scrutinize the admissions with the object of ascertaining whether any of the boys sent to the Reformatories could not have been better treated under the provisions already referred to. As a result of this examination, 28 boys were released during the year as against 12 in 1902 and 4 in 1901.

It has been ascertained from the judicial returns for the year that 269 youthful offenders were discharged on probation of good conduct under section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and that 30 boys were discharged after admonition or made over to their parents or guardians under section 31 of the Reformatory Schools Act.

A report on the arrangements for separating the boys at night in this school was submitted during the year. It was represented that these arrangements are a relic of the days when the building was a jail; that they are open to strong objections as prejudicial to the health and spirits of the inmates; and that they are unsuitable at any rate for the younger boys. Subsequently, the Director of Public Instruction inspected the school, and reported that to put it on a really satisfactory footing it would be necessary to devise a comprehensive scheme of rebuilding and reorganization. He stated that, in spite of all improvements, the institution could, in his opinion, never be a school, but would always retain the character of a jail, unless a radical change was made in the structural condition of the old building. At the same time he pointed out that the area of the land is limited, the buildings unsuitable and the cubicles insanitary; and that, in these circumstances, it was undesirable either to enlarge or to build the school on its present site. He was convinced, therefore, that the most satisfactory arrangement would be to remove the school to a short distance from Calcutta. It appears to the Lieutenant-Governor that in the present state of the buildings it is difficult to give effect to the principles enunciated by the Government of India in their Resolution No. 374-79, dated the 2nd September 1899; that the present defects of the structure can only be removed by a large and expensive building scheme; and that it would be impolitic to carry out such a scheme on the area at present occupied by the school, if suitable arrangements can be made for its removal elsewhere. In these circumstances, Sir Andrew Fraser has directed that the question should be considered in all its bearings by a representative Committee, which will now be formed for the purpose.

During the year the recognized policy of Government that all boys of the agricultural classes should be concentrated at Hazaribagh, and all boys of the industrial castes at Alipore, was given effect to. The plan of adapting the instruction given to the boys to their hereditary occupations also received careful attention; and with this object the number of industries in the Alipore School was increased from 9 to 13. The need of teaching the boys the trades of their castes has been frequently emphasised by Government and is again illustrated by the figures supplied for the year under review. Out of 161 boys released from the Alipore School during the three years preceding the year under report, only 22 were found to be following the industries taught them at the school; and out of 189 boys released from the Hazaribagh Reformatory during that period, only 75 were employed in the pursuits in which they had been trained. These figures are, it is true, not altogether conclusive, inasmuch as many of the boys released could not be traced or had died, others were unemployed or with friends, while some were of bad character or had been reconvicted. The number thus accounted for was 89 in the case of the former, and 83 in the case of the latter, school. At the same time, the fact that 50 of the boys released from the Alipore Reformatory and 31 of those discharged from the Hazaribagh School were following occupations other than those taught to them appears to show that the efforts made to train the boys for their future careers have not been altogether successful. The Lieutenant-Governor is aware that the Board are alive to the importance of this matter; and trusts that they will continue to give it their careful attention.

The Lieutenant-Governor observes with pleasure that the system of licensing has been more extensively resorted to than has hitherto been the case. Besides the 46 boys already working under this system at the close of the year 1902, as many as 114 boys were licensed out as against 66 during the preceding year. Out of the 89 boys of the Alipore School under license, 19 escaped from their employers and 17 were returned to the school for bad conduct; while of the 71 boys licensed out from the Hazaribagh School, 13 boys were returned to the School. It is regrettable that this system proved a failure in so many cases. It has been decided to introduce a spinning and weaving department in the Alipore School. As a large number of the boys licensed out are employed in jute and silk mills, the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the introduction of this industry in the School will tend to make this system more successful. During the year, the Lieutenant-Governor approved, as an experimental measure, a proposal that boys of inferior castes should be licensed out as domestic servants to employers of labour who are private persons. It is trusted that this measure will lead to a further extension of the licensing system.

The percentage of failures to trace out the histories of boys for three years after their

release was the same in 1903 as in the previous year. One of the chief objects which the Government of India had in view in transferring the management of the Reformatories from the Jail to the Education Department was to attain more complete and satisfactory information about boys who had left the schools than was possible under the old system. It was stated that it was desirable that the boys should not be left without help and guidance on leaving school, and that a watch should be kept over them, both in their own interests and also in order that the result of the working of the schools might be known. It is evident from the large number of cases in which the histories of boys after their release is unknown that this object has not yet been attained. The Lieutenant-Governor has recently sanctioned the appointment of an additional Sub-Inspector of Schools to assist in maintaining a watch over released boys in Calcutta; and as over one-third of the boys discharged from the Alipore School belong to that city, there should, His Honour considers, be a marked improvement, in future, in tracing out and finding employment for such boys.

## HOOGHLY ITEMS.

Hooghly, Aug. 8.

A DACOITY AT CHANDERNAGORE. Monsatalla near the Chandernagore Railway station was the scene of a daring dacoity on the night of Thursday last. At about midnight the house of one Gagan Chandra, a rich dealer in cloth, was broken open by a number of dacoits who invaded it armed with deadly weapons, while the inmates of the house were fast asleep. After tearing off the ear-ornaments from the wife of Gagan and inflicting a deep cut on the head of Gagan with a sharp weapon, the dacoits made off with valuables to the value of about two hundred rupees. The wife of Gagan ran to the terrace of the house and cried out at the top of her voice for the assistance of the neighbours. A Brahmin, residing in the French Settlement of Chandernagore, who is said to have been implicated in the dacoity, was caught hold of by the men of the locality who hastened to the spot to render help to the inmates of the house besieged. The arrest of three other ruffians was subsequently effected, while the others made good their escape. The District Superintendent of Police of Hooghly held a personal enquiry on the spot on Friday last. The accused persons are shortly to be placed on their trial. The Police investigation is proceeding.

## A CRIMINAL CASE.

The case of Brojan Bibi vs. Shaik Belat, already reported in the "Patrika," has been disposed of. Four witnesses were examined, on behalf of the defence. They proved that Brojan Bibi was of bad character and one Natak Shaik was found in the house of Brojan. This has also been admitted by Brojan's daughter Achia. The charges were under Sec. 325, 451, 342 and 379-114 I.P.C. The trying Magistrate Babu Mon Mohan Chatterbutty, after hearing the arguments of the defence pleader convicted the accused Belat under Sec. 325 I.P.C. and gave him three months' rigorous imprisonment.

## A SENSATIONAL APPEAL.

On the 6th August, Mr. Lalmoan Ghose with Mr. B. M. Chatterjee, Barrister-at-Law, appeared before Mr. G. K. Deb, the Sessions Judge of Hooghly. The prosecution story is that gambling was going on in a public place viz. a Burwaritolla at a village Puttagacha under thana Domjore and, that when an attempt was made to arrest the gamblers, several people interfered, committed rioting, assaulted the public servants in the execution of their duty and rescued the men charged with gambling. A considerable number of villagers were convicted by the Deputy Magistrate of Howrah and sentenced under various sections of the I.P.C. to the various terms of imprisonment. The case occupied the Judge till four o'clock. The judgment has been reserved. The Government prosecutor appeared for the Crown.

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