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Ranaghat

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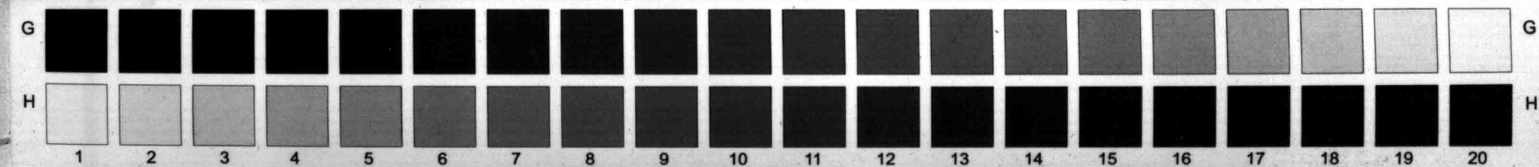
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NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

THE GREAT BATTLE AT LIAOYANG.

KUROPATKIN'S ACCOUNT.

St. Petersburg, Wednesday, Sept. 14.

General Kuropatkin has sent a lengthy despatch to the Czar giving a full account of the battle of Liaoyang. He begins by narrating the preliminary operations, including the battle of Anping, which compelled him to retire on Liaoyang. Describing the retreat, he says:—

In consequence of the mountainous nature of the country on our front and the bad condition of the roads towards the south front, the two days' march towards Liaoyang was most difficult, and it was only the devotion of all the troops on the east front which enabled it to be carried out in good order.

Only after incredible difficulties was it found possible to drag all the guns without exception and all the baggage through the passes. Some of the guns were carried through the mountains by the infantry.

Difficult as the retreat through the passes under pressure from the enemy had been, the march across the open country was still more arduous. The left and centre columns, however, succeeded in getting all their artillery and baggage to Liaoyang.

The march of the right column, which had to cross a tract of country to the west of the railway, which had suffered most severely from the rains, was especially difficult. Considerable forces of the enemy followed up our rear-guard, which maintained a stubborn resistance.

The guns of one of the batteries in retiring got stuck in some marshy ground and began to sink in the mud. Every effort was made to save them.

HOW GUNS WERE LOST.

As many as twenty-four horses were hitched on to each piece, while companies of infantry with long ropes assisted in the work. The horses and men, however, sank so deep in the soft ground that many of the latter could not free themselves, and had to be hauled out by their comrades.

Major-General Rutkovsky of the rear-guard remained in his position so long in order to cover the work of extricating the guns that his force sustained heavy losses. The general himself and Colonel Raaben, commanding the Fourth Regiment of Eastern Siberian Sharpshooters, were killed.

Notwithstanding all the efforts of the troops and the great sacrifices which they had made, it was finally found necessary to abandon the guns, which had sunk as far as the tops of the wheels.

I adopted the following plan of operations: The troops having crossed to the right bank the army was to take up positions between the village of Sykwantun and the heights near the Yentai coal mines, which were to have been occupied by Major-General Orloff's detachment, composed of thirteen battalions.

Taking a position near Sykwantun as a pivot, the army was to have effected a movement to the right to flank the Japanese positions which extended from the Taitseho, near the village of Kwantun, towards the Yentai collieries.

Coming to the struggle with General Kuroki, the despatch states:—

Offensive operations began on September 2. After having been forced to retire, the Russian regiment holding the district was obliged to change its plans for the purpose of retaking the lost ground on the following day. It was not until the evening of September 2 that the hilly country around Sykwantun and the village itself were in our hands.

FIGHT FOR THE HEIGHTS.

The assault on the heights north-east of Sykwantun, from which our troops had been driven the previous night, began at six o'clock in the evening. At first our attacks did not succeed, but fighting continued with unabated vigour even after darkness had set in.

We repeatedly gained possession of the heights, but were finally compelled to withdraw temporarily, many of our detachments being mixed up and in such a state of disorder that unity of command was rendered very difficult.

Leaders of individual detachments, however, continued to attack time after time, and at last succeeded in occupying the desired positions, thereby attaining the object of the operations on our right flank.

By that time General Orloff's detachment was within two versts of the other forces. General Orloff himself was wounded, as was also General Fomin who subsequently succumbed.

General Sansonoff's son-in-law of Siberian Cossacks dismounted and defended our positions with the utmost courage, but very gradually driven back. The enemy were now established in an extremely strong position on the hills, and it would have been too hazardous a task for our troops on the left flank to attack them, in view of the losses sustained.

We therefore withdrew towards the village of Liliangow. Inasmuch as on the night of September 2 our troops were compelled to abandon their positions near the village of Sykwantun, with which the Japanese right flank was in touch, and which was the axis of their turning movement, it was decided to retire to Mukden, the retreat being accomplished on September 7.

The evacuation of Liaoyang was begun on the afternoon of September 3, and concluded on the following morning. All the equipment

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ment was removed, but there was no time to save the commissariat reserves, which were sufficient to last the whole army for eight days. These were all destroyed.

The pontoon bridges were dismantled and carried off by the troops, while the temporary pontoons were burned. The railway bridge was wrecked.

The army retired in perfect order. The enemy attempted to pursue, but were repulsed. Precautions had been taken on September 3 and 4 to prevent a turning movement from the east.

The Japanese took no vigorous initiative to the south, but on the east General Kuroki assumed the offensive. Our detachments holding pontoons at Taliengon sustained a furious night attack, which was particularly desperate, on September 5. We retained our positions, but suffered heavy losses, one regiment, which bore the brunt of the fight, losing 500 men and wounded.

By the evening of September 5 all danger of a simultaneous attack on our front and left flank had disappeared. The removal of our artillery, transport, and baggage trains was effected in the face of immense difficulties but was successfully concluded.

Our retirement on Mukden on September 7 was covered by a strong rearguard of cavalry. We abandoned nothing from August 30 up to the time of our arrival at Mukden.

KUROKI'S GREAT EFFORT.

The following passages are taken from a long telegram sent by Reuter's special correspondent with General Kuroki's forces, composing the Japanese First or "Right" Army:—

General Kuroki's head-quarters.

Monday, Sept. 5.

The part that General Kuroki's forces played in the conflict was a remarkable exhibition.

For two days it seemed possible that the Russians might assume the offensive on a large scale and perhaps force the Japanese First Army to abandon its position.

Between Kwangtung, where General Kuroki observed for four days the conflict on the bare rocky hill in the baking sun, using a Manchurian fort as his quarters, and the hills which formed the advance line of the Japanese—beyond which they gained but little ground until the night of September 4—lies rolling country with several low ridges and many groves, giving cover to both armies.

The Russians had cut away the foliage from the trees in front of their entrenchments on the hills, leaving the approaches bare. The Japanese were constantly under fire, and could advance only by digging successive rows of trenches.

The suffering was great among the men, already exhausted by several days of the hardest fighting and marching. They were obliged to work unceasingly with their rifles or with trenching tools, and were unable to cook their rations lest the fires might disclose their positions to the enemy. The capture of the hills had cost the Japanese heavily, particularly around Yentai.

One of the bloodiest affrays of the war was the battle which developed on the lower ridges of the same hills that night. Part of the centre division was engaged upon another night assault.

ELECTRICAL DEFENCES.

Approaching the position, the Japanese encountered novel defences, consisting of wires strung along the ground highly charged with electricity. The men encountering them in the darkness received severe shocks.

The Russians defending the trenches also threw hand grenades or shells among the stormers with terrifying effect, wounding many. The attempt to seize the hill, which would form an important vantage ground for either army, failed.

All day two or three batteries enveloped the trenches with a continuous rapid fire of shrapnel and common shell, which burst along the summit and western slope, but the trenches were deep, and the single regiment holding them stuck there and repulsed or withstood two or three infantry assaults.

Throughout the night the tenure of the hills hung in the balance. The Russians twice assaulted, and once the Japanese were driven from their trenches on to the nearer slope. They refused to yield, and returned to the struggle, and finally they expelled the Russians. The slaughter on both sides was great.

At night the scene was a remarkable display of fireworks. The Russian bombardment of the hills, which had been steady all day, increased towards sunset, and when darkness fell the bursting shells over the hill tops and the plain resembled electric lights. The summits of the hills were outlined by continuous tiny streams of rifle flashes.

In the nearer plains under the protection of the low hills the camp fires of the reserves glowed like the lights of cities. Great beacons shone where the dead were being cremated.

The Japanese line advanced westward only half a mile during the day, and it became evident that General Kuropatkin's army was facing General Kuroki in too great a force for an attempt to be made to attack it, and General Kuroki would probably be fortunate if he was able to hold his ground.

CRITICAL MOMENT.

It became known that General Kuroki's communication with the other armies was cut and the state of their affairs was unknown, but General Kuropatkin's force in front of five divisions. The situation of the brigade on our extreme right was rendered critical. In the course of the afternoon the prospect brightened rapidly when it became known that a fresh brigade had reinforced the right of the line.

IT IS DANGEROUS to neglect a cold. Pneumonia is one of the most dangerous and fatal diseases. It always results from a cold. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will quickly cure a cold and perhaps prevent an attack of pneumonia. It is in fact made especially for that ailment and has become famous for its cures over a large part of the civilised world. It counteracts any tendency of a cold toward pneumonia. Can you afford to neglect your cold when so reliable a remedy can be had for a trifle? For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

The silence and suspense ended at five in the evening. The staff was galvanised into activity, couriers galloped forward, and General Fuji announced that the army would begin the pursuit of the enemy.

On Sunday morning General Kuroki rode forward to Haiyentai.

The spectacle which Haiyentai Hill presented has seldom been equalled in any war. The hill-top is less than a quarter of a mile long. The crest, slopes, and ravines were literally honeycombed with trenches, ditches, and furrows for shelter.

Trenches and counter-trenches ran in every direction, testifying to the numbers of attacks and the different points from which assaults had been attempted. Close to the summit two hundred Russians lay with their rifles where they had fallen.

Blood was smeared everywhere, in the trenches and on the turf. It was impossible to step without treading on bullets.

PORT ARTHUR.

IMPENDING GREAT ASSAULT.

Chifu, Monday, Sept. 12.

This morning a Chinese junk just arrived from Port Arthur reports that desultory out-post affairs only are taking place there.

The "Novi Krai," of Port Arthur, published a story that a Japanese colonel was shot for failing to take a position, but it is a fabrication.

The news of an impending attack, as stated in my last despatch, has been confirmed from Russian sources.

The story that a Japanese destroyer was lost and a cruiser injured, as reported by the "Novi Krai," is discredited upon Japanese authority.

Copenhagen, Monday, Sept. 12.

It is stated here on good authority that the Czar last week received information that General Stoessel has good hope of holding out at Port Arthur for three months.

PROVISIONS IN THE FORTRESS.

St. Petersburg, Sunday, Sept. 11.

A man coming from the fortress reported that there were 2,400 men and 2,000 horses in the fortress.

After the investment had begun the civilians were very down-hearted, but General Stoessel called all able-bodied men to the militia, and they were taught shooting two hours daily.

In this way 2,400 men became soldiers. There were 500 women who did the necessary nursing, washing, and cooking.

There were sufficient doctors for the wounded. Of 5,000 wounded up to August 2, 200 returned to duty.

There was plenty of corn and bread. The distribution of the bread was in the hands of General Stoessel, who fixed all prices for dealers. The supply of meat was evidently short, as General Stoessel had issued an order for the killing of 3,000 mules in the town.

Brandy, wine, and liquors were plentiful, but their sale was forbidden, since dysentery broke out owing, in the doctors' opinion, to the over-indulgence in alcohol. Since the prohibition illness has been rare.

The whole civilian population is fed in four dining-rooms at the public cost. Good order is preserved owing to strict police surveillance. All civilians must be indoors at eight, and lights are only allowed when the windows are covered with heavy black curtains. Offenders are punished with imprisonment and flogging.

Ammunition is not plentiful. There was great joy at the discovery of a Chinese arsenal in which were 300 6.9 Krupp guns of the latest pattern and a quantity of ammunition.

It was discovered that the inhabitants of the Chinese village by the side of Port Arthur had established a pigeon post, and the inhabitants, forty in number, were executed. At the beginning of the siege the Japanese in disguise used every day to bring vegetables to Port Arthur. A Russian non-commissioned officer recognised three of their number as Japanese who had formerly served as carriers in the fortress. They were immediately seized and shot.

The blockade by sea is not effective, as there is regular traffic with Chifu by means of junks. The Russian officers are perpetually passing through the Japanese land lines with despatches for Kuropatkin. Some Cossacks have made the journey as many as twelve times there and back.

HEAVY JAPANESE LOSSES.

Tsingtau (Kiaochau), Saturday, Sept. 10. A Japanese officer who passed through here to-day en route for Tokio, says that the Japanese losses at Port Arthur during the last few days were very heavy, exceeding 15,000.

GENERAL STOESSEL REPORTS.

JAPANESE REVERSES.

St. Petersburg, Wednesday, Sept. 14.

The Czar has received the following telegram from General Stoessel, dated August 25:—

At three o'clock on the morning of the 27th, during a storm accompanied by heavy rain, the Japanese made a fresh attempt to capture our positions on the left flank and a fort and the hill of Oudiantchan.

The attack was repulsed at all points. Our losses were insignificant, consisting of three soldiers killed and two officers and ninety-eight soldiers wounded.

All our wounded were brought in and are well looked after. The Japanese dead were removed by us, but the enemy hampered the work by firing on the hospital attendants who were sent out under the Red Cross flag.

Telegraphing on September 2, General Stoessel reports that on the preceding night the enemy attacked High Mountain and Long Mountain and the nearest fortifications, shelling them at the same time. They also attacked the hills.

A FRIEND IN NEED IS A FRIEND IN DEED.—That is exactly what Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is. It is the mother's help when she is suddenly awakened in the night by the ominous husky cough, and labored breathing of her babe. It is the safe resort of the youth or adult when he has "caught cold" and there is coughing and irritation of the mucous membranes of the throat. It allays the irritation and cures the cold. Sold by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

The enemy's advance guard was fortunately discovered in time by the Russian scouts. The Russians opened fire on the assailants and their batteries. A column of the enemy operating behind the chain of hills came upon some mechanical mines. Many of the Japanese were blown into the air.

The attack was repulsed after an hour's fighting. The Russian losses were insignificant, amounting to one officer and seven men wounded.

LIAOYANG THIRCE LOOTED.

Liaoyang, Monday, Sept. 12.

Seldom has any city been looted by three armies in three days, but this happened at Liaoyang.

When the Japanese drove the Russians out of the Shushan hills the starving Russian soldiers realised that Liaoyang must fall, and getting out of hand, looted the town.

They plundered not only the Chinese, but also the European shops, destroying what they did not want or were not able to carry away to prevent the goods falling into the hands of the Japanese.

They destroyed great quantities of food-stuffs and other goods, ripping open the bales, bags, and boxes with the ever-ready bayonet, scattering their contents over the streets. Much liquor was found, on which some of the soldiers became drunk and committed many excesses.

During the time between the departure of the Russians and the arrival of the Japanese the Chinese soldiers and police continued the work which the Russians had begun, and pillaged the shops which had not been discovered by the Russians.

The Japanese completed the looting. They had been fighting for five days without food except for dry rice, and broke loose on entering the town, looting night and left. As the shops had already been rifled, the Japanese turned their attention to private houses. They were chiefly in search of food but overlooked nothing.

This is the first time in the present war that Japanese soldiers have been guilty of looting a captured town. Their officers were much disturbed, and the men were finally taken out of the walled city, which they are no longer allowed to enter without a special pass.

HOW KUROPATKIN SAVED HIS ARMY.

At General Kuropatkin's Headquarters,

Tuesday, Aug. 9.

The lookers-on see so much more of the game.

Probably the looker-on from a distance sufficiently remote to bring the whole geography of the operations into one outline map-view followed the various moves of General Kuropatkin's retreat with an intelligent comprehension of what was happening.

From the day when Wafangko left the General with a force attended by over-extension, its head stretched out too far to the south, exposed to attack from every side, and its long flank menaced by a formidable enemy at every joint—from that day to the day when the scattered army found itself concentrated around Liaoyang the distant observer was doubtless following, step by step, the course of events with a clear conception of what was going on, with an intelligent understanding of what each of the two armies was endeavouring to accomplish, and, let me hope, with some appreciation of the enormous difficulties with which Kuropatkin had to contend and of the masterly way in which those difficulties were overcome.

But the odd thing is that the players of the game which the onlookers were following with so much interest knew for the most part little or nothing about it.

The Russian army had almost effected its retirement before the Russian soldier had begun to suspect that he was retreating. Perhaps the most effective testimony to the cautious skill with which General Kuropatkin extricated his army from a situation of extreme insecurity is to be found in the fact that his army, in the first place, had no notion that its position was insecure; and, in the second place did not know that it was being withdrawn.

THE PUZZLED OFFICER.

"I cannot understand it," said an officer after the artillery action which supplied the quick-step music to the retirement from Tashihchao. "Every time we fight the Japanese we retire, whether we get the better of them or not."

Afterwards, when the Tashihchao force had come back to Haicheng, an officer of the General's own staff declared with jubilant conviction: "Now we have come to an end of retreating. Now you will see the first battle of the war—if the Japanese dare come on."

And the very next day the retreat from Haicheng had begun with the retirement of General Sasselutich on the eastern flank at Simucheng, followed the day after by the wholesale abandonment of the Haicheng position, which a week earlier had been pronounced impregnable. It was only then, after the retirement from Haicheng upon the admittedly unsatisfactory position of Anshanchan, within a day's march of Liaoyang itself, that a dim glimmer of light began to be perceptible, and the army began to say "Dear me! I begin to have a sort of a notion that we are retreating."

It was not by any means so strange as it might appear to people who had been following the operations on a small-scale map held at convenient focus distance from the eyes. To them it was quite plain how General Kuroki and his collaborators were threatening to swoop down from their strongholds in the eastern hills upon some point or other of the long flank, how General Stackelberg in the extreme south was in danger of being cut off by the swift flow of the Japanese tide and how the entire army was in danger of having to give battle under extremely unfavourable conditions in order to open a way out of an extremely awkward situation.

THE BEST TREATMENT that can be given cuts, bruises, sprains, scalds or like injuries is a free application of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It allays the pain almost instantly and should always be kept on hand. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

A LINGERING COUGH may result in consumption. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy cures coughs, colds and influenza. It contains no harmful substance and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents, B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

THE WAR FROM THE INSIDE.

But to the soldier it was not by any means so easy to see clearly. For him the situation was not set out on any map. All there was of geography was for him contained in as much as he could see of the landscape in front of him, and as much as he could remember of the road by which the regiment marched.

Of where other regiments were, or divisions, or army corps, or of what they were doing, he knew nothing, and the whole problem of the war was contained in the relations between his own particular force and the body of Japanese on the other side of the hill.

Fresh troops arriving, full of enthusiasm, singing fervid war songs, cheering for joy at the immediate prospect of going to what they regarded as the front, were surprised to find that instead of being hurried out to somewhere down the peninsula they were detained at Haicheng, and sent only a few leagues eastward to General Sasselutich. Others came not nearly so far south as that. Some left the trains before even Liaoyang was reached, and marched out to eastward positions.

It was vainly surmised that there were Hunhuh bands round the coal-mining district eastward of Yentai. For every individual movement some individual explanation was divined; but of all these movements and operations, taken as a whole, the soldier, not having a general view of them, never found the general explanation that the Commander-in-Chief was strengthening his flanks in order to protect his line of retirement upon Liaoyang.

General Kuropatkin had not happened to mention to the soldier what his idea was; and General Kuropatkin had practically made good his retirement and assured the effective concentration of his forces around Liaoyang before his soldiers had begun to realise that there was such a word as retreat in the language.

A TRIUMPH OF RETREAT.

After Kaichao had been abandoned, it was observed that the General seemed most cheerful, fully content with the situation notwithstanding that unexpected retirement. We suggested to one another all sorts of explanations of his cheerfulness; but it was not until many other events had come and several other positions had been left behind, that we realised that he was cheerful because he was now confident of being able to carry his retirement still further.

"The chief is very happy about it; now he must be going to advance," said officers who caught a casual glimpse of him.

The next day they found themselves marching, under pursuing shell fire, north from Tashihchao.

It is so hard to see things properly when you only see them in detached bits at close quarters, but I begin to have a notion that this retirement of General Kuropatkin's long extended army, of which each component body was menaced by a superior force, is one of the great achievements of modern military history.

It was not accomplished without loss of men, of course. The march from Tashihchao to Haicheng of the troops that had held the positions to the south and the south-east of Tashihchao involved a certain proportion of casualties from the pursuing shrapnel. And the withdrawal of General Sasselutich's force from Simucheng, which was a necessary preliminary to the continuation of the northward movement, was not accomplished without still heavier losses. But a few thousand casualties are of small account in comparison with what have happened if a portion of the army had been cut off from support and supply; and above all, the retiring army retired fighting, and maintaining its fighting front, keeping the Japanese at a respectful distance all the way, so that the retreat, instead of being a demoralising, disheartening, discouraging trial to the soldier, had served to stimulate him with the sense of a triumphantly successful achievement.

WHAT WE SHALL KNOW.

It is too early yet to speak of the difficulties—the appalling and almost inconceivable difficulties—that have faced General Kuropatkin during this now completed first phase of the Manchurian campaign. Some day it will be known how many, or rather how few, troops he had when he first arrived in Manchuria, and what proportion, or rather what disproportion, of them were the keen, ardent young soldiers of Russian Russia.

It will be known how far his Siberian levies, with their sturdy, full-bearded reservists, were equipped, supplied, and qualified for the task they had to perform. All the world knows, no doubt, that he was outnumbered, and all the world will realise, when it is permitted to know the facts, how enormous was the responsibility which was cast upon this silent, strong-faced, resolute man, and with what strength and silence and resolution he has faced and conquered it.

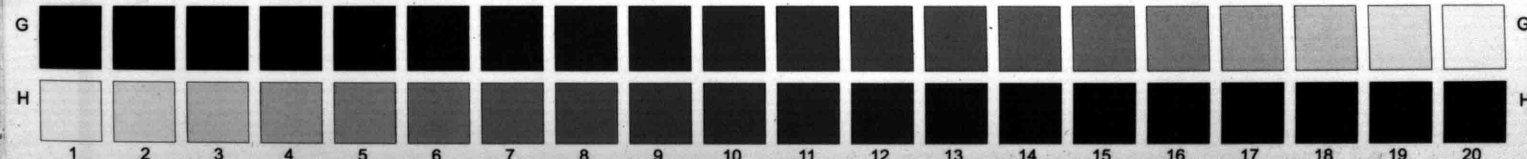
At the end of the first phase of the campaign the onlooking world sees General Kuropatkin driven back with the whole of his army upon his base at Liaoyang. After a time with fuller knowledge than is now possible to it, the onlooking world may be filled with appreciation of the magnitude of General Kuropatkin's achievement in getting there.—Charles E. Hands.

A Travancore correspondent writes: The suit of defamation brought by the contractors of the "Malayali" against those of "Saraswathi" has been amicably settled. The contractors of the latter paper have tendered an apology and thus it ended.

A silly and mischievous rumour has been promulgated broadcast in Madras that under orders of the plague authorities all poultry had to be destroyed. The rumour caused consternation among the lower classes in all parts of Madras, and a considerable number of birds have been already destroyed. The Municipality and police know nothing about the order, and it certainly has not been issued by the President of the Municipality as chief plague authority in Madras.

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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, OCTOBER 6, 1904.

CONDEMNED UNHEARD

OR SYSTEM OF STABBING FROM BEHIND.

SIR ANDREW FRASER was the other day very properly thanked by one of our correspondents for having promoted eleven Sub-Deputy Collectors at a stretch to the 8th grade of Dy. Collectors. But, on what principle were these promotions made? What we find is that, though there were a large number of officers in the first and second grade, they were left out, and those on the third grade preferred. Possibly the latter were more meritorious than the former; if so, it should have been stated. In the absence of any explanation, the public are justified in holding that there is no right method in selecting officers for promotion, and that deserving men are often sacrificed for the sake of those who are adept in the art of pleasing their immediate superiors. In the case of the recently-promoted Sub-Deputies, we have received complaints to the effect that all materials were not placed before Sir Andrew, and hence he was led, though unconsciously, to condemn some really worthy officers unheard.

As every body knows, the principle of "condemned unheard" is so monstrous and regarded with such abhorrence that even a criminal is not subjected to it. When a man is charged with committing theft, he is hauled up for trial, but will not be condemned till the offence against him is proved upon unquestionable evidence. If a fanatic aims a blow at a King or a Prince in the presence of his bodyguards, he is not killed then and there, or sent straight to jail, but is placed on his trial, and punished only when his guilt is established. Even the reigning princes of India, who are more helpless than orphans, are given some sort of trial. The only persons, however, who do not seem to always enjoy this privilege are the members of the different services, superior and inferior, who form the governing body and who oftentimes sit in judgment upon others. Let us cite some instances, and begin with the highest officers.

When the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal fell vacant a few years ago, every one including no doubt Sir Henry Cotton himself, thought that he was going to fill it up. But he did not, and he was not told why he did not. The same remarks apply to Mr. Smeaton, late Member of the Viceroyal Council, who was to have got the Lieutenant-Governorship of Burma, but another was appointed in his place. He resigned in utter disgust, and took his revenge upon Lord Curzon by publishing the scandalous incident, in connection with the Maharajah of Benares, in the London "Daily News", over the name of Mrs. Smeaton.

Mr. Philip Nolan, Member, Board of Revenue L. P., was as popular as he was able; yet he was superseded by many of the juniors. Mr. Nolan at last died of broken heart; and his last remains were consigned to this country, far away from his dear home and hearth. Yet no question was ever raised as to the cause of this calamity. Mr. Skrine another able officer, also resigned and exposed the Secretariat tactics in newspapers.

That is how officials, in this country, even in the superior services, are treated. They may not get their deserts, but no one is bound to answer, why not? Nothing is overboard.

There is a system of stabbing in the dark all along the line, which is eating into the vitals of the administration. Let us see how the members of the Provincial Service, with whom we are more immediately concerned, are dealt with frequently. Babu Ram Chandra Mukherjee is a Deputy Collector in the 8th grade. He has qualified himself for promotion to the 7th grade in every way. He is high up in the list and expects his promotion with the next batch. The list of promotion comes out; but lo! Babu Ram Chandra is exactly where he was, four men, less deserving, having superseded him. He does not know why and no one will tell him why.

We all know one reason why promotions of Dy. Magistrates are oftentimes stopped. Such of them as show acquitting tendencies are put in the black book. Which means that, if the percentage of their convictions did not reach the orthodox figures which, according to Sir Charles Elliott, was 80, they were liable to be dropped for years in the same grade. The result was that those poor Dy. Magistrates, who were hampered with half-a-dozen children, specially girls, with the prospect of being blessed (?) with another batch, had no alternative but to show the orthodox figures, though they had to do it by selling their souls to the Great One who now rules the world. In this way, a Dy. Magistrate, who was posted at Burdwan, we very well remember, secured rapid promotion during the time of Sir Charles Elliott by convicting cent per cent!

On the other hand, poor Pundit Jogendra Nath Bidyabhusan, who died the other day, could never rise above the first two grades of Dy. Magistrates, because, he would not convict an innocent man, and his percentage of convictions was therefore always low. Perhaps Rai Atul Chander Chatterjee Bahadur, now Manager of Maharajah Sir J. M. Tagore's estates, was the only Dy. Magistrate, who fought his battle successfully with Sir Charles Elliott when the latter had stopped his promotion for his refusal to convict every person sent up by the police.

Now Babu Ram Chander, referred to above, is not a Dy. Magistrate but a Dy. Collector. He has nothing to do with showing percentage of convictions. Why was his promotion then stopped? A correspondent thus describes his case, enough, we need hardly say, that his real name is not Ram Chander. But let our correspondent speak:—

"Babu Ram Chander begins to imagine all kinds of things that have stopped his promotion. He thinks that on such and such day when the District Collector was riding past his house, he was stupid enough not to run out of his house and make him a salam. But could it really stand in the way of his promotion? Think he again. No, there must be some other thing. Yes, he remembers it now. It is this: When the Collector Sahab's Mensahib was delivered of a babe just before the last confidential reports were sent up, he had not congratulated her. But no, he again thinks that could not be the reason. The Sahab

native subordinate having anything to say (good or bad) about his domestic affairs; and so it could not stand in the way of his promotion. His countenance however suddenly brightens up—he has got it, namely that, when the Sahab's pony, Magie, was suffering from cough, he had forgotten to send the Sahab a letter of condolence. He resolves therefore from this time forward to keep every Khabar of the Sahab's stables; and thus he helps the administration and repays the general body of tax-payers."

There is no doubt some exaggeration in the above; all the same, the fact is undeniable that deserving officers are stabbed from behind, and nobody knows why they are treated in this fashion. Here is the case of another officer, who, like Babu Ram Chander, has been superseded but who has higher pretensions of his intelligence. He thinks that his Sahab wants him to do more tour work, and he concentrates all his energies in dragging suitors from all parts of the country to his distant camps. Yet both the officers were in all likelihood mistaken. The beauty of the whole arrangement is however that they cannot know the "why" or the "how." The privilege, enjoyed by the meanest criminal, of being given a hearing, is denied to them.

As we said above, it is the system of stabbing in the dark—the reporting against subordinates confidentially—that is at the root of all this mischief. Mr. Collector A. takes a dislike to his subordinate Collector Babu Ram Chandra and writes in his confidential report; "He has worked well but is inclined to be insubordinate." Babu Ram Chandra is of course, according to the code of the service, entered in a black book, and all his future prospects are marred. The fate of Babu Jogendra Nath Bidyabhusan, noted above, overtakes others, that is to say, those who refuse to sell their souls by sending people indiscriminately to jail for the sake of a policy. Is it fair? Does it help the administration? And after all, whom does it help?

We have always protested against this system. Our protests, we fancied, had given a shake to it. At least, our belief was that, at the time of the late Lieutenant Governor, the Government had adopted the method of sending a copy of the adverse remarks to the officer concerned, in order to hear what the condemned officer had got to say before he was passed over. We are afraid the system has now been dropped.

His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, is going to hold a conference in October with all Commissioners of Divisions. It is therefore the fittest time for the consideration of this important matter in all its bearings. The Government perhaps may argue that it must have confidential reports. By all means have them. But what we want to know is under what ethics, under what code of morality, should a man—an officer who is entrusted with the dispensation of justice to others,—be condemned without giving him an opportunity of explaining his conduct? Considered even from the lowest standard of morality, it is the meanest of acts.

If the Government must have its confidential reports, let copies of adverse remarks be sent to the officer concerned. The primary object of punishment or censure is that the man punished is corrected, and by the method, we suggest, that object will be served, at least to a large extent. Another thing. Those in whose hands lies the shaping of the destinies of others, will learn to be more careful in making their remarks. They must be made to feel some responsibility in doing so. For we claim it that they must not pass adverse remarks in an irresponsible manner, and shall always be prepared to cite specific instances to substantiate them. If this be the understanding, they would learn to realise the grave responsibility of the situation.

To the rulers of Provinces, specially those who believe in a just God, we appeal, whether the present arrangement of condemning one without a hearing stands to their conscience. How would they feel, supposing, despite all their good acts in this world, some bad angel were to walk up to God,—the Highest of all dispensers of justice,—and quietly to pour into His ears something against them, and that Just Being, let it be supposed, once in the way did not record them a hearing and put them only in a second class place somewhere in the other world though they deserved first? We shall have yet more to say on the subject.

PATRIOTISM IN ENGLAND AND PATRIOTISM IN INDIA.

WHILE the Universities Bill here was powerfully exercising the minds of the educated Indians, the Non-conformists in England, Wales and Scotland were fiercely opposing the Education Bill introduced at about the same time in Parliament. The Indian Universities Bill was opposed on the ground that Universities were passing entirely from the hands of the people into those of the officials; the Education Bill was opposed on the ground that the Education Rate, provided by the measure, would take away the control of the educational institutions from the hands of the Non-conformists and place it into those of the Roman Catholics.

In spite of all opposition, both Bills were passed and the worst fears of the oppositionists were realized; that is to say, the Non-conformists were not exempted from the payment of the Education Rate, and the Indian Universities were converted, to all intents and purposes, into official institutions. As a matter of fact, the new Universities are constituted after the model of the Calcutta Corporation, where the official Chairman and the Syndicate, composed almost entirely of officials and their creatures are supreme, the Senate or the general body of Fellows, which contains some popular element, having very little control over them.

Let us now compare the conduct of the oppositionists in Great Britain with that of their confreres in India. There is nothing in the Universities Act to compel an educated Indian to become a fellow and do violence to his conscience and lose his self-respect by joining the new Universities, which he condemned vehemently and incessantly for six months together. On the other hand, he is free to keep up the agitation, and agitate and agitate till the obnoxious character of the institution is dropped.

It is, on the other hand, compulsory on the part of the Non-conformist to pay the Education Rate, and, failing, he is liable to be criminally prosecuted. The Non-conformists have, however, elected to refuse the payment of the Education Rate, and go to jail or pay fines; and hundreds of them actually are being fined and sent to jail.

By the mail to hand, we learn that the Rev. Dr. Clifford, speaking at a meeting at Bathurst, after Magisterial proceedings against some 60 Non-conformists, said they would cease passive resistance when they had obtained the abolition of the Education Rate

Nor is this all. The refusal to pay Education Rate is a disqualification for electoral franchise. The Non-conformists are, however, cheerfully parting with this great privilege for the sake of principle. What amount of sacrifice they are undergoing will appear from the following cases, accounts of which have been brought here by yesterday's mail.

These Non-conformists call themselves "passive resistors." The real truth is, they are active oppositionists; for they are deliberately defying the law, and inviting upon themselves the consequences of disobeying the orders of the constituted authority. Twelve passive resistors, including two ministers, were struck off the list of voters at Hereford on September 9, for not having paid their rates in full.

"Please do not put me in the unpleasant position of having you removed from the court," said the presiding magistrate at the Camberwell Police Court to the Rev. John Bailey, one of the ministers, who insisted on explaining his position.

"I wish you would," was the reply. Mr. Bailey then turned to the reporters and said the magistrates had no course but to send him to prison. "I wish they would do so," he added, "I would rather have my bones rot in prison than pay the education rate."

The Rev. F. B. Meyer was among a batch of a hundred passive resistors at Lambeth on the same day. He was allowed to address the court on behalf of all the defendants.

We also gather from the mail papers the following further particulars relating to the agitation of the "passive resistors." During the week the mail left England, one hundred and five summonses were heard at Camberwell, two of the defendants being committed to prison for seven days. On Tuesday, Sept. 13, eighty passive resistors appeared in the Bristol court. Up to date 29,120 summonses have been issued, 720 being in London. The goods of 1,103 defendants have been sold, and thirty-five resistors have gone to prison, three twice.

In a long communication Dr. Clifford refers to the "defiance of British law" in relation to the vote of the "passive resistors," and concludes, "But the defiance of British law is only a reminder of the defiance of the law of God in the 'Script'; the compensation for injustice is that in that dark ordeal we gather the worthiest around us."

Let us now examine the conduct of our own resistors to the Universities measure. So long the Bill was before the Legislative Council, they protested with all their might. They held public meetings; they wrote articles; they sent memorials; and they discussed wherever and whenever two educated Indians happened to meet each other. In short, every one felt that it was his first and most sacred duty to go on agitating. All this retrograde measure has been repealed.

All this outburst of patriotism, however, ceased with the passing of the Bill. As soon as the new University was formed at Calcutta some dry bones, unwholesome and indigestible, in the shape of five Fellowships, that is to say, five seats in the Senate, were thrown at the graduates of the University. Immediately there was a scramble for them among a score of the latter; and, of the five, who have secured these seats, two were the loudest in their denunciation of the Bill!

Such spectacles are not only sickening but fill the mind with despair. We show our patriotism by joining the Congress and making fine speeches at public meetings and the Congress platform; but when the time for action arrives, we are nowhere. It is all words, words, nothing but words with us, and consequently we do not deserve anything. And it is for this that Lord Curzon was able to characterise the agitation of the Bengalees as fictitious, and declare that their patriotism was mere foam and froth.

A Chinese lady had promised to her husband that if he died before her she would not marry again till his grave was dried up. It so happened that the husband really departed this life, and his widow at once began to fan the grave so that it might dry up speedily. Could not our patriots wait at least one session to take advantage of the provision of the Universities Act which does out to them merely five paltry seats out of one hundred? They should have waited at least for the sake of decency.

In the matter of the new Universities, however, no sacrifice whatever on our part is required. We have not to go to prison or lose any valuable privilege. Neither have we to fight with the constituted authority. All that is necessary is to show by our conduct that we were really sincere in our previous agitation, and that we did not seek to humbug the Government by our incessant protests for six months.

In short, the only thing needed was to keep ourselves entirely aloof, and leave the Universities severely alone. Let the Government do what it likes with its new Universities; we people, whose voice was totally ignored and who are to be in a hopeless minority in the new Universities, have nothing to do with them. This should have been our attitude; but, alas! there is little hope for the regeneration of India when some of its best sons will condemn a measure in one breath, and accept it with the other, because, it scatters some dry bones to them. The most regrettable feature of the affair is that, they have practically accepted the Act by agreeing to serve under its present constitution, and thereby made it almost impossible for the people to start an agitation again for its repeal.

We know our comments in this connection are not likely to be taken in good parts in certain quarters, and we had, therefore, intended to remain silent; but the sage remarks of the "New Age," just to hand, about which hereafter, leave us no option but to offer a few observations on this subject.

OLD AND NEW SYSTEM FOR RECRUITING DY. MAGISTRATES.

REFERRING to the abolition of the competitive system for the Provincial Service the "Statesman" remarks:—"The Amrita Bazar Patrika, we observe, condemns Sir Andrew Fraser's new scheme for the recruitment of Deputy Magistrates as reactionary, inasmuch as it substitutes a system of nomination, pure and simple, for one under which a moiety of the number of appointments annually at the disposal of the Local Government are filled according to the results of a competitive examination. This reminds us that in our previous comments on the scheme we overlooked the extent to which the old system of nomination, pure and simple, has been modified since Sir Steuart Bayley's time by the throwing open of a certain proportion of the appointments to competition."

Our contemporary then compares the merits of the two systems, and arrives at the following conclusion:—

"On the whole, we are disposed to think that the new scheme is likely to be attended

by more satisfactory results than the present mixed system; but, perhaps, a preferable scheme would be one under which nine of the annual vacancies should be filled on nomination by the Divisional Commissioners, in consultation with the District officers, and possibly the District Judges and the remainder by competitive examination under suitable conditions."

The "Statesman" evidently labours under one disadvantage, namely, that he has to write with scanty information at his disposal; for, if he were in possession of all available materials in this connection, he would have never preferred the present to the past system. Strangely enough, the preferable plan which our contemporary suggests resembles very closely with the one introduced by Sir Steuart Bayley, and which Sir Andrew Fraser has just abolished. As our contemporary is not aware of this fact, so he has been unconsciously led to condemn what he himself proposes! Let us now see what Sir Steuart gave us and which, after a successful trial of about 15 years, has just been knocked on the head.

Sir Steuart, who had an opportunity of watching the results of the working of the various systems tried alternately by different Lieutenant-Governors for two decades of years, was emphatically of opinion that, "in any scheme that is to be final, the principle of competition must occupy a prominent, perhaps the most prominent, place."

Now is it not strange that such an opinion, emanating from a distinguished Lieutenant-Governor like Sir Steuart Bayley who had spent his whole official life in Bengal, and who was specially called upon to examine carefully the various systems for the recruitment of the Subordinate Executive Service and select the best of them, and whose Resolution on the subject was as statesmanlike as it was exhaustive, should be totally disregarded by Sir Andrew Fraser, who is not only new to Bengal but has yet little personal experience of its administration? This is all the more strange as Sir Steuart's system has worked most satisfactorily all these fifteen years. Never was the Provincial Service manned with such an able body of officers as it has been during this interval.

But though Sir Steuart insisted, with all the force he could command, that the principle of competition should form the most prominent feature of any scheme that might be adopted for recruiting Dy. Magistrates, Sir Andrew has totally ignored this expression of views on the part of his illustrious predecessor, and that without offering any explanation. The new Lieutenant-Governor would have nothing to do with the principle of competition: he would have nomination, pure and simple. The "Statesman," we trust, will take note of this point.

Sir Steuart, however, could not entirely overlook the cry of "conflicting interests," and therefore provided that "the power to make appointments by selection should also be retained. But while reserving this discretion," says Sir Steuart in his Resolution, "he desires to exercise it on as small scale as is possible, and to prepare the way for a further adoption of competition by allotting one-half of the available appointments in either (higher or lower) branch of service in accordance with the results of the examination."

In short, the scheme of Sir Steuart Bayley was this. (He assumed that twelve (and not nineteen as now) vacancies in the grade of Dy. Magistrates were to be filled every year, and provided that nine of these should be given on the results of the competitive examination, namely, six to the first six candidates on the list in order of merit, and three to candidates having adequate claims to appointment by nomination, provided these latter obtained not less than one-third of the marks. The remaining three were to be filled up by Government on the principle of selection.

That is to say, the twelve vacancies were to be filled in this wise:

(1) Half of these appointments were to be annually thrown open to the graduates of the University who would have to pass another difficult competitive examination, and the first six successful of them in order of merit would be entitled to get them.

(2) Three of them were to be filled by candidates who would also have to pass the competitive examination but who must obtain one-third marks. The Government would reserve to itself the power of nominating any three out of the number of candidates who had secured not less than one-third of the marks.

(3) The remaining three were to be disposed of on the principle of nomination, pure and simple.

Thus the Bayley system, which was based more on the principle of competition than that of nomination, enabled at least half a dozen of the best of our graduates annually to secure six out of twelve appointments by sheer dint of merit and without the help of any outside influence. The "Statesman" also practically suggests the same thing when it says that, out of the nineteen annual vacancies, nine should be disposed of on the principle of nomination, and ten that of competition.

We shall now examine what the present system provides for us. Out of the nineteen annual vacancies, nine are to be filled by the recommendations of the Collectors and the Commissioners, and three by those of the Syndicate of the Calcutta University. Those candidates who are without influence, however brilliant students they may be, have thus no chance for admission into the Provincial Service, unless they can curry favour with the Collectors, or perhaps with their Sheristadars.

The Syndicate is no longer a popular body and does not command the confidence of the public.

As regards the remaining seven appointments they will be distributed to officials who are in Government service, the non-official public having nothing to do with them.

The case then stands thus. Under the old system, half of the annual appointments in the Provincial Service were within the grasp of the best of our graduates; under the new scheme, all the appointments are absolutely beyond their reach, unless they have influence in high quarters. The "Statesman" cannot thus prefer the present system to the old without stultifying itself. What Sir Andrew Fraser should have done, as a liberal ruler, was to expand the principle of competition and not to demolish it, specially in defence to the strong views of Sir Steuart Bayley on the point; and the "Statesman," as a liberal paper, should oppose, and not support, the retrograde measure of the present Lieutenant-Governor, if it were to remain true to its old traditions.

If the report of the Special Committee was rejected, and the amendment of Mr. K. G. Gupta adopted at the Corporation meeting of Thursday, that was exactly what was expected. How could it be otherwise? The vast majority of the Commissioners who supported the amendment knew that they were, by adopting that course, doing vital injury to their own interests and those of the country. Yet they could not help it; for was not the officiating Chairman, Mr. Allen, pressing them forward? They were bound to follow him, and they did it, though some of them at least are estimable members of society and no doubt ashamed of their conduct. Now one word to these Commissioners. Why are they on the Corporation at all? Whom do they represent? Why do they court the expression, "ap-ka-waste," for themselves? Surely the rate-payers of Calcutta will not bless them for the part they were made to play. Neither can their countrymen be proud of them, while true-hearted Englishmen will have but one feeling for them. Their position is most unenviable. In short, they have gained nothing, but lost all along the line. Every one considers it a proud privilege to be able to serve his motherland. But they were led to go against its interests. We write in sorrow, and not in anger. For, India is in a very bad way, and expects every Indian to do his duty at this juncture.

As for Mr. Allen, his attitude has very much pained and surprised us. A. B. is a prominent citizen and a great friend of Mr. Chairman Allen. He is appointed a Commissioner. Mr. Allen requests A. B. to support him, but, the Indian hangs down his head in anguish of his soul. He knows that to support Mr. Allen is to go against his own country, to go against good administration, and to go against his own convictions. He knows that, if he supports Mr. Allen, he will please a very influential official no doubt, from whom he may expect a dry bone, though of this there is no certainty. But he knows also that by supporting Mr. Allen he will incur the displeasure of those among whom he lives and moves. A. B. knows full well that if he supports Mr. Allen he will be pointed out as the "ap-ka-waste" Commissioner. He knows he will suffer in many ways which need not be described in detail, but can be easily understood. A. B. knows this well, and Mr. Allen, who wants his support, knows that also very well. Is it fair that Mr. Allen should, under such circumstances, appeal to him for support, directly or indirectly, when he knows that the support to him means not only moral fall, but indissoluble misery to his Indian friend? But officials are sometimes selfish, and Mr. Allen, after all, is an official.

The Hon'ble Mr. K. G. Gupta may think that he scored a victory at the last Thursday's meeting of the Calcutta Corporation. He was selected by the Government to lead the official forces against the popular element in the Municipality; and he succeeded in winning an easy victory, eighteen Commissioners voting for him, and only twelve voting against him. But we do not think he deserves the triumph of a victor; for, practically, he acted, not as the General but as only a common soldier; he was, in short, a mere tool in the hands of the General who chose to remain behind, safe from all attacks. The victory of Mr. K. G. Gupta reminds us of the so-called victory of Sheekhandi against Bhishma, the irresistible General of the Kurus in the Mahabharat, in the battle of Kurukshetra. Bhishma had taken a vow that he would never fight with an imbecile. His opponents, the Pandavas, having come to know this, elected Sheekhandi who was an imbecile, as their General for the day, to lead the army. Seeing Sheekhandi before him, Bhishma threw away his bow and arrows and refused to fight. Thereupon Arjun, the real General of the Pandavas, stationing himself behind Sheekhandi, pierced the body of the Bhishma with his mighty arrows, killed him, and won the battle. When Sheekhandi claimed the victory, he was laughed at; for, everybody could see it was not he, but Arjun, who, having fought from behind him, had defeated the Kurus. So here, in this municipal fight, Mr. K. G. Gupta only acted the part of a Sheekhandi. As a Bengalee, it was thought that his countrymen would spare him; so Mr. Gupta was stationed to the front to provide Mr. Allen, who was the real fighter, with a good shelter. Now suppose Mr. Allen had not backed Mr. K. G. Gupta: was there any chance of his obtaining a victory? Certainly not; he won, because, the Arjun of the Municipality was at his back, and discharged his arrows from behind.

The conduct of Mr. Gupta leads us to the discussion of an important point. When Babu Satyendra Nath Tagore first entered the Indian Civil Service by passing the competitive examination in England, the nation rejoiced. Whenever a native of the country succeeds in entering the Indian Civil Service, the country expresses its delight. When Mr. K. G. Gupta succeeded in entering it, there was rejoicing in the country. But what does the country gain by having natives of the soil in high offices, if these lucky individuals do not fulfil the expectations that the country forms of them? The country wants natives of the soil in high places for one great reason. It is that the country, by having an Indian in high place, secures some sort of self-Government. But if the lucky native of the soil, on entering the Civil Service, forsakes his countrymen, what is the advantage that the latter derive from having a countryman in the Civil Service?

Just see. Babu Ghose enters the Civil Service, and immediately he takes to his hat and coat, and becomes a "mister." He cuts off all connection with his countrymen, and poses as a European in every way. If a Magistrate, he imbibes the passion of the European Magistrate for conviction and severe punishment. He places himself at the absolute disposal of the European District Superintendent of Police, and oftentimes obeys the orders of the latter, a subordinate. As Sessions Judge, he is frequently found as fond of conviction and severe sentences as his European compeer. So the country gains very little by having Magistrates and Judges from amongst its people. An Indian, who raises himself, leaving his country behind, is an abortion, we don't want him. He is nobody to us.

Mr. K. G. Gupta has attained to the highest position open to a native of the soil in the Executive Branch of the service. Surely they will not put him in possession of Belvedere. Surely they cannot expel him from the Board, if he shews some honest independence. It is now in his power to do some



service to his country. But see how he was utilized by Mr. Allen, and how readily he agreed to be a tool in his hands. So, we say, there is no hope for the country. When Mr. Allen approached him to lead him to the position of a scape goat, why did he not refuse? Why did he not tell him that he had a country, and that it would break his heart to go against it, specially as his official duties did not require that he should injure its interests? If he had so pleaded, we doubt not Mr. Allen would have left him alone.

In the last "Calcutta Gazette" we see the names of Mr. Ambica Ch. Sen and Babu Rajendra K. Bose. Both are Bengalees, and both District and Sessions Judges. That being the case, we do not see why the first should be a "Mr." and the second a "Babu". If a "Mr." makes a Bengalee more important, why is the second deprived of this inestimable boon? If it does not in any way add to the comfort, respectability or advantage of the man who wears it, why should a Bengalee give up what is indigenous for the sake of that which is alien? There are possibly some Bengalees who try to make themselves more respectable than they are by adding this "Mr." to their names. Others there are possibly who try to make the Babu respectable by sticking to it. We have, however, no object to compare the one with the other; they are all equally estimable.

The information, that Sir H. Cotton has agreed to preside at the forthcoming National Congress at Bombay, will send a thrill of joy throughout the whole country. This arrangement will no doubt give a life to the Congress, but, what we fear is likely to happen is that the Congress will resume its previous position of inactivity, as soon as the deliberations have ended. The enthusiasm evoked in the country when Mr. Bradlaugh came was unexampled, but no permanent effect of his advent remained. Luckily the movement is now entirely in the hands of such leaders of the Congress as Messrs. Mehta, Watcha, and Gokhale. They ought to be able to adopt some such step this time as will infuse new life to the organization, and restore it to its original position.

Here is a typical case shewing, why the people groan under Police rule, and how the Police has become so terrible. One Ram Chandra Marwari preferred a complaint before a Deputy Magistrate of Purbala against the Sub-Inspector of Gaurangi Thanna alleging that the latter had detained the petitioner at the Thanna and had forcibly taken away a large number of bricks belonging to him. The Deputy Magistrate took cognizance of the case and after recording the examination of the petitioner submitted the case to the Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum. And why did the Deputy Magistrate, instead of trying the case himself, submitted it to the Dy. Commissioner? It was no doubt, because, the accused was a Police Officer, and he did not think it safe to meddle with the case.

This action that the Deputy Commissioner took shews that the Deputy Magistrate had acted wisely. For the Deputy Commissioner on the same day made over the case to the District Superintendent of Police to report. The latter again made the case over to a Police Inspector. The Inspector sent up his report saying that the complaint was a false one. On receipt of the said report the District Superintendent forwarded it to the Deputy Commissioner, who dismissed the petitioner's complaint without examining him and directed proceedings to be taken against the petitioner under Sec. 211 I.P.C. for making a false complaint.

This case is beautifully complete; only in the place of the Inspector, the accused Sub-Inspector ought to have been asked to enquire into and give his opinion regarding the case brought against himself. The High Court has asked the Deputy Commissioner to explain why the proceedings against the unfortunate Marwari should not be quashed. But what of the original case,—the case against the Police Sub-inspector in which he was charged with having forcibly taken away the bricks of the complainant? So only a report of the Police Inspector enabled the District Magistrate not only to dismiss the case against the Sub-Inspector, but haul up the original complainant on a charge of making a false complaint against the Sub-Inspector!

From the following account, it seems, that some Honorary Magistrates fancy that they have, like the District Magistrates the privilege of paying the Hakim, when parties resort to their court. We are informed that, the other day, though a pleader for the accused was assured at 11 a.m. by an Honorary Magistrate of Hooghly that his client's case would be taken up after lunch, yet it was called for hearing scarcely had the pleader left the court room. The pleader returned and the case was taken up. In the middle of his cross-examination of a witness he was however stopped, and a part-heard case was taken up. It so happened that neither party of this case was present in court. The pleader was again called in and asked to proceed with his case, which he did; but before ten minutes had elapsed the parties in the part-heard case appeared in court. The pleader was again stopped in the middle of his cross-examination and the other case was taken up. The pleader with his client and his witnesses had to wait till the rising of the court to suit the convenience of the Honorary Magistrate. The inconveniences and sufferings of the party, his witnesses and pleader can be easily imagined. Mr. Carey, the District Magistrate of Hooghly, should enquire into these irregularities of the Honorary Magistrate and save parties from unnecessary harassment.

The facts of the Sangramgarh shooting case, in which one Mr. Martin was convicted of having shot down dead a servant of the local zemindars, the Hazra Babus, must still be fresh in the minds of our readers. Though the occurrence took place as far back as February 1902, the extraordinary procedure adopted by the Judge during the trial made the case acquire an undying notoriety. The case had a sequel which has just been disposed of by the Sub-Divisional officer of Ranigunj. It will be remembered that some seven men of the Hazra zemindars were put on their trial before the Sub-Divisional officer of Ranigunj on a charge of rioting with the common object of assaulting Mr. Martin and his party. The judgment of the

S.D.O. acquitting all the accused, is published elsewhere. The High Court in reducing the sentence passed upon Mr. Martin held that he acted in self-defence. The S. D. O. however, after recording the deposition of witnesses, with commendable independence, held that there was no riot before the fatal shot was fired.

There are making much of the Adolph Beck case in England; but, far more atrocious cases daily occur in this country and there is none to take notice of them. It is quite true that some of these cases are published in newspapers and attention of the higher authorities are drawn to them; but the matter ends there. If a man were wrongly acquitted the whole machinery of the Government would be put in motion to secure his no-trial and punishment, but scores of innocent men are daily convicted and sent to prison; yet no Provincial Governor ever deems it his duty to enquire into them and do justice to the wronged individuals.

We have read with considerable interest the pamphlet in Bengalee which Babu Prithwis Chander Roy has written criticising, what is called, the non-mendicant policy, pure and simple, advocated by Babu Robindra Nath Tagore, in an able essay published in the "Banga Durshan." The gist of Babu Robindra Nath Tagore's views is that, as all our political agitations have proved only a farce and a delusion, we should give them up and regenerate India without the help of the State. In short, Babu Robindra Nath would have a Swadeshi Smaaj or National Society, for the salvation of India, with an exemplary leader to guide its affairs, and the members whereof should rely solely upon themselves for the social, political, moral and educational progress of the people, and ask no assistance from Government. Babu Prithwis Chander has tried to refute this position of Robindra Babu with great force; indeed, he has pointed out some of the weak points of Babu Robindra Nath's arguments with such clearness as to dislodge him completely. For instance, he shows that when the Government takes away annually eighty crores of Rupees from the people, it does not stand to reason that they should keep themselves aloof from the Government and let the latter do whatever it likes with their money. Similarly, the Government has undertaken to do certain duties for which it is handsomely paid. Why should not the taxpayers approach the Government and demand an explanation if it neglects these duties? As a matter of fact, as Babu Prithwis Chander points out, it is impossible to create a national State within a governing State, that the so-called mendicant policy means nothing more or less than the demanding of political rights and privileges by constitutional agitation; and that in India as well as in every other country, the people must elevate themselves by approaching the Government with their just grievances; and that there is no humiliation in begging favours from the State.

At the same time, we must say, there is much truth in what Babu Robindra Nath has stated. He is perfectly right when he says that we can do much by eschewing politics altogether, and putting our houses into order by our own exertions, without seeking any help from the authorities. Take for instance the evil of litigation. It is eating into the vitals of the nation. It, however, rests wholly with us whether to go to law or not; we need no outside help for this purpose. Similarly, we may drive foreign goods if we can only combine. No State help is necessary for this. And we can bring peace and prosperity to every Indian home if we can accomplish these two things. The fact is, we both need, and do not need, Government help; and from this point of view, truth, more or less, is to be found on the side of both the disputants. Those who have read Babu Robindra Nath's essay should also read the pamphlet of Babu Prithwis Chander, and derive benefit from both.

As the result of the recent shooting at Dhami, the Viceroy bagged 36 pheasants, 10 kukkars, 4 chikors and 2 peafowl. The undergrowth was very thick or the bag would certainly have been larger.

The want of rain has been very keenly felt in the Jannagar State, where every hope for future rains has already been abandoned. The early crops are therefore expected to yield a very meagre produce and under the circumstances the necessity of opening before long relief works in the interests of the poor and unemployed classes has begun to show itself in its grim reality.

On Sunday afternoon there was a vivid flash of lightning, accompanied by a most deafening crash of thunder in Rangoon Cantonments. The lightning in the shape of a lurid ball of fire, fell in the compound of the Dufferin Hospital, knocking down Dr. Fowler Thompson's cook, burning a part of his foot and killing five crows in the adjacent trees. The cook's escape was marvellous. A strong sulphurous smell was very perceptible by Dr. Fowler Thompson, the Superintendent of the Dufferin Hospital, and also by others when the bolt fell in the grounds.

The Government of Bengal has lately made the discovery that some 2,500 criminals resident in the United Provinces are in the habit of entering Bengal disguised as peaceful river traders, with a view to perpetrating crimes from petty theft upwards. In order to place a check on the movements of these gentry the Government thinks of causing all trading boats to be registered. In order to minimise the inconvenience to river traffic it is proposed to examine boats only at three or four stations throughout the province. We understand that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, on being consulted, has expressed its approval of the idea.

The relation between the bench and the bar at Habiganj has become very much strained. The "Weekly Chronicle" says that the Munsiffs of that place have introduced several changes which have put serious obstacles in the conduct of cases by the pleaders. Hitherto, the pleaders had free access to records of cases on the hearing days, but they are now very sparingly given. Urgent petitions and other papers too had so long been accepted after 12 o'clock, but they are now not so received. The practice of allowing a pleader to conduct a case in the absence of the pleader or originally employed therein by the former's acceptance in writing on the back of the Vakalatnama has been discontinued and a fresh Vakalatnama is insisted on. Our contemporary hears that a representation has been submitted to the District Judge of Habiganj by the local Bar Association on account of the insulting conduct of a Munsiff towards a pleader. We doubt not the District Judge would interfere and restore peace.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent.

London, Sept. 16.

PHRASE FOR THE WEEK.

"Of course the Government cannot afford to give up the land revenue. But it is obvious that if the people are deterred from improving their land and their houses by fear that the rent of land will be raised against them in consequence of their own improvements, the Government is really acting against its own interests."—The "Statist," London, Sept. 10, 1904.

A VOICE IN IRELAND.

The "Universe," a Dublin newspaper, has discovered that Irishmen do not interest themselves in India. It never seems to strike them, the journal complains, that they have a duty to perform to India and its people. Having found this blindness in the Irishman's outlook, the "Universe," very commendably seeks to remove it, and, in an article headed "Ireland's Duty to India," throws some light upon the land question—a subject which, properly enough, appeals peculiarly to the Irish mind. Ireland has suffered long under absentee landlordism, coupled with the despotism of Dublin Castle and the resident landowners. A reference to the land system of a distant country is calculated to raise their interest where it leaves an Englishman unmoved. It is true that within the last eighteen months the new Land Act has totally altered the Irish agrarian situation by a colossal expropriation of the landowners by means of loans raised by the State. But the history of Ireland has wrought such an effect upon its people that the "Universe" was well advised to commence its survey of India with an account of the land revenue system. It is easy to prove how crushing the burden of the land tax is upon the Indian cultivator, and this the "Universe" does succinctly. Here Ireland has had the private landlordism of the English, a state absenteeism, and the difference has not been in favour of India. What the "Statist" has hinted at in the sentence I quote as my "Phrase" for this week, the "Universe" declares openly. It quotes, to support its statistics, certain trenchant remarks of the "Pioneer" concerning State rack-renting in Bombay which must be familiar to most readers in India. The "Universe" ends its exposure with a welcome promise that there is more to follow. "We hope," it writes, "to return to this subject soon again, but meanwhile we would urge upon our Irish readers to give serious attention to this urgent question. It affects an eighth part of the whole human race. The misery of the Irish peasantry was grievous indeed, but in India a population fifty-fold as great is concerned. The Irish people can do no greater service to mankind than by coming to the aid of the silent, starved, unrepresented and severely wronged people of India."

AMERICAN OPINION AND THE PHILIPPINES.

The Presidential campaign in the United States is still booming—plenty of speeches, plenty of discussion, plenty of mutual criticism. It is reported that the republican leaders at New York have disagreed, thus imperilling Roosevelt's chances in that State but not seriously affecting his fight for the Presidency unless the trouble spreads. The question of the Government of the Philippines is widely discussed, but it is not likely to form the main issue in the campaign. The Republicans are all in favour of self-government, but there is a haziness as to when they expect to see it in vogue in the islands. Among the Democrats there is a difference in opinion. The official party view is practically indistinguishable from that of the Republicans, but there is a distinct body of opinion in favour of independence for the Filipinos in the shortest time compatible with the circumstances prevailing in the Islands. This body numbers among its members many of the most distinguished Americans, but its polling strength is smaller, I fear, than its moral and intellectual weight. I give below a few representative opinions expressed by leading American politicians and newspapers during the past two months:

President Roosevelt declared late in July: "We are governing the Philippines in the interests of the Philippine people themselves. We have already given them a large share in the government and our purpose is to increase this share as rapidly as they give evidence of increasing fitness for the task. The great majority of the officials of the Islands, whether elected or appointed, are already native Filipinos. We are now providing for a legislative assembly. This is the first step to take in the future; and it would be eminently unwise to declare what our next step would be until the immediate loss of civil rights, will be until this first step has been taken and its results are manifest. To have gone further than we have already gone in giving the islanders a constantly increasing measure of self-government would have been disastrous. At the present moment to give personal liberty, and public order as regards the mass of the Philippines. . . . We have established in the Islands a government by Americans assisted by Filipinos. We are slowly trying to transform this into self-government by the Filipinos assisted by Americans."

Mr. D. B. Hill, a prominent Democratic politician declares that the Democrats as a party are opposed to a Colonial system analogous to Great Britain. The Philippines should be given not merely self-government but independence. They should be treated as Cuba has been treated. The "World," a Democratic newspaper, on the other hand, wants Judge Parker—the Democrat candidate for the Presidency—to agree with Roosevelt. "Roosevelt," it explains, "feels the peril of promising independence, but promises self-government and the gradual withdrawal of American control."

Mr. E. M. Shepard, Democrat, wants independence granted to the Philippine people, though "since there has for years been no recognised government there except the American, no doubt the manner of the restoration to the Philippine people of their right of self-government must accord with existing conditions. But the thing to be accomplished, and to be accomplished at the first practicable moment is to put in operation in the Philippines the fundamental rule of the American democracy, the rule that government under the American flag shall depend upon the consent of the governed."

The "Springfield Weekly," also a Democratic paper, deploras that while Senator Taft practically promised, in private talks and speeches while he was Governor of the Islands, independence to the people, yet now in America he is declaring that one hundred and fifty years or more must elapse before this can be achieved. Meanwhile, he is trying to induce American capital to exploit the Philippines.

The gloomiest report I have yet seen regarding the position of the Philippines appears in a letter written by an American gentleman to an Indian statesman whose name is known and revered over all India. "There is no hope," the American writes, "from either party for Philippine independence in any reasonable time. But both parties will load the unfortunate island with debt and all kinds of charges which will run any attempt of the people to govern themselves and pay their way. It is difficult to say which of the two parties is the more corrupt and dishonest. The Democrats are the more cunning and the Republicans the more brutal." "Choate," he adds, "the American ambassador to England, has been talked to by Lord Curzon to stop the Indian comparisons which have been appearing in the American papers."

These are very dreary tidings and one can only hope that things are not so bad as they appear to this writer. Even though the American politicians should play the Philippines false, one cannot believe that the American people will permit the execution of such plans. There is one last word to be said lest any one should utilise these last expressions of opinion as an argument that the Americans are introducing Anglo-Indian methods into the Philippines. To argue in that way would not be true. The contest, reflected so gloomily in the letter just quoted, is one between independence and self-government; not between independence and autocracy. Even the "cunning Democrats" and the "brutal Republicans" are in favour of self-government. The struggle will not be waged between 'best' and 'worst' but between two 'bets.' Despite his change of front, Governor Taft is ahead of Anglo-India.

SIR HENRY'S VIEWS.

The conclusion of a treaty of peace with the Lhasa officials is held by most people in England to be the conclusion of all trouble with Tibet. Colonel Younghusband, they think, will return quietly to spend Christmas at Simla; the priests will elect a new Dalai Lama; and Loxang Thub-dan Gya-tso, with his ally Dorjeff, will subside into obscurity at Urga or St. Petersburg. This, however, is not the opinion of everybody. While granting that the expedition will return peacefully and speedily, that a new Dalai Lama may be elected and that the deposed head of the Buddhist community will create no trouble; they yet foresee danger ahead. Sir Henry Cotton, for example, declares that the treaty seems to him to place the Government on the horns of a dilemma. To the readers of the "Morning Leader" he explains his views. So far as it is possible to conjecture the terms of the treaty, they probably include, he thinks, provisions for the protection of British trade in Tibet, and the establishment of a trade mart in the heart of the country, probably at Phari or Gyantse. If such a free mart is established it will be necessary to station a British officer to look after British interests. Yet members of the Government have pledged themselves in the House of Commons that there would be no annexation, and no Resident posted at Lhasa or elsewhere. If this undertaking is adhered to, it will be impossible to furnish a guarantee of any treaty being observed. "This difficulty," says Sir Henry, "I pointed out many months ago, and, indeed, everything has happened in Tibet exactly as I anticipated. Lord Curzon evidently foresaw the present position, and he puts forward the idea of a Resident at Lhasa."

But if there should be a clause in the treaty providing that British influence shall predominate over that of any other power in Tibet, there will be difficulties, Sir Henry thinks, at Peking. "I do not for a moment believe," he adds, "in all the talk about Russian intrigue in Tibet. The Russians have no interest in Tibet, and they have said so. But, at the same time, Russia is the great Power in Central Asia, and she would certainly not regard as satisfactory the establishment of a British Resident in Tibet. That consideration, of course, adds to the Government's dilemma. 'Secret clauses' probably means 'much cry and little wool.' The Government have so little to show that publicity is not wanted. The indemnity appears to have been dropped. There is really very little cause for congratulation. The 'Times' speaks of the treaty as the result of 'steady suasion,' but if ever a treaty was extorted by force it is this one. The 'Times' own correspondent, moreover, had to admit that the result of the expedition would be to make it three times more difficult for the foreigner to enter Tibet. How, then, can there be any advantage to British trade, when traders will not be able to enter the country?" The Associated Gold Mines of Tibet, and its jacksal conferees, will no doubt soon be asking that question.

LORD KITCHENER AND THE EXAMINATION SYSTEM.

Lord Kitchener, at least, does not despise the examination system. Other people may think it only good enough for the scrap-heap but the Commander-in-Chief in India does not agree with them. Instead of decreasing its area Lord Kitchener is deliberately extending it. Formerly officers were chosen by examination and examination served to separate the more brilliant for higher posts. Now it will be used in another and a highly interesting direction. Whereas formerly man was pitted against man, in the future, battalion will compete with battalion for the selection of the best. "To further a healthy rivalry in efficiency" is Lord Kitchener's purpose, and to attain to it he has chosen the best—nay, the only—instrument, that of competitive examination. There is a certain class of person who seems to think that an examination can only be conducted in book-learning and only by pen and ink. They will probably think it foolish to set battalions side by side for a purely literary examination. But this, of course, is not at all what Lord Kitchener intends. He wants battalions which will march well, shoot well, scout well; show themselves intelligent in the field and sufficiently self-restrained to keep out of hospital. It is on these subjects, therefore, that investigation and competition will be introduced. Marking—that old but of the reactionary bureaucracy—will come into force in full vigour. "It is proposed," says the scheme, "to introduce a system of marking for proficiency in the various subjects by which all battalions will know how they stand relatively, while the neglect of any particular subject will at once become apparent. The allotment of marks will be up to the grand total of 500, of which 200 will be given for attack and defence. Deductions will be made under three heads of efficiency, namely, marching, mili-

tary, and physical." Here is something for the enemies of examinations to ponder. Lord Kitchener has returned from South Africa and its battlefields of humiliation strong in the resolve to reform and revivify the army. Casting around in mind for some means of infusing a healthy rivalry between regiments, he finds refuge in—the examination system! How does Simla regard this commentary upon its Civil Service alterations? As a matter of fact, and in face of all dissent, it was inevitable that Lord Kitchener should introduce examinations. People may complain of the Civil Service that its entry is too literary and bookish. Such a complaint is an attack upon the particular examination, not upon the system. It is no more a slur upon examinations than it would be for a man to complain of the architecture of the Taj Mahal after he had painted its outer walls a dark purple. The building would still be superb; it is only the paint that is wrong. So, with the Civil Service examinations: if the result were a selection of the wrong men that was a fault of the examination, not of the system. Yet it is the highest autocrats who have made their alleged dissatisfaction an excuse for nomination and all its dangers of nepotism and favouritism. Truly growth and decay work side by side in the world of politics as in the world of life. While Lord Kitchener is introducing the clean rivalry of competitive examination into the Indian Army, Lord Curzon is reverting with regard to the Civil Service to the old unsavoury scandals of the nomination system. Cannot Lord Curzon learn anything from anybody? Cannot he see that old times are past and that progress is always preferable to reaction?

NON-EDUCATION CONDEMNED.

It is with quite refreshing candour that the "London Educational Times" speaks on Indian education—or rather non-education. Its remarks are based on the "Fourth Quinquennial Review" of the "Progress of Education in India," and also upon comments of the journal, "Indian Education," on the same subject. After quoting the conditions upon which primary schooling takes place it remarks: "It can hardly be regarded as surprising that our contemporary notes in some quarters a disposition to criticise the Government of India for having neglected primary education in the past,—that is to say, roughly, during a century of unrestricted control of the destinies of the country. Four-fifths of such schools, as exist are private schools. Yet, says our contemporary, 'Government has not been entirely neglectful or indifferent—an apologetic expression that carries an appalling condemnation. Government, we are told, has experienced extreme difficulty in bringing home to the masses the value of education.' How could it be other, wise, on the record of the past?" The Indian Educational journal waxes enthusiastic over the new proposals of the Government. But the "Educational Times" is more cautious and not a little sceptical. It cites the leading features of the Resolution on Education.

"Good words," it remarks dryly, and then, with rising indignation, declares that those who consider the existing financial conditions and that look back to the great Dispatch of 1854, and to the Report of Sir William Hunter's Commission of 1882, to say nothing of Macaulay, Bentinck, and Hardinge, will be able to estimate the probable significance of such fine sentiments in practice. "Why," asks the "Educational Times," "do our Indian administrators lie calmly under the reproach of educated Indians' citations from Macaulay's speeches? Why was Mr. Baines able to show in his Census Report of 1891 that only 11 males in 100, and 1 female in 200, were all that could read or write? Why was Mr. Nugent, a high official at Bombay, in a position to declare openly a few years ago that, whenever a reduction of expenditure had to be made, it was the Education Budget that always suffered first? This is a very melancholy business indeed in these Imperial times; and it is freely alleged that there is much more of it than meets the untrained eye. Yet there is enough on the face of it to make every thinking person among us anxious and inquiring."

INDIAN REFORM IN LIVERPOOL.

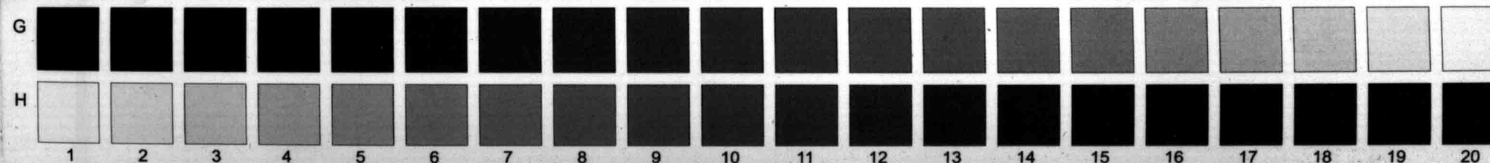
I notice the following news in Dr. Aked's magazine "Plain Truth," for September. A month ago the Doctor was deploring the lack of propaganda work in England with regard to Indian affairs, and his complaints have not been allowed to go long without removal. It is announced that the Committee of the Indian Famine Union (Liverpool Branch), of which Dr. Aked is the Vice-President, have recognised for some time the urgent need of more detailed information about Indian affairs. Before Dr. Aked's breakdown a small Reading Circle was in contemplation. It is impossible now for him to dream of assisting, but the necessity for such a class is clearer than ever. The Committee have arranged for a weekly meeting, to be informal, friendly, sociable; to study the present conditions of Indian life and the historic movements which have produced those conditions. The leaders will be Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee's active and clever daughter, Dr. Nalini H. Blair, and Mr. Ludlam. Dr. Aked and the deacons of Pembroke Church have consented that the meetings shall be held in Dr. Aked's Vestry, in just the same way as if he had been able to preside. These meetings will take place every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, and all—men and women—who care to join the Reading Circle are cordially invited to do so.

I have often had occasion to remark on the activity of the Liverpool Branch of the Indian Famine Union, while the parent Society in London does absolutely nothing. There is no doubt that Mrs. Blair's influence is largely felt in Liverpool, and all lovers of India may rejoice in her untiring courage and effort. It is merely want of such a guiding spirit in other parts of England which accounts for the deadness of popular interest in Britain's great Dependency.

It is with great regret that I have to chronicle the fact that Dr. Aked is so far from strong that much of his work has had to be delegated to other hands. When he returned from Alpine heights some months ago his friends thought that his health was practically re-established, and the weakness overcome. This, unhappily, has not proved to be the case, and his present inability to carry on the greater part of his work is particularly disappointing, especially as the winter is now approaching. His friends trust that by taking wise precaution a further breakdown may be successfully avoided.

"RANJJI."

Cricket in England is practically at an end for the season and football has taken its place. In the batting averages Ranjitsinghji is easily at the top of the tree and he continues to hold the premier place in English cricket. In a certain sense it may be said that he holds both first and second places in the list for Mr. C. B. Fry, his pupil, follows him closely, and the two together are distinctly a class above any other batsmen of



the year. "Ranji" did not start the season well. For some time he was third, or even lower, in the list. But he is a "stayer." While others were dropping run by run from their highest average, the Indian gradually strengthened his position until at last there was only C. B. Fry to pass, and presently Fry himself fell behind. With an average of 74.17 Ranjitsinghji is three and a half runs ahead of Fry who has scored 70.60, while nobody else makes so high as 65. Strangely enough, though Sussex as a county possesses the two best batsmen of the day, it does not head the list of batting averages. Owing to the weakness of its other players it is only second, with an average of 32.52 against Lancashire with 34.50 and Yorkshire with 31.06. In position of batting it takes third place while Lancashire and Yorkshire—the two great rivals in the cricketing world—take first and second. In bowling Sussex comes fifth. It is only in feats of individual batsmen that Ranji's team stands out from the crowd. But with Ranji and Fry—particularly Ranji—it is justly pre-eminent. This season has registered another triumph for the Indian batsman.

High Court—Oct. 3

VACATION BENCH.

(Before Justices Harington & Pargiter.)

EMPEROR vs. CHINTAMON SINGH. APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER. THE JUDGMENT.

Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, appeared for the Crown, and Mr. P. L. Roy, with Babu Darasathi Sanyal, for the petitioner.

The following is the full text of the judgment delivered in this case:—In this case a rule was granted calling upon the District Magistrate of Purnea to show cause why upon the ground stated in the petition, the case against the petitioner should not be transferred to the Magistrate of an adjoining district, and whether the trial should not be commenced de novo.

The petitioners stated in the petition to be in the employ of a Mr. Forbes of the Sultapore Estate, in the District of Purnea, and to occupy a respectable position in life and to have a considerable amount of land. The case which it is sought to transfer from the District of Purnea is a proceeding taken against him under section 110 of the Cr. P. C.; the grounds on which he relies for the purpose of establishing his title to a transfer of the case have been dealt with, with elaboration and minuteness by the learned Counsel who appears in support of the rule. The test which we have to apply to ascertain whether a transfer ought to be made or not is this:—Has the petitioner reasonable ground for believing that he will not have a fair trial? In other words, does the petitioner believe that he will not have a fair trial, and if he does, have any facts been shown to exist which would induce in the mind of a reasonable man such a belief?

The first matter which is relied upon by the petitioner relates to what occurred in the year 1903. He states that a person named Dadlu Dusudh in the course of that year made a confession of some crime, stated to be dacoity, in which he implicated the petitioner. The petitioner was arrested on July 21st and kept in prison till the 6th August when he was released on bail. The confession was sent to the Nepalese authorities with the approval of the District Magistrate for the purpose of ascertaining whether they had anything against the petitioner, and it is stated, that the petitioner pointed out that this proceeding was illegal and asked to be discharged from his bail. That application was refused; and he also alleges in his petition that the District Magistrate, Mr. Lea, said that he would deport the petitioner to Nepal.

Now when these allegations came to be examined, it is very significant that although the petitioner alleges that he was arrested without any information or proceeding or warrant of law whatever, he abstains from saying in his petition in so many words that he was arrested by order of Mr. Lea, the District Magistrate, and he asks us to infer that he was arrested by Mr. Lea's direction because, he says, he made an application to the Sub-divisional Officer for a copy of the warrant under which he was arrested and that the Sub-divisional Officer said that he had passed no such order. It is a significant fact that he does not state that Mr. Lea himself did anything illegal or oppressive in arresting the petitioner. If he did, the matter would have been submitted to the Magistrate for his explanation. But as the petition stands, there is no statement which we can call upon the Magistrate to explain; and we are simply asked to infer that the petitioner was illegally arrested by the order of Mr. Lea and we are asked to draw that inference from the facts which, in our opinion, do not support it. The suggestion, therefore, made in the petition that the petitioner was illegally arrested on the 21st July, 1903, owing to any act of Mr. Lea, the District Magistrate, falls to the ground.

Then, with regard to the point that it was illegal to communicate with the authorities in Nepal, we are unable to accede to that proposition. Communications with respect to persons who are suspected of being concerned in offences, constantly pass between different countries, and it is perfectly impossible for us to say that the District Magistrate was acting illegally in approving the communication with the Nepalese authorities with respect to any offence which Dadlu Dusudh alleged that the petitioner had committed in Nepal. The suggestion, therefore, that the District Magistrate has acted illegally also fails.

Then we come to the statement that the District Magistrate, Mr. Lea, alleged that he would deport the petitioner to Nepal. Now the first thing that strikes one is that if the District Magistrate said that he would do that, he said he would do that which he had no power to do at all. But has the petitioner established that the District Magistrate said anything of the sort? What he says in his petition is "Your petitioner is further informed that Mr. Lea, in the course of a conversation with the said Mr. Forbes, your petitioner's master, said that his intention was to deport your petitioner and the others to Nepal." Now, the first observation that one has to make on that statement is that it is made on some information which is given to the petitioner; but from what source he does not say. The Court will not hold that the fact is established, which merely is spoken to on an information given to the petitioner, without even a statement as to the source from which the information is derived, or without any attempt to test the accuracy of that information. In this case, the absence of any direct evidence is very remarkable, because if the information was true, it could have been proved directly by the peti-

tioner's master, Mr. Forbes, who, it was true, could have stated the occasion on which this statement was made and could have earmarked it with such detail that the Magistrate could have been called upon to answer whether he had made such statement or not. The petitioner has not chosen to do that and the inference brought to our mind is that the petitioner may have been told that that statement was made and so far as that, it may be accurate; but the fact that there is no direct testimony leads us to the conclusion that it was not made and we do not believe that it was.

That deals with the first matter which the petitioner relies upon; and, with regard to his arrest, he has failed to show that anything illegal or oppressive was done by the District Magistrate; and with regard to the statement that the District Magistrate is alleged to have made to deport the petitioner to Nepal, he has failed to support it by testimony which we can accept.

The next matter he mentions is that in 1903 he was placed on trial under section 343 I.P.C. and that on the 23rd November, 1903, he was acquitted. No question arises as to that—no suggestion that his trial was not a perfectly fair one or that anything had arisen on that trial, which affects the present case.

We now come to the allegation which the petitioner rests upon, with regard to the present proceeding. He was summoned in the present case on the 5th Aug. 1904; and the last grievance that he has, with respect to this is that the summons did not contain the information, which the law says it ought to have contained, and, he says that on the 6th he asked for a copy of the information and that it was unlawfully refused and that until the 9th there was kept from him the information that the law says he is entitled to have.

Now if the petitioner had established that this information was kept back for the purpose of hampering him in his defence, it would no doubt be a very good ground for asking that the case might be transferred to some other court. But assuming in favour of the petitioner that he was entitled to this information what we have to ask ourselves is how he was affected, if it was kept back from him till the 9th. It was not suggested that he was hurried on and was called upon to make his defence without an opportunity of hearing all the evidence that there was against him. The case was fixed for the 9th. On that day the Magistrate was willing to give him the information he had asked on the 6th; on that day, he was not even bound to cross-examine the witnesses for the prosecution, if he did not think proper to do so; and, as far as we can see, it could not have affected his position with regard to his trial in the smallest degree, whether the information was given to him on the 6th or on the 9th so long as he had ample time to make his defence.

We are now come to what I may describe as the main ground on which the petitioner bases his application for transfer. He says in effect that he was entitled to believe that he could not get a fair trial because the Police were stationed at various points along the road to intimidate the witnesses. The witnesses, he says were brought in police custody; no summons were served upon them; two of the servants in the employ of his master were stopped going to the factory, in other words the Police were used for the purpose of terrorising witnesses and enforcing them to come and give testimony against the petitioner, and there is the allegation that these facts were brought to the knowledge of the Magistrate and that he declined to make an enquiry as to whether this allegation was or was not well-founded. The petitioner says that from these facts he was entitled to believe that the Magistrate would not try his case fairly.

Now, the allegations that the police were employed in this way are supported not only by the petitioner's statement but also by the affidavit of a Mr. Cane and by other documents which have been made exhibits in the case and, of course, if it were established that the police were terrorizing the witnesses, it would be a very good ground for transferring the case to some other district. But these allegations were submitted to Mr. McNamara, who occupies the position of an Assistant Superintendent of Police, and he was called upon to answer, Mr. McNamara's affidavit has certainly been criticised as vague, but his answer is this. He says in effect "the petitioner is in the employ of a wealthy and powerful gentleman. That gentleman's manager Mr. Duff and that gentleman declined to assist me in the investigation which I have to make in the case against the present accused, and I find that witnesses who are coming to give evidence in the case are being taken away to the zamindar I therefore placed the police at various points about the road for the purpose of preventing the witnesses from being tampered with by persons acting in the interests of the petitioner and thus it was to prevent the witnesses from being improperly influenced that I took these measures." It is impossible for us to say looking at the character of the charges and the refusal of these gentlemen to assist in investigating the truth or falsity of these charges, that the Assistant Superintendent of Police was not reasonable, if he employed the police for the purpose for which he says he did employ them, namely, for preventing the witnesses from being interfered with. The issue then between the parties comes down to this: Were the police being lawfully employed for the purpose of preventing witnesses being tampered with or were they employed to threaten and tamper with the witnesses in the interests of the prosecution?

Now, to say whether that allegation against the police is established it is necessary to look with some detail into the materials which are relied on, as supporting that charge; and, we are at once struck with the fact that the documents contain a wealth of detail up to a particular point. The names of the Policemen are given, the spot where this policeman or that was seen is given, the fact that some policemen were in a particular man's "Baitakhana" is given with the greatest detail. But that detail stops short of the allegation that any particular witness was threatened by any particular policeman. The name of any person, who was threatened is not given, the occasion on which any specific witness was threatened is not given; and it is very significant that the affidavit filed by Mr. Cane discloses the fact that if the allegation that the police threatened the witnesses were true it would have been open to the petitioner to show who these witnesses were and what the police had said or done to them. Mr. Cane says: "We were further informed by numerous tenants and villagers that the police were intimidating and compelling them to give evidence against the said Chintamon Singh

and threatening them with criminal prosecutions if they did not do so." It would have been open to Mr. Cane to give the names of some at least of the numerous tenants, and of some of the villagers and the occasions when and the persons by whom these threats were made. The fact that these details have not been given, contrasted with the fact that, a minute detail is given on matters which are really immaterial leads us to the conclusion that in fact no tenant or villager was threatened. It has been made a subject of complaint that the Magistrate did not enquire into these charges of intimidation. As to that, in our opinion, there are two answers; one is that if there was anything in the allegation it would have been open to the learned Counsel who appeared for the petitioner to cross-examine, on this point, the witnesses who appeared. We have no doubt that out of the large number of witnesses, from some at least the fact of intimidation could have been elicited by cross-examination if the witnesses had really been intimidated. There is another answer and that is the same answer which occurs to us when we examine these allegations, that is, that the allegations are vague. Neither time nor place nor person is specifically given, and yet as we have pointed out, that in the very document that is relied upon to support the allegations, if true, these particular details could have been given. In our opinion, the Magistrate was right, having regard to the circumstances of the case in not listening to these charges. Possibly he might have felt himself called upon to investigate them, if the charges had been specific and detailed. The result therefore is that in our opinion, the petitioner has failed to establish any facts, which would induce, in the mind of any reasonable man, the apprehension that the petitioner would not have a fair trial in the hands of Mr. Lea.

We, therefore, discharge this Rule.

ULUBERIA NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent.)
Uluberia, Oct. 2.

One Pulin Behari Chakravarti, a Brahmin boy of about 20 years of age residing in village Tholia in thana Amta was sent up by the Amta police on the charge of having committed an indecent assault on a married girl, named Tulsi Bala Dasi, aged about 14 years, in a jute-field whither she had gone to ease herself. The defence set up in the case was that the case was a false one and that it was got up by one Rajani Kanta Ghose who was at once a Mukhtiar of Uluberia and a panchayat of the village to which the accused belonged and who was not pulling on well with the accused and his father as the latter had once attempted to have him removed from the Panchayats. There was a single eye-witness to the occurrence, named Sarat Chander, but the Sub-divisional Magistrate believed his testimony and convicted the accused on Tuesday last under section 354 of the I.P.C. and sentenced him to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 6 months. An appeal was preferred against the judgment and sentence of the trying Magistrate before the District Judge of Hooghly, who admitted the appeal and released the accused on bail on Thursday last pending the decision of the appeal.

A CASE OF MURDEROUS ASSAULT.
One Ram Golan Singh, an old Hindustani Durwan in the employ of Babu Umesh Chandra Ghosal, a Talukdar residing in Mukgalyan in thana Bagan was brutally assaulted by one Nanda Gaen by means of a piece of heavy wood and cuffed and fisted by his two brothers Hiru Gaen and Ananda Gaen some days ago, on a certain day of the month of Bhadra last. The occurrence is said to have taken place at the house of the assailants in Khagurnan, in thana Bagan and at about 3 Gharis or a Prahar of the night. The Durwan is said to have advanced loans to two of the brothers. A demand having been made by the Durwan for the payment of the different sums of money due from the brothers and the latter not having satisfied the demand there was an altercation between the parties with the result stated above. An information having been lodged in the thana on the morning of the next day by Ram Golan Singh's brother Balabant Singh, the Sub-Inspector of Bagan investigated the case and sent up the case under section 325 of the I.P. Code. The left ankle bone of the Durwan was fractured by a blow from the piece of heavy wood used by Nanda and the Durwan died in the Uluberia hospital from the effects of the injuries received. Accused Nanda, who had absconded for a long time, surrendered the other day in court and as the charge against him was a non-bailable one he was ordered to be detained in hajat till the disposal of the case. The hearing of the case is fixed for the 10th inst.

A CASE OF RIOTING.
Five coolies who were attached to the Bengal Nagpur Railway line and who had their quarters at Bawreah Railway station were convicted by the Subordinate Magistrate of Uluberia on charges of having formed with others an unlawful assembly with the common object of beating a sweet meat vendor named Upendra Adhikari of Burikhali and of having in prosecution of that object struck him on several parts of his body with lathies causing injuries on his person. The case was taken up by Babu Asutosh Bannerjee, a Sub-Inspector of police in charge of Bowreeah independent outpost who investigated the case and sent up eight persons as accused in the case. The occurrence is said to have taken place inside Upendra Adhikari's shop. Upendra Adhikari having freed a boy-servant of his from the firm hold of a Hindustani woman, the wife of one of the railway coolies who was forcibly attempting to take the boy to the quarters of the coolies with the view of getting the boy punished by the coolies for having, as the woman alleged, pelted bricks at a goat of hers, the woman went to her quarters and soon afterwards returned with 10 or 12 coolies all armed with lathies. The coolies challenged Upendra to come out of his shop and said he had insulted and dishonoured the woman Upendra denied the charge but the coolies who mustered strong rushed into the shop and struck him. The Sub-divisional Magistrate of Uluberia having found the charges of rioting and house-trespass proved against five of the accused convicted and sentenced them to undergo rigorous imprisonment for 6 months each.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Malarial fever is still raging in an epidemic form in Uluberia. Some members of the bar have already left the place to be out of the reach of this cruel disease. The District Magistrate of Howrah, I understand, will soon be transferred from Howrah.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LADY CURZON'S ILLNESS.

London, Sept. 30.
Lady Curzon passed a quiet night last night and is somewhat better. Her ladyship passed a comfortable day to-day.

[LATER.]

London, Oct. 1.
Lady Curzon had some sleep last night and has taken nourishment well.

London, Oct. 1, 8-15 p.m.

Lady Curzon passed a quiet day, and made some progress.

London, Oct. 3.

Lady Curzon passed a good night last night and her progress is satisfactory. Henceforth only the morning bulletin will be issued.

London, Oct. 3.

Mrs. and Miss Leiter landed at Dover to-day and proceeded to Walmer Castle.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Sept. 30.

The Russian General Staff announces that the assaults on Port Arthur from the 20th to the 26th September were everywhere repulsed.

London, Sept. 30.

Reuter's correspondent wiring from Mukden to-day says that there has been no fighting to-day but the campaign is about to enter a completely new phase. A telegram which was censored seems to indicate unexpected developments.

London, Oct. 1.

General Sakharoff on the 30th ultimo reports that a skirmish took place in the vicinity of Yentai on the 27th and another on the 28th on the left bank of the Liao River with two Japanese squadrons, one company and four guns and a large band of the Manchus.

London, Oct. 1.

A "Morning Post" telegram from Shanghai says it is reported that the Japanese have been victorious in a general engagement at Mukden.

London, Oct. 1.

Reuter from St. Petersburg says that the second Manchurian army will consist of the fourth, eighth and the sixteenth Corps, the sixth Siberian Corps and several brigades of the Irailleurs.

London, Oct. 1.

A rumour is current that Admiral Alexieff is about to be recalled and that the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholovitch will succeed him. This is widely credited at St. Petersburg.

London, Sept. 30.

The Tsar arrived at Odessa this afternoon to review the troops proceeding to the Far East.

[LATER.]

London, Oct. 1.
The Tsar reviewed 27,000 troops at Odessa.

London, Oct. 1.

The Dowager Tsaritsa and the Queen of Greece yesterday inspected the Baltic squadron at Revel.

London, Oct. 1.

Despatches from Mukden describe the terrible distress among the native population who are half-starving in consequence of a destruction of the crops.

The Japanese have completed the change of Railway gauge to ten miles from Liaoyang. General Gripenberg proceeds to Manchuria in a month's time.

Reuter wiring from Mukden to-day says that the prolonged inactivity on both sides emphasizes the creation of a new situation. The battle of Liaoyang clearly terminated the first stage of war, necessitating the adoption of new tactics by the Japanese, who are intrenching, though they may still attempt a flanking movement eastwards.

London, Oct. 2.

General Sakharoff reports that on the 30th the Russian cavalry expelled the Japanese from a village on the Hun river and burned seventeen junks laden with ammunition and stores and retired on the approach of the Japanese re-inforcements. The Japanese are still pouring across the Tatseho at Bensiku. It is stated that numbers of Chunchuses are with the Japanese.

London, Oct. 2.

The Tsar goes to Revel on the 4th inst. to bade farewell to the Baltic Squadron.

London, Oct. 2.

Reuter's correspondent with General Oku wires on the 1st that the first Japanese train arrived at Liaoyang that afternoon. There will be a regular schedule of trains in a few days the engines and cars having been brought from Japan. The completion of the Railway removes entirely the problem of the transport of supplies and ammunition. The first train brought quantities of ammunition, Telegraph, and Railway supplies.

Reuter's correspondent at Chifu wires to-day that according to the Chinese who left Port Arthur on the 30th, severe fighting had taken place, in which the Russians were aggressors. On the 28th and 29th, on the west shore of Liaotshian near Pigeon Bay, the Russians were apparently attempting to capture the heavy guns which the Japanese had mounted in the vicinity but were not successful.

London, Oct. 3.

General Sakharoff telegraphs that the Japanese advance guards are now including Fengtsiapu south-east of Mukden amongst the posts they held.

Latest accounts from Mukden indicate that the situation is unchanged.

Contradictory reports are current at St. Petersburg, some declaring that the military authorities expect a battle shortly others that Kuropatkin is preparing to retire on Tieling.

London, Oct. 3.

Reuter wires from St. Petersburg that the battleship Orel, when leaving Kronstadt, grounded on a sandbank. It is not expected that the damage is serious as she was going slow, but she has returned to Kronstadt where she remains.

Admiral Berilleff, Commanding at Kronstadt, has issued an order censuring the Commanders of Warships in the vicinity for not assisting the Orel.

London, Oct. 3.

Tokio telegrams report the destruction of the Russian steamer used for clearing the mines at Port Arthur. She struck a mine on the 20th ultimo.

London, Oct. 3.

The "Nijni Novgorod," having landed her relief at Crete, has re-passed the Bosphorus, homeward bound.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL.

London, Sept. 30.

The "Times" endorsing the protests raised against Lord Dunsen's scheme emphasizes the very peculiar position assumed by Sir Antony Macdonnell who undoubtedly has been pursuing a policy of his own and observes that he can at any moment be invited to resume his duties on the India Council.

London, Sept. 30.

The British Cotton-growing Association has addressed Lord Curzon in reference to the importance of improving Indian cotton. It urges the introduction of Government seed farms for experiments with foreign varieties, the improvement in cultivation and a special cotton department, aided by Egyptian and American experts, with special staffs for each province and advances to cultivators on the security of crops.

London, Sept. 30.

The semi-official "Journal de St. Petersburg" reproduces an article from a Moscow paper declaring that Russia cannot and must not recognize the Tibet treaty which displays the bad faith and offhandness of the British Government.

London, Sept. 30.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce has resolved to urge Lord Lansdowne to introduce British East Africa as soon as possible.

DEATH OF SIR W. V. HARCOURT.

London, Oct. 1.

The death is announced of Sir William Vernon Harcourt.

(Later.)

London, Oct. 1.

Sir W. Vernon Harcourt died suddenly this morning, being found dead in his bed. Though ailing, his end was entirely unexpected.

London, Oct. 1.

The Australian Commonwealth in July invited new tenders for the mails, allowing a wider latitude, but again including the all-white Labour Clause. The Orient Line are the only tenders.

London, Oct. 1.

Reuter wiring from Peking states that the foreigners are lately much pre-occupied at the growing unrest in the Southern Provinces, Shantung, and Honan Provinces.

The agitators are utilizing the Transvaal labour question as a pretext and are issuing handbills, denouncing the cruelties being practised on the Chinese.

London, Sept. 30.

The British Government invites until the 6th of October tenders for six million sterling three per cent exchequer bonds repayable on the 14th October 1909 for Naval and Military works already authorised.

London, Oct. 1.

The British revenue for quarter shows a decrease of £3,58,661; for six months the decrease has been £3,046,705.

London, Sept. 30.

Mr. Lyttelton has approved of Mr. Burrows' proposals regarding Estate Schools in Ceylon adopting however Mr. Harward's scheme for special schools in certain districts.

London, Oct. 2.

General Owen Williams is dead.

London, Oct. 4.

Mr. Balfour maintains his anti-protectionist attitude. He declares that a conference of all the self-governing Colonies and India is imperative.—"Englishman."

London, Oct. 3.

The late Sir W. Vernon Harcourt will be buried very quietly in the family vault at Nuneham Park on Thursday. Only the immediate relatives and tenants will attend. The King has telegraphed to his widow deepest sympathy, adding "I have lost an old and valued friend."

The papers of all shades eulogise Sir Wm. Harcourt as a great Parliamentarian and pay tribute to his reverend respect for the House of Commons, of his services to the Liberals, and especially emphasize his Death Duties Budget. The key-note of the Conservative comments is admiration and respect for one of the most formidable antagonists, whose slashing rhetoric, though often leaving probably a mistaken feeling of insincerity, was terrible and effective, but are unable to pass in silence his unflinching opposition to every proposal for the advancement of the Flag and the development of the Empire.

London, Oct. 3.

Reuter at Aden says it is reported that the Mullah has looted the Ogdens, killing 600 and capturing an enormous quantity of camels and sheep. The Mullah had lately received a great number of rifles.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

Habiganj, Oct. 2.

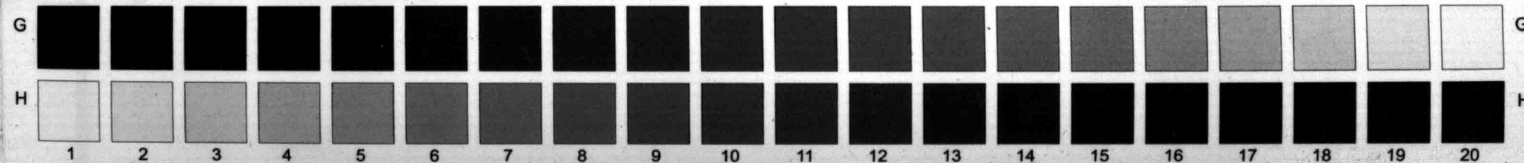
A criminal case has been instituted against a local Munsiff, for wrongful confinement, restraint, assault, wounding religious feelings, etc., by Bimala Charan Chakrabarti, Local Kalandar priest. The two Munsiffs have been cited as witnesses. A preliminary enquiry was ordered by the Sub-divisional Officer. Great sensation prevails here.

Mahiganj, Oct. 1.

The accused prosecuted by Mr. K. Ray in the Tajnat Estate probate case were to-day discharged by the Magistrate under section 494 Criminal Procedure Code, the Public prosecutor offering no evidence on behalf of the Crown.

Cuttack, Sep. 30.

The leaders of the educated public opinion here took advantage of the presence of Babu Bipin Chandra Pal among them to organize a district committee by the Association for the advancement of agricultural, industrial and scientific education. A crowded representative meeting, held at the Victoria School this evening, was convened by Rai Hariballav Bose Bahadur and Babu Janaki Nath Bose representing Bengalee and Babus Abhiram Bhanja M.A., B.L., and Biswanath Kuni, Editor "Utkal sahitya" representing Oriya community. Babu Janaki Nath was voted to the chair, who after explaining the objects of the meeting in a neat little speech, invited Babu Bipin Chandra Pal, as member of the Central Council, to explain the aims and scope of the new Association. Mr. Pal having addressed the meeting at some length resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted expressing sympathy with the Association and commending it to the people of Orissa and organising a district committee and electing representatives to central council. Mr. Madhu Sudan Das, though refusing on grounds of ill health and pressure of work to be an committee, was present and expressed sympathy with its objects.



TELEGRAMS.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

Cuttack, Oct. 1.
The Government order, transferring the Special Sub-Registrar of Cuttack was welcomed by the Mohamedan community, but they are now much disappointed by the Inspector-General's order postponing the transfer.

Barisal, Oct. 3.
A crowded meeting in connection with the scientific and industrial education was held at the Zillah school hall with Mr. Ezechiel District Judge, president. Maffassil representatives, Mr. Beaton-Bell and all classes attended. Aswini Babu delivered an elaborate speech. A strong committee of the Scientific and Industrial Association, with Nawab Moosimossain as president; Babu Aswini Kumar Dutta and Nibaran Chandra Das as Joint Secretaries and Messrs Ezechiel and Beaton-Bell as Honorary members, was formed.

Allahabad, Oct. 2.
It is stated that within the past year there have been signs of unrest among some of the Afridi Clans and this has been solely due to the reception and treatment of their jirgahs at Kabul. Malik Khwas Khan has actively intrigued to bring about the disturbance of relations between the Indian Government and the tribes and as he is a resident in Kabul he has influenced the policy of the Amir towards the Afridis. The late Abdur Rahman would not have any dealings with them but his son has taken a new departure. He welcomes each and every Jirgah that visits his capital and his special patronage of the tribe was shown by the raising of Afridi regiments. This summer Kabul has swarmed with Afridis, from time to time notably in August and September, and the gifts bestowed upon them on their departure for Tirah were proof of the good treatment that they received. The headmen and their followers have in due course returned to their villages primed by Khwas Khan whom they believe to be in high favour with the Amir. These secret instructions have doubtless been to treat a strong Kabul faction in the tribe and eventually to embroil it with the British authorities. The recent Afridi raid across the Kohat border seems to have been the direct outcome of a tribal intrigue that Khwas has started for the Afridis have absolutely no grievances against Government at the present moment and nothing has been done on the Indian side of the frontier to alarm them. It native reports are to be credited signs of restlessness among them are becoming more and more apparent.

A second-hand correspondent writes: The new rupee, which by order of His Highness is to be called the Habbubia Halli Rupee, will be issued to the public from the central Treasury in payment of Government liabilities, with effect from the 1st Aban 1313 F. From the same date the Government engage that the Finance Department will issue Halli Rupees in exchange for currency notes or approved bills on Bombay at a rate of H. S. Rs. 115 to British Government Rs. 100.

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Simla, Sept. 30.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Mr. J.F. Gruning, O.S., reverts to Bengal.

It is notified that the rules for appointment by examination are made applicable to officers already holding Government clerical service in the Government of India except when vacancies are filled by recruitment of officers members. They are also to apply with the same restrictions to clerical appointments in the offices of the D.G., I.M.S., Surveyor, General I. G. of Forests, Director Geological Survey, Meteorological Reporter, D. G. of Post Offices, D. G. of Statistics, officer in charge of the records, D. G. of Ordnance, I. G. of Supply and Transport in Bengal and Punjab Commands, Bengal signals, depots and factories, D. G. of Telegraphs, Accountant-General in P. W. D. and Consulting Engineer for Railways in Calcutta.

Lieutenant J. W. McCoy, I.M.S., is posted to Assam and Major R. Bird to Bengal.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Major Raymond, Superintendent, Civil Wcty. Dept., Bengal, is granted eighteen months' leave from 14th October. Captain A. S. Trydell from the Punjab will officiate.

Simla, Oct. 30.

The following are the names and designations of the Officers deputed by the Railways to attend as delegates at the meetings of the Indian Railway Conference Association, to be held at Simla on the 3rd of November and following days:—Mr. A. Fodd, Acting Manager, Jodhpore-Bikaner Railway; Mr. A. P. Burst, Manager, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway; Mr. Robb, Manager, Rohilkhand-Kumaon Railway; Let-Col. Burn-Murdoch, Agent, South, Indian Railway; Mr. S. Finney, Manager, North-Western Railway; Mr. W. O. Hickie, Manager, B. G. J.P. Railway; Mr. W. Pendlebury, Agent, Nizam's Indian Railway; Col. Olivier, Agent, B. B. and O. I. Railway; Mr. J. Douglas, Agent, E. I. Railway; Mr. R. Todd, Manager, Udaipore-Chitor Railway; Major Bonham-Carter, Agent, Madras Railway; Mr. S. A. Neville, Agent, B. N. and W. Railway; Mr. J. Manson, E. B. S. Railway; Mr. H. Wenden, Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway; Mr. C. H. Windle, Calcutta Port Trust Railway; Mr. H. B. Huddleston, Burma Railway; Mr. A. M. Clarke, Bengal Nagpur Railway; Mr. James Stuart, Assam-Bengal Railway; Among other Officers to attend are Messrs. A. V. J. Pope, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway; C. J. Keene, North-Western Railway; T. J. McCleughlin, South Indian Railway; C. I. Railway; G. Huddleston, E. I. Railway; R. Greenall, Madras Railway; A. Bagnall B. N. and W. Railway; A. Munshad, G. I. P. Railway and I. Woods, Assam-Bengal Railway.

Simla, Sept. 30.

Pressure is still low at the base of the Central Himalayas, and winds are in consequence westerly in the United Provinces. Winds are irregular in Bengal, and there is a very little inflow of moist air into North-East India. A few local falls of rain are reported from Burma, East Bengal and Southern India. Mandalay, Madaya and Calicut report 1½ inches, Tezpur 1, and Tougong, Bhama, Sijchar, Kodakanal and Wellington half an inch. The weather in Kashmir has changed, and light falls of rain are reported from some stations, while skies are cloudy at all of them. It is snowing at Dras this morning. Temperature has continued above the normal in Sind, the North-West Frontier Province, West and Central Punjab, Decan, and a greater part of Bengal, and was lower than usual in the west of the Central Provinces. Local rain is probable during the next 24 hours in Burma, Assam, East Bengal and South of the Peninsula, and thundershowers are likely in the Kashmir, Himalayas and adjacent submontane regions.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Gold and Silver Reserve.—The amount of silver held in reserve in the Government Treasury on the 30th September amounted to Rs. 11,64,04,085 against Rs. 10,06,64,323 in gold. The silver held as security for notes amounted to Rs. 2,25,00,004.

Educational.—Mr. Jogenda Nath Das Gupta, a Professor of the Provincial Educational Service in the Presidency College, is appointed to act as a Professor of the Indian Educational Service, during the deputation of Mr. M. E. DuS Prothero as Officiating Principal of the Presidency College. Babu Monmohan Ghosh, Professor, Presidency College, is allowed leave for one month and nine days.

Weather and Crop.—Rainfall during the week was general, but light in Bengal Proper; it was scattered in Bihar, and there was practically no rain in Orissa and Chota Nagpur. More or less rain is needed almost everywhere in Bihar, Orissa, and Chota Nagpur, and also in the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore, Hooghly, Murshidabad, Dinajpur, and Jalpaiguri for the benefit of the standing winter rice crop. Preparation of lands for the rabi crops continues. Harvesting of early paddy and jute going on; outturn estimated at 80 and 85 per cent. respectively. Cattle-disease reported from 14 districts. Fodder and water generally sufficient. The price of common rice has risen in 15 districts, fallen in four, and is stationary in the remainder.

Attempt on the Life of a Rival.—Early on Tuesday morning the Tollygunge Police was informed that a shocking murder was committed at Moheshalla. Sub-Inspector Huro Lal Bose in charge of the local Thana promptly went to the spot and found that a young Mohamedan named Mammo Nascar was lying on the road side weltering in a pool of blood, and a gaping wound on his scalp and the brains shattered out and life almost extinct. He immediately removed the dying man to the Alipore Hospital. On enquiry it was found that the wounded man used to visit a woman in the keeping of one Huri Charan Sirdar who along with three others surprised Mammo Nascar while he was crossing the thresh old of the woman and was alleged to have dealt him a fatal blow with an axe. As the life of the wounded was despaired of his dying declaration was recorded by Babu H. D. Roy, Deputy Magistrate. All the accused were arrested and they will shortly be placed on their trial.

A Discharge.—It will be remembered by the readers of the "Patrika" that sometime ago, a young and prepossessing looking woman named Rajkumari instituted a case of theft against her servant Moti Kahar, of some gold ornaments and some money. That charge was enquired into by the Jorasanko Police who placed Moti Kahar before the Commissioner of Police and he was discharged. Moti Kahar then instituted a case under section 211 I.P. Code, against Rajkumari for having falsely charged him with theft. When that case came on for hearing before Mr. D. Weston, the then Chief Presidency Magistrate, Rajkumari wanted to substantiate her original charge of theft against Moti. The Court allowed her the opportunity of proving her case. This case came on for hearing before Mr. W. A. Bonnard, the second Presidency Magistrate. Babus N. L. Dey and Debendra Nath Das appeared for the prosecution and Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose, Vakil, with Babu Preeto Lal Das for the defence. After a protracted trial, the Court delivered judgment in the case in which it remarked that the story for the prosecution was an improbable one and evidence produced by the complainant was unsatisfactory and accordingly ordered the acquittal of the defendant.

Alleged cheating and misappropriation.—On Tuesday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, I.C.S., Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. B. M. Chatterjee, Barrister-at-law, instructed by Babu Kherode Lal Sen, applied on behalf of a man named Harish Chunder Saha, for a process against one Satya Churn Boral on charges of cheating and misappropriation in respect of 5850 maunds of salt to the value of Rs. 15,500, under the following circumstances. The defendant called at the place of the complainant who deals in salt on or about the 2nd of July last and represented that he owned two or three Steam launches and several cargo boats and that he was in a position to convey salt from Calcutta to Ballagunge in the district of Sylhet. Complainant took him at his word and entrusted him, between the 13th and 21st July last, with the salt in question. The defendant promised to deliver the salt within 17 days. After the expiry of the date, complainant made enquiries and learnt that the salt did not reach at the destination nor was it returned to the complainant. The court after hearing the facts ordered the applicant to produce his witnesses on the 28th instant.

Forest Cases.—Sometime ago the "Khulnabasi" one of the vernacular weeklies of Khulna, published an article drawing the attention of the Magistrate of the district to the inconveniences and harassments to which the accused persons were put in forest cases which were tried in the interior in camp. We are glad to learn that the article has the desired effect. Mr. Ahmed, the District Magistrate has written the following letter to the editor of the above paper:—My attention is drawn to the para regarding forest cases. It is chiefly in the interest of the forest people that I personally go out to Sunderbans to see fairly and try the cases on the spot. Forest guards and officers are carefully examined by me and when I am satisfied that an offence is proved accused are punished, when doubts arise benefits are given and accused are acquitted. If such cases be tried here or even Bagerhat or Sathkira away from the villages and houses of the accused their expenses will be ruinous and the inconvenience to them in case of adjournments may be great and harassing. Sufficient time is fixed for the trial of cases. An accused person is always permitted to engage Pleader and Muktear and cases are disposed of on the day fixed instead of hanging over from day to day. Hope you will insert this and explain it to the public. As regards the prevalence of fever in Kalligunge I am to inform you that an enquiry will be made and if necessary I shall go out with the Civil Sur-

Calcutta Gazette.—Oct. 5

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Jogendra Nath Ghosh, Subordinate Judge and Assistant Sessions Judge, Rangpur, is appointed to act as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dacca, and Mymensingh, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Kedar Nath Roy.

Mr. A. H. W. Bentinck, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to have charge of the Madhupura sub-division of the Bhagalpur district on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of the Muzaffarpur district. He is also appointed to act, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors.

Babu Kanti Bhushan Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madhupura, Bhagalpur, is appointed to have charge of the Arambagh sub-division of the Hooghly district.

Mr. Ahmed Mohamed, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly, is transferred to Rangpur.

Babu Khagendra Nath Mitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Hooghly.

Mr. T. S. Macpherson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gaya, is transferred to Ranchi.

Mr. J. Clark, Deputy Commissioner, Manbhum, on leave, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of the Champaran district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. H. Bernard.

Mr. A. W. Stark, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Alipuri, Jalpaiguri, is appointed to have charge of the Khurda sub-division of the Puri district.

Babu Harbans Sahay, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to Darbhanga, on being relieved of his partition work in the Muzaffarpur district.

Mr. A. C. Mackertich, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Murshidabad, is transferred to Midnapore.

Babu Ram Sadan Bhattacharya, Deputy Magistrate, is posted to Serampore.

Mr. W. S. Coutts, substantive pro tempore Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to act, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, on being relieved of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Tippera. He is posted to Purnea.

Babu Kali Das Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to have charge of the Mamiganj sub-division of the Dacca district.

The following promotions and confirmations are sanctioned in the Provincial Educational Service:—

Promoted to class V. Mr. Subodh Chandra Mahalanobis, vice Rai Sarat Chandra Das Bahadur, C.I.E., retired.

Promoted to class VI. Babu Mohini Mohan Chaudhuri, vice Mr. Subodh Chandra Mahalanobis.

Babu Bisweswar Sen, vice Mr. J. H. D'Abreu, retired.

Promoted to class VII.

Maulvi Muhammad Yakub, vice Babu Mohini Mohan Chaudhuri.

Confirmed in class VIII.

Babu Sarada Prosanna Das, vice Babu Bisweswar Sen.

Mr. Kedar Nath Roy, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dacca, and Mymensingh, is allowed leave for six weeks.

Mr. F. C. Swaine, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Backergunge, is allowed leave for fourteen days.

Mr. T. W. Richardson, District and Sessions Judge, has been granted an extension of furlough up to the 15th November 1904.

Babu Singopal Chatterji, Small Cause Court Judge of Dacca, and Munshiganj, is allowed an extension of leave for twenty-two days.

Munshi Nundjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darbhanga, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Mr. A. W. Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, now employed as Assistant Superintendent, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is allowed leave for one month.

Mr. Samuel Chandra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed an extension of leave for four days.

Babu Jotindra Mohan Sinha, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manikgunj, Dacca, is allowed leave for three months.

PROMOTIONS.

The following promotions and confirmations are sanctioned in the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service:—

Promoted substantively to the first grade. Babu Chandra Narayan Gupta.

Confirmed in the second grade. Babu Ram Narain Banerji.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the 2nd grade. Babu Rajendra Nath Ghosh.

Confirmed in the third grade. Babu Atal Behary Motra.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the third grade. Babu Barhamdeo Narain.

Confirmed in the fourth grade. Maulvi Syed Wajid Hosain; Maulvi Syed Mujibur Rahman; Babus Prasanna Kumar Karfarnah; and Abhis Chandra Mookerjee.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the fourth grade. Babu Sasibhusan Basu; Mr. Dejen Lala Roy; Babu Amrita Lal Mukherji; and Mr. Jogendra Nath Banerji, on seconded while on deputation.

Confirmed in the fifth grade. Khondkar Fazal Huq; Babus Behari Lal Mukhopadhyay; Abinash Chandra Basu; Rajkishore Das; Romani Mohun Das; Bhahani Prasad Neogi; and Basanto Kumar Haha.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the fifth grade. Maulvi Mohiuddin Ahmed; Babus Hari Lal Sen; Kal Goomar Roy Chowdhry; Maulvi Ashfaq Hussain; Babus Shoshi Bhushan Mukerjee; Sasi Bhushan Sen; Jogendra Kumar Bose; and Jagadis Chunder Sen.

Confirmed in the sixth grade. Mr. T.R. Godfrey; Mr. W.J. Stark; Babus Hari Bhushan De; Satyendra Nath Das; Manasa Ranjan Sen; Mr. R.A. Stephen; Babu Murali Dhar Ray Chaudhuri; and Maulvi Mahomed Eskandar Ali.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the sixth grade. Babus Abhay Prosad Das; Hara Krishna Manhandi; Anath Bandhu De; Surendra Nath Chakravarti; Doorga Das Mookerjee; Srish Chandra Mozoomdar; and Ashutosh Datta.

Confirmed in the seventh grade. Maulvi Syed Abdus Samad; Babus Manmatha Nath Sen; Jatindra Mohun Banerjee Tarak Chandra Roy; Maulvi Anisuzzaman Khan; Babus Annada Charan Guha; Amrita Sikhar Mukherjee; and Aukshoy Kumar.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the seventh grade.

Babus Krishna Lal Dey; Bhupendra Nath Mookerjee; Chuni Lal Ray; Durga Prosad; Amarendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri; Paramesh Prasanna Roy; Ajoy Chunder Das, but seconded while on deputation.

Confirmed in the eighth grade and promoted substantively pro tempore to the seventh grade.

Babus Sures Chunder Ghatak; and Jamini Mohan Mitra.

Confirmed in the eighth grade. Babus Arun Kumar Bose; and Sanjendra Nath Mukerjee.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Bipin Bhari Sen, Subordinate Judge, Tirhut, is allowed an extension of leave for thirteen days.

Babu Apurva Chandra Ghose, Munsif of Dinajpur, is allowed an extension of leave for one day.

Babu Charu Chandra Mukerjee, Munsif of Serampore, in the district of Hooghly is allowed leave for eighteen days, with effect from the 19th September 1904.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Sudarsan Das, Sub-Deputy Collector is posted to the head-quarters station of the Noakhali district.

The following confirmations and promotions are sanctioned in the Subordinate Civil Service:—

Confirmed in the second grade. Babu Monmohun Chatterjee.

Promoted substantively to the first grade. Babu Syama Charan Sen, and Babu Bijoy Kumar Ganguli.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the first grade.

Babu Hemanto Kumar Motira; Khettro Bhushan Prosad; Babu Rameswar Prosad; and Dewan Krishta Chandra.

Confirmed in the second grade. Babu Mohendra Nath Kundu; Babu Suresh Chander Chuckerbutty; and Maulvi Abdul Aziz.

Promoted substantively to the second grade. Babu Sudarsan Das (but seconded while Mukherji, (but seconded while on deputation). Mugherji, (but seconded while on deputation).

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the second grade.

Babus Surendra Nath Sarkar; Rajmohun Gangopadhyay; Jages Chunder Dutt; Har Sahay Lal; but seconded while on deputation; Datarathi Datta; Charu Chandra Banerjee; Mathura Nath Banerjee; Bhavani Prasad; Maulvi Mahammed Choinuddin; Masudul Hosain; and Saiyad Tajammul Ali; and Babu Hari Nath Pramanik.

Confirmed in the third grade. Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Momen; Babus Bij Nath Sahai (No. 1); Nirad Krishna Ray; Sisir Kumar Chatterjee; and Babu Khandji Sahay.

Promoted substantively pro tempore to the third grade.

Babus Jharkandi Lal; (but seconded while on deputation); Bhuban Mohan Chatterjee; Jitendra Nath Sarkar; Radhakrishna Goswami; Prafulla Chandra Ghose; Maulvi Dhalur Rahman; Babus Ganoda Prosad Ghose; Charu Chandra Chaudhuri; Surendra Nath Sen; and Babu Jotindra Kumar Roy.

Confirmed in the fourth grade. Babu Hari Das Roy; and Maulvi Anwar Karim.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Captain C. A. Lane, I.M.S. Second Surgeon Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, is appointed, with effect from the forenoon of the 31st August 1904 to act as First Surgeon of that institution.

Captain R. P. Wilson, I.M.S., is appointed, with effect from the forenoon of the 31st August 1904 to act as Second Surgeon of the Presidency General Hospital Calcutta.

Captain E. O. Thurston, I.M.S., is appointed, with effect from the afternoon of the 31st August 1904, to act as Resident Surgeon of the Medical College, Hospital Calcutta.

Captain J. J. Urwin, I.M.S., is appointed with effect from the forenoon of the 11th September 1904 to act as Civil Surgeon of Balasore.

Military Assistant Surgeon F. K. Holmes, attached to the Presidency General Hospital Calcutta is appointed, until further orders, to act as Assistant Apothecary, Medical College Hospital Calcutta with effect from the forenoon of the 22nd August 1904.

Military Assistant Surgeon R. Sharples is appointed temporarily to the Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, with effect from the forenoon of the 21st August 1904 during the absence, on deputation, of Military Assistant Surgeon F. K. Holmes, or until further orders.

Dr. J. L. Hendley has been granted by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of two months' extraordinary leave without pay on medical certificate.

BHAGALPUR NOTES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Bhagalpur, Oct. 3.

THE BAREILLY FRAUD CASE.

The sensational Bareilly Fraud Case is awaiting trial in the court of Babu Monmohan Rai, Deputy Magistrate. Babu Sivasankar Sahai, it is rumoured, is going to be the manager of the whole sixteen-annas and that Babu Nagendra Nath Sarkar, the present incumbent, is reverting to his legitimate service.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

We are getting a new Deputy Magistrate in Babu Rambullah Misra who is coming in to fill up the gap created by the transfer of Babu B. K. Bose to the post of Personal Assistant to the Commissioner. Mr. S. K. Agasti, the able Joint-Magistrate was transferred to Burdwan as District and Sessions Judge, but, owing to the serious illness of his son he could not join his new post. We are sorry, however, that he is soon going to leave our district for Jessore. He rendered yeoman's service during the outbreak of the plague last year and it will be hard to find another energetic and self-sacrificing officer like him. He carries with him our best wishes and gratitude.

THE LATE MR. DIGBY.

I cannot conclude this letter without giving expression to our heart-felt sorrow and sense of irreparable loss to our country caused by the death of the late Mr. Digby. His services on behalf of our unfortunate country are too well known to be recounted by me while his works, including his excellent London letters published from time to time in your paper, will stand unrivalled in the whole literature on India, whether in point of literature or of utility. We cannot but look

Scientific Notes.

Bacilli are the order of the day. Almost every disease to which human flesh is heir is traced to the presence of a germ. Plague, cholera, and other diseases have their distinctive germs. Dr. Castellani has discovered the bacillus of dysentery!

The X-rays have the power of removing hair and for this purpose are used in certain diseases where the hairs are attacked by parasites. One such disease is ring-worm. The difficulty in treating this and similar diseases lies in the difficulty in thorough relation. The rays do not kill the parasites, but they remove the infected hairs, and in this way hasten a cure.

Encke's Comet, the most interesting of all comets to the astronomer, has just been rediscovered at the Koenigstuhl Observatory, where the first observation, made at 1 h. 7 m. a.m. on the morning of Sept. 12, gave its right ascension as 1h. 46m. 19s. and its declination as 27 deg. 24m. north. At the time of discovery it was about 2 deg. south of Beta Trianguli, and it is moving at the rate per day of about one minute of time westward in right ascension, and of eight minutes of arc northward in declination. Its course will therefore take it just due north of the third magnitude star Delta Andromedae by Oct. 15.

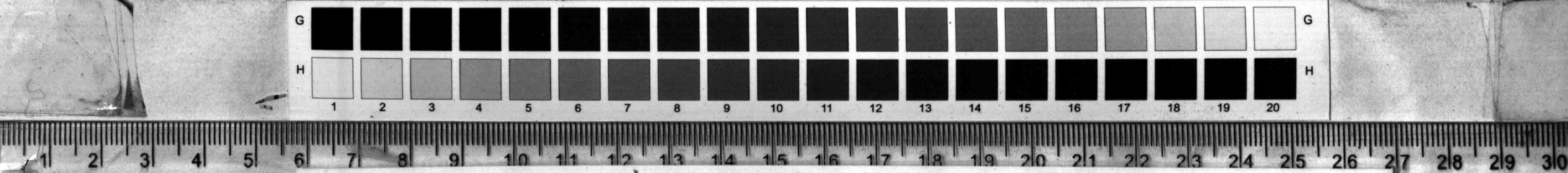
The development of scientific investigation and methods in connection with the agriculture of the West Indies has been a prominent feature in the policy of Sir D. Morris, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and an instance of the valuable work which is being carried on is furnished by the reports on Sugarcane experiments which have been conducted at Antigua and St. Kitts, under the Superintendence of Mr. F. Watts. The first part deals with the cultivation of selected varieties of canes grown in the same way as the ordinary crops on the estate. The Barbados seedling B. 208 again heads the list both in the matter of providing the heaviest canes and producing the purest juice; at the same time it retains its excellent character as a ratoon cane. Another set of experiments, continuing the work of former years, deals with the question of manuring. The evidence is opposed to the value of artificial manures for plant canes when the land has been well prepared with pen manure, but for obtaining maximum crops with ratoons the addition of vitrogenous salts is necessary.

A circular on the present state of the trade in indigo between India and Aleppo has been issued by the reporter on economic products to the Government of India. It shows that between 600 and 700 chests of indigo are imported into Aleppo from India every year. On account, however, of the competition of German synthetic indigo, this is usually sold by the merchants at a loss. The synthetic indigo has two advantages over the natural product viz., that it is cheaper and that its price does not vary. The native dyers have found that when natural and synthetic indigo are mixed in about equal proportions, the resulting mixture is more durable and also brighter in colour than the natural indigo. On account of the impetus that has been given to the dying industry by the popularity of this mixed dye, much more indigo is used than formerly, and the reduction in the demand for natural indigo has not been nearly so great as might have been expected from the introduction of synthetic indigo.

What was blazoned forth last week as the discovery in Florence of the philosopher's stone is now more tamely stated to be the invention of a new metal composed of copper, iron, and infinitesimal portions of silver, radium, and phosphorus. The chief secret lies in the phosphorus. It is claimed by the patentees that Radium Argentiferum, as they call it, is stronger than steel, does not oxidise, is a better conductor than copper, and can be manufactured in large quantities at one-tenth of the cost of bronze. Therefore they expect that it will be largely used in making cannon, munitions, &c., and that it will supersede copper in electric wires. The discoverers, two engineers named Travaglini and Fabiani, were reduced to poverty by their investigations. One day Travaglini, enraged at his non-success, threw his last two-franc piece into the crucible. That day his family had dry bread, says an interviewer in the "Tribuna," to-day he is a "millionaire"—in francs. The invention would not be taken up by Italian capitalists, so the two men went to Paris, and the rights of manufacture have been bought by a Belgian electrical company.

The record of temperatures and conditions of life at high altitudes experienced by the Tibet Mission is very interesting. A large number of men are exposed to life at altitudes ranging between 10,000 feet and 15,700 feet, and the general results are of great value. The lowest temperature reached on the route has been—26 degree F. at Chugunga, on the Sang-la, which was, however, only an encampment. Of actual nightly exposure to cold of men and animals, Tuna probably holds the record with—27 degree F. But Phari has repeatedly reached—25 degree F., and Kamparab 9 miles' distance from L-sari might—if continual registration had been possible there—show a lower figure than either. The normal night minimum during January and February is probably—10 degree F. for 15,900 feet, warming to 7 degree F. for 10,000 feet. Mountain sickness has been closely observed by the medical men accompanying the mission. Indigestion has been common on account of the eating of imperfectly cooked food. At 15,000 feet water boils at a temperature about 80 degree F. lower than at sea-level, and the normal amount of cooking is therefore quite inadequate. At 15,000 feet it is almost impossible to boil rice properly. Dal—the common red lentils of India—affords a curious example of the difficulty of cooking at high elevations. Of the five different kinds of dal supplied to the troops—Mussoor, Urns, Arhar, Moong, and the Chenna—only the first is capable of being looked at all at heights above 10,000 feet.

It is notified that every pilgrim proceeding to the Hedjaz will be required to deposit the cost of his return railway fare from Bombay to his home before admission to the observation camp. The pilgrim camp at Chittarg has been finally abolished, and pilgrims from that province will in future have to embark at Bombay, or such other port in the Bombay Presidency as the Government of India may direct.



NOTES FROM SOUTH INDIA.

Tanjore, Sept. 27.

THE SUB-MAGISTRATE'S CASE.

The defence witnesses in the case of alleged forgery against the Shiyali Sub-Magistrate reported at great length in these columns were examined on the 23rd and 24th inst. in the Court of the Joint Magistrate of Kumbakonam. The evidence cited on accused's behalf was to the effect that the statements of the copyists and clerks which, the Prosecution alleged, were taken from them on the 10th, were taken in open court on the 4th January as soon as the contempt was offered to the Court by Mr. Pleader Krishna Iyer and not in his house, that the sanction proceedings were also written on that day; but that the clerks and copyists delayed their fair copying and despatching till the 9th when they were posted, that the Pleaders of Shiyali were not in good terms with him owing to his disabling their requests in professional matters and that Mr. Pleader Krishna Iyer knew of such proceedings against him on the 4th from the client in the assault case and so forth. The counsels on both sides summed up the case at that stage, each side freely commenting upon the merits of its evidence and the discrepancies in the other. The trying reserved judgment till Friday next.

THE BELLARY MUNICIPALITY.

My remarks on Local Self-Government published in the issue of the 15th inst. that the Madras Government is, of late, disposed to officialise such institutions are finding another striking illustration in the present treatment of the Bellary Municipality. This Council has been recently called on to show cause why it should not have a paid Chairman to preside over it. It is obvious that the District officer has recommended it, and for what reasons, the outside public and the council as well are kept ignorant of. The usual reason urged by the Government on such occasions has, of course, been advanced, for, we are told that this burden of a paid Chairman is thought of in the interest of "the efficient administration of the Municipality." Indeed, this is not only wholly uncalled-for as a change but also avoidably costly and certainly unjustifiable. That this Municipality, one of the leading Municipalities in this Presidency, should be charged with "inefficiency" and that a "paid" Chairman in the person of a Deputy Collector's rank is the only remedy for such inefficiency, are ideas most revolting to the large number of non-official gentlemen of position and ability who now work hard in the cause of local self-Government! At any rate, this Municipality has not been known at all for such a serious complaint as to be deprived of its privilege of electing a Chairman who will work for honour only. It is, on the other hand, well-known for its independence and its uprightness—two things which the official mediators between the council and the Government do not often like. It is very gratifying to see that the present elected Chairman Mr. O. S. Subramania Iyer, a High Court Vakil, and his Council have with their usual frankness and independence represented to the Government their views on the proposal and have entered into an emphatic protest against it, supporting it by arguments which all impartial observers will readily appreciate. The council have put their case very well in these extracts:—

(1) "It is but just that, before a particular Municipality is deprived of the privilege, it should appear that it has, comparatively speaking, shown itself incompetent to exercise or deserve it. No such charge has ever been laid at the door of the council."

(2) "The council believes that the question of appointing a 'salaried' Chairman will not be treated from the standpoint of individual predilections. It is a question of principle and Government will weigh and consider all the circumstances before changing a system that has existed for 20 years and entering upon an experiment which has not, after all, met with any great success in the few cases where it has been tried."

(3) "The council is in the dark as to the grounds on which the proposal commends itself to Government. The idea contained in the Collector's letter that a paid Chairman would change the whole aspect of the town in 2 or 3 years might become an accomplished fact, if the paid Chairman, came with Prospero's wand, or if Government should place very large sums of money at his disposal for the improvement of the town. If such help could be got, an elected Chairman might equally change the aspect of the town."

The Council then says that Honorary workers are not wanting in the town, that the crippled financial condition would hardly justify the additional burden of Rs. 3,600 per annum, that a paid Chairman would practically diminish the responsibility of the co-operating councillors and so forth. The most convincing para which lets the cat out of the bag is this:—"It is no doubt the opinion in some quarters that an official 'salaried' Chairman may look more frequently to the District officers for guidance than a non-official elected Chairman. The council cannot bring itself to believe that such an idea can have given rise to the proposed change in the constitution of this council. The council begs leave to state emphatically that sympathetic treatment and useful and practicable advice and suggestions have never been thrown away upon the Chairman or the Council at any time." Well, Mr. Editor, these arguments and representations notwithstanding, let us see what the Council's fate is. Bellary of recent times has displayed considerable interest in the public movements and there are dozens of educated men, competent to undertake Municipal work. Let us hope that Mr. E. D. Taylor who is now in charge of the Municipal matters in the Government "Secretariat" and possesses great experience with municipal councils, will earn the thanks of the public by recommending to Government a lenient treatment to the Bellary Municipality. Let not Municipalities be made a snug resort to pensioned Revenue officers. Let them be the training grounds for our people getting an insight into real, democratic Government—for so desired that great and benevolent Viceroy, our Lord Ripon!

THE THINKING HORSE.

EQUAL TO A CHILD OF TEN IN INTELLECT.

Public interest in Berlin in the celebrated "thinking horse." Hans has been revived by the provisional certificate given by the scientific commission charged to examine the animal that all possibility of its performance being mere circus tricks is out of the question.

Our Berlin correspondent telegraphed the other day:—

Anyone who sees Herr von Osten, the proprietor and educator of Hans, receives the instant impression that the affair is genuine. Herr von Osten has a startling resemblance to Count Tolstoi, and is, like him, an enthusiast. He has been carrying on experiments with Hans and his predecessor for fourteen years. His neighbours considered him a harmless lunatic, and had long ceased to take any interest in his doings when newspaper publicity brought the matter up afresh.

The horse is able to read and answer simple problems and questions written on a blackboard, such as sums in simple multiplication or addition, the date of the Kaiser's or the Crown Prince's birth, the day of the week and month, etc. Hans can tell the time on a watch, and can multiply up to the third power.

For instance, if asked what is three times three, the horse answers twenty-seven without hesitation. It listens with obvious intelligence to all that is said to it. COLLUSION DISPROVED.

It has been alleged that the whole affair is the result of suggestion—brain waves passing from the questioner to the horse—but if this is the case it would be a matter of indifference what language was used. At my suggestion, Dr. Schilling questioned Hans in English and French. The horse looked at him inquiringly, but made no effort to reply. Proof that there is no collusion between Herr von Osten or Dr. Schilling and the horse is seen in the fact that the animal will answer written questions which have not been submitted to either of them.

Herr von Osten told me that he considered Hans's brain development that of a ten-year-old child. The proprietor, who is an expert professor of mathematics, trained Hans as he would train a child and several months elapsed before any appreciable result was obtained. Hans is the second horse he has educated, and his predecessor, which died four years ago, was much more intelligent than the present animal.

The scientific commission, having settled the question of the bona fides of the whole affair, will now conduct an exhaustive series of experiments extending over six weeks.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab will leave Simla on Tuesday 25th October and proceed via Dagshai to Nasan, which will be reached on the 29th. He will halt two days at Nasan, and leaving on the 1st November will march via Kalesar and Dadpur to Abdullapur (Jagadhra railway station) where he will take train for Lahore, arriving on the morning of 11th November.

SCENTED LAKES.

ROSE-COLOURED WATER AND SALT CRYSTALS.

In Central Asia, near the Caspian Sea, is a lake of beautiful rose colour, while the banks are covered with salt crystals as white as snow. From the waters of this lake there arises a flower-like odour. The colour and the odour are supposed to be caused by vegetable matter in the depths.

One of the most singular lakes in the world is the celebrated Pitch Lake of the island of Trinidad. This lake spreads over an area of ninety-nine acres, and its surface is composed of one great floating mass of asphaltum, seamed with veins of clear water. There is a similar lake in Venezuela.

The Pitch Lake is a hideous place as far as smells are concerned, for the air all about it is heavy with noxious vapours, and from the centre of the lake gushes a fountain of liquid asphaltum, in which there float and break bubbles containing most horrible gases. The workmen go out on the surface of this lake and cut great slabs of asphaltum, which are carried away. But the next morning the hole they left is filled up again with the pitch which has risen during the night, so that the supply seems to be inexhaustible.

This curious lake was discovered by Sir Walter Raleigh when he landed in Trinidad in 1595 on his way to the mouth of the Orinoco in search of El Dorado.

Another strange lake is situated on a peninsula which juts out into the Caspian Sea. The whole surface of this lake is covered with a crust of salt so thick and strong that a man can ride across it on horseback with safety.

JUDGE AND JURY DIFFER.

Mr. F. H. Hannett Sessions Judge of Godavari, submitted for the orders of the High Court the records in a case of dacoity and house-breaking recently tried by him. Kondabai Ramayya and 16 others were charged with the offence mentioned above. The case was tried with the aid of Jury, who found all the accused not guilty. The Sessions Judge differed from this finding, and while acquitting accused 1 to 6 and 16 and 17, referred the case of the others for the orders of the High Court, as he thought that the weight of evidence was against them. The reference was argued before Mr. Justice Davies and Mr. Justice Sankaran Nair by the acting Public Prosecutor, and their Lordships, agreeing with the jury, acquitted all the accused.

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"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 PANCHATIKTA BATIKA, the infallible specific for MALARIA and other periodical fevers which will do away with the necessity of calling a doctor and will cure him thoroughly at a nominal charge.

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OFFSHOOT OF THE SANGRAMGARH SHOOTING CASE.

ACQUITTAL OF THE ACCUSED.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Burdwan, Oct. 3.

On 23rd September last the Sub-divisional officer of Rangdaj disposed of the case in which Rajani Kanta Chatterjee, Haripada Samanta, Khudiram Gope, Kanga Mochi, Mohesh Bowri, Gostha Bowri and Jadu Mochi stood charged with rioting with the common object of assaulting Mr. Martin, under section 147 I.P.C. The Magistrate after a protracted trial, delivered the following lengthy judgment, acquitting the accused:—

JUDGMENT.

Accused have been charged with rioting with the common object of assaulting Mr. Martin, Mr. Roberts, Elahi Bakash and Kedar Bauri and of preventing the cart of Banerwar Gope from proceeding to Sitarampur. The facts are as follows:—Martin owns a colliery property in village Sangramgarh of which village the Hazras are Taluqdars. A quarrel had been going on for some time between Martin and the Hazras. On the 15th February 1902 Roberts filed a petition of complaint on behalf of Martin alleging that the servants of the Hazras had obstructed a public road. The then Sub Dt. Magistrate referred the matter to the Police for inquiry and on the 8th March 1902 dismissed the complaint on the grounds that the Police reported the road to be a private one and therefore no offence had been committed. On the 27th December 1902 a cart belonging to one Banerwar Gope which had brought Mrs. Martin and some other persons from Sitarampur overnight was returning to Sitarampur over the road I have mentioned, but found it obstructed by wooden posts near the Hazra's Kutchery. Martin and Roberts went to the spot and a quarrel ensued between them and the Hazras men over the passage of the cart, in the course of which one Bistu Bauri on the cart was shot dead by

Martin. He was subsequently re-arrested at Alipore and convicted under sec. 304 I. P. C. and sentenced to undergo 3 years' rigorous imprisonment which sentence was subsequently on appeal to the High Court reduced to one of 1 year's rigorous imprisonment. On the same day that Martin was arrested he had lodged a counter complaint of rioting against the Hazra's men. This case was kept pending until the disposal of the more serious case and then my predecessor ordered the police to send up the accused in this case. After a reference had been made to the High Court on behalf of accused and rejected. I took up the trial of this case. The hearing has taken a considerable time owing to the difficulty of securing the attendance of accused and the witnesses as such a long period of time had elapsed since the original occurrence. 8 prosecution witnesses and 3 Court witnesses have been examined. Their version of the occurrence is as follows. On the 26th December 1902, Roberts and Mrs. Roberts with Mrs. Martin left Martin's house for Gourandi by pilot train. They returned by bullock cart the same night having missed the connecting train at Sitarampur. The cart man remained over night at Martin's bungalow and started off next morning on his return to Sitarampur. A quarter of an hour later he returned and informed Martin that the Hazra's men had obstructed the road with wooden posts and would not let his cart proceed. Martin sent his chappassay Elahi Bukshi with the cart with instructions to take the cart over a plot of Martin's land near the place obstructed? out the Dumka-Rangunj Road. Shortly after Martin heard shouts and sent his servant Kedar Hari to a siding to see what was happening. This man returned and reported that he could see the Hazra's lathials waiving their lathies and beating Martin's chappassay. Martin and Roberts then proceeded to the spot and Kedar was sent for the Police. On arriving at the spot Martin found two chappassays of the Hazra's, Debi Sing and Ojha by name by the cart. These men said they would not allow the cart to proceed. Martin then suggested taking the cart over his private land adjoining the road into the Dumka-Rangunj Road. The cart had started in that direction when a number of men rushed out of the Hazra's kutchery. These men shouted for more lathials and eventually about 100 men assembled there. The mob assaulted Martin, Roberts, Pravar, a surveyor, and Elahi were beaten. In the course of the riot Bistu Bowrie was shot by Martin. Then the crowd dispersed and 10 or 15 minutes later the police appeared. Martin and his companions were taken into custody by the head-constable of Police. Later in the day the S. I. of Assamool came and recorded Martin's first information and released him and his companions on bail. The accused have submitted written statements as to what occurred. Accused Khudiram Gope in his statement says he was not concerned in the riot, but witnessed the shooting of Bistu by Martin standing at a distance of 2 or 2½ miles from the scene of the occurrence. Accused Mohesh Bauri says he was returning home from(?) informing the villagers that the Panchayat was coming on the following day to realize taxes. On his way he saw Martin shot Bistu Bauri and went and informed the Police. He committed no riot. All the other accused say they were not present at the scene of occurrence. The accused have all pleaded not guilty to the charge framed against them but have adduced no evidence in their defence. Now the first point for decision seems to me to be whether this statement of alibi by the accused unsupported by evidence or by any statement as to where the accused were at the time of the occurrence can be accepted or not. Now the Police S.I. (court witness 1) in the course of his inquiries had some 70 persons brought before the witnesses and asked them one by one to pick out the persons they recognised as having been concerned in the riot. Martin picked out Khudi, Ram Gope, Mohesh Bauri, Gostha Bauri, Jadoo Muchi and Kanga Muchi of the present accused as having been concerned in the riot. Roberts picked out Mohesh, Kedar Hari picked out Mohesh Bauri, Kanga Muchi and Jadoo Muchi; Elahi picked out Jadoo and Kanga Muchi. Thus we find that Mohesh was identified by 3 of the witnesses, Jadoo Muchi and Kanga Muchi were also identified by 3 of the witnesses and Kudi Ram Gope and Gostha Bauri were identified by Mr. Martin alone. The other two accused Rajani Kanta Chatterjee and Haripada Sa-

monta were not picked out at this identification and the explanation of the presentation(?) for this is that those men were not present amongst the accused presented before the witnesses for identification. Now the officer who conducted this identification says to the best of his belief Rajani and Haripada were not amongst the men presented to the witnesses for identification. Two respectable villagers named Jagannath Laha and Hanuman Marowari witnessed the identification and signed the form. I did my best to secure the statements of these witnesses so as to clear up this point. It was only however after 3 adjournments that I secured the attendance of Hanuman. Jagannath Laha was said to have gone upon a pilgrimage and his attendance could not be secured. Now Hanuman states in his evidence before me positively that Rajani and Haripada were amongst the persons presented to the witnesses for identification. Now it is noticeable that Rajani and Haripada are the only ones of the present accused who are mentioned by Martin in his first information. It is also clear that Martin knew the two men from before as he had already had a case against them under sec. 107 C.P.O. If therefore these men had been placed before him for identification there can be no doubt that he would have picked them out. I can not accept the statement of Hanuman on this point. He is a tenant of the Hazras; his attendance was not secured until after 3 adjournments and his mind is much too clear on this point compared with his laziness on every other point regarding the identification. I think then that there can be little doubt that Rajani and Haripada were not picked out by the witnesses at the police identification because they were not there. The next point in dispute regards the road. As I have said above the road was declared by the S.D.O. to be a private road on the 8th March 1902. Now the witnesses say they are ignorant of this order up to the date of occurrence. It is however clear that the road was not used by Martin or on his behalf from the date of the order up to the date of the occurrence except once by the Police. I have some paddy claimed by both parties and on this occasion even the Hazras stopped the carts. The fact that the Magistrate's order was apparently passed on an imperfect understanding of the Police report is irrelevant; no attempt was made to appeal against it. The fact that the Magt. has no power to decree the road to be private to the Hazras is also irrelevant. A complaint was brought on behalf of Martin against the Hazras' men for committing a criminal offence by stopping the road. The Magistrate dismissed the petition holding that as the road was private property no offence was committed. It was then Martin's duty either to move for a revision of this order or to go to the civil court. He did neither and alleges that he was unaware that the road had been declared private. This allegation seems to me absurd considering the importance of the road to Martin and the kinness(?) to litigate which he has shown.

Next we came to the facts of the occurrence. As to the actual riot there are 5 eye witnesses, Martin, Roberts, Elahi and Kedar and the carrier Banerwar. Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Roberts witnessed the occurrence from a distance. Now first as to the obstruction on the road. Roberts, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Martin and the carrier Banerwar say that there was no obstruction to the cart when it came from Sitarampur on the previous evening, but Banerwar according to the investigating police officer told him at the police investigation that there was such an obstruction and it was broken down by Roberts.

Martin says that when he and Roberts were going to the scene of the occurrence, he saw from the siding some 20 to 30 persons who dispersed before he reached the spot leaving only Debi Sing and Ojha there. Roberts however who was with Martin at the time says nothing of this. As to the beating Martin says Debi Sing first struck him on the top of the head and then on the back and he fell down. Then came the shot and the crowd dispersed. Roberts says he was struck by Rajani with a stick and Haripada beat Elahi. Elahi however in cross-examination says he saw Rajani and Hari Pada after the fight, he did not see them before. Now there are some noticeable points in the version of the occurrence given by the prosecution witnesses. Perhaps the most noticeable is the fact that allow of them say they did not see Bistu Baduri shot. Elahi accounts for this by the obvious falsehood that he was lying unconscious for 10 minutes. Another noticeable point is the way the case has become more damning(?)

against Rajani and Hari Pada as it proceeded. In Martin's first information, those men gave the orders and the beating was done by the mob. In his evidence in chief Martin says 'Rajani Kanta pulled out a post and aimed a blow at Roberts with it. Hari Pada took a stick from of the crowd and aimed a blow at me.' cross-examination however he says that this blow aimed by Hari Pada actually struck him on the arm and at this time he says he saw Rajani Kanta actually beat Roberts with a post. (Now I think as I have said that the identification of the accused is fairly satisfactory. The question for decision is as to whether the version given by the prosecution can be accepted or not. If the version of the prosecution be accepted it is clear that the accused are guilty of rioting. Whether the road be public or private, the accused have no right to resist the passage of persons upon it with violence and the use of lathies. The question for decision is then who were the aggressors. I have given this question my most careful considerations and I do not think the prosecution have proved that the accused were the aggressors, I think it quite clear that Martin knew the road to have been declared private. I think it is probable that it was found obstructed on the previous evening as stated by the carter to the police and I believe Martin and Roberts went to the spot knowing there would be opposition and intending to force the passage of the road. For this reason both men took revolvers with them I do not believe that Martin wanted the cart to pass over his own land and that this led to the riot but that he wished to insist on breaking down the obstruction. Martin has been shown to be a most litigious person, he has brought many criminal complaints against the Hazras, must of which have been dismissed. He has also proved quite regardless of truth. When he wishes to demonstrate the value of his property as a matter(?) for the Hazras wishing to drive him from the village the profits derived from the colliery are put by him at Rs. 1000, per month, but when he wishes to evade the duties of the Income Tax Deputy Collector the profits are nil. When therefore this man was under the charge of taking a man's life and had from 8 in the morning to 8 in the evening to deliberate on his version of the facts, it is clear that this version when presented in the form of first information to the police must accepted(?) with the utmost caution. The witnesses of the occurrence were all Martin's relatives or servants and they have not in my opinion proved their story. They have obviously from the medical report grossly exaggerated the assault upon them. They have concealed from me the most important fact as to how Bistoo came to the spot and have shown a most suspicious recollection of the acts of the two chief accused before me. I am not prepared to say that the trifling injuries received by Martin and his party were received after the shot was fired, but I think this is quite possible. I therefore find all the accused not guilty of the charge of rioting framed against them and they are acquitted under section 253 C.P.O.

(Sd.) E.H. BERTHOND
S.D.O.
23.9.04.

SENTENCED ENHANCED.

Three Police constables Geddarya, Narsojee Rao, and Babu Saib were convicted by the Sessions Judge of Kurnool of the offence of causing hurt to two boys Timmanna and Mohideen Sahib to compel restoration of property and sentenced, under Sec. 330 I.P.C., to undergo three months rigorous imprisonment each. The case for the prosecution was, that, on the night of the 15th January last, there was a festival in a temple at Gudur. About ten boys slept that night at the temple, and early next morning one of the boys complained that his silver waistcord had been stolen. The boys, Timmanna and Mohideen Sahib, who were among those that slept that night at the temple, were taken charge of by the accused and beaten severely. The accused appeared against their convictions to the High Court and were unrepresented at the hearing of the appeal before Mr. Justice Davies and Mr. Justice Sankaran Nair. The Acting Public Prosecutor appeared in support of the conviction. Their Lordships confirmed the convictions and, considering the gravity of the offence committed, sentenced the accused to eight months' rigorous imprisonment each.

In the last "United Provinces 'Gazette'" has appeared the list of Fellows nominated by his His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor as Chancellor of the Allahabad University. On 3rd November election will be held by the nominated fellows of five fellows by the graduates.

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

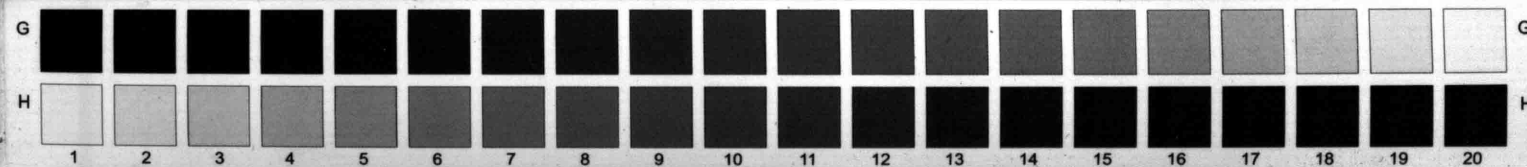
AIDS DIGESTION—CURES INDIGESTION.

Relish for food and power to digest it are essential to sound health, for only by the digestion and assimilation of food can lost or worn-out bodily tissue be replaced and life sustained. When digestion fails, as in dyspepsia or indigestion, both body and brain are starved, the patient becomes languid and weak, incapable of active, vigorous effort, or clear sustained thought. Headaches, loss of appetite, pains after eating, fullness at the chest, palpitation, anemia, and sleeplessness are but a few of the many disorders which have their origin in imperfect digestion and nutrition. Thirty drops of Mother Seigel's Syrup, taken daily after meals, makes food nourish you. It gives tone and vitality to the stomach, liver and intestines, thus ensuring the thorough digestion and assimilation of food.

HAS CURED THOUSANDS.

"For three years I suffered greatly from biliousness and indigestion. When I sat down to table I could eat hardly anything. Attacks of vomiting made me quite weak, and I was surprised at the change it effected in my condition. On rising in the morning I was seized with dizziness, and had on several occasions to go back to bed again. I tried various remedies, but remained in quite the same condition. While at Cape Town, during the war, I heard of the wonderful qualities of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and I decided to give it a trial. After the first bottle the dizziness and bilious feeling left me, and I continued using the Syrup until I felt completely cured."—E. Petersen, Lower End, Main Street, Johannesburg. March 29th, 1904.

IT WILL HELP YOU.



CRIMELESS CRIMINALS.

PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

Whether Mrs. Maybrick has rightly paid the penalty for the crime of poisoning her husband, or has been a long-suffering victim of justice is a matter which just now is exercising the minds of millions, both in this country and America.

Should she be innocent, however her case will be but one more added to a lengthy list of those who have suffered for crimes they had never committed.

The case of Odol Beck is a startling instance in point. Merely because he is somewhat alike in appearance to a scoundrel who has systematically robbed women, Mr. Beck has for many years suffered police persecution, besides having been compelled to spend five years in penal servitude, part of the sentence passed upon him in 1896.

It was not till several months after the execution of William Shaw, for the murder of his daughter, that a letter in the dead daughter's handwriting was found announcing her intention of taking her life by her own hand.

THE STORY OF A TRAGEDY.

Notwithstanding that he was given to occasional outbursts of passion, Shaw was an upright man, and an affectionate father. Like him in looks, his daughter, Catherine, was also like her father in temperament; but for several years they lived together in harmony.

Then came a time when Catherine met a worthless fellow named Lawson, for whom she developed a remarkable infatuation. Not without reason, Shaw took a strong aversion to Lawson, and forbade Catherine to keep company with him. At the first opportunity, too, he extracted a promise from Lawson that he would cease wooing his daughter.

The promise was not kept. Secret meetings took place. Every day father and daughter became further estranged. Indeed, Shaw frequently locked Catherine in her room at the top of a gloomy house in Edinburgh in which they lived.

One day there was a furious quarrel. Shaw was heard to rush at fever-heat down the stairs, slamming and locking the door upon Catherine. Profound silence followed, and then the neighbours were horrified at hearing groans from someone apparently in mortal agony.

INNOCENT FATHER SUFFERS.

When the door was burst open, Catherine was discovered lying dead on the floor, a knife beside her. It seemed plain to all that Shaw had murdered his daughter. Soon after Shaw returned to his house, but his grief and terror were taken for remorse.

At his trial he declared his innocence, and explained the fact of blood being upon his shirt as due to an accident. The jury found him guilty, and he was accordingly hanged.

A few months later a tenant taking possession of Shaw's rooms found a letter in a hole by a fireplace. It was in Catherine's handwriting, and in it she had announced her intention of putting an end to her existence. There was not the slightest doubt of its genuineness. Shaw's innocence was established, but the misdeed had been found too late.

Eighteen years ago a murder was committed in Cheshire, which, though the convicted person has since been released, is still enshrouded in mystery. It was the murder of Mrs. Jane McIntyre, under peculiar circumstances, and Elizabeth Platt, sister of the deceased woman, and Robert Travis, a publican, were implicated in the affair.

AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY.

About two o'clock on the morning of the tragedy, February 13th, 1886, a man named Dickinson and his son, who lived in the house adjoining to that in which the tragedy was committed, were aroused by sounds of furniture being smashed, by piercing shrieks and cries of "Murder!"

When the police arrived they found Travis, who had jumped from a first-floor window on to the ground, unconscious and bleeding from a severe wound.

In the bedroom upstairs they found Mrs. McIntyre dead, with a deep cut in the back of her head. Miss Platt, fully dressed, sat unconscious in a chair, a number of wounds on her brow and face. As soon as the man and woman recovered their senses they were both arrested and charged with the murder.

At their trial the story each told was different. Miss Platt accused Travis of the murder, and related how Travis had followed her to the bedroom where she was going to sit up for the night with her sister, who was unwell at the time.

There had been a scene in which Travis had twice struck her before going to sleep on a sofa in the sitting-room. The gas-jet was alight, but some time later she was awakened in the dark by her sister's screams, received several blows on the face herself, and before losing consciousness saw Travis jump from the window.

Travis, on the other hand, made a rambling statement that he and Mrs. McIntyre had been attacked by two men dressed in women's clothes. This limp tale he persisted in again and again. He continually protested his innocence.

After forty-five minutes' deliberation the jury acquitted Elizabeth Platt, but returned a verdict of guilty against Travis, recommending him, however, to mercy.

The case created a deal of excitement in the country, and within a few days no fewer than twenty-one memorials were forwarded to the Home Secretary. The result of these petitions was that the sentence was commuted to penal servitude for life; but his friends never relaxed their efforts to prove his innocence.

Finally, the Master of the Rolls was ordered to revise the case, and as a result of his inquiry, the Home Secretary set Travis at liberty. Accordingly in May, 1888, two years after the tragedy, the publican was released, and who really committed the murder is still a mystery.

Never was the web of circumstantial evidence woven stronger round the life of an innocent man than in the case of Serafino Pelizzioni, who was accused of the murder of Michael Harrington. The tragedy occurred on December 26th, 1864.

On this day in a public-house in Saffron Hill a number of Englishmen and Italians, in separate compartments, were noisily enjoying themselves, when the Englishmen, opening the door, defied the Italians to enter.

A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

Three or four of the braver ones entered the room, and a free fight followed, the Eng-

lishmen freely using their sticks and the Italians anything handy. Suddenly one of their number drawing his knife stabbed three men, one of them, Harrington, being found dangerously wounded.

Removed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Harrington, in a dying condition, picked out Pelizzioni from among a number of Italians as the man who had stabbed him.

From the beginning things seemed hopeless for the Italian. One after another, five witnesses swore that they had seen him commit the crime. It was useless for Pelizzioni's counsel to declare that another Italian, Gregorio Moggi, a cousin of the accused, had perpetrated the deed. After a quarter of an hour's deliberation, the jury pronounced Pelizzioni guilty of murder, and sentence of death was passed.

Moggi, on hearing the fate that awaited his cousin, was much distressed, and confessed that he was the hand which had struck the murderous blow.

Brought to London the day before the date set for Pelizzioni's execution, Moggi was tried for man-slaughter, and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. Yet the accused was not allowed his freedom.

A new trial was ordered, Pelizzioni this time being charged with the attempted murder of one of the injured Englishmen, when, after an exhaustive examination, the prisoner was acquitted, amidst a scene of unparalleled enthusiasm, and a few days later was given a free pardon for a crime he had never committed.

MUKDEN: THE CITY OF TOMBS. THE CENTRE OF THE WORLD'S INTEREST TO-DAY.

The holy city of Mukden is to the Manchurians and Chinese what Liass is to the Tibetans, Mecca to the Arabs, or Delhi to the Hindus. The city is sacred, and the Power that dominates it is the paramount power of the country. The city is sacred because it contains the tombs of the ancestors of the present Imperial House of China. Among the Chinese and Koreans the most sacred objects on this earth are the graves of their ancestors, and their most cherished personal possessions are the memorial tablets on which are inscribed the names of those buried in these sepulchres.

If the Russians evacuate Mukden they, according to Chinese ideas, virtually give up all claims to their usurped domination of Manchuria, although to all appearances the only difference between the occupation of the town by the Japanese will be that the Japanese will picnic in the great park instead of the others. In this park, which is extremely beautiful, are situated the Tung-Ling, or eastern tombs, the burial places of the grandparents and parents of the first Manchu ruler who sat on the great Dragon Throne of China.

The tombs consist of one large semi-circle of earth covered with lime and crowned by a single ancient tree—an artificial mound something akin to the old-time mounds of Ireland. Close by this hill are temples and an artificial barrier of earth, like a hemisphere of low hills, raised to the north of the sepulchres to prevent the malignant influences emanating from that quarter of the heavens disturbing the repose of the departed great ones.

It was the son of these great ones, who, as the Manchu Prince of Mukden, in 1640 carried fire and sword into China, and in a sanguinary battle overthrew the reigning Ming dynasty and placed himself upon the throne at Peking. During the Ming dynasty Mukden was a small, unimportant Chinese village until the founders of the rising Manchu family made it their headquarters. Their star rose so rapidly that they soon found themselves in the capital of China, and although they soon abandoned Mukden, it nevertheless steadily increased in size and population, the historical connection of the family being kept conspicuously in memory by the presence of the tombs.

The northern tombs are known as Pay-Ling. They are almost an exact copy of the eastern tombs, only that the neighbourhood is more picturesque, and that there is a spire of danger in visiting them, for a band of Hunhuses have their headquarters in an adjacent forest.

Mukden of the present day is an imposing-looking city, and has a population of considerably more than a quarter of a million. The city itself is surrounded by a strong brick wall 60 ft. high on concrete foundations. Outside this wall lie the suburbs, which in turn are enclosed by a mud wall. There is still a third wall, for the ancient palace, standing in a centre of the city, to attest the former greatness of the Manchus, is also enclosed by a wall. The city wall has eight magnificent gateways, with huge bastions, surmounted by high watch towers and batteries; but a curious point about it is that there is no water-gate on exit for water. For this omission the architect was severely punished, but his wisdom was demonstrated in after years. The fact is, the soil is so very porous that everything sinks into it, and apparently the drinking water of the numerous wells is not contaminated. When this became common knowledge, a temple was erected to the architect so that his offended spirit might be propitiated.

The streets of Mukden are broad and straight, the CURIOUSLY CARVED SHOP-SIGNS, adding to their quaint appearance. Very often they are elaborately carved, and recite the history of the family of the trader. A very large trade is done in Mukden, by the way, in hardware, furs, and European textiles. In the cruelty of their punishments the Chinese are hard to beat, and torture to death assumes various forms. A favourite method in the wilder parts is to bury the victim up to the neck in the ground stamp the earth firmly about him, place a bowl of water immediately before his face, and then leave him to die of hunger or sunstroke, or to be torn by wolves. Sometimes this form is varied by rubbing the wretch's head with honey, so that it may attract insects that sting him to death.

A common sight outside any of the houses of a yamen, or magistrate, is a prisoner with a kang, or wooden collar, round his neck, and kneeling on chains. In this position they are left till they die, or are strangled slowly.

BRIDES OF THE AIR.

HONEYMOONING AMONG THE STARS.

To adventurous lovers there must be a great fascination in the prospect of a honeymoon spent above the clouds, "with all the realms of space their own"; and if, as in the recent experience of M. Chatagnon and his bride, the balloon almost lands in the arms of brigands and finally plunges them down in the middle of a lake—well, these incidents only add to the romance, so long as all ends well.

Before, however, a new-fledged Benedick takes his bride "all among the little stars and round about the moon," it will be well for him to make sure that her pretty head will stand such giddy elevation, or he may renew the unpleasant experience of Robertson, the famous shot and rider of buck-jumpers, when he soared heavenward with his bride, nee Miss Cynthia Kenna.

The adventurous pair were united some time ago in the car of the balloon which was to be their honeymoon carriage, and when the knot was safely tied the signal was given to "Let go," and up soared the balloon like a stately bird, to the cheers of the hundreds of on-lookers. Scarcely, however, had the balloon soared a hundred feet when Cynthia lost her nerve completely and jumped out of the car, dropping headlong into the Tennessee River, which was flowing swiftly and darkly underneath.

The husband prudently stayed where he was, though he had not the heart even to hum "The Girl I Left Behind Me," and came safely to earth again a few hours later. Meanwhile, Cynthia had been rescued from the damp arms of the Tennessee River, a very sober and dripping bride; and the severed pair were happily reunited, none the worse for the adventure.

A different story might easily have been told of another couple who went honeymooning skyward a few years ago from Denver. The balloon shot up like a rocket to the height of 8,000 ft., when, to the horror of thousands of spectators, it encountered a terrific storm and burst. For a mile it fell earthward with alarming velocity, and fortunately it formed itself into a parachute and more

where the newlymarried couple were rescued, unconscious, from the wrecked balloon.

One August day in 1879 Captain H. E. Colville, of the Grenadier Guards, had a very much happier bridal excursion in a balloon. The captain, who was no novice as an aeronaut, had arranged for a balloon ascent from the Crystal Palace grounds, and none but himself and another knew who his companion was to be. On the morning of the ascent he was married and drove straight from the church to the Palace. A strong wind was blowing, and great efforts were made to induce him either to postpone the trip or to take an aeronaut with him. The gallant captain would not even listen to such suggestions, nor would his bride, and so the courageous pair entered the car and had a most delightful if exciting journey.

The most memorable, perhaps, of all these honeymoon trips in balloons was that made by M. Camille Flammarion, the famous French astronomer, and his bride, the story of which both have so eloquently told. Mme. Flammarion had expressed a wish that her husband should choose "the most magnificent and poetical" trip possible for the honeymoon; and, as was perhaps natural, the astronomer chose a journey towards the stars. The start was made at five o'clock on a glorious afternoon, and ended thirteen hours later, after perhaps the most delightful and romantic voyage ever made through the air. "My delight was indescribable," Mme. Flammarion writes; "to sit beside my newly-made husband—here in the sky, travelling I knew not where. . . . We were in the starry skies, having at our feet clouds that seemed vast mountains of snow—an impressive, unearthly landscape—white Alps, glaciers, valleys, ridges, precipices. It was a scene beyond all words." But it would take columns to describe all the glories of that night among the stars until the sun rose, "filling the empyrean with its rays and flinging a mantle of purple and gold over all clouds and balloon alike."

"Then came the descent to earth and the yelling and gesticulating peasants; and the romance and glory were all gone. But the memory of that night of wonders is a treasure that cannot be taken away."

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