

TIPPERAH NOTES. REORGANIZATION OF PANCHAYET SYSTEM.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) Brahmanbaria, Jan. 9. Babu Akhoy Kumar Guha, a Rural Sub-Registrar, was deputed to Chunta, one of the biggest and most important villages in the whole District, to work out the scheme of the Chowkidari Union as enunciated by the Hon'ble Mr. Savage.

The scheme is going to be introduced as an experiment, it is absolutely necessary that the selection should be made with utmost care and caution, and after consulting the wishes of the villagers with an open mind. But Babu Akhoy Kumar seemed to have gone there after having made up his mind as to the persons he would select, was practically left to Babu Pratap Chandra Sen, who is an old and intimate friend of Babu Akhoy Kumar and was nominated as President by the latter.

The proceedings adopted by Akhoy Babu was most objectionable. He arrived at the village just at noon and held a meeting at a very short notice, on account of which only about 350 persons were present out of a population of over 12 thousand souls. The site selected for the meeting was also a very inconvenient one and due notice was not served to all the villagers.

Immediately after the meeting was dispersed, Babu Akhoy Kumar went to Babu Pratap Chandra's place, with whom he dined and remained in his company the whole of the next day. Whether Babu Akhoy Kumar had any conversation on this subject or not, I know not, but the former now produced a changed list, without giving any notice whatever to the public, in which were included Pandit Paramananda Bidyaratna and Munshi Guni Meah, whose names were struck off at the meeting and who themselves afterwards decidedly declined to serve as a Panchayet.

We do not, however, find in the list the name of Babu Girish Chandra Sen, who very recently held the appointment of a first class Police Sub-Inspector and retired only last year with an well-earned pension and who was quite willing to serve as a Panchayet. It is an open secret that Pandit Paramananda Bidyaratna is an old friend of Babu Pratap Chandra's and though unwilling to serve, his name was kept in the list, while those of Pandit Kali Chandra Sen and Giridhari Bhattacharjee, both of whom were named by the public at the meeting and willing to serve, were rejected.

We do not say that Babu Pratap Chandra Sen is not fit to be on the Board, but it is a notorious fact that while he was a Clerk of the District Board, he had a tussle with the villagers in connection with a personal affair of his and for which he is not as entitled to their confidence as Babu Apurba Krishna Sen. Why was Babu Pratap Chandra then given preference to Babu Apurba Krishna, who was named by the first list, both high and low, as the fittest person to be the President? We next find Babu Kailash Chandra Bhowmick has been nominated as Collecting Panchayet. But a large number of villagers have serious objection to his being appointed as such.

It is a matter of great relief that at this juncture we have our Sub-divisional Officer in the person of Mr. A. K. Chatterjee, who is experienced, able, just and sympathetic. We beg to appeal to him to enquire into the matter, either personally, or through some other competent official, before confirming the list of the members selected by Babu Akhoy Kumar. What we submit is that his selections have caused the greatest dissatisfaction possible in the village.

With regard to the movements of the British Commercial Mission in Persia, it is possible that Major Sykes, Consul at Kerman, may accompany the party on their return journey to Bushire, via Shiraz. Two distinct shocks of earthquake were experienced in Delhi on Wednesday evening, the earlier one at about 7 o'clock, and the latter one about 8. The direction seemed to be from North-East to South-West, and although the tremor was not violent, it was clearly felt indoors as well as outside. Articles of furniture oscillated slightly, but in neither case did the shock last longer than a few seconds.

IN AMERICA Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is a great favorite with the mothers of small children for colds, croup and whooping cough. It contains no harmful substances and always gives prompt relief. Sold by Smith Stanistreet and Co., Wholesale Agents B. K. Paul and Co., Abdool Rahaman and Abdool Kareem, Calcutta.

ALLEGED ASSAULT ON A GIRL.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chittagong, Jan. 20.

Chinta is a girl between 12 to 16 years. Her father is one Ram Govinda Sarma, an inhabitant of Khagria Satakma, and a Kabiraj by profession. On a certain day in "Aswin" last Sarma went to a neighbouring village on a professional call and could not come back home the same night. A Mahomedan youth used to cultivate a piece of land adjoining Sarma's house and belonging to him. On the night referred to above the Mahomedan youth took Chinta away from her house and committed fiendish assault on her and let her go in the morning. Somehow or other the poor girl came back to her father's house.

Such is the allegation which formed the subject matter of a case filed at the local Magistracy. The Police were ordered to enquire and report on the case, but they did not send up the accused. So Sarma petitioned the Magistrate and Mr. Stephen, having recorded the deposition of Chinta, entertained the petition and transferred the case to the file of a Deputy Magistrate. The case is pending.

REVIEW.

Prabaha.—By Sreemati Sarala Bala.

This is an exceedingly interesting collection of small poems, which in point of literary excellence and warmth of emotions, will carry its rank in the foremost line of our poetical literature. The idea of patriotism and nationality which have sprung up in our literature and the keynote of which was struck by Hem Chunder's celebrated ballad exhorting us in the style of Thomas Moore or Lord Byron, "to awake and arise" has now been reduced to a hackneyed theme for Bengali poets who harp upon it in the most glib and sentimental style. There is in fact no real political life in India and the mendicancy which exalts in the flush of rhetoric cannot stir up the lyre of our poets as real patriotic subjects did "the harp of the North" in the days of Byron or Scott. We are therefore very glad to observe that our gifted poetess did not traverse the beaten track, but struck a note nearer home in which the genius of Bengal is always in its element and therefore at its best. The tender emotions of the heart with portraits of domestic scenes and situations will always form the legitimate theme for our Bengali poets and pre-eminently so for those of the softer sex. There is a plaintive tone in the poems under notice which appeal to the heart and often call forth tears, from our eyes, yet the pieces do not possess what is now the craze of Europe—namely the rude heart shocking, tragical descriptions, sceptical and self-assertive struggles against that which is inevitable. The agonies which spring from frustrated self-conceit jar against the spiritually moulded tender oriental mind and though some of the best European critics have pronounced our poems to be somewhat tame and monotonous compared by the canons of the European standard, yet our conviction and judgment will, we are confident, prove to be sounder of the two—namely that in point of fineness and delicacy of poetic conceptions the products of Indian mind are by far superior to and ahead of anything yet to be found in European literature and it is this fineness, resignation and a full-souled prayerful attitude that have invested Sarala Bala's poems with a charm which irresistibly but quietly gets hold of and stirs the imagination of the readers. They do not overwhelm by force but conquer by sweetness and beauty. Hence they often destroy the effect by overdoing their part. The emotions which pervade nearly through all of the poems overdo, reminding us softly of the day that is spent in mourning and suggesting the nobler ends of life. The poems addressed to mother and the sentiments are everywhere marred by overcolouring. The perfect control over the steps of the organ, which in the exuberance of many of our poets can but ill be used, and those on the rains are full of so tender and exquisite that they quietly into the heart which poetic spark and feels a purity one while approaching the sacred.

We recommend this book to all with absolute confidence and we will thank you for this recommendation when they will have read the book for themselves.

RAID ON A GAMBLING DEN.

At Mizagon, Bombay, before Mr. P. H. Dastur, Inspector Jebb charged Chhotu Meher Sultanani, a labourer, with keeping a common gaming house at Parel, and Sawlikhan Malarichan, police spy No. 1781 F., and eight others with gaming therein with cards and money. The evidence showed that, in consequence of information previously received, Inspector Jebb, accompanied by a party of police, and armed with a warrant obtained from the Commissioner of Police, raided a house at Parel on Monday night last and arrested all the accused, who were found sitting in a ring and gambling. All the accused pleaded guilty, except the policeman, who denied the charge, and said that he was not gambling. The evidence of Inspector Jebb and another policeman, however, went to show that he was also in the ring and was gambling when the police raided the place. His Worship convicted all the accused and fined the first accused Rs. 15. With regard to the policeman, his Worship, in view of his position, considered the offence more serious and sentenced him to undergo one month's rigorous imprisonment. The rest were fined Rs. 5 each.

THE GOD IN THE CAR.

And what of Lord Curzon himself? There has never arrived a Viceroy with a position more impregnable. He comes from England with an absolutely free discretion to carry out his projects and policies in his own way. The Premier and the Secretary of State for India are his intimate friends. There is no one in England of the quality of John Bright or

One of the most interesting exhibits at the Rangoon exhibition of the applied and fine arts will be a local collection of old silver work. The public and some connoisseurs have not had many opportunities of seeing authentic old Burmese plate, and are consequently frequently imposed upon by the vendors of spurious articles, chiefly bowls, which are manufactured in India, but which are said to be old Burmese work discovered from time to time by the indefatigable agents of curio-dealers. By the kindness of some three or four influential families in Burma, the Rangoon public will be able to form their own ideas as to what the Burmans themselves order. The articles have been catalogued by Saya The, and his notes will be translated and published without comment—a Burmese critique on Burmese silverwork made for us by Burmans.

KING LOG AND KING STORK.

A TALE OF TWO VICEROYS.

The Calcutta correspondent of the London "Daily News" writes under date Dec. 15:—

King Log has abdicated, and King Stork has come into his own. The calm and uneventful days of Lord Amthill's temporary reign are over, and India is once more delivered over into the restless hands of Lord Curzon. So little of the general stream of public opinion in this country is permitted to filter through to England that an appraisal of the popular view concerning the two Viceroys, based on local knowledge and observation, will not be without interest to those who are striving to penetrate through the thick layer of printers' ink which the official cuttle-fish has been able to cast over things Indian.

REST AFTER TOYLE DOETH GREATLY PLEASE.

It is no exaggeration to say that Lord Amthill returns to his Governorship of Madras amid the sincerest expressions of regret and goodwill from all sections of the community in Bengal and Northern India. He has won the esteem and confidence of everyone, not by what he has done, but by what he was studiously refrained from doing. As officiating Viceroy he has had, of course, little to do beyond merely making time, but India stands so sadly in need of a breathing-space that she has laid perhaps an unnecessary amount of emphasis upon her gratitude to him for leaving her to herself. Still, it is not undeserved. He has cheerfully suppressed all desire to emulate Mrs. Dombey, and been perfectly content to find his chief official occupation in acting as a post office for the transmission of Colonel Younghusband's telegrams from Tibet. Genial and unassuming, tactful and hospitable he has been a distinct success from the social standpoint, which, although it affects only the Anglo-Indian minority of the population, is not without an importance of its own. And the sum-total of his six months' Viceroyalty is that Europeans and Indians alike are extremely sorry to part company with this stalwart young University athlete, whose transformation into a ruler of men is due to the lucky accident of a secretaryship to Mr. Chamberlain, the all-powerful boss of modern English politics. A Grand Cross of the Star of India is henceforward to adorn his many breast, because, as his former chief put it at Luton the other day, he had been

Sitting still, and doing nothing With a deal of skill.

He is a fortunate youth, for the Grand Cross of the Indian Empire was conferred upon him on his assumption of the Governorship of Madras—in recognition apparently, of his complaisance in agreeing to live for five years in affluent exile. But no one here in Calcutta grudges him his good fortune, and there is not a discordant note in the chorus of farewell which has sped him on his way.

INDIA'S RECEPTION OF LORD CURZON.

Such is the effect produced upon the public mind by the incessant strain and turmoil of the past five years of Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty. In spite of what Reuter's correspondent may telegraph, and in spite of what inspired oracles in Printing House-square may proclaim, the fact remains, bare and unmistakable by every local observer, that there is no enthusiasm in India over the return of Lord Curzon. The Indian community is frankly itself in expressing its dissatisfaction. It is well known that one of the schemes which Lord Curzon has succeeded in "arranging" with Mr. Brodrick is the project for the erection of Assam and of the Eastern and Northern portions of Bengal into a separate Lieutenant-Governorship. The Bengalees, who more than any other race in India have profited by English education, and have become the bugbear of officialdom by reason of the adaptability they display in applying its lessons, recognise in this proposal, and not unjustly, a sinister attempt to shatter their influence in public affairs; and the opposition it has aroused can only be compared to the agitation in England against the Education Act. When to this is added the resentment caused by the officialising of education and the reduction of the Indian Universities to all practical purposes into Government Departments, and the soreness engendered by Lord Curzon's systematic ignoring of the aims and aspirations of the educated Indian community, enough has been disclosed, perhaps, to render intelligible the cool reception accorded to the Viceroy's eloquent declaration, upon landing at Bombay, of his romantic devotion to India.

WHAT ANGLO-INDIANS THINK.

Of the trend of Anglo-Indian feeling it is difficult to speak with equal precision and directness, the community is so sectional and the views of each component part are often so diverse. But it is safe at least to predicate that enthusiasm is as conspicuous by its absence on the Anglo-Indian as it is on the native side of the hedge. The military element has never forgiven Lord Curzon his action in the case of the 9th Lancers. The planters do not seek to disguise their dislike and mistrust, and base it, oddly enough, upon the Viceroy's alleged pro-natalist leanings—surely a Nemesis of irony to overtake the man who only three years ago was their idol, and still deems no sacrifice too great to earn their commendation. The official class are not hostile, for the main efforts of Lord Curzon are directed towards exalting the horn of the bureaucracy, but he is too hard a taskmaster to be altogether welcome. There remains the ordinary every-day man in the street, engaged in legal or mercantile pursuits. Like Bunyan's man with the muckrake, he looks as a rule neither to the right hand nor to the left. Give him liberty to make money, as much of it as he can, and as fast as he can, and he is willing to leave the harassing world of public affairs to the civilian. But he can be occasionally prevailed upon to express his opinion, and in the present instance his verdict upon Lord Curzon may be summed up in the words, "Much cry and little wool." His admiration for the Viceroy's undoubted ability and energy is unstinted, but like everyone else in India, he has grown a trifle tired of the abnormal Ego in the Curzonian

THE GOD IN THE CAR.

And what of Lord Curzon himself? There has never arrived a Viceroy with a position more impregnable. He comes from England with an absolutely free discretion to carry out his projects and policies in his own way. The Premier and the Secretary of State for India are his intimate friends. There is no one in England of the quality of John Bright or

Fawcett to rouse the public mind against the danger of the union of such lack of control and of such boundless and insatiable ambition. The situation is not only unwholesome, but unconstitutional; and the responsibility lies at the door of the Cabinet. It is a disheartening spectacle for the friends of progress and reform. They cannot help remembering how, as far back as 1850 Mountstuart Elphinstone wrote that he could not conceive that the administration of all the departments of a great country by a small number of foreign visitors, in a state of isolation produced by a difference in religion, ideas, and manners which cuts them off from all intimate communion with the people, could ever be contemplated as a permanent state of things. That was fifty years ago, and a Viceroy of genuine Liberal sympathies in the extraordinary strong position Lord Curzon occupies has it in his power to commence, if not to effect, a wonderful work of political reconstruction. But that is not Lord Curzon's view. Along with Burke and Macaulay and Bright Elphinstone stands in his index expurgatorius. The present form of administration is perfection, because it is entirely despotic. Popular and national aspirations are of no account. If there is to be a change, it must be in the direction of centralisation and departmentalism. Lord Curzon's confidence in himself is only equalled by his confidence in the capacity of a bureaucratic government of foreigners to solve political problems of any complexity. No wonder the cynic is heard to say that the last state of India is likely to be worse than the first.

IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL METHODS.

We have received the following from the Government of Travancore:

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore.

Current, No. E. 1/1078 X3 dated Trivandrum, 16th January 1905.

His Highness the Maha Rajah has recently had under consideration the question of improving the educational method which are at present followed in schools in Travancore.

1. The educational system established in Travancore provides, as in other parts of India, for instruction in stages which may be classed as Primary, Pre-Collegiate, Collegiate, and Post-Collegiate or Special.

2. It is observed that while the Primary stage more or less completely meets the needs of those who merely require the rudiments of education the Pre-Collegiate stage including Middle and High Schools, being assigned for those who wish to enter the University and being thus of an almost exclusively literary character, affords no facilities which in fact unsuited to the increasing number who wish to take up pursuits—commercial, industrial, or practical—which are more closely connected with the ordinary concerns of life. It is also observed that under the present system the memory is cultivated at the expense of the understanding that very little is done to stimulate and strengthen powers of observation and that neither dexterity of hand nor appreciation of magnitude and form receives that attention which it deserves whether regarded as an educational method or an educational aim. Further the Government of His Highness sees signs on all sides of an awakening to the necessity for improvement in the existing educational methods particularly in their application to practical ends, and feel that it is their duty to make provision for meeting the needs of the people in this direction.

3. The absence of facilities for training in the first, and the non-employment of an admittedly powerful educational method in the second of these cases, are defects which Government are desirous of seeing remedied; first by the introduction into a certain number of schools of the methods of manual training which has met with success in America, Europe and Japan; second, by the establishment of schools in the curricula of which these methods, with suitable adaptation to local conditions will form an important feature along with branches of instruction designed to meet deficiencies already indicated.

4. The system which it is intended to introduce will have its due effect in the cultivation of these attitudes and faculties which at present receive no attention and if it were carried no further would have high value as an educational method. Government have also in view its utility as a basis for a further scheme of technical instruction which it is intended to introduce later.

5. The first step in the direction indicated will be taken immediately. His Highness the Maharajah has been pleased to sanction the deputation of two graduates in America in order to undergo courses of instruction in the methods of manual training and in the organization and management of schools which employ such methods. They also have to visit the chief manual training technical schools in America, Europe and Japan. On their return, they will be employed in organizing schools on the lines already indicated and in training teachers for such schools. They will be given scholarships for this purpose and their travelling expenses will be paid by Government. The terms upon which these scholarships will be given are detailed in the Notification accompanying these Proceedings.

6. Government wish to emphasise one point with regard to the selection of the persons whom it is proposed to depute for this purpose. The success of the measure, towards the introduction of the preliminary steps are now being taken, will depend largely upon the extent to which the responsibility imposed upon them by the persons selected. What Government expect to find in them earnestness of purpose and a sense of importance of the mission on which they are sent. In addition to the general educational qualifications required it is necessary that the persons selected should possess alertness of mind; city to assimilate new methods of instruction and considerable powers of organization with these considerations in view. Government will closely scrutinize the past history of each, as well as the other qualifications, candidates for these scholarships.

7. Under sanction of His Highness the Maharajah, scholarships will be given to two graduates, selected according to the terms notified below, to enable them to undergo courses of instruction in America in the methods of manual training and in the more important manual and technical schools in America, Europe and Japan. On their return, they will be employed under Government in the organization of similar schools in Travancore and in training teachers for such schools.

II. The scholarships will be of the value of £200 per annum, and all travelling expenses will be borne by Government. It is expected that the time occupied by the different courses of instruction and by visits to schools will be three years.

III. Candidates for these scholarships must fulfil the following conditions:— (a) They must be born subjects of His Highness the Maharajah. (b) They must have taken the B.A. degree in Mathematics or Chemistry and Physics. (c) Their age must not exceed thirty years at the date of application.

IV. Before making a final selection Government will obtain the opinion of the Medical Board on the physical fitness of the candidates whom it is proposed to select.

V. No person will be selected who does not bear an unimpeachable character.

VI. The persons finally selected will have to enter into an agreement with Government embodying the terms upon which the scholarship is held and the conditions on which it will be forfeited.

VII. Applications for these scholarships should be addressed to the Dewan of Travancore and should reach him not later than 15th March 1905. Each applicant should furnish the fullest particulars regarding his name, address, age, percentage, qualifications, and his present and former occupations. Certificates which relate only to the respectability or character of the applicant need not be forwarded. Government will make the necessary enquiries on these points.

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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, JANUARY 26, 1905.

SMALL-POX IN BENGAL.

A WALL comes from Dacca that cholera and small-pox recently combined a sad havoc at Dacca. It was, we believe, in 1892 that another epidemic of small-pox broke out in that town, and decimated a large portion of the people. The Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, in his last report declares in despair that small-pox had visited many villages with great violence and killed a vast number of people. It is thus clear that vaccination is not a sure remedy against this dreadful malady. We can, however, guarantee that if, in the case of Tikadars or small-pox doctors were encouraged, and not extinguished, the country would have fared much better.

It is quite true that the method of these Tikadars was inoculation; but, it is, we believe, admitted even by European medical authorities that inoculation with the virus of some mild form of the actual small-pox pustule is more efficacious as a protection than vaccination. This, at least, is the universal belief in this country among people who have had experience of both systems. But the Tikadars were especially appreciated for their peculiar mode of treatment which was a secret known to themselves only, and which was handed down from father to son in their own families.

The Government, in its wisdom, has forcibly suppressed the method of the Tikadars, which had been in successful operation in this country from time immemorial, and introduced the system of vaccination. The argument used for this measure is that, inoculation, producing the real small-pox disease, may, and does, result in epidemics, whereas there is no such fear with the vaccine pox.

Now we would like to enquire whether Government has any reliable statistics to prove that the number of small-pox epidemics or of deaths from small-pox is less, since the introduction of compulsory vaccination, than before, when the system of inoculation was universally followed. Elderly people in the country do not believe that this has been the case; on the contrary, they believe that the frequency of the epidemics and mortality therefrom have increased, and they bitterly lament that they have been compelled by force to give up their old and more effectual method, on the plea of a special advantage which exists apparently in the fancy of European Doctors.

And we have good reasons for using the word, "fancy." How far the Doctors are justified in their boast that small-pox may be nearly stamped out by a vigorous pushing forward of vaccination will be seen from the following facts. Jenner discovered vaccination more than a hundred years ago, and nowhere has vaccination been pushed forward with so much vigour as in England, where such prejudice, apathy, stupidity and superstition, for which medical men so often abuse the people of India, did not hamper their vigorous operation. Yet the following facts, which we glean from a standard medical work, will speak for themselves. During the last quarter of 1870, 584 deaths from small-pox were registered in London. The locomotive plague rapidly increased in 1871, by the middle of which it had occasioned the loss of 10,000 lives in England and Wales. In London alone, 288 persons fell a sacrifice to it in the week ending May 6th. Throughout 1872, it prevailed largely in many parts of England, including London, and also in Ireland. It cost Sheffield 406 lives in 1871 and 600 in 1872. Thus notwithstanding the removal of general insensate conditions which decidedly favour the spread and virulence of the disease.

In 1892 a Vaccination Commission sat in England; and though the majority of the Commissioners advocated vaccination, yet a considerable number of medical authorities did not accept their conclusions. The result is that many Anti-Vaccination Societies have been established in various parts of England, and they have been leading a regular crusade against vaccination. Indeed, the feeling against vaccination is so strong amongst a large section of the English people that they would rather go to jail than get themselves vaccinated. Under the Vaccination Act in England, those who conscientiously believe that vaccination would be prejudicial to them are exempt from the operation. In this way, a good many people remain unvaccinated in England and Wales. And the September number of the "Vaccination Inquirer" publishes the important fact, that the figures at the Metropolitan Asylums show that there were more deaths among those who were vaccinated than among those who remained unvaccinated.

We are no doubt living under a most civilized and scientific Government. But one of the characteristic features of a civilized Government, one would imagine, is that no measure is taken in hand except upon irrefragable testimony of fact and statistics. But here we find our rulers and their physicians—coming from a country in which the prophylactic against small-pox may be said to have been found out but yesterday, as compared with the period during which it has been in successful operation in this country arguing that because vaccination has very markedly reduced small-pox mortality in their own country, in which no systematic prophylactic treatment prevailed, therefore its compulsory introduction would produce the same results in India, where the more effective system of inoculation was in operation for, and had been elaborated and improved by the experience of, many a century!

Yet, upon such reasoning they have crushed the method practised in this country and introduced the method of their own country. Nay more. Twenty-five or thirty years after the introduction of compulsory vaccination in this country, they introduced more stringent measures for the suppression of the old by the new method without any thorough enquiry as to what has been the result of the measure during that period!

One of the most serious injuries inflicted upon the people by their old methods is the suppression of the social class of small-pox doctors called Tikadars and physicians have not much to show in respect of successful treatment of variola. But the Tikadars were very successful in their treatment of this disease in all its shapes and tages. Some thirty years ago every one felt secure if there was any good Tikadar at hand. Most

people who have any experience of pre-vaccination period, can relate cases of very successful cure of bad attacks of small-pox by the old Tikadars. But, as the profession of Tikadars is gone, they have disappeared with it. The vast experience which the familiarity with the disease in unnumbered cases of successful treatment of the inoculation-pox imparted to these men is thus lost to the world.

Almost each populous village in Bengal had its Tikadar family, and the knowledge of the art of successfully dealing with the disease descended from generation to generation with additions and improvements from the experience gained by each succeeding generation. What have the descendants of the Tikadar families become? They have either received our boasted education and become discontented place-hunters for posts carrying Rs. 10 to 15, or turned cultivators of the soil, already too limited and too exhausted for the people who, under the present circumstances, are scrambling for it.

THE INDICATIONS WHICH SHEW THE EXTINCTION OF A RACE.

The annexation of the land of the Filipinos by the Americans forms a hot subject of discussion in the latter country. A newspaper circulated a question for answer from its correspondents. The question was: "What were the sure indications of the near extinction of a nation?" A large number of answers came and from them we shall select a few for discussion. One answer is that a nation which has a growing neighbour is sure to lose its independence soon enough. Another correspondent points out the fallacy that underlies the answer. He says that the United States is a growing country; yet the neighbouring nations in the South have nothing to fear from its prosperity.

Another answer is that the nation which employs mercenaries for the defence of its own country is sure to come into grief. The Carthagians owe their fall mainly to this circumstance. There is no doubt that the standing European army in India is not altogether a source of strength to the British Government. For, the presence of these foreign mercenaries damps the zeal of the natural defenders of the country.

The reply of another correspondent is that the nation which has no leader is weak, though it may have all the elements which constitute strength. In a despotically-ruled country the monarch is the leader; in Republics the chief executive officer is the leader; and in constitutional monarchies, the Prime Minister serves the purpose of a leader. Ireland was weak and helpless, but no sooner was a leader developed in that country than it became a power in the Empire. India has no leader, and, it is, therefore, helpless, in spite of its huge dimension and three hundred millions of inhabitants.

One of the correspondents is of opinion that the extinction of a nation is preceded by the decay of its manufactures. That country is in a healthy condition which has 25 per cent of its population engaged in the pursuit of agriculture, and fifty in that of industrial pursuits. The decay of industries means incessant drain. It leads the people to rely mainly upon agriculture for their very existence, and this leads to the exhaustion of the land and the frequent visitation of famines. As a manufacturing country, India was at one time decidedly the foremost in the world; now it is practically without any industry.

Another correspondent says that the country which has lost its self-respect will readily allow itself to be trampled under foot. There is another who says that too much love of wealth or love of pleasure is always followed by disaster. And he believes that America will suffer for its love of gold, and the Western nations for its love of pleasure.

A correspondent who confesses that he is an Irishman expresses the opinion that the nation which allows itself to be governed by a few on selfish principles is already on its road to ruin. And he thinks England is such a country.

"A nation who has forgotten to fight must be the slaves of others who can fight" is the verdict of another correspondent. "Greece fell," says another, "because it treated its patriots ungratefully, and rewarded mere talkers, humbugs, and prominence-seekers."

There is a saying in our country that grandsons die first in a house which is destined to be extinct. In the case of nations, infant mortality is a sure indication of their critical condition. In India, however, the indications that we are running towards extinction with railway speed are many and sure. Famines, we are assured, decimate a country; we have them here in plenty. Sporadic cases of cholera appeared in the country now and then two hundred years ago; but cholera epidemics are now very common. In our own time, this disease, it is said, first appeared at Naldanga in Jessore in 1830.

Malaria also appeared here, say, about fifty years ago, and now the poison has spread throughout the length and breadth of India. Epidemics of small-pox, in Bengal at least, were practically unknown here so long as the Tikadars or Indian small-pox doctors were not extinguished. And then plague, which overtook Bombay seven years ago, has now got a firm hold of the country. It now rages everywhere in India for several months together in a virulent form, and commits a dreadful havoc.

India, it is true, if depopulated, will be peopled again. But if the higher classes disappear it will not be possible to replace them. For the higher classes in India are the product of ages of culture—the higher classes which gave religion to the world, and compelled the Indian Government to adopt various devices for the purpose of keeping them out of the Civil Service.

The Indians have, therefore, no great motive to strive for the regeneration of their people. They feel that they are doomed. Of course this is the language of despair, but the feeling is universal and based upon experience. The Indians have lost heart; they do not choose to move. "What is the good?" they say when asked to exert themselves for the improvement of their country.

The answers, given to the question propounded by the American paper, shew that most of the symptoms which are said to precede the extinction of a nation, have appeared in pronounced form in India.

THE LATEST LADY HINDU-SLANDERER.

We entertained the notion that the race of Hindu slanderers had become extinct, but, it seems, that is not the case. The Madras lady-author, Miss Amy Wilson Carmichael, who considers that the vast majority of women in India are not better than those who lead a depraved life as "servants for the gods," has proved that there are yet many of them in the field. Miss Carmichael has thus no prejudice against her. On the other hand, we freely concede that she is an educated lady, otherwise she could not have written a book. As a Christian missionary, she must also be morally a superior person. How is it then that she has slandered the Hindu ladies in this atrocious manner, and filled her book with ghastly and abominable stories? We can explain this phenomenon only assuming that she was in an abnormal condition of mind when she wrote her work.

One cannot baffle dirt without soiling his hand. Miss Carmichael either mixed with the dancing girls in the Temples or closely watched their unfortunate lives; and in this way, in spite of her high puritanic ideas, she apparently deened her right perceptions for the nonce and saw wickedness around her, which she sought to fasten upon the entire women in India. If, however, like Miss Noble, she had spent not three years, but only three months, with respectable Hindu ladies, she would have possibly ennobled her soul, and, instead of "Debauchery" and "The Brand of Hell," she would have found an ideal in Hindu homes, of which she perhaps has no idea.

No people perhaps have been so lustily slandered as the Hindus. It is racial prejudice generally which leads one nation to slander another; but, in the case of the Hindus, they are libelled also for selfish purposes. Well, they are described as depraved, and wealthy Christians are thereby moved to provide missionaries with a most tempting and lucrative occupation. These missionaries lead a life of ease and luxury at the expense of their pious countrymen, and profess to save the "wicked heathens" from perdition. And as they were not likely to be provided with funds if the heathens were not described to be low in morals, so many missionaries find it very profitable to delineate the Hindus as monsters.

We have heard from Hindus who had visited America that the prejudice against their race, only a few years ago, was so strong that they could not make themselves even heard and tolerated in that country. The Americans had been led to believe by these vilifiers of the Hindus that they were a race of ogres, who ate human babes, and committed other similar fiendish acts. But times are changed. The Hindus are now known better than they were before, and they have also made themselves heard in the West.

The lady-author Miss Carmichael describes, in her book: "The works of the Devil," "Devil's Toys," and so forth when describing the manners and customs of the Hindus. But many others had preceded her in this work of the vilification of the Hindus, and some of them lied so horribly that they were found out to be untrustworthy witnesses, even by those most-willing to believe them. These lady slanderers appeared in great force during the Age of Consent controversy. They were backed by the Government of Lord Lansdowne, and they exceeded all bounds of decency.

One of them, a lady doctor, who was here because she would have starved at home if not provided for by the unfortunate Indians, wrote to the press to say that she had herself come across 25 cases of outrage upon girl-wives, describing the condition of each, only omitting every thing which could lead to the verification of her statement. Well, though this lady doctor, who was a new comer, found 25 cases, hundreds of physicians in Calcutta testified to the fact that none of them had come across one such case during the whole course of their practice. On the other hand, it was pointed out at the time from criminal statistics in England that, violence upon girls, nay, upon grown-up women was far more prevalent in that country than in India. So the writer over-did the thing.

When educated and highly moral Christians like Miss Carmichael entertain absurd notions about the "heathens," it is no wonder that ignorant and illiterate "heathens" have their absurd notions of the Christians. Need we describe some of them? But we are not going to do it. For, they are as untrue and offensive as the notions of Miss Carmichael are regarding the social customs and usages of the country. So, you see, if she has her stories to prove the "devilries" of the "heathens," the "heathens" have also their stories to prove the low origin and foul tastes of the Christians.

The "Madras Mail," a countryman of hers, reminds Miss Carmichael of the desperate Hologans of Whitechapel. Mr. Stead, another Englishman, also declared that, at least one lakh of women of ill fame roamed in the streets of London every night. Miss Carmichael had this ample material at home to write a fine book on. Why did she then meddle with the Hindus?

When a celebrated lady missionary paid a professional visit to the late Babu Bhudev Mukherjee and began to preach to him, the astute Brahmin stopped the flow of her eloquence by the remark: "I think, madam, the best thing for you would be to go home and marry if you can get a husband; for that may give peace to your soul and enlarge your heart." We think Miss Carmichael may profit by this excellent advice given to her sister in Bengal.

SOME lively scenes were enacted at the last meeting of the new Fellows of the Bombay University, when two Syndics in the Faculty of Medicine and two in the Faculty of Law were elected. The proceedings were published yesterday. At the first meeting one of the Fellows proposed that the meeting ought to be postponed as the notice given by the Chancellor was ultra vires and illegal. The Chairman of the meeting ruled that the motion was not out of order. The proposition was then put to vote and carried; and then those who opposed left it. There was another meeting for the election of two Syndics in Law. The Hon. Mr. Setalvad pointed out at the beginning that the manner in which the election was going to be held was ultra vires and this was the view of eminent counsel. The Chairman of the meeting, Hon. Mr. Edgarley, wanted to avoid the question by referring the matter to the Chancellor for decision, but there was another difficulty. The Hon. Mr. P. Mehta moved for an adjournment, and this motion

led to a hot discussion, and much energy and valuable time was wasted in hunting after bye-laws and sub-sections in the new Act both for and against the motion. At last the Chairman ruled the motion out of order. Thereupon the independent members and their spokesman said: "We put in our protest and will leave the room without implying any disrespect whatever to the chair, and they left it. The business was then transacted without any opposition. The new Fellows of the Bombay University have to thank themselves for the treatment to which they have been subjected. When the University has been officialised, why did they enter into it at all?"

The relation between Beharis and Bengalees who have settled in Behar is, of late, we are sorry to find, not so cordial as it was before. And Sir A. Fraser's Resolution abolishing competitive examinations for the recruitment of Deputy Magistrates and holding forth official favour to the members of "comparatively backward communities" has helped to fan the present undesirable feeling. The Beharis are alleged to belong to a backward community; and hence the impression is that they stand a better chance of obtaining appointments in their own province than they did under the old system. But will the rules laid down by the Government of Bengal for the recruitment of Deputy Collectors in future secure this advantage for them? Some Beharis fear it will not. Clause (d) of Rule 8 says, "Every candidate nominated by a Commissioner must be domiciled in his Division." The question then is, do Bengalis who have settled in Behar come under the term of domiciled Beharis? At all events, some suspect that the Resolution of the Government is intended to serve some political purpose.

The "Daily Chronicle" of January 3 publishes the opinions of a number of distinguished military authorities of England on the fall of Port Arthur, of which the most important and interesting is that of Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, Inspector-General of Auxiliary Forces:—

"The mighty struggle at Port Arthur," he said, "will rank as one of the greatest examples of courage the world has ever seen. The balance of the chances of success in the war is entirely on the side of the Japanese, but whether the present position will mean the end of the war will largely depend upon the pride of Russia. The whole campaign must have been a great blow to Russian prestige, and for this very reason the near future may have some very important events in store as between Russia and Great Britain. Russia, to restate herself, will, I think, turn her attention to the North-West Frontier of India. Her railway terminus is a comparatively short distance from Russia compared with their distance from Manchuria. Of course, between Russia and India is the independent State of Afghanistan, and that makes a tremendous factor in all the considerations for our defence. It is said that Afghanistan is such a mountainous country that the construction of railways would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible.

"Well, Afghanistan has often been occupied, and Russia would no doubt find means of making railways. In these circumstances it is insane madness to think of reducing our auxiliary forces or to talk of our Army being too large."

Reverting to the present war, the general spoke of the "intense patriotism" that had inspired the deeds of heroism on both sides at Port Arthur, and said that the Japanese, who had done wonderful things, were now perfectly safe at sea, and would be able to devote their energies to Kuropatkin, their first objective having been achieved.

"Throughout the war," added General Turner, "the Russians had the best field-guns—I don't say 'gunners.' The Japanese took their army from Germany, and they took their navy from us—but they did not think fit to imitate our War Office."

"We all know the Japanese are impatient for peace, and we hope peace will prevail, because the Japanese are not press for more than they ought to have, and they have no idea of the Malacca Strait."

On the other hand, the surprise, which must be felt by all who will turn to India. We only a few days ago, though our Government in a matter like this has no value. There is no doubt that, this is the view of the Government of India also, judging from the activities of Lord Kitchener and the preparations for constructing several new strategic railways beyond the north-western frontiers. The Russo-Jap war is thus an unmitigated gain to India. In Russia triumphs a means danger to the British Empire in the East; if she is discomfited, that also is a source of deep disquietude. In either case, the military expenses of India will be terribly augmented. There is already a talk of adding several thousand more troops to the huge white garrison in this country, and constructing several new military railways and forts. So money will be wasted like water, and the bill will have to be paid by the poor starving Indian ryot. The London "Echo" of January 2 takes the same view. Our contemporary says that it is impossible to deny that the after-results of the war will react on the internal politics of England to a rather serious extent. "For one thing," says the "Echo," it will revive the old cry of troubles on the Indian frontier. And what would be the result? "Military man after military man will come and tell us that, Russia, finding things lively in the Far East, is turning her attention to the Middle East, and is already creeping very near to the scientific frontier and Afghanistan." The prospect before us is thus far from cheering.

The nuptial ceremony of Mr. N Sree Narayanan Tampi, son of His Highness the present Maharaja, with the grand-daughter of His Highness the late Maharaja of Travancore, was celebrated last week with much eclat. Mr. A. Sree Sarayanan Tampi, son of His Highness the late Maharaja and uncle of the bride, received the many distinguished guests, among whom were Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, C. I. E., Dewan, Dewan Bahadur C. Venkoba Chariar, Chief Justice, and other officials of the State. A special pandal was put up and superbly decorated. On the last day there was a grand feast to all the Nair officials. There were also musical and other entertainments. The Brahmin guests were given pan supari. The bride received some costly and handsome Benares silk as a present from Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, who also attended the ceremony by special invitation in company with Mrs. Nannaswamy Rao.

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, Jan. 6.

LORD CURZON AND THE CONGRESS. It was evidently to discredit the Indian National Congress that Reuter wired the following news to the London press:—

"Sir Henry Cotton, who presided over the recent Indian National Congress, wrote to the Viceroy requesting permission to present personally the resolutions passed by the Conference. Lord Curzon now replies declining to receive Sir Henry. His lordship says he is unwilling to create a precedent by discussing the resolutions, even in an informal manner, and he adds that unless discussion was contemplated by Sir Henry it does not appear to be clear that any result of any importance would follow the suggested meeting.—'Central News.'"

But the result was otherwise. All the leading Liberal papers condemned this action on the part of the Viceroy and saw in it only a desire on the part of His Excellency to put down Indian aspirations. In the opinion of the "Daily News" it was an "Unhappy Affront" offered to the President of the Bombay National Congress, and the following short editorial that appears in its issue of the 4th instant will show how indignant this paper is at the treatment accorded to Sir Henry:—

"The refusal of Lord Curzon to receive Sir Henry Cotton is a grave insult, not to Sir Henry, but to the people of India. It embodies in a personal affront the contempt with which the bureaucratic Viceroy regards the popular movement. Sir Henry Cotton is not only one of the most distinguished of Indian Civil servants. He is the President of the Indian Congress, which has just completed its sittings. That Congress is the only approximation that three hundred million Indian subjects of the Emperor have to a share in their own government—the only medium the natives have of making known their grievances and their needs. To refuse to receive the President of such a body is a blunder which borders on a crime. In this matter the Viceroy stands for the Emperor, and it is King Edward eminently who thus refuses the small courtesy involved in hearing what the delegates of three hundred millions of his subjects have to say on the government of India. Lord Curzon has throughout done his best to lose the sympathy of the natives; but he has never equalled the tactless offensiveness of his latest affront."

"The 'Morning Leader' in referring to the incident discusses the 'question of precedent,' raised by Lord Curzon, in its characteristic style. This paper remarks:—

"A desire not to create a precedent has prompted Lord Curzon to refuse an audience to Sir Henry Cotton, who wished to lay before him the resolutions of the Indian Congress. It is surely a pity that the Viceroy should go out of his way in this manner to emphasise his complete estrangement from all Indian hopes and ambitions. He has made no difficulty about creating precedents in other directions—such as Tibet, for instance. Why should he hesitate when the question at issue is no longer an enormously wasteful pageant or a wild cat military expedition into an unexplored country, but a matter of listening to the opinions of the government? 'Those who we know where it pinches,' says Aristotle, possibly Lord Curzon does not wish to be reminded."

The "Echo" calls Lord Curzon an "Ozar Curzon," and then makes the following remarks upon the incident:—

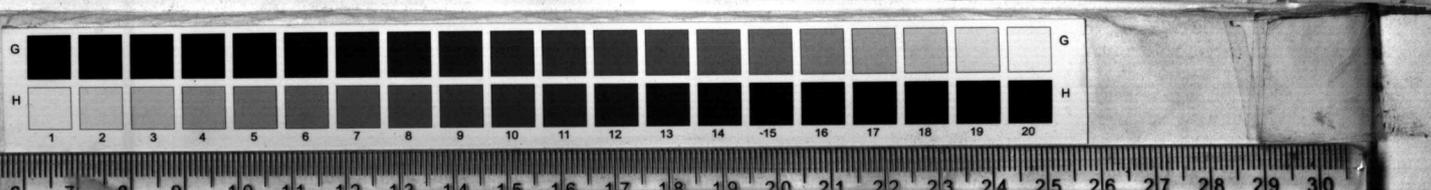
Lord Curzon's refusal to receive Sir Henry Cotton, who is President of the Indian National Congress was deputed to lay certain resolutions before him, is an instructive lesson on the spirit which now governs the Indian bureaucracy. Sir Henry is an Anglo-Indian official, whose merits, even from the Imperial standpoint, were sufficiently conspicuous to deserve knighthood, while his virtues have won him a much greater honour—the confidence of the Indian peoples. He was dismissed from the service because of his manifold advocacy of the case of coolie-seria on the tea plantations of Assam. Lord Curzon in refusing to receive him is doubtless venting on him the wrath of the capitalist classes. He is paying the same price for his independence which Sir William Butler paid in South Africa. To an autocracy which is determined to govern without reference to the opinion of the subject race, and to which the interests of the capitalist alone are sacred, the existence of these brave and exceptional men is doubtless an offence and an outrage. There may come a time when even our miners and our Curzons will regret that they turned a deaf ear while the demands of the people were still moderate and humble."

I need add very little of my own comments to the above. The precedent question, I think, has been thoroughly disposed of by the "Morning Leader." Lord Curzon has been the author of so many new precedents during his viceroyalty that he might have very well created another without hurting the prestige of his Government in any way. On the other hand, he might have pleased the educated Indians immensely by accepting the Congress resolutions from the hands of Sir Henry. He was not bound to discuss with him the aims and objects of the Congress; and, if such a discussion were really held, what was the harm? Rather the Viceroy might have gained by such a discussion; for possibly His Excellency might have learnt several things about the Congress of which he is now ignorant, from one of its Presidents, and thereby added to his knowledge of Indian affairs. One of the reasons why India is so misgoverned is the reluctance of the responsible authorities to secure information from unofficial sources. If Lord

Curzon could devote half an hour daily to the discussion of the public affairs of India for three months with its educated and independent leaders he would acquire an amount of knowledge about the real situation in the country which the study of volumes of blue-books or the deliberations of the whole body of Indian officials would fail to secure for him.

A sum of Rs. 1,16,000 was spent on the preservation of monuments and antiquities in the United Provinces in the year that ended the 31st March last. Of this sum Rs. 97,800 was devoted to the buildings of Agra.

Mr. S. Preston, Inspector-General of Irrigation in India, will most probably visit the Punjab in the Spring to inspect the alignment of the main channels of the three great canals which are now being staked out there.



SCRAPS.

Machines for extracting plantain fibre are now being manufactured in the Cannanore Central Jail, each machine being priced at Rs. 20.

At the Conference of the Zemindars, held last Saturday at the B. I. Association rooms, a Sub-committee was appointed to settle the draft reply to Government on the Tenancy Act Amendment Bill and prepared a list of gentlemen who should be requested to wait in deputation on H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject. The Lieutenant-Governor has fixed to-day next at 11 a. m. to receive the deputation.

Is it a fact, as the "Sunsodhini" says, that malicious or unemployed people set fire to houses in Chittagong in broad daylight? The compositions' quarters of our contemporary have been burnt to ashes in broad day light! Is it not strange beyond conception that such outrageous acts of violence should be committed in clear day light in the heart of the town of Chittagong which has a Police force of its own to protect people from oppression and preserve the peace of the town? We hope the authorities will stop such acts of high handedness and incendiarism with a strong hand by bringing to book some of the culprits.

Yet another shooting case is reported and this time from Aurangabad. A few days ago, while a poor Kumb woman was basking in the sun after bathing, she was shot while a section of the 96th Berar Infantry was practising at the targets. The injured woman was conveyed to the Regimental Hospital, where the bullet was extracted by the Medical Officer. The woman is still under treatment. "As these shooting accidents are of rather frequent occurrence, it would be well" writes a local correspondent, "if the Berars could be removed to a better locality near the hills." The matter should attract the serious consideration of the military authorities.

At a meeting of the London Chemical Society on December 14th last under the presidency of Dr. W. A. Tilden, Dr. P. C. Ray read a paper on "The Sulphate and Phosphate of the Dimercurammonium Series." The author showed that when dimercurammonium nitrate, NH₂·N₂·NO₂, which may be regarded as "infusible white precipitate" in which Cl is replaced by NO₂ and H by Hg²⁺, is treated with "oxy acids", such as sulphuric or phosphoric acid, the group NH₂·N₂· remains intact and NO₂ is replaced by the acting acid radical. The author is now engaged in investigating a number of organic derivatives of the dimercurammonium radical, obtained by this general reaction.

As a sequel to the special test frauds case in Madras a notification has been issued by a local Government dismissing certain persons from public service and several others being ineligible for the same who were shown to have had complicity in that scandalous affair. Of the 9 persons dismissed from the service 5 are policemen, 3 clerks and 1 peon. Besides these nine persons were ineligible for Government service. The case was scandalous in the extreme and put down with a strong hand. At such a practice of selling papers to students had been in existence since a long time and it is proper that the persons implicated should get proper punishment.

Alarming news comes from Southern India. There has been a failure of rains over a large portion of the Madras Presidency. Matters have come to such a pass that considerable remissions of revenue will be necessary. Already such remissions are being granted in most of the districts affected. Should the next South-West monsoon fail, measures are being taken to provide additional employment for the poor by means of the next three or four months. The Hon'ble A. E. Castles, Member of the Board of Revenue has just returned from a tour through the affected districts.

The extension of Part X of the Bengal Municipal Act of 1884 to the Buxar Municipality, in the Shahabad district, will prove a source of trouble to the rate-payers, if that the inhabitants of the place say in their memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor is true. But who prayed for the extension of Part X? It was certainly the Municipal Commissioners at a special meeting. But how was that meeting convened? We are told that the Commissioners were not given sufficient time to consider the matter fully beforehand, as the notice convening the meeting was issued on the morning of 31st October last and the meeting was held in the afternoon of the same day; that about one-third of the Commissioners were not served with the notice; that the business of the meeting was not clearly and distinctly stated in the notice; and that according to the rules of business the notice should have been served at least a week before the meeting was actually held. It is apparent from the above that the meeting was illegal and the business transacted at that meeting is equally so. At that meeting the prayer for the extension of Part X was carried, but with the unanimous votes of the Commissioners present, but without even recording the objections of some of the commissioners present, by the official Chairman. It was the wish of the Chairman, who is Sub-divisional Officer of the place and an Englishman, and not the prayer of the inhabitants who are the rate-payers. It is also said that the latrine cess on private premises are being unjustly and heavily assessed and in proof of this they say that no valuation of holdings has been made previous to the making of the assessment and at each and all holdings, whether containing dwelling houses with latrine or not, have been assessed with latrine tax. Considering the above circumstances and considering that practically speaking Buxar is a town in the true sense of the word, the Hon'ble will be pleased to withhold his sanction to the extension of Part X and order that no latrine fees should be raised according to the new assessment which causing untold misery to the rate-payers.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

From our own correspondent.

New York (U. S. A.), Dec. 28.

THE JAP-ROSSO WAR.

I send you papers this week in which you will find some things of interest. The world is moving and this miserable war is going to leave its trace in history. Its consequences are bound to be momentous for they will be the outcome of a new development of human thought and action, only it is a pity they could not have been brought about through a movement of intelligence instead of the brutality of war. But things being as they are, and human nature being still without true civilisation, the movement could come in no other way. You will have seen my ideas in one or two of my recent articles in the paper I write for. This savage slaughter in Manchuria is a blot on civilisation and a mockery of so-called Christianity, the Christianity of the "mailed fist," which is specially affected by protestant Christians, though the Catholics, when the power of their mind-befuddling church is in question are not behind using the secular arm too.

SITUATION IN INDIA.

I look forward as ever each mail to my packet of "Amrita Bazar Patrika" which when gone through is dispersed so as to do what good it can in dissipating some of the mistaken notions that prevail in certain quarters respecting the real situation in India. I am afraid relief is not yet so near as one would wish because I believe the cycle of narrow-minded and short-sighted policy that is passing over the British mind is not yet exhausted. What Great Britain needs and is bound to have, is an awakening. No nation or individual can break the moral or physical laws that nature has decreed without chastisement. How and when it comes we cannot say or see, but its coming is as sure as the course of the sun and it makes no difference in the end so far as we are concerned. For Russia the war has been the beginning of a new era from which humanity will derive great benefits; for I look on the inherent qualities of the Slav race as far and away superior to the vanished Imperial Anglo-Saxon which smack of the brute to a large extent.

FERTILIZING POWDER.

Here is a circular on the subject of the fertilizer Department of Agriculture at Washington you wrote of, which I received from you yesterday:—

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 23, 1904.

Your recent letter relative to nitrogen-fixing organisms has been received. The organisms for the common legumes, such as alfalfa, peas, beans, clovers, vetches, etc., will be distributed two applicants who desire to aid in testing the efficiency of these organisms in different parts of the United States. As a general rule, the quantity sent to each applicant will be sufficient to inoculate about two bushels of the seed for which the inoculation is desired. In special cases, however, when large quantities of seed are to be inoculated, directions for preparing the culture liquid will be forwarded and as much as is desired can be made up at a cost of a few cents per gallon.

If you wish to secure inoculating material, it will be necessary to write us again, stating what legume you expect to sow and giving approximately the date of planting, so that we may send you the organisms in the best possible condition. This is necessary, as our methods require the inoculation to be made either before or at the time of planting the seed. Full directions for use are included in each package sent out.

The bacteria are beneficial only in connection with legumes ("pod-forming" plants) and are not applicable to other farm or garden crops. Even with legumes these bacteria are of no decided benefit except when the proper pod-forming organisms are inoculated. In fact, but a crop of legumes with nodules formed on their roots improves the soil for succeeding crops. The inoculation process does not interfere with the usual method of sowing or sowing. When applying for inoculating material do not neglect to state the kind of seed, and the kind of soil to be treated. In replying please refer to this circular.

Yours very truly,

A. F. WOODS,

Chief Pathologist and Physiologist.

As you will see it requires certain specific details before the fertilizing material can be furnished, so you can either return the circular to me with details called for in it, or communicate direct with the Department at Washington. As the matter is yet in an experimental stage, do not be disappointed if things do not turn out as anticipated.

On the New Year's Day there were two murders in a village close to Trichur. The facts are as follows:—A young Cheroman, aged about 20 years, having suspected the fidelity of his young wife, took an ordinary knife and cut her throat badly and inflicted many wounds on her person and after killing her, he at once committed suicidal hanging. Both the bodies were brought to the Hospital by the Police for post mortem examination and the medical certificate saved the Police from all unnecessary troubles in the case.

In some recent proceedings of the Mysore Government, it was directed that juvenile prisoners should be given some general education of an elementary kind. The Inspector-General of Prisons, after consulting the Inspector-General of Education, reported that there were only one juvenile prisoner in the jail, who would be discharged within a month, and suggested that, in order to permit of a class with a sufficient number of pupils being formed, a few adolescent prisoners of ages varying from 16 to 20 years, of whom there were about nine, might be included within the scope of the Government Order referred to above. Under the existing rules in Mysore, a juvenile means a prisoner under 16 years of age. In Madras, all male prisoners under 18 years of age are included under juveniles. By raising the age limit in Mysore in a like manner, it is expected that a large number of pupils will be available for receiving elementary instruction. The Inspector-General of Prisons reports that the average number of convicts that might be admitted as juveniles under the increased age limit will be seven per month, or about 84 a year. In these circumstances, the Government have ordered that the age limit prescribed for inclusion in the class of juveniles be raised from 16 to 18 years. They also approve of the proposal to employ a literate and well-behaved convict to teach them.

ARRAH NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Arrah, Jan. 20.

CANAL DEPARTMENT.

It will be remembered that one Bigoo Singh brought serious charges against the Canal Deputy Collector and his head clerk and an enquiry was eventually ordered into the charges by Government. But instead of holding an investigation, the matter was allowed to be buried and the clerk, presumably to prevent the complaints being further pressed, returned to the proprietors the villages and Kasht which are said to be valued at Rs. 10 or 15 thousand for a petty consideration of Rs. 800 under a deed of sale executed on the day fixed for hearing the case. The following is the list of the properties which the head clerk, under the direction of his superior officers, retransferred to the complainant:—

- (1) One anna which is by Government Butwara equal to four annas in Mouzah Khara cha.
- (2) 8 pies English in Mouzah Karnaul
- (3) 6 pies in Mouzah Dohabala
- (4) 47 bighas 14 cottahs and 10 choors.

Can it be believed that the above properties are worth only Rs. 800? The clerk in the sale deed says that he disposes of the properties, being directed by his superior officers and because the keeping the deed is causing him a lot of trouble. Will the Government be pleased to enquire what this lot of trouble is and why should the superior officers direct the clerk or interfere in his private matter? Sir Andrew Fraser is the last man to drop the matter here. We dare say that nothing short of an overhauling of the department or a complete change in the staff would bring about the eradication of the present evils which are assuming serious proportions.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the town is anything but satisfactory. The long dreaded plague which had hitherto been causing havoc in the suburbs, has at last made its appearance in the town. Although it is at present in a sporadic form, there is every sign of its becoming epidemic before long. There is the usual panic among the town folk, which every year leads to a heavy exodus. For the last several years plague has been decimating the population claiming quite a holocaust of victim and Heaven knows whether the deadly monster would relax its grip this time. Human efforts have proved unavailing though expectations might be raised in some sanguine quarters to minimize the chances of a high mortality. Our municipality is often a helpless body though in the matter of raising taxes it is always active. May we this time indulge in the hope that it will prove equal to the occasion and make honest and strenuous efforts to check the spread of the fell disease before it is too late. The Sanitary Commissioner was seen passing through the town the other day. We do not know what opinion he has formed or recorded about the sanitation, conservancy and plague precautions here. In view of the threatened exodus, we are afraid, this would be our last letter from Arrah.

The Secretary of State has ruled that in future no officer shall be promoted to the rank of General by seniority until he has served three years in the rank of Lieutenant-General.

A rogue elephant belonging to the Forest Department has become a terror to the wayfarers of Monywa, Yinnabin road, Penang. He has already killed his own keeper and two other persons.

With regard to the movements of the British Commercial Mission in Persia, it is possible that Major Sykes, Consul at Kerman, may accompany the party on their return journey to Bushire, via Shiraz.

A case of a very sensational nature is pending before the District Magistrate of Jamalpur. In this case, Mohamed Syed Makhool Ahmed, a Mouli, has been called upon to show cause why he should not be bound down to deliver such a sermon as is likely to offend or hurt the feelings of a certain section of the Moslem Community. The case has created a good deal of sensation in the locality.

"Truth" says:—An Anglo-Indian correspondent sends me an edifying story of an official squabble over a question of precedence which arose in connection with the Annual Conference of the leading lights of the I.C.S. in the Central Provinces. It seems that one of the little tin gods took dire offence because his name figured below instead of above some one else's in a list drawn up by the junior Civilian who was acting as Secretary of the Committee of Management. It was an insignificant and innocent mistake, but it caused no end of bother, and the unhappy secretary was severely reprimanded. Judging from what my correspondent says, this storm in a tea-cup is an appropriate incident of the Conference. Ostensibly this gathering is held to enable members of the Indian Civil Service in the Central Provinces to exchange views on matters of administration, and on that understanding the week or so it occupies is not deducted from their annual leave. In point of fact, however, it is not a meeting for the discussion of public business, but for the pursuit of pleasure, those attending it devoting themselves almost exclusively to the enjoyment of dinners, dances, races, gymkhanas, cricket matches, etc."

Repeated complaints seem to have been made to the Postal authorities in Madras by traders that samples of articles and advertisements sent by them through the post more often than not failed to reach their destination. Madras seems to have been one of the places complained against. Accordingly, several packets of advertisements were posted in Madras for Madras, bearing fictitious addresses; and the Personal Assistant of the Postmaster-General travelled by the same train. Arrived at Madras, the gentleman saw the test packets delivered into the hands of the postmen of the respective beats and made a note of the transaction. One of the postmen was seen to deliver a packet bearing one of the fictitious addresses to a certain person who could not have been the addressee. Two other postmen who had been entrusted with others of these test packets returned to the Post Office but without the packets, and, when questioned said that they had delivered them to the men indicated by the addresses which the wrappers bore. The three postmen were immediately made over to the custody of the Police. They were subsequently released on bail on each of them giving a personal security for Rs. 200 and two sureties for Rs. 200 each.

Calcutta and Moinssil

Lord Kitchener.—Lord Kitchener will leave Calcutta on a shooting trip about the 10th February.

Investiture.—It is unlikely that an investiture will be held by the Viceroy in Calcutta this cold weather.

The Rao of Cutch.—The Rao of Cutch and his Suite are expected to arrive in Calcutta on the 27th February.

Convocation.—Lord Curzon will preside at the Annual Convocation of the Calcutta University on the 11th February.

Imperial Gazetteer.—Mr. Gait, O.S., has been selected to edit the "Imperial Gazetteer" in India in succession to Mr. W. S. Meyer.

The Viceroy.—H. H. the Viceroy leaves Calcutta on the 13th February for a shooting trip in Goalpara district of Assam, returning to Calcutta on the 24th.

Submission of Petitions.—Revised rules regarding the submission of petitions to the Government of India are published in the current issue of the "Gazette of India."

Postal Articles.—The half-year which ended on the 30th September showed an increase of 801 per cent in the number of postal articles delivered at all Post Offices in India compared with last year's figures.

Waterworks in Bhatpara Municipality.—A proposal is on foot to establish waterworks within the area of the Bhatpara Municipality to supply drinking filtered water to the residents within the Municipal jurisdiction. Water pipes are now being laid on.

B. B. Light Ry.—H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor will preside at the opening of the Baraset-Basrhat Light Railway. The ceremony takes place on Monday morning, January 30th, and a special train will be run from Sealdah for the Calcutta guests of Messrs Martin and Co.

Inspection Tour.—We understand the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Brett, of the Calcutta High Court, will shortly proceed on a tour of inspection. During his absence Mr. H. Holmdown, Sessions Judge of the 24-Parganahs, will be appointed to officiate as a Judge of the High Court.

Finance and Commerce.—A small Committee has been ordered to assemble to consider the possibility of improving the official statistics relating to financial and commercial matters. It will consist of Mr. Morshad, C.S. (president), Mr. Arbuthnot, G. S., formerly in the Revenue and Agricultural Department of the Secretariat, and Mr. Robertson, Director General of Statistics.

Post and Telegraph.—The departmental committee under Mr. Hewitt, appointed to discuss the desirability of amalgamating the Telegraph Department with the Post Office, is now about to begin its sittings in Calcutta. It should not take long to arrive at a decision. The main point it has to consider is whether it is worth while to upset the existing system, which on the whole has worked well, in order to avoid dual control in those post offices which also do telegraphic work.

I. T. Dept.—The Indian Telegraph Department have adopted a new form for inland messages. It is slightly larger than that previously in use; the spaces for name and address of sender and receiver are altered; and the rates charged for the three classes of messages are printed in bold type above the office of destination. This is a particularly good improvement as the sender can calculate at once the amount to be paid on the message he has written.

Sea-borne Trade.—There has been an enormous increase in the value of the sea-borne trade of the port of Calcutta with foreign countries during the month of December 1904 in comparison with that month in 1903. The total value amounted to no less than eleven crores or an increase of two and a half crores representing an improvement of 29 per cent. Imports lost in value by 120 lakhs or 36.59 per cent; exports expanded by 129 lakhs or 24.54 per cent. Treasure largely augmented the advance in imports, general merchandise accounting for only seventy-six lakhs; exports of Indian products were slightly greater in value than the net export result.

Victoria Memorial Exhibition.—Among the interesting documents on view in the Victoria Memorial Exhibition, Calcutta, is one relating to the trial of Nundocomar. It is in Persian and English characters, the two languages alternating sentence by sentence as the translation proceeds. It is noticeable that the writing in English has faded away so that it is most difficult to trace the words, and the Persian characters stand out as clearly in their vivid blackness as on the day when they were formed. The document, in spite of the ravages of white ants, is in a fair state of preservation and is particularly worthy of examination. Over the case containing it is the portrait of Sir Elijah Impey in his robes as Chief Justice, the juxtaposition being significant in its way.

Outrage upon a woman.—Information was lodged before the Sunamganj Police on the 17th instant by one Khottia Bibi aged about 19 or 20 years of village Mullapara within the local jurisdiction of the Sunamganj Police Station that on the previous night while she and her next door neighbour Karama widow were asleep in her western house, accused Tekar Bag, Abdul and two others of the same village broke into the house at dead of night by the back door, gagged her and her comrade Abdul outraged her modesty. On hearing the "golmal" Karama woke up and raised a hue and cry and the accused took to their heels immediately. They recognised the accused by the light of the lamp burning at the time. The neighbour hastened to the spot and found the accused running away.—"Weekly Chronicle."

Vital Statistics.—The total number of deaths registered during the week ending 14th Jan. was 679 against 681 and 655 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 221. There were 106 deaths from cholera, against 74 and 101 in the two preceding weeks; the number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 72. There were 33 deaths from plague, against 31 and 18 in the two preceding weeks. There were 2 deaths from small-pox during the week against 3 in the previous week. There were 13 deaths from tetanus against 20 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 65 and 92 respectively, against 204 and 84 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 4.6 per mille per annum, against 36.1, the mean of the last five years.

The Viceroy.—The Viceroy, as at present named, will leave for Assam on the 12th February and return to Calcutta on the 26th February.

Legislative.—The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to nominate Mr. Jogesh Chandra Chaudhuri, Barrister-at-Law, to be a member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Supreme Council.—The Meeting of the Legislative Council which was fixed for Friday, the 27th January, 1905, is postponed by order of His Excellency the Viceroy, to Friday, the 3rd February, 1905, at 11 a.m.

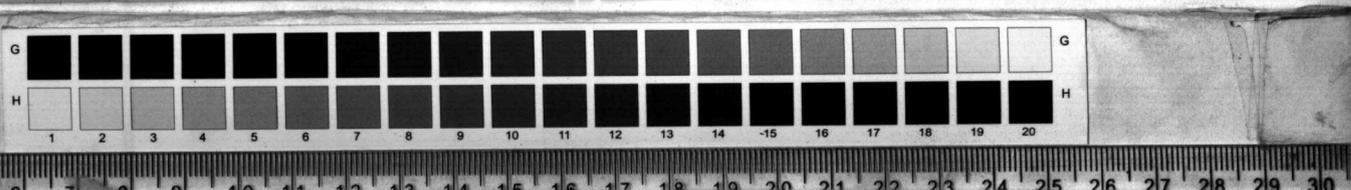
A Case Compromised.—Sometime ago, Babu Gyan Chander Guha, on behalf of the firm of N. L. Gorsi and Son, applied for and obtained the order of police enquiry against two men, named Basanto Kumar Nag and Satish Chander Bose, on a charge of cheating the complainant out of Rs. 294. The Police having submitted their report, the Court directed them to take up the case.

On Tuesday morning, whilst Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, was engaged in receiving complaints, Babu Gyan Chander Guha submitted to his Worship that the parties have made up their differences and prayed the Court to allow the complainant to withdraw the charges. The Court granted the permission and allowed the case to be withdrawn. Babu Suresh Chander Mitter, on behalf of the defence, submitted that intimation should be sent to the thans, for the reading of the (former order. The Court issued orders to that effect.

An odd Thief Convicted.—On Tuesday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, an odd thief, named Lakhi Kahar, with a record of eleven previous convictions against his name, was placed on his trial. Mr. Abdur Rahim the Senior Court Inspector opened the facts of the case. He said that the complainant was a driver of a gharry. On the 19th instant at 11 p.m. he brought his master's son-in-law to the circus on the "maidan." The Babu went in and the complainant waited outside. As he was peeping through the mat barrier, the accused came and stood by him. Soon after the complainant felt a tug in his pocket. He turned round to see what was the matter and the accused was seen moving away with something in his hand. He raised an alarm and the man was arrested by a constable who found in his possession six pice. The complainant's pocket was cut off clean. Accused admitted all his previous convictions. The Court sentenced him to two years' rigorous imprisonment.

Exports.—Exports from Calcutta were on a very large scale during the past month. Compared with the same month of the previous year (December 1903) the total value of shipments to foreign ports, amounting to 668 lakhs, represented an increase of 129 lakhs or of 24.54 per cent. With the exception of tea and indigo, every important staple gave better results on the month's working. Unfortunately indigo continues to show a decreasing trade and the quantity in December was less by 657 cwt. Tea exports were smaller by 23 million pounds, though from Chittagong the quantity for the month rose from one to 43 millions lbs. and generally the trade in tea from that port has been much larger in the past year. Jute shipments principally contributed to the greater value of exports in the month; the quantity, leaving the port was over two millions cwt., with an increased value of forty-five lakhs. Grain stands next in the value of its exports, which expanded by 32 lakhs; wheat is still sent from the port in large quantities, (600, 124 cwt. in the past month) of which the United Kingdom took the lion's share. Rice was also sent away in much greater quantities. During the past few months humped exports have been considerably larger than usual in spite of the lower prices ruling; in December the quantity sent away was 743,826 cwt., giving an increased value of twenty-five lakhs; the United Kingdom and Germany took the bulk of these shipments. There were besides large increases in value under hides and skins, jute manufactures, opium, and raw cotton. Of cow 72,168 tons went to foreign ports chiefly Colombo, and 147,000 tons to Indian ports.

Post Office vs. Newspaper.—We take the following from the "Bengal Times" of Dacca:—Some time ago, our Paris correspondent d.s.c. Of this fact we were made aware by his widow, and as we had an interest in an arrangement made with a business house in Paris, we addressed that firm in a stamped cover bearing a one anna stamp, which we then considered sufficient, since other letters of ours, similarly stamped, had been accepted without demur. We have since been informed it was understamped. Messrs. C. and Co., returned our letter refused, stamping our envelope with a thirty centimes stamp. It was then forwarded to us as an "unclaimed letter," from "the dead letter office," with a demand for three annas "Postage due." We refused this cover and its contents with this query:—"Why should I pay three annas? I see no cause." We were next served with a "notice," purporting to come from our Post Master General Calcutta, contained in a printed communication to our local Postmaster, which reads:—"In forwarding the accompanying cover I have to refer you to sections 11 and 12 Act VI of 1898 under which the sender named in the margin is bound to pay the postage due thereon. In the event of his refusing to pay the postage, the enclosed printed extract should be furnished to him and it should be clearly explained to him that if he still persists in refusing payment, all letters, papers, etc., to his address, except those on his Majesty's service, will be stopped until the amount is paid, and that payment of the amount will be enforced by a Magistrate's warrant under the provisions of section 12 of Act VI of 1898." This high-handed proceeding, which we might, if so disposed, call by a very harsh term, was absolutely superfluous. First, we did not refuse to pay; but withheld payment, still such time as our enquiry was satisfied, a course we were impliedly justified in following from our Postmaster-General's letter, in which he says we should have it clearly explained to us why a demand is made. No explanation of any kind was given us, nor did we at any time, persist in refusing to pay, and we have a strong impression that our district Magistrate would reject an application for a warrant against us, but that is a point that cannot affect our present issue, which may fairly slape itself into an enquiry.—Is a postmaster justified, in such circumstances as we have described, in offering a gratuitous affront to an unoffending citizen, whose social position and gravity of years, ought to claim immunity from so gratuitously aggressive an attitude, in a post office subordinate, who shelters himself—effectively, in this case—behind a plea of obeying orders?



MATTERS COMMERCIAL.

The agricultural authorities in Assam have under consideration measures for encouraging a cultivation of jute in the upper districts of the Brahmaputra Valley, where experiments made have furnished satisfactory evidence that the staple can be profitably grown.

The Bengal Agricultural Department is taking up Rhea among its other agricultural experiments this year, and trials will be made at Rungpur, Gourpur, Rajshahi, and Chittagong. Extraction of the fibre is believed to be beyond the resources of the Bengal ryot, but there is no reason why he should not make a profitable business out of the crude bark for which there would be a demand.

The Bengal indigo improvement experiments to be carried out this year include cultivation of Natal, Java and other varieties and seed selection at the seed farm started at Darsal near Delhi, while the investigations at Pendera in Darbhanga and Sirsia in Mozufferpore are to be concerned with improvement in manufacture, analysis of indigotin, researches into colouring matter in the plants and other cognate matters.

The slate industry in India, which is practically confined to the Kangra District of the Punjab, is in the hands of a Joint Stock Company, says the Delhi paper, which is "running" its business in thorough and practical manner, and during the past five or six years is reported to have declared dividends of 12 per cent. plus large sums added to the reserve funds of the Company. The Company is also working quarries at Rewari near Delhi. Another Company is also working in the Kharahpur Hills, from where they are obtaining fine slates for which there is an increasing demand.

Cattle-breeding at the Pusa Institution—which ought to be of considerable benefit and value to Bengal—is to be conducted on a large scale. Some 200 head of local cattle is to form the nucleus, and improvement is to be effected by process of selection and not cross-breeding. A small stock of Punjab cattle has also been imported. Pasture land to the extent of some 400 acres will be available for the herd, while the fodder produced on the farm will also be given to the cattle. The cultivation of grasses and hay-making is also to form part of the operations which ought to lead to valuable results.

The experiments in the growing of commercial crops at the Agricultural Farm at Pusa this year will be numerous, and will, among others, include indigo, cotton, sugar, tobacco and linseed. Both Java and Natal indigo, as well as the ordinary plant, are to be grown on some fifty acres and manufacture will be carried out at the factory there. Cotton is to have thirty acres devoted to it and imported varieties, acclimatized exotics and long staple Indians, tree cottons, indigenous varieties for botanical classification, cross fertilization and seed selection will all be included in the experiments. The sugarcane experiments are to take in the most important Indian varieties and thirty acres have been set aside for their growth. Tapioca cultivation is to be on a small scale, but several varieties are to be tried and the produce prepared. Of tobacco, American, Java and Sumatra are to be grown on ten acres and the curing to be carried out on modern principles. These are all excellent experiments and their selection shows good judgment and that "business" is meant at Pusa. A large number of other crops is also to be grown and seeds of the best kind are to be secured for distribution. We are glad to learn that the operations at Pusa are also to include silk and rearing and fruit and vegetable growing. Ten acres are to be put under mulberries growing. Ten acres are to be put under mulberries and a small factory for rearing and reeling is to be provided. The cultivation of tea is to be assigned to the Government Entomologist, while the Agriculturalist will have some 50 acres for fruit and vegetable culture.

THE NEW METHOD OF PURIFYING WATER.

TO BE TRIED IN BOMBAY.

The weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Bombay Municipal Corporation was held on the 16th instant, in the Municipal Hall, the Hon. Mr. Vithaldas D. Thackeray, presiding. The following report made by Dr. C. H. Cayley, Divisional Health Officer, No. 1, Division, Bombay, with regard to the Bombay Water Supply for the month of December last, was received:

As compared with the previous month there was a diminution of the numbers of algae and of the albuminoid ammonia in the sample of water taken from the Venar Lake. The Tuisi water on the other hand showed a small increase in the albuminoid ammonia. The quality of the Tansa water remained unchanged except for an increase in the numbers of bacteria found per c. c.

Dr. K. E. Dadachanji drew the attention of the Committee to one large quantity of algae in the Venar and Tuisi lakes and asked the Commissioner why sulphate or copper should not be tried to destroy algae as was done in America. Though Sir William Crookes was of opinion that when these algae germs destroyed they made room for pathogenic germs like those of typhoid, and cholera, but Dr. Dadachanji doubted, if the opinion of Sir William Crookes would be borne out in India an experiment. Nevertheless, he said, it was worth trying in Tuisi water which smelt horribly in hot water.

The Commissioner said that the Executive Engineer would try the experiment.

Government has it in contemplation to erect in Lucknow a spacious structure, costing some lakhs of rupees, which will accommodate in one building the Postmaster-General's Office, the Dead Letter Office, the Stock and Store Depot and the General Post Office. The site selected for this proposed building is the plan between the Civil Dispensary at Hazrat Ganj and Christ Church.

The Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, has issued orders, which will result in a thorough inspection of indigenous schools, by District Inspectors and their assistants. The more backward schools among these will be visited as often as possible by the District Inspector, or his assistant may sometimes have to visit a school once a week for some weeks, or to spend at least three and four consecutive days in a school. According to the last report on Education there are 4,701 indigenous schools in the Punjab, giving instruction to 76,805 boys and girls.

UNIVERSITY OF BOMBAY.

PROVISIONAL SYNDIOS IN MEDICINE.

A meeting of new Fellows of the Bombay University was held in the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall of the University for the election of two Syndios in the Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Temuji B. Nariman, the Senior Fellow present, was in the chair. It was proposed by Dr. DeMonte, and recommended by Dr. Ghaswalla, that Dr. H. P. Dimmock be elected a Syndie in Medicine. The proposition was agreed to unanimously.

It was next proposed by Dr. Street, and seconded by Dr. Powell, that Dr. Temulje B. Nariman be elected a Syndie in Medicine. Mr. Chumal Dhamadas Saraiya proposed that this meeting ought to be postponed, as the notice given by the Chancellor was 'ultra vires' and illegal. Dr. Kher seconded the motion.

The Chairman said the point was raised the day before, but it was negative. It was very plain some decision would have to be come to the matter, and they could follow the decision afterwards. At present there was the business before the meeting according to notice, and it must be disposed of.

Sir Balchandra Krishna, who arrived at this stage, remarked that the notice calling the meeting had been considered illegal and 'ultra vires', and the meeting ought to be postponed, as any resolution they might come to would be only time and energy wasted.

By accepting the motion, the Faculty would be saved from an unfortunate situation.

The Chairman ruled that the motion was out of order, and ought not to be proceeded with.

The proposition was put to the vote and carried. Those who were opposed to it thereupon left the meeting.

ELECTION OF SYNDIOS IN LAW.

A meeting of the Fellows named in Rule 5 of the rules framed by the Chancellor for the election of a Provisional Syndicate was then held to elect two Syndios in Law. The Hon. Mr. S. W. Edgerley, C.I.E., I.C.S., being the Senior Fellow present, took the chair.

The Chairman said there were two Syndios to be elected; there were only two nominations for the election and there was no contest, apparently.

The Hon. Mr. Chimanlal H. Setalvad raised a point of order. The Section of the Act he said under which the Provisional Syndicate was held was Section 12 and the Clause, P., which stated, "The senate shall, in such manner as the Chancellor may direct, appoint a Provisional Syndicate to conduct the executive business of the University until the Syndicate is constituted under this Act."

The Chairman: What do you move?

Mr. Setalvad: I am not moving anything, Mr. Chairman. I am simply pointing out that the manner in which the election is now held is 'ultra vires.' Eminent counsels have given opinion that it is 'ultra vires.'

The Hon. Sir Pherozesha M. Mehta: These are the opinions, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: I don't think we should discuss the point.

Mr. Setalvad: I may submit what I have to say; then you can give your decision. Proceeding his argument, the Hon. Mr. Setalvad said that the words "in such manner" occurred not only in this clause but in other clause; and he submitted that they meant the regulation of the procedure by the Chancellor, who had no power to alter the Electorate. He therefore, argued that the election of the Provisional Syndicate must be held by the Senate as a whole corporate body, and not by groups of twenty members here or thirty members there; therefore, the group of Fellows present at the meeting had no power to elect a part of the Provisional Syndicate.

The Chairman said that the speaker's view might be right or might be wrong, that would be settled by the Chancellor himself. They had come to the meeting by a citation of the Vice-Chancellor, he thought to elect two Syndios and a general question of this sort could not be settled by Fellows present in one Faculty only. He doubted not that the question raised and the protest made as well as the opinion of counsel, when the Chancellor had received in the morning, would be considered by him. Therefore they should proceed to the business, until further action was taken.

The Hon. Mr. Pherozesha: Then on this ruling, I beg to move that the meeting be adjourned to one month. Continuing Sir Pherozesha said that if on a perusal of eminent counsels' opinions the Chancellor should think that they were entitled to respect, then he would probably take the opportunity to modify his direction.

Mr. N. M. Samarth seconded the motion.

The Chairman: Is there any rule in force for an adjournment of this meeting?

Sir Pherozesha: By-law 61 of the by-laws is still in force. I may mention that a motion to the same effect was made in the Group of Fellows who met to elect Syndios in Arts. The meeting was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor himself, the motion was put by him to the vote, and it was rejected. So, Mr. Chairman, you may put the motion to the vote.

The Chairman: I am afraid I can't put the motion to the vote. Sir Pherozesha. Will you read the beginning of Section 12 of the Act?

Sir Pherozesha: You had better give your ruling.

The Chairman then ruled the motion out of order holding that at the commencement of Section 12, sub-Clause (5), it is ported into the Act and by-laws the special rules for holding the election, in modification of the General Act and by-laws; these special rules made no provision for an adjournment.

Sir Pherozesha. We put in our protest, and will leave the room, without implying any disrespect whatever to the chair.

The following gentlemen then left the meeting:—Sir Pherozesha, the Hon. Mr. Setalvad, the Hon. Mr. Dikshit, Mr. Ruston K. R. Cama, Mr. M. B. Choubal, Mr. N. V. Gokhale, Mr. N. M. Samarth, Mr. Jaffer, R. Ramoola, Mr. Setlur, Mr. L. A. Shan and Mr. Cursetji. And only the following Fellows remained:—the Hon. Mr. Edgerley, who was in the Chair, Rao Bahadur Ganeshram Nikant Nadkarni, Mr. Ganpat Sadashiv Rao, Mr. Dinshaw Fardunji Mulla, Mr. Tulsibhai Desai, and Mr. M. R. Jardine.

The Chairman: Of course, it is perfectly right.

Principal Ganpat Sadashiv Rao, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Chandavarkar were then successively proposed and elected Syndios in Law, and the proceedings terminated.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Jan. 20. The British and Russian Statements before the Inquiry Commission have aroused but little interest. The Russian statement is especially disappointing, and mentioned no new facts.

London, Jan. 20. It is asserted that Rozhdstvensky did his duty in assuring the safety of his fleet.

London, Jan. 20. Russia replying to the note issued by Secretary Hay reiterates the complaints regarding China's violation of neutrality. Secretary Hay has circularised the Powers on the subject of Chinese integrity in the war, and has received satisfactory assurances.

London, Jan. 20. It is now stated in official circles at St. Petersburg that the shrapnel shell was inadvertently left in a gun of the Horse Artillery Battery, the most aristocratic corps in Russia, after practice on Tuesday. The ceremony was carried out according to programme. The occurrence occasioned wild rumours that the affair was the outcome of a military plot. The men of the saluting battery have been arrested.

London, Jan. 20. The strike movement in Russia continues to spread. A meeting of employers held at St. Petersburg uncompromisingly rejected the men's demand.

Bands of strikers about 5,000 are parading St. Petersburg enforcing a general strike, even in the Government Printing Works. A petition to the Tsar is being circulated at the workmen's meetings, which complains of a desperate condition, and deprivation of human rights, and concludes "It would be compassionate to let us live, under present conditions we prefer to die."

The Tsar has departed for Tsarkooselo.

London, Jan. 20. The Japanese Prize Court has condemned the British steamers "Roseley" and "Leithington", which were captured whilst attempting to run the blockade of Vladivostok.

London, Jan. 20. The circular of Secretary Hay whose direct purpose is to prevent land grabbing at the end of the war, and preserve the open door, and the old territorial "status quo" in China proper, has been formally and warmly accepted by Britain, Germany and France. It does not apply to Manchuria for which Russia and Japan are now fighting. It is thought in diplomatic circles that the acceptance of the circular arrests any scheme afoot for the readjustment of China's boundaries, and removes a potential cause of future friction.

London, Jan. 20. The St. Petersburg strike is spreading like wild-fire. All the smaller factories have joined the strikers; the police remain passive, apparently fearing to precipitate a conflict, but the garrison is standing to arms.

London, Jan. 21. Reuter at St. Petersburg says that the Prefect of Police has issued a notice forbidding all gatherings and professions which the workmen and the public are warned to avoid as the employment of the Military may cause accidents.

London, Jan. 21. Reuter wires from Penang that four Japanese warships have been sighted at Lanku Islands, forty miles north of Penang.

London, Jan. 21. The "Times" has reason to believe that Admiral Rozhdstvensky will not attempt to reach the Far East at least for three months.

London, Jan. 21. The "Times" says that Admiral Rozhdstvensky intends crossing in the western waters of the Indian Ocean thereby relieving France of an awkward position by steering at Tamatave.

London, Jan. 21. The situation at St. Petersburg is most serious, the town is in partial darkness. The papers will probably be unable to appear, and civil employees in the arsenal have joined the strikers and it is feared that the railway and telegraph operators will also join.

There would be a smelter demonstration at the Winter Palace on Sunday to present a petition to the Tsar, which is most remarkable and most outspoken demand ever presented to the autocrat. It declares the people are insulted and treated as slaves, burdened with labour beyond their strength, stifled by despotism and intolerable yoke of ultra-aidon. This injustice has reached its limit of endurance and death is preferable to these intolerable sufferings. National representation is indispensable and immediate convocation of representatives of all classes, that is the sole balm for the people's wounds, will satisfy these demands and you make Russia happy and glorious; if you do not reply to people's prayers we die in the square before the Palace.

The notice of the Prefect of Police at St. Petersburg was issued especially in view of the notification that four hundred thousand men would march to the Palace on Sunday afternoon headed by the young priest Father Gapon, in canonicals and bearing a crucifix, who is heart and soul in the movement. The workmen insist on seeing the Tsar himself.

It is noteworthy that the garrison of St. Petersburg is about 40,000 men largely Reservists. Hitherto the Police have been absolutely passive. The people are nervous and excited and every one is buying candles in anticipation of the stoppage of gas and electric light.

The newspapers are not published.

London, Jan. 21. A deputation of three workmen has gone to Tsarkooselo to try and deliver the text of the petition, and enable the Tsar to consider it before the monster demonstration takes place. Father Gapon has selected four hundred picked men to act as a bodyguard to the Tsar if he consents to meet the people. Father Gapon also has a personal bodyguard of fifty men to prevent his arrest.

All the cavalry regiments are being concentrated at St. Petersburg from the surrounding barracks. Other regiments are being hurried up from Riga and elsewhere, as it is feared troops of the ordinary garrison will not fire on the demonstrators in event of disturbances.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Jan. 22. Early this morning Cossacks and other troops marched to the Winter Palace, while detachments of Cavalry and Infantry, each 150 strong were stationed at various points in the city, but Artillery was concealed from view. 15,000 strikers started from the Neva Works for the Winter Palace, but the route was barred by Cossacks, who fired three volleys of blank cartridge and then charged using their heavy whips, and finally drove back the demonstrators. It is not known how many were killed and injured.

Father Gapon leader of the strike movement at St. Petersburg has been arrested. Fatal conflicts have taken place between the strikers in every quarter of the city. The excitement is increasing. A crowd at Nicholas Bridge was stopped by Infantry, Uhlans and Cossacks. The infantry laid down their rifles, but the Uhlans and Cossacks charged wounding many.

The Tsar remains at Tsarkooselo. The latest news from St. Petersburg states that a furious conflict took place this afternoon between soldiers and strikers, round Palace Square. The troops were driven back by the weight of the mob and fired repeatedly, and finally dispersed the crowd. 150 were killed and wounded. The strikers are now infuriated and are erecting wire entanglements, tearing down telegraph poles, raising barricades, and organising armed resistance. Sanginary conflicts are taking place all over the city. A police superintendent is among the killed and Father Gapon among the wounded.

London, Jan. 22. Awful scenes of bloodshed have been enacted in St. Petersburg.

Cossacks fired on the strikers, of whom hundreds were killed and wounded, including women and children.

Father Gapon is among the wounded.

The Tsar remains in his palace. Infuriated mobs have vowed vengeance.—"Englishman."

London, Jan. 22. Police figures from St. Petersburg state that the casualties are 2,000 dead and 5,000 wounded.

Firing was continuing at midnight.

It is reported that the workmen have seized a dynamite factory.

40,000 armed strikers are marching on St. Petersburg.—"Englishman."

London, Jan. 22. It was not Father Gapon, but another priest who was arrested. Many women and children were killed and wounded. The scenes are indescribable. The air is rent with cries of women and angry shouts of men. The city appears to be plunged in open revolution, and a night of horror is in prospect.

The mob has erected two barricades at Basililand, from which they refuse to retreat despite the repeated volleys from the troops. They are also trying to erect barricades on the Nevski Prospekt.

At five o'clock this afternoon firing was going on in every quarter of the city, troops firing recklessly, but one regiment refused to fire.

All classes appear alike inflamed.

A number of officers wounded fell into the hands of the mob, who tore off their epaulettes and took away their swords. Ambulances are busy everywhere.

London, Jan. 23. A collier, arrived at Durban, reports that the Baltic Squadron left Madagascar on the 14th instant. The squadron was prepared for action on the 13th in consequence of rumours that the Japanese were approaching the island.

London, Jan. 23. It is reported that the force of strikers marching on St. Petersburg were driven back by the Cossacks. The strikers were practically deserted in the city except by troops who are camped in the city.

London, Jan. 23. The force of the infantry have been withdrawn and replaced by Blue Jackets.

The troops destroyed the barricades at Basililand soon after their erection and killed thirty strikers.

London, Jan. 23. Fighting has been resumed at St. Petersburg.

London, Jan. 23. Yesterday was known in Russia as Vladimir's day. The maintenance of order in St. Petersburg was confined by the Tsar to his uncle, the Grand Duke Vladimir, a notorious violent reactionary. The precise whereabouts of the Tsar is not known and is being carefully concealed. The ruthless firing of unarmed crowds has horrified the public, and scathing comparisons regarding the bravery of the military against the defenceless public, in contrast to their conduct in Manchuria, are heard on all sides. The former mutual distrust between educated reformers and workmen has now vanished.

The well-known Russian novelist Maxime Gorki, addressing a meeting of Liberals, has associated himself with Father Gapon and says that the revolution has begun and will continue.

Meanwhile Father Gapon, who is unhurt and in hiding, has written to his comrades as follows:—"We now have no Emperor, innocent blood lies between him and the people. Hurrah for the beginning of the people's battle for freedom! I will be with you tonight."

Yesterday evening's proceedings at Basililand are still shrouded in mystery; it is, however, reported that the troops invaded the workmen's quarter, shooting and sabring everyone they met. Some estimates give casualties at 2,000 killed and 5,000 wounded; the official statement is still lacking.

Large fires have broken out near Warsaw Station. The people are amazed at the Russian Government's colossal blunder, in neglecting the opportunity to strengthen the affection between the Autocracy and the people, and thus adding millions of workers to the ranks of intellectual malcontents.

St. Petersburg advices state that the official list of killed up to eight o'clock last evening was seventy-six killed and 233 wounded.

The centre of the city is quiet this morning, but the ferment continues in outlying quarters.

Later advices state that the vast Sebastopol dockyards are on fire.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Jan. 23. There was a lull in the fighting in the centre of St. Petersburg last evening, but continued firing was heard in the workers' quarter at Basililand, which is plunged in darkness. An accurate estimate of casualties is impossible, but it is believed to be 1,500.

NEWS LATER THAN THE MAIL.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

THE RUSSIAN FERMENT.

London, Jan. 8. The Holy Synod of the Orthodox Greek Church in Russia has decided to address the Czar, protesting against the "insensate machinations of certain nobles in attempting to induce His Imperial Majesty to abdicate some of his powers." The Procurator, M. Pobiedonostzoff, recognises that the Czar possesses all rights save the right to violate the oath by which at his accession he bound himself to preserve the autocracy and orthodoxy.

ON THE SHA HO.

The "Times", military critic says that there is no immediate prospect of important movements on the Sha Ho unless they may be necessitated by a desire to distract attention from the internal situation in Russia.

KUROPATKIN'S FORCE.

It is estimated that General Kuropatkin's force does not exceed a quarter of a million, including the 65,000 reinforcements he is known to have received since the battle of the Sha Ho.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Lloyds are unable to detect any evidence of Russia having arranged for the coaling and provisioning of the Baltic Fleet beyond Diego Suarez, on the north coast of Madagascar.

According to the same authority, Russia has cancelled two large shiploads of arms and ammunition which she had arranged to despatch from Libau, in the Baltic, to the East Indian Archipelago and Saigon, in French Cochinchina.

NO PEACE YET.

The Council of Ministers at St. Petersburg has decided that any suggestions of peace would, at the present juncture, be incompatible with Russia's dignity.

COREAN AND CHINESE RAILWAYS.

The Japanese are bridging the Yalu River, with a view to linking the Chinese and Korean railway systems.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

PORT ARTHUR'S FALL.

STOESSEL ANSWERS CRITICS.

Colombo, Jan. 20. General Stoessel, his wife and 300 Russians arrived at Woosung. The General did not land, but the Russians are remaining. Stoessel's head was bandaged given a touching glimpse of the possibility of not being killed, for three or four days only. He had seen the end. Sixteen miles of the coast had to be defended by 5,000 men, exhausted with fatigue and want of food. The General derides the possibility of raising warships and praises the excellent order maintained by the victors. He says that there were no humiliating circumstances and no noting, and adds that the shells which remained with the garrisons before surrender were of small calibre and insufficient for even four more days. They had enough cartridges to repel one assault only. During the last days only horseflesh was served out, and that twice weekly. There were no vegetables, and in consequence the garrison suffered terribly from scurvy.

MOTOR CARS FOR POSTAL PURPOSES.

Allahabad, Jan. 22. The question of employing motor cars in India for postal purposes is now under the consideration of the Director-General of Post Office.

OBITUARY.

Allahabad, Jan. 22. Intelligence having been received of the death of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Saxe-Weimar Eisenach, court mourning is ordered till the first February.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS BY THE AMIR.

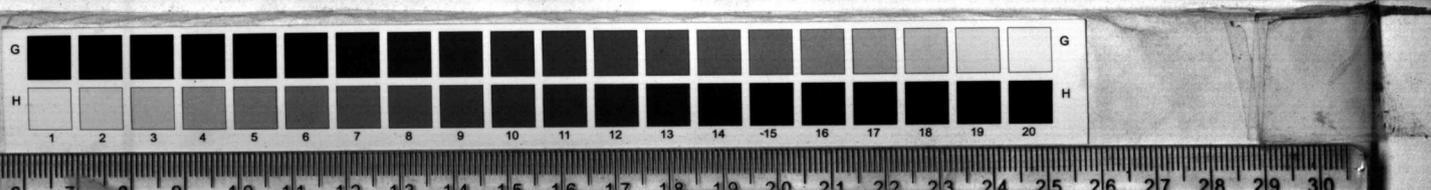
Allahabad, Jan. 22. The postal arrangements made by the Amir are so excellent, that letters from the British mission take only three days from Kabul to Peshawar.

AFFAIRS IN GYANTSE.

Allahabad, Jan. 22. News from Gyantse and Chumbi states that everything is still proceeding smoothly there, but little communication is possible between the two posts owing to the severe winter.

A DINNER.

Noakhali, Jan. 23. Our popular District Judge Mr. Rajendra Coumar Bose entertained the officials, the pleaders and the leading amahs of the station at a sumptuous dinner held at his house yesterday evening. The entertainment for the Hindus was strictly in orthodox style. The arrangement for the social gathering was in the hands of our worthy Sub-Judge Babu Purna Chandra Ghosh who left nothing that could be desired. Music was also provided for the guests, some Deputy Magistrates entertaining the company with urvee songs. The host with his usual courtesy exchanged greetings with each and all. Such a social gathering at the instance of a high Indian official is rare. It bespeaks good feelings which exist between the officials and the public and the thanks of the community are due to Mr. Bose for thus bringing the officials in closer touch with the people. It should be added that separate arrangements were made for the comfort of the Mahomedan guests.



High Court:

CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justices Henderson and Geidt.)

A CASE UNDER SECTION 145 CR. P. C.

Babu Surendra Mohan Das Vakli moved on behalf of Prayag Mahto the 2nd party in a proceeding under Sec. 145 Cr. P. Code. The dispute related to the construction of a certain "bandh" which the 1st party alleged was built by the 2nd party on the lands belonging to a Mouza of which the 1st party claimed to be a tenant. The Deputy Magistrate of Patna found that the "bandh" appertained to the Mouza of the 1st party and declared the 1st party to be in possession and ordered the 1st party to retain possession and further ordered the 2nd party to pay to the 1st party Rs. 50 as damages and costs. It was contended by the learned Vakli for the petitioners that in order to give the Magistrate jurisdiction to declare a party to be in possession it was necessary that he should come to a distinct and specific finding that the party was in possession of the subject matter in dispute at the date of the proceeding and that it was not enough that he should find the "bandh" appertained to a certain Mouza, and further that the Deputy Magistrate had no jurisdiction to award any amount as damages. Their Lordships granted a Rule in the terms prayed for.

THE BUXAR SENSATION.

Seydhar Prosad, one of the accused persons in this case—moved this Hon'ble Court for the transfer of this case, which is now pending before the Sub-divisional Officer of Buxar to some other Court at Buxar.

In this case it will be remembered, that Seydhar Prosad along with several other persons, were placed on their trial before the Sub-divisional Officer of Buxar on a charge of having tried to offer Rs. 5 to one Hazi Shaha Mahomed Yasum, a member of the Local Board and an Honorary Magistrate, for being shown certain papers, which had been referred to the latter, as an Honorary Magistrate, for enquiry and report. The case for the defence was that everything was false, and that the case had been instituted against them because they had sent a representation to the local Government praying for an enquiry as to how a mere beggar—meaning the Honorary Magistrate—had been appointed an Honorary Magistrate and a member of the Local Board. The case is now pending before the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Buxar.

The petitioner alleged that the complainant after the institution of this case, used to visit his Sub-divisional Magistrate privately at his bungalow and that a Demi Official letter had been written by the complainant to the trying Magistrate. The petitioner, therefore, believed that he would not get a fair and impartial trial there.

Their Lordships issued a rule on the District Magistrate and on the complainant to show cause why the case should not be transferred.

WRONGFUL CONFINEMENT.

Mr. P. L. Roy moved on behalf of one Khalil Majid, who had been convicted under Secs. 342, 323 with 144 I. P. C. by the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Lamuk and sentenced to three weeks' rigorous imprisonment, for violation of a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Midnapur to show cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioner should not be set aside.

The prosecution story of the case was that Gopal Maity held certain lands under Gopal Bera. One day when cutting adity, the petitioner, who was a son-in-law of Gopal Bera, demanded rent from Gopal Maity. This he could not pay and the petitioner ordered to seize him. Gopal Maity was taken upon assault and was taken to a house, where he was kept confined in a room. Next day he fled away. The defence was that the case was a false one. The Deputy Magistrate, however, convicted the petitioner and sentenced him as stated above. An appeal was preferred to the sessions Judge, but with no effect.

It was contended that upon the medical evidence the Magistrate should have held that the case was totally false.

Their Lordships issued a rule and directed the petitioner to be released on bail pending the hearing of the case.

(Before the Hon'ble Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Holmwood.)

A MURDER CASE FROM BACKERGUNJ.

In this case one Elemuddi and another named Amrullah were convicted under Secs. 302 and 302 with 149 I. P. C. by the Additional Sessions Judge of Backergunj in agreement with the Assessors, and sentenced to transportation for life each. Against this order they moved this Court.

It appeared that one Meghal had a plot of grassy land adjoining Elemuddi's house. Shortly before noon on the 25th March last two boys went to see if any cattle were in the land. They found four animals and drove them out. Elemuddi and his brother Aflood were annoyed at seeing their cattle being beaten and driven out of the plot. They abused the boys and chased them. One of the boys fell down when Elemuddi slapped him. Just at this time Meghal came up and abused them. He had a bamboo in his hand. Elemuddi and his brother ran back to their house, but they returned shortly after with three other men, each of them being armed with a stout bamboo "lathi." All of them set upon Meghal and belaboured him with their "lathis." Meghal, however, managed to defend himself to a certain extent. Amrullah, rushed at Meghal's ribs, which made him a lathi bend over. Amrullah again dealt him a blow on the head. Meghal fell down. There was a cry of murder and the assistants all fled but not without striking Meghal's son, who protested the cowardly attack on his father. They ran back to Elemuddi's house, felled down the thatch of that house, and broke down the wall. They also created some evidence of an assault and mischief in their own house. Information was immediately given to the village chowkidar and Elemuddi and Amrullah were arrested. Meghal died on the spot on which he fell. On these facts Elemuddi and Amrullah were convicted as stated above.

Babu Manmohan Nath Mukerjee appeared for the appellants. Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, appeared for the Crown.

Their Lordships after hearing both sides reduced the sentence of the appellants to one of ten years' rigorous imprisonment each.

CHEATING.

Mr. P. L. Roy with Babu Baldeo Narain Singh, moved on behalf of one Babu Ram Rai and six others, for the issue of a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Darbhanga to show cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioners should not be set aside. The petitioners had been convicted of cheating the Collectors of Darbhanga. The prosecution story of the case was that there was a certain sum of money in the treasury due to the petitioners except one, and to two other persons. In order to induce the Collector to permit one of the petitioners to draw this money on behalf of all, the petitioners caused a third man, to personate one of the two others. Another man was at the same time personated by some person unknown. This personation induced the Collector to authorize the payment of the money. On these facts they were placed on their trial before a Deputy Magistrate who convicted them under Sections 419 I. P. C. and sentenced them to undergo various terms of imprisonment and fine. On appeal to the District Judge of Mazafarpur the conviction was affirmed but the sentences were altered and reduced. Aggrieved by that order the petitioners moved this Court. Their Lordships after hearing the learned Counsel issued a rule on the District Magistrate to show cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioners should not be set aside on the ground that on the facts found no offence appeared to have been committed.

ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before Mr. Justice Stephen.)

A SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

MRS. MARY ANN WILDER VS. THE CALCUTTA TRAMWAY CO. LD.

Mr. L. P. Pugh, with Mr. Evans Pugh instructed by Messrs. Pugh and Co appeared for the plaintiff Mrs. Mary Ann Wilder.

Mr. S. P. Sinha with Mr. Moses instructed by Messrs. Orr Dignam and Co. appeared for the defendant, the Calcutta Tramway Co. Ltd.

This is a suit for the recovery of Rs. 25,000 as damages claimed by the plaintiff from the defendant Company. The husband of the defendant was a gentleman of over sixty years of age. He used to leave in Elliott Road. On the morning of the 27th April 1903 at about a quarter to seven Mr. Wilder, the husband of the plaintiff, was walking along the Royd Street, when he was knocked down by a tram car, which was coming from Jellies Street into Royd Street. The tram car which was then coming in full speed stopped after the accident. The car was coming in such a speed that it could not be pulled up after the accident, within any reasonable distance. Mr. Wilder became insensible; his head, hands and especially his legs were injured. He was lifted up, laid on an easy chair and was taken to the hospital, where he died. Mr. Wilder was in the employ of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation and used to get Rs. 150 a month. His prospects were very good. His salary might have been raised very shortly from Rs. 250 to Rs. 300 a month.

Mr. McDonnell, District Engineer of the Calcutta Corporation, District III, deposed that Mr. Wilder was his subordinate. The deceased had been employed under him for six months. His prospects were very good. The witness had recommended him for promotion.

Mr. E. J. Morrison said that he was a partner of Messrs Morrison Cattle and Co. He had seen the accident. He was then in a tram car which was coming from Elliott Road into Royd Street. He narrated what he had seen of the accident.

The case is proceeding.

FROM SYLHET.

(Special Correspondent.)

OUTRAGING FEMALITY.

A young woman, of about 18 years of age, appeared before the Sub-Inspector of Police station on the afternoon of the 19th instant, accompanied by her husband and the Tehsil Panchayet and made certain allegations. She said that she went to the Jungle to cut firewood that morning with three other women who were her neighbours and relations. While they were thus engaged two youths approached her and made indecent proposals which she indignantly refused. They then used violence and the other women fled. She raised a hue and cry which attracted the attention of her brother and on his approach the youths fled. The woman was immediately sent to hospital for medical examination, and the Police investigation is going on.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

Saidali, a native of Shahapur, in the local jurisdiction of the Sudar Police station law a complaint before the Magistrate on the 9th instant alleging that on the 31st ultimo at about sundown he was returning from the bazar with a purse containing Rs. 70-12-0 of which Rs. 60 were in silver and the balance in copper. While passing by the road in front of the tank of Ratu several persons, who were ambushing in the adjoining paddy field, fell upon him and gave him a good beating which resulted in several injuries all over his body necessitating his removal to hospital. During the scuffle one of them wrested away the purse from his hand, and on the arrival of several persons the assailants decamped with the booty. The Magistrate after examining the complainant, sent the case to the Police for investigation which is still pending.

The following is taken from the "Punjab Times" of Rawalpindi:—A clerk in the local Post Office has been suspected of stealing a watch from a foreign postal article received in the Pindi Post Office. It seems that some time ago, when a foreign postal article, supposed to contain a watch, was opened, it was found to be full of stones. The suspicion fell on a poor clerk of the local Post Office, whose house was searched by the police. Instead of the watch, two old blank books belonging to the Postal Department and a few pieces of lace were found. The man alleges that some of these books he had got for appearing in a departmental examination, while others belonged to his uncle who was employed in some other department. The man has, however, been arrested by the police.

CALCUTTA GAZETTE—JAN. 25.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. M. Smither, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Murshidabad, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge, Patna during the absence, on special duty, of Mr. T. W. Richardson.

Mr. R. C. Hamilton, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector, Patna, during the absence, on special duty, of Mr. J. G. Cumming.

The services of Mr. H. F. Howard, I. O. S. are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Maulvi Mahmood Abdul Kadir, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave is posted to Nadia.

Babu Chandra Sekhar Kar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nadia, is transferred to Dinajpur.

Mr. C. P. Beachcroft, Officiating Additional District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas, is appointed to act temporarily, in addition to his own duties, as District and Sessions Judge of that district.

Mr. W. Teunon, District and Sessions Judge, Cuttack, is appointed to act temporarily as District and Sessions Judge, 24-Parganas.

Mr. S. S. Skinner, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is appointed to act temporarily as District and Sessions Judge, Cuttack, vice Mr. W. Teunon, on deputation.

The Subordinate Judges named below are appointed to be also Assistant Sessions Judges:—

Babu Sasi Bhuan Chandhuri, Subordinate Judge, Shahabad, now acting as an Additional Subordinate Judge, 24-Parganas; Babu Tej Chandra Mukerjee Subordinate Judge, 24-Parganas; Babu Gopal Chandra Banerjee, Subordinate Judge, Bhagalpur.

Babu Sures Chandra Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to Midnapore.

The order appointing Babu Durga Kant Sen, Rural Sub-Registrar of Sirajganj, in the district of Pabna, to act as Special Sub-Registrar of that district is cancelled.

Maulvi Mahmood Khaled, Rural Sub-Registrar of Shahzadpur, in the district of Pabna, is appointed to act as Special Sub-Registrar of that district.

The order appointing Babu Jagannath Choubey First Hindi Assistant to the Urdu and Hindi translator to Government to act as Urdu and Hindi Translator to Government, is cancelled.

Mr. J. E. Webster, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Mymensingh, is appointed substantially pro tempore to the third grade of District and Sessions Judges.

Mr. C. H. Reid, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Araria Purnea, is allowed leave for one day, in extension of the leave already granted to him.

Mr. Sakhawat Hossain, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed furlough for three months in extension of the leave already granted to him.

The order allowing Babu Som Nath Jhar-kund, Urdu and Hindi Translator to Government leave for twenty-six days in cancelled.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Lal Singh, Munshi of Burdwan, is appointed to act as Addl. Subte Judge of Pabna and Burdwan, but to be on deputation to Burdwan, during the absence, on leave of Babu Aghor Chandra Hazra.

Mr. Nut Behary Chatterjee Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Burdwan, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station, during the absence, on deputation of Babu Lal Singh.

Babu Mahendra Nath Mukhoti B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Tippera, to be ordinarily stationed at Nabingara, during the absence, on leave of Babu Durga Das Mukerjee.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Ramu Lal Varma substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Nawada, Gaya is transferred temporarily to the headquarters station of that district.

Babu Radha Madhab Naik, Special Sub-Registrar, is appointed substantially pro tempore to the first grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors.

The three Assistant Settlement Officers, named below, are appointed substantially pro tempore to the fourth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors:—(1) Babus Jotindra Narayan Mukherjee, (2) K. Kishore Biswas and (3) Chandra Madhab Prosad.

Babu Jyoti Prosad Das, B.A., is appointed substantially pro tempore to the fourth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Chota Nagpur Division.

His Royal Highness the Duke of the Abruzzi, Prince of Savoy, and world-renowned for his Polar explorations, is now on a visit to Bangkok. His Royal Highness, who is on a tour through the Far East, arrived off the Bangkok Bar in the first class cruiser Liguria.

There has been a slightly better demand for money, and the cash balances of the Bombay Presidency banks show a substantial decrease. The position of the market, however, in the main remains unaltered. On Monday last about Rs. 17½ lakhs of gold and sovereigns arrived from Australia. Discount and deposit rates remain unchanged.

The Harbour Police of Karachi found a Pathan coolie working at Keamari in the possession of two packets containing 50 revolver cartridges of German manufacture, and placed him before the City Magistrate, but the case did not come off probably owing to the lateness of the hour.

Apparently an electrical clock will be the clock of the future. To this result Mr. Cunningham's address at the Royal Institution on the "Ancient and Modern Measurements of Time" appeared to lead. As a source of power in the electrical clock a few simple cells, like those used for electric bells and other purposes, are employed, with the peculiarity that they at short intervals perform the operation of winding up. In a clock of this kind exhibited the winding-up was performed every half-minute, and it might be made to continue for any desired length of time with properly charged cells. One of the unique advantages of the electrical clock is that a single apparatus with the required cell-power can be made to work any number of dials. The example shown by Mr. Cunningham served for two clocks placed on opposite sides of the lecture-theatre; but in large buildings as many as fifty dials in as many different rooms may all be governed from a single apparatus. All that is necessary is a connecting wire for the conveyance of the current.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

VENUS AND SATURN.

The last planetary conjunction of last year is in some respects the most interesting. Venus and Saturn are as unlike each other as any two planets can be. Venus is the most brilliant of all the planets; Saturn the quietest. Venus is alone without an attendant moon; Saturn has its wonderful ring system, in addition to the largest number of moons in attendance on any planet. Saturn is the slowest in motion of any planet visible to the naked eye; Venus is, with the exception of Mercury, the swiftest in her motion of all the planets, and as Mercury can be seen so seldom, Venus is really the swiftest in motion that we usually see. Thus, when Saturn and Venus are in conjunction, as they were in the closing days of December, they present a striking contrast, and the sight of their meeting and parting illustrates very clearly the difference between the planets and the fixed stars. Though the fixed stars, like our own sun, are in swift motion, yet that motion is practically imperceptible because of the distance; while the change of place in the case of Venus becomes quite perceptible to the human eye in a single day.

ANOTHER EVASIVE COMET.

M. Giacomini, assistant astronomer at the N. C. Observatory, who has already won for himself a high reputation as a successful comet seeker, has now achieved his seventh discovery. The new comet was first seen on the morning of Sunday, December 18th, as a very faint object, estimated as of the eleventh magnitude, just where the little constellation of the Northern Crown borders upon Hercules. The two following mornings fortunately enabled further determinations of the comet's place to be made, and three positions being thus secured, the orbit could be computed. It appears from this that, though the comet is now approaching both the earth and the sun, and therefore increasing in brightness, there is no hope of its ever becoming at all conspicuous, even in the telescope. It was at perihelion on January 3rd, but even then its distance from the sun was 174 millions of miles, and from the earth nearly 200 millions. It was approaching the earth at the rate of 50,000 miles an hour; but the approach will soon be converted into recession as the motions of comet and earth will shortly tend to separate them yet further from each other. Nor is there any likelihood that we shall ever see this comet at a second return. Two of the other comets discovered by M. Giacomini proved to be members of the Jupiter family, having periods of less than seven years like Temples second periodical comet, which was detected by M. Javelle on November 30th. But not only does the present object move in the retrograde direction opposite way to the planets—but its orbit is inclined at a great angle—76deg. 33min—to that of the earth; both being characteristics of comets which are mere chance visitants to the solar system, and not regular members of it. On the other hand, its distance from the sun when in perihelion, though great, is not extraordinary, and cannot compare with M. Giacomini's fifth discovery, the last comet of 1902. The present object always lies far outside the orbit of Mars, but the fourth comet of 1902, at its nearest approach to the sun, only came as near as do the principal asteroids.

NEW REVIVALISTS.

BOY AND GIRL EVANGELISTS. ELECTRIFY NORTH WALES.

At the foot of Snowdon lies a village named Talyarn, incircled with religion. The heat from this village has set the encircling districts in a glow, has warmed even distant Camarvon, and promises to set on fire the whole of North Wales.

At eight o'clock last night, every one of the six chapels in the village was crowded with fervent worshippers. The people principally concerned in vitalising this spreading movement are a girl of eighteen and a youth of twenty.

It was at the mountain-side village of Niedo, far removed from the world, that a pupil teacher named Lloyd Jones rose at a recent church meeting and said that that day he had received a Divine message. He called the deacons of the church to account for their inactivity, and appealed to young men to join with him in an energetic campaign.

Six young fellows answered the call. That, according to a prominent member of the church at Talyarn, was how Lloyd Jones started to become the Evan Roberts of the north. "He is moved by the spirit," said Mr. Davies, a young Free Church minister of the village, "but here in Talyarn there is one who is talked of even more. Maggie Parry is a shy, modest girl of eighteen, but she is the life of the movement. One day, intensely moved by some feeling, she rose during a service and gave out a hymn. Now she is in great demand, and her name is a household word."

CHILD ENTHUSIASTS.

The religious spirit has obtained a wonderful hold on Talyarn. Swearing is almost unknown in the quarters, and pious Christmas gifts for their customers remain on the shelves. An obstinate boy of seventeen who refused the minister's request that he should go to chapel, went casually to a revival meeting one night, and when he left the ears were knocking down his face. Two or three days later he went to the minister with his peace offering six boys about his own age with whom he was very popular whom he had collected in the street, and whom he was taking to chapel.

What goes on in the home is exemplified by the younger children, who in the village street sing Welsh hymns, place still younger children on their knees, and instruct them in the Lord's Prayer.

Dr. Owen Coleman, writing to the "Field," says: "Some twelve or fifteen years ago I put some goldfish into a pond in my garden, about 6ft. deep, with water running in for from six to ten hours every day, and in summer often remarkably healthy, and it is very rarely that I lose one. Some few years back I noticed that three or four of them were losing their red scales, and becoming silver or white, and ultimately about four of them are nearly all white. They have remained as healthy and well as before. I should say that there are golden dace and golden perch also, in the pond, but they are quite unaffected." One of these fish forwarded to the editor of the "Field" for examination was of a beautiful silver except on the forehead, and the dorsal and caudal fins. The organs were perfectly healthy and natural.

NOTES ON THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

CAPTURE OF PORT ARTHUR.

A VISIT TO GENERAL NOGI. The correspondent of the "Standard," describing a visit to General Nogi, writes:—Quite unattended, the General sauntered out of his quarters and advanced towards us. He is a quiet-looking, unobtrusive little man, his commander of the Third Imperial Japanese Army. Uniformed plainly in a dark blue tunic, riding breeches, high Prussian boots, and the regulation Japanese peaked forage cap, with a single Imperial decoration upon his breast, General Nogi looked more like a line-colonel than the commander of the large army. There was, however, an unmistakable atmosphere of quiet dignity about the man, and when his keen grey eyes flashed from one to another of the little party of newspaper men who were to be guests of his army, instinctively every man stood at attention, in deference more to the evident mental power of the man than to his high position. As we were individually introduced by an interpreter (Professor M. Yamaguchi, A.M.)—for General Nogi, like most of the Japanese Generals, does not speak or understand English—he asked one or two polite questions about our nationalities and the newspapers we represented, after which he addressed the party collectively. He was pleased that we had come to the army which he had the honour to command. For a few days he would be too busy to show us any personal attention. But we were assured that, in so far as it was possible with a fighting army, every convenience would be placed at our disposal, and we would be allowed to witness the operations against Port Arthur. The changing climatic conditions of the country, he said, were trying, and he trusted we would take every possible care of our bodily health. If, however, any of our number did become ill, the Army Medical Corps would be glad to extend their services. Our arrival at the front, he remarked, was most opportune, as we were just in time to see the victorious conclusion of the campaign and the capture of Port Arthur. There was something indicative of a reserve strength of character about the quiet little man who so frankly welcomed us to his camp and in such a friendly manner expressed such evident sincere concern for our well-being. The keen, earnestly alert grey eyes and the strong lines about the grey-bearded mouth bespoke an unusual intellectuality and a strength of character and resoluteness of purpose which his general appearance did not indicate. It was only when one studied him that the qualities which make him the great leader of men he undoubtedly became evident.

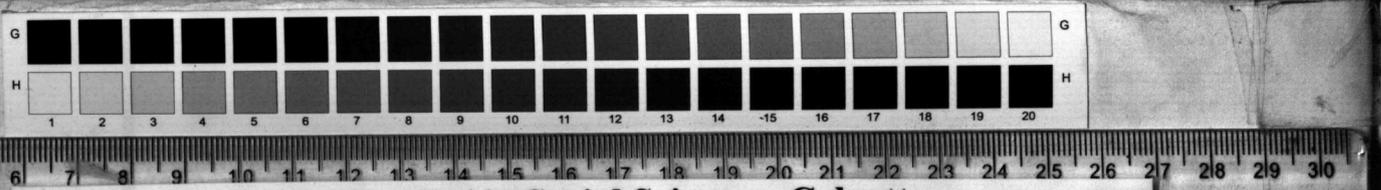
JAPAN IN ADVERSITY.

THE LESSON OF PORT ARTHUR. The Tokio correspondent of the "Times" sends to that journal a despatch on the subject of the staying power of the Japanese from which the following is an extract:—

Everywhere the gist of the view expressed is identical. "We went into this war deliberately because we saw that our future as a nation depended on it. We understood what the effort would entail. We did not look for any easy triumph or any holiday excursion, and whether the struggle be protracted or brief, we accept the responsibilities of our act." After 37 years' residence among the Japanese I think that I had learned to understand their character. But I confess that I was not prepared for the imperishable resolution they are now displaying. They make no protestations nor do they indulge in any bluster. They have simply set their faces towards a goal and they will hold to the path whatever suffering are met on the way. There could scarcely have been any severer test of their determination than the recent iteration of the military service law. By that change 300,000 men in the prime of life, all of whom had already served three years with the colours and were living in happy assurance that war had ceased to concern them, found themselves suddenly summoned from their homes and their occupations to re-enter the ranks. I have conversed with many of these men, officers and soldiers, and with many who number others of them among acquaintances or friends and in not one instance have I heard, or heard of a murmur. "For the country's sake" ("kuni no tame") is the comprehensive creed of all.

And to the prediction that adverse fortune would quickly break their spirit, the answer is that they have had reverses. The attempt to carry Port Arthur by storm in August last was one of the most terrible ordeals an army ever endured. In five days of continuous fighting, from the 19th to the 23rd, an average of nearly 3,000 men fell daily. Five thousand two hundred and forty were lost—killed or missing—9,200 were wounded. The fate of these "missing" (3,100) must have weighed heavy on the hearts of the besiegers. They had fallen within the enemy's lines, wounded only in many cases. Did they perish after days of protracted agony or were they mercifully but barbarously slaughtered as they lay helpless? There are no prisoners in the hands of the garrison. This disaster was not told to the world. But it was well understood in Japan. There the people knew that to reach the last and strongest line of defence nearly 20,000 of their countrymen had been struck down, and that the great assault to celebrate the result of which they had prepared their flags and their altars, had ended in the capture of two secondary forts at a cost of nearly fifteen thousand officers and men. Women's eyes were wet, or course, but the nation at large did not utter a moan. No talk was heard of the catastrophe. That such a thing had happened could not have been divined from any sound of sorrow or voice of lamentation. The newspapers said nothing. The flags were hoisted, the lanterns laid aside, and the people went about their daily business, many perhaps with sad hearts, but all unshaken in their determination and their confidence. So silent was their mourning and so stoical their demeanour that foreign nations did not suspect what had happened or hesitated to utter their suspicions. The sinking of a defenceless transport with her freight of a thousand soldiers had caused incomparably greater excitement, for this was a calamity that should have been avoided, whereas that other was the outcome of a deliberately undertaken enterprise. It will be imagined, doubtless, that many critics questioning the quality of that military discipline which assigned to troops of flesh and blood the task of assaulting an intact permanent fortress—the strongest, perhaps, in the world. As to that the Japanese people maintain absolute silence. They seem to have entire confidence in their military and naval commanders, and they are not unsatisfied by a sentiment of pride that their country's soldiers should have essayed such a task and only desisted under such conditions.

The evidence should suffice to dispel all doubt as to the "staying power" of the Japanese, and it does not stand alone.



THE UNION PANCHAYATS.

Out of the six districts in Bengal wherein the new scheme of Mr. Savage regarding Union Panchayats is being tried as an experiment for six months Mozufferpore has been selected, we hear, as the only district suited to the purpose. Mr. Savage with his staff has just gone to Mozufferpore in connection with the matter. We publish below the instructions which have been officially issued on the subject:-

1.-FORMATION OF UNIONS.

The standard generally adopted for the size of the Union (Chaukidari Village) is the area included in the beats of 10 chaukidars: but in practice it is often found inconvenient to adhere to this standard. It is seldom desirable to split up a large village into two unions even if it requires as many as 20 chaukidars, and on the other hand the hamlets of which the union is made up may be so scattered that it may not be desirable to group more than 6 or 7 chaukidari beats in it. The object to be kept in view is the formation of an administrative unit, either so small that it can be controlled by village cliques, nor so large that the Panchayat will be out of touch with the villagers. The size of the beats will in practice vary between 60 and 150 houses. In semi-urban tracts and where the inhabitants are rich or turbulent a chaukidar cannot be expected to watch more than 60 houses; but in rural parts, where the people are poor and peaceful, it is unnecessary to lay upon them the burden of maintaining more than one chaukidar for each 100 or 150 houses.

2. In most districts there is an arrangement of unions, each on the average containing the beats of 10 chaukidars; but in many instances the arrangement has been made in a far from satisfactory manner; convenience has been sacrificed to uniformity and the complaints which are made in many parts of unnecessarily heavy assessments for the pay of chaukidars are often well founded. It will therefore be the first duty of the officer who will rearrange the Panchayats to examine carefully the existing unions and determine whether any and what change in them is called for, either on the ground of convenience or of the entertainment either of too large or too small a body of chaukidars, having regard to the circumstances of the inhabitants. Each union should be made as compact as possible and villages with common interests should, as far as practicable, be grouped together. An ideal union is a large central village with its outlying hamlets.

3. In arranging unions, use should be made of the district maps, the census registers, and the Post-Office Directory. Every village or manza named in the census registers or the Post-Office Directory should be named from the principal village in each and should be given a consecutive number in each thana. For each thana a register will be prepared in the Form A and an alphabetical index in Form B vide part X, and these will be printed so that copies can be given to the Courts from which processes will be sent to the Panchayats for service. The union blocks should also be shown by coloured lines in the mujmilli maps.

4.-SELECTION OF THE PANCHAYATS.

The inhabitants of the union should be summoned through the chaukidars, or in any other way as may be found convenient, to assemble at such place in the union or near it as the officer may fix. Generally the place of assembly should be pitched in a central part of the union; but it may at times be necessary to fix on a spot which all the inhabitants can reach, and in that case the assembly should be held at that place. The officer will ascertain the names of the principal residents of the union, and from among them will select five members, and from among the five he will form the Panchayat. At least one educated man of influence in the locality should be nominated as President. The names of the members should be recorded in a list of their number as Collecting Members.

5. To induce the respectable men of the village to act on the Panchayat, he will explain the powers and privileges with which the President will be vested and which are enumerated in his sanad, viz:-

(1) The powers of a Magistrate to arrest persons who commit offences in his presence, and the powers to order unlawful assemblies to disperse and to compel them to disperse by the use of civil force;

(2) The privilege of being an "ex-officio" visitor of all schools, aided or under public management, and of all ponds, public ferries and public serais in the union.

6. Ordinarily the Collecting Member selected under Rule 4 shall be the paid Secretary of the Panchayat. But the officer will consult the members as to the necessity for the appointment of a separate paid Secretary from among themselves or from among the residents of the union, and if the Collecting Member is not to be Secretary he will with their assent select a man on such pay as the 15 per cent. assessment over and above actual requirements for the pay and equipment of the chaukidars will permit of. Except in the case of large unions this will not amount to Rs. 13 a month; but it may be pointed out that when the new system is in full working order each union will receive an allowance on account of the service of processes, which it is estimated will allow of the pay of the Secretary being raised to Rs. 10 (as well as of an addition to the pay of the dafadar).

7. The Panchayat, and in particular the President, should be carefully instructed as to their duties (as set forth hereafter) and the President should be made clearly to understand the manner in which he has to deal with processes sent to him for service.

8. If the officer is of opinion that the President or any other member of the Panchayat should be entrusted with powers to try petty cases he should report to the District Magistrate.

9. For the formal appointment of the Panchayat and its President and Secretary, the special officer will report the names of the persons he has selected to the District Magistrate.

10. THE COLLECTIVE DUTIES OF THE PANCHAYAT MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.

(1) To make assessment of the chaukidari tax according to law and rule.

(2) To fix the chaukidars' beats and arrange for proper watch and ward in the union.

(3) To meet once a month or oftener at the village office or, if none, at such place as may be fixed upon-

(a) to hear and decide appeals against the assessment of chaukidari tax;

(b) to discuss matters affecting the welfare of residents of the union, such as the conduct of the chaukidars, the existence of village factions likely to lead to breach of the peace, the conduct of bad characters, condition of the crops, etc.;

(c) to arbitrate regarding petty disputes between the parties which appeal to them for arbitration.

(d) to submit nominations for filling up vacancies in their own body or in the village staff.

Note I.-The Panchayat will not have the power to levy any fee or fine with regard to matters referred to them for arbitration.

Note II.-A record of the Proceedings of each meeting should be made in the President's diary and signed by the President.

11. The duties of the President are-

(1) To forward, by the most speedy means at his disposal to the police-station, a report of the commission of murder, culpable homicide dacoity, or robbery within his union, immediately on receiving information thereof.

(2) To forward by the first post of the police-station information received by him of the commission of attempt or preparation to commit, or abetment of theft, mischief by fire, house-breaking, counterfeiting coins, forging currency notes causing serious hurt, riot, administering stupefying drugs, or kidnapping, the occurrence of any unnatural, suspicious or sudden death, the existence of disputes likely to lead to riot or serious affray, any arrest made by any chaukidar or private person, any suspicious movements of bad characters, the arrival of suspicious characters in the union or neighbourhood, and any other information which he may consider it desirable to communicate to the Police.

Note.-The information sent to the thana will be in writing and will be entered in a pagged register, in which two copies can be made by carbon paper. The first of these copies will be sent to the thana, and the second will be sent to the Magistrate with the weekly copy of the diary.

(4) To keep a diary in which will be entered the Proceedings of the Panchayat in meeting, and a brief statement of such other matters as the President may wish to bring to the notice of the Magistrate.

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statistics and other information which he has to convey to the thana.

(4). In the absence of the President to receive and open letters other than those (marked confidential) addressed to the President, and to take action on the contents, as far as may be, to avoid delay, especially in the case of processes for service.

(5). To attend at the thana on the date fixed for the payment of chaukidars with the chaukidars pay as well as his own and there pay the chaukidars and himself.

16. The duties of the chaukidar are-

(1). To report immediately and direct to the thana-

(a) the resort to any place within, or the passage through, the village of which he is chaukidar, of any person whom he knows or reasonably suspects to be a thief, robber, escaped convict, or proclaimed offender;

(b) the occurrence in such village of any unnatural death or death under suspicious circumstances; the commission or attempt or preparation to commit, or the abetment of the commission of watan such village, the offences of murder, culpable homicide, rape (when the offender is not the husband of the woman raped), dacoity, robbery, mischief by fire, counterfeiting coins, forging currency notes, causing grievous hurt, riot, administering stupefying drugs, or kidnapping, the commission, or the abetment of the commission, of the offences of theft or house-breaking, suspicious movements of all B and O class bad characters, the arrival of suspicious characters in the neighbourhood, the occurrence of any dispute likely to lead to riot or serious affray, and any other matter which he shall be called upon by the District Magistrate or any officer of police to report direct to the thana.

(2). To report immediately to the defadar who will inform the President of the union panchayat-

(a) the permanent or temporary residence in the village of any notorious receiver or vendor of stolen property, the attempt or preparation to commit theft or house-breaking or the commission or intention to commit any non-bailable offence other than those specified in paragraph 1, or the occurrence of any unlawful assembly.

(b) any arrest made by private persons.

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