VOL XXXVI

CALCUTTA, THURSDAY, MARCH

1905.

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(Sd.) Dina Nath Mukherjee,
Dy. Magistrate, Rajshahl,

Rajshahi, the 128th Oct. 1901.

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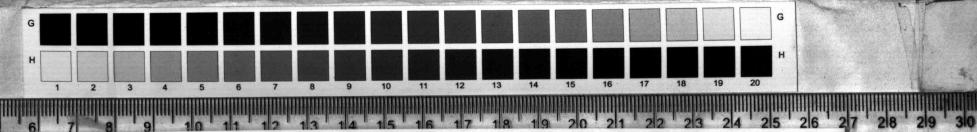
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68E, Perfumer.

& STREET, CALCUTT

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Gentlemen, I should have been com

AT THE VICTORIA HALL.

An unprecedentedly large gathering was present at yesterday (Wednesday) evening's meeting at the Victoria Town Hall, Madras, to protest against the recent utterances of Lord Curzon. Long before the meeting commenced every available seat in the hall was filled up, and hundreds of people who came late had to be refused admittance for want of room. Every class of people was represented at the meeting, traders, doctors, Vakils, journalists students and landed proprietors being in evidence. The gallery was, of course, the scen of the wildest excitement, and here the fiely young spirits could be heard casting opprobious words on the Viceroy. The feeling in the body of the hall, however, appeared to be one of sorrow and resentment as also in the front seats which were occupied by the more distinguished of the people. On the "dais" quite a deep solemnity prevailed. The verandahs on either side were thronged with people who could not be accommodated inside.

Precisely at 5-30 p.m., the meeting commenced, and among those present on the platform were the Hon'ble Mr. G. Sreenvasa Rao, Mr. S. Kasturiranga Iyengar, Mr. T. V. Seshagiri Iyer, Mr. V. Krishnasami Iyer, the Hon'ble Mr. M. Krishnasami Iyer, the Hon'ble Mr. M. Govindaraghava Iyer, Mr. E. R. Osborne, the Hon'ble Mr. V. C. Desika Charar, the Hon'ble Mr. P. S. Sivaswami Iyer, Mr. M. Veeraghava Chariar, Dr. Krishnasami Iyer, Mr. T. Ranga Chariar, the Hon'ble Mr. R. Venkata Row, Dr. T. M. Nair, Mr. C. Krishnan, Mr. C. R. Tiruvenkata Chariar Mr. P. Lakshminarasu Naidu, Mr. K. Narayana Row, Mr. M. A. Parthasarathy Iyengar, Mr. C. Karunakara Menon, Mr. G. Subramania Iyer, and Mr. A. C. Parthasarathy Naidu.

The Hon'ble Mr. G. Srinivasa Rao, in proposing Mr. N. Subba Rao to the chair said:

Gentlemen,...It is not often that people like myself from the mofussil have no opportunity to appear before an audience in Madras. And when unfortunately we get an opportunity we are beset with immense difficulties. Myself and a few friends happened to leave another meeting elsewhere with some difficulty, and coming to the doors of this Hall downstairs, were it not for a little function that I had here, I would not have been allowed to come upstairs. Nevertheless, I am glad to be here and the pleasing duty I have to do is this, namely to propose that Mr. N. Subba Rao do preside on this occasion (Cheers)...an occasion which is important and which could not be easily forgotten in the annals of Indian history. (Loud cheers.)

The Hon'ble Mr. V. C. Desika Chariar

The Hon'ble Mr. V. C. Desika Chariar in seconding the motion, said:—This proposition, gentlemen, requires no seconding; but as all propositions have to be formally seconded. I beg to second this proposition. The Chairman who has been proposed is no stranger to you. He has through thick and thin stood by us; whether it was in the Legislative Council or on the public platform or in the Congress Hall, he has been a staunch friend of the country, taking great interest in every public movement. (Hear, hear and cheers); and it was not without some diffidence he has accepted the chairmanship to-day, because it is not very pleasant. As you will all admit the occasion on which we have met to-day is almost to conform a painful duty. It does not require many words from me because the speakers who would mid the resolutions and second them will tell you the object for which we have met. Gentlemen, we could not have a better man than Mr. N. Subba Rao for taking the chair on such an occasion (Cheers). Therefore in performing the melancholy and painful duty, there is this pleasure in a conding this proposition before you (Cheer). Mr. C. Krishnan supported the motion. The proposition being carried by acclamation Mr. N. Subba Rao took the chair amidst

In opening the proceedings, Mr. V. Ryru Nambiar read telegrams of sympathy from the Hon'ble Syed Mahomed, Mr. C. Vijiaraghava Charian of Salem, Mr. N. Krishnaswami Iyengar from Kumbaconam, the Punjabis in Rawalpini, the Chingleput, Godaveri and Madura District Associations. Letters of sympathy were also read from Raja Sir S. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Rai Bahadur P. Ananda Charlu and Mr. Ganjam Venkatarathnam Pantulu.

The following is the copy of the telegram from Mr. C. Vijiaraghava Chariar:---"Considering matter manner, occasion, attack, absolutely unmerited, humiliating and also unstatesmanlike. Wednesday's meeting vitally necessary in national and imperial interest; wishing perfect harmony and success."

The following is the copy of the letter addressed by Rai Bahadur P. Ananda

"Dear Sir,--Being ill, as you know, I cannot take part in this evening's meeting. I think it a great pity that an occasion has arisen for this and like instances of solid remonstrance. But it is nevertheless a duty, imperative in defence of outraged self-respect and in distinct disapproval of the narrow and illiberal policy which has been taking a pronounced shape and becoming ascendant."

The Chairman who on rising was received with loud and continued cheering addressed the meeting as follows:—

Gentlemen, I feel that I need not mention

in detail why it is that we have come together here on this occasion. The unfortunate cause which has led to our meeting
of this evening 's very peculiar in that nothing like it i. ever known to have occurred
in the annals of British rule in India. Publicly protesting against the sayings and
doings of persons in authority merely out of
the love for such protests, has never been th
characteristic of the people of this country.
On the other hand, love of peace and loyalty
to authority have always constituted the
very fibre of our being. India has become
known from time immemorial to express
gratitude heartily and openly; and she has
not shown any marked partiality for selfmeertion, even when maligned and wronged.
Glent suffering, with reliance on the value
of goodness and the ultimate triumph of
the history of Indian life. And if to-day
we depart from this time honoured and

theumatism can be cured.

The sufference of the painful disease the supprised and delighted at the relief obtained by applying Chamber.

Rain Balm. A permanent cure may reflected by continuing its use for a short are. It will cost you but a trifle to key it by

so profoundly feel that to keep silent when the excited representative in India of His Majesty the King-Emperor forgets what is due to his own high position, and levels at the people, whom he is sent to rule and at their sacred literature totally undeserved moral accusations, that to keep silent on such an occasion is calculated to weaken the very foundations of British rule in India, and lower us in our own estimation. The future prosperity of British rule in India and the progress of the Indian p ople as members of the Great British Empire depend, as even he who runs may read, most largely upon the perfect amity of the relationship which is maintained between those who exercise authorate in the name of the sovereign and those who obey such authority in love and loyalty. Whoever does anything to mar this amity has necessarily to be looked upon as an enemy of Indian Progress and of the high desting which Providence has designed for the British Empire, and when the supreme representative of the sovereign himself lightly indulges in the unhappy work marring that amity, how can we keep silent?

It is with such profound and loyal conviction that we are assembled here to discharge a painful duty, and I have no doubt that our proceedings here will be so conducted as not to be in any manner inconsistent with our

It is with such profound and loyal conviction that we are assembled here to discharge a painful duty, and I have no doubt that our proceedings here will be so conducted as not to be in any manner inconsistent with our traditional respect for authority and the divotion and attachment of all classes of His Majesty's subjects in India to the British throne. It is to me incomprehensible how such a prominent statesman and accomplished scholar as Lord Curzon could, on the occasion of delivering a Convocation address to young graduates, have persuaded himself to read a sermon to the whole of India—if not to the whole extensive continent of Asia—on what he

tinent of Asia—on what he conceived to be the defects in the character of its people and in their ideals of religion and morality. It is hardly necessary for me to point out that there is no more inspiring force, impelling young minds to live worthy and noble lives than that which is inherent in the consciousness of belonging to a great country and a great civilisation. It is equally hardly necessary for me to say that the unhappy address of Lord Curzon does not at all tend to strengthen this impelling force. In this country where reverence for ancestors and elders, and the noble traditions of the past is looked upon as a priceless hebirloom, it is a mishap of the most unfortunate kind to do anything which tends to weaken any of the old forces in favour of ord r as we'l as progress. The life that our angestors have lived, the life that we are now living even as a subject people which expression by the bye Lord Curzon is charitable enough not to approve of—and the contents of our sacred literature are in themselves enough to refute abundantly the accusations made by Lord Curzon against us and our ideals of life and civilisation. I am glad to be able to note that many of Lord Curzon's own countrymen do not approve of his address at the recent Calcutta Convocation. The tone of that address is in keeping with the spirit of the policy which Lord Curzon as Viceroy and Governor-General has been pure suing in this country. All that he has done hitherto has tended towards strengthening autocracy and weakening the bonds that bring the rulers and the ruled together in mutual confidence and estrem.

hat such has been the keynote of His Lordship's policy may be easily discerned by all who have kept a watch aful eye upon the coun e of his Indian Administration during the last six years. Many of his measures have set back the nands on the clock of progress) and have reversed the policy of some of his famous predecessors, who were imbued with a truer and a loftier ideal of statesmanship. It is, however, characterisstatesmanship. It is, however, characteristic of British thought and life that, at about the same time when Lord Curzon delivered his now famous Convocation speech, Lord Reay presiding over a meeting at which Sir Henry Cotton delivered an address on the "Problem of India" is reported have said "the current situation in the far East showed what the Oriental could achieve He did not think there would be in the future any more talk of the inferiority of the East-ern races. He had never believed in that inferiority, but on the contrary he was struck by the great sagacity, and at the same time with the moderation and practical sense of their Indian subjects in not asking for that which they could not obtain at their hands. He deeply felt the responsibility which vested in England to recognise the virtues and merits of its Indian subjects." We are sorry that Lord Curzon has largely ignored this great "responsibility"; and whatever may be the judgment of history on his career as Viceroy of India and on the results of his administration, we cannot as a people ignore by the great sagacity, and at the same time administration, we cannot as a people ignore the duty that we are called upon to do in the interest of the continued security of British rule, as also of the honor and progress to which we as a people are so wellentitled. It is in sorrow and in disappointment that the second security of the security of the second security of the second security of the second security of the second seco nent that we urge this public protest against Lord Curzon's utterances and performances. When he came to us as Viceroy, he assured us of his overflowing love for India, and called upon us to believe that courage and sympathy would mark his Indian administration. Six years of experience have emphatically made it clear to us that that love for India and sympathy with its people is hardly perceptible in his policy and Jeeds as our Governor-General. Therefore, our protest is unavoidable; but let us see to it that our proceedings this evening will betray no feeling of irritation on our part, but will be Lord Curzon's utterances and performances. ing of irritation on our part, betray no reel-characterised by the moderation and dignity which are expected of us as an arrival which are expected of us as an ancient people with hoary and noble traditions, and expected in relation to an exalted personage like Lord Curzon, who is no less than the re-

presentative of our Emperor.

Mr. V. Krishnasawmi Iyer, who was called upon to move the first Resolution, said:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I have been asked to move the following proposition for your adoption:—

That this meeting of the citizens of

aThat this meeting of the citizens of Madras respectfully protests against the unfounded reflections cast upon Indian Character and Sacred Literature by His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, in his address at the last Convocation of the Calcutta University, and expresses its deep regret at the reactionary policy which has characterised His Lordship's Indian administration."

A GOOD FAMILY LINIMENT.

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sit down without moving the proposition in the terms in which it stands. Especially after the excellent speech to which you have listen-ed from the Chairman (Cheers). I should coned from the Chairman (Cheers). I should conceive it to be a work of superrogation to address this meeting upon the terms of the resolution that has been placed in my hands. I should perhaps have thought that the way in which the Calcutta meeting conducted its proceedings might have been copied on this occasion also with advantage; but the organiser of this meeting have willed it otherwise and, therefore, in obedience to their call, I stand before you to say a few words, recommending to you the acceptance of the proposition which has been committed to my charge. Gentlemen, the occasion which has called us together this evening is one of a singularly unique character. We have often met in this Hall and elsewhere to express our rejoicings on occasions of national reour rejoicings on occasions of national re-joicings, to express our sympathy with deep national sufferings and sorrow, and also we national sufferings and sorrow, and also we have met to express our disapprobation of particular measures which in our judgment were not conductive to the well-being of the people of this land; but never within my recollection, in the history of the British rule, have the people of this country met for the purpose of protesting against aspersions cast upon their national character, by the representative of their Sovereign. We do not flatter ourselves with the hope that any expression of our indignation to-day is likely to induce of our indignation to-day is likely to induce His Excellency the Viceroy to acknowledge his error or to admit the injustice of his strictures, but we shall be failing in our duty to ourselves, we shall be wanting in that independence which is a necessary na-tional characteristic and the want of which been also one of the themes of His Excellency the Viceroy, if we fail on this occa-sion to voice our indignation at the language and sent ments of His Excellency the Viceoy on the occasion of the last Convocation of the Calcutta University. His Excellency Lord Curzon came to this country with a great reputation and I think every one of us must admit that in many ways he has largely added to that reputation (Laughter.) Gentlemen, I mean to use the language that I have employed in all sincerity and in all truth. He added very largely to his reputation. His passion for work, his omnivorous capacity for dealing with the details of a ministration, his marvellous intellect which has a rappled with all the markleme that on has grappled with all the problems that engage the attention of any Viceroy, all these are matters for great admiration. But I think it must be confessed that it is not by intellectual pre-eminence, that it is not by intenectual pre-eminence, that it is not by capacity for work, that it is not by ability to grapple with all the details of the administration, that it is not by the miles of travel, that it is not by the disposition to look into every detail of administration with your own eyes, it is not by all these that greatness of a Viceroy is to be measured. A Viceroy who is a Statesman and a Ruler has to possess qualities of a somewhat different order. His Majesty King Edward on the occasion of his accession to the throne, in the address that he made to the Princes and peoples of India said, that he would endeav-our like his illustrious mother to merit the affection of the people of India (Cheers).

Lord Curzon is a representative of that representative of that august Sovereign. May I ask the question, whether His Excellency has realised the significance of that promise! We had a Viceroy before Lord Curzon, I mean Lord Ripon, the beloved (Cheers); he was not Ripon, the beloved (Cheers); he was not perhaps endowed in the same measure with the marvellous gifts of intellect for which Lord Curzon is justly famous. But he succeeded where Lord Curzon has failed (Hear, hear.) His breadth of vision, the magnanimity of his heart, his living sympathy have enabled him to win a permanent place in the hearts of the Indian nation which Lord Curzon and his measures. can never hope to zon and his measures can never hope to achieve (Cheers.) Lord Curzon has emphasised the importance of governing India through the heart, but gentlemen, I am afraid that Lord Curzon is under the impression that that particular region is the seat of imagination (Laughter.) He has endeavoured to capture the heart of the Indian people by appealing to their imagination. Delhi Durbars and Victoria Memorials ingeniously contrived to perpetuate the memory of the Viceroy, as much as the greatness of a great King and a great Queen (Cheers) have contributed to dazzle the imagination of an imaginative people, but these cannot touch the hearts of a warm-hearted nation. Lord Curzon has referred to the invendo lurking in the phrase Oriental diplomacy. Gentlemen, I confess I do not understand the signification of that phrase, unless that phrase is intended to signify the diplomacy of the Occidental nation in relation to the Orient, of Russia for example in its relation to Japan or of England in its dealings with Gentlemen, there is no more truth in the phrase Oriental diplomacy than there is in the phrase "I fidious Albion" (Laughter.) One is the real to of the scornful pride of a conquerer and to other of the jealously of a weaker neighbout. Truth stands beyond above all these expressions, and it is of a weaker neighboul. Truth stands beyond and above all these expressions, and it is strange that particular words and phrases should have been pressed into service by His Excellency the Viceroy to give him the clue to a right appreciation of the character of an entire nation. Lord Curzon has endeavoured to rule this country according to the best of his lights. We have no desire to quarrel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; we have no desire to quartel with his sincerity; but apart from mere exple of this country, but apart from mere exmore than once made that he loves the people of this country, but apart from mere expressions of love, there is a mode of gauging that love which is only by your examining the acts and measures that you are responsible for. Tried by that test, it is impossible for the people of this country to believe that His Lordship is actuated by that unbounded love which he professes. Gentlemen what has been the history of His Lordship's Government? It has been marked by two characteristics which may well be summed up in the words, reaction and distrust. His has been the policy of distrusting the people of this country for the purpose of strengthening the Government; His has been a policy of increased Military expenditure, and of the Official Secrets Act, which do not betray

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confidence in the people, but dicative of great distrust of the he people of this country. I use loyalty the people of this country. I use the word reaction. You may scan the many measures of His Lordship's Government, whether it is a legislative or an executive measure and find on such measures the imprint of reactionary policy. We all venerate the great proclamation of the Queen. What is the manner in which His Lordship chose to deal with that proclamation in his celebrated speech dealing with the Public Service only about a year ago? His Lordship had no words for the equality of race, for the equality of privileges which that proclamation enunciated and which that proclamation has enabled us to cherish in our hearts. But His Lordship spoke of the "crops d'elite" But His Lordship spoke of the "crops d'elite" against which the door shall be shut for all natives except those who happen to visit England for the purpose of passing a compe-titive examination. What again is His Lordship's act on with reference to the competitive examination in this country? The labour the Public Service Commission backed by the labours of the successive Governors General of India and Secretaries of have been cast to the winds and His Lerdship has, in the place of the policy of open competition, enthroned a policy of selection and of nepotism. Is this not a policy of reaction? Look again at His Lordship's view of the question of University reform; look at the way in which His Lordship dealt with the question of Local Self-Government in its application to the Municipality of Calcutta. Gentlemen, it is possible to go on enumerating measures; but so far as the people of this country can personal all those people of this country can perceive, all these measures that have the impress of His Lordship's genius betray a reactionary tendency on his part against the best traditions of the preceding Viewers and Lycatachians. the preceding Viceroys, and I venture to hope against the inevitable future which shall against the inevitable future which shall be saved in a manner different from that in which His Lordship has chosen to do (Cheers.) I will not go on. I did not intend to speak at this length but the importance of the occasion and the call of the Committee has compelled me to speak at this length. I

command this proposition to your acceptance.

The Hon'ble Mr. M. Krishna Nair said:— I have great pleasure in seconding this pro-position. Viceroys have come and Viceroys have gone. Some Viceroys have come and Viceroys have gone. Some Viceroys are remembered in connection with the benefits they have conferred upon the country. Others are remembered in connection with their ill-conceived or ill-executed measures of administration. Canning and Ripon are still remembered by us as some of the greatest benefactors of this country. Their names are embalmed in our memories. Lord Lorton are embalmed in our memories. Lord Lytton on the other hand is remembered in connection with the Vernacular Press Act, and a costly and inglorious Afghan War. (Shame and hisses.) Well, gentlemen, I want you specially at to-day's meeting to be free from demonstrations of any kind. As the Chairman has warned you in the beginning, this meeting, gentlemen, is a solemn occasion, on which we should absolutely avoid demonstrations of any kind. I was speaking to you of Viceroys. And, if I may be permitted to take a peep into the verdict of future history, I may say that the name of His Excellency Lord Curzon will occupy a unique place in Lord Curzon will occupy a unique place in the annals of this country as the author of many reactionary and retrograde measures. The Calcutta Municipal Act, the Official Secrets Act, the Indian Universities Act, the University Validating Act, His Excellency's speech at the Budget discussion of 1904 and last but not least, his speech as Chancellor of the Calcutta University at the Convocation of 1905 stand out as so many Convocation of 1905 stand out as so many landmarks of Lord Curzon's administration. They serve, gentlemen, as warning signals cautioning future administrators, Viceroys, to avoid the dangerous shoals and rocks on which the good name of their administracions may be wrecked. His Excellency's policy in connection with the Assam coolie is still remembered with feelings of pain and regret through the country. Sir Henry Cotton (Cheers,) who was a warm friend of the dumb coolies working on the Assam Plantations, the needle of whose heart has never ceased to turn towards the pole of India's welfare, is believed to have lost the chance of becoming the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal by reason of his having warmly advocated the cause of his friend the coolie. It is greatly to be deplored that with the undoubted powers of organization and initiation which His Excellency Lord Curzon possesses and the brilliant gifts of intellect, the infinite capacity for work and the inexhaustible fund of energy which Nature has lavishly bestowed on him, our country has not been materially benefited. We regard with been materially benefited. We regard with feelings of reverence and affection our sacred literature which has been bequeathed to us from a remote and hoary antiquity. His Excellency has, without any necessity, without any justification and without any provocation whatever attacked this literature and has improved the feelings of has unnecessarily wounded the feelings of the people inhabiting this vast Continent. On the whole, His Excellency's administra-tion has not been characterised by a broad and genuine sympathy with the people of this country. Let us hope that His Excel-lency may, in his calm moments and in the solitude of his chamber, weep hoet tears of repentance over the most cruel, unkind and unfounded aspersions which he has cast on the character of a nation, who, in the morning of the world, when the ancestors of the modern Anglo-Saxon race now deservedly occupying the foremost place in the world, were wandering.—I mean no disparagement to the English way—as naked savages in the exposed paths of Great Britain,—were singing sacred hymns and cultivating systems of whilescalar which over now continue to ing sacred hymns and cultivating systems of philosophy which even now continue to evoke the admiration of the whole civilised world. Gentlemen, I don't think it is necessary in seconding the proposition that has been placed before you by Mr. Krishnaswami Iyer, to make any lengthened remarks. With these few observations. I command the great the second of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition. these few observations, I commend the pro-

position to your acceptance.

The Hon'ble Mr. Venkata Rao next supported the proposition, which, on being put to the vote, was carried nem con.

Mr. L. A. Govindaraghava Iyer, in moving the next proposition, said:—

Mr. Charman and Gentlemen,—The resolution that has been committed to my care runs as follows:—

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"That a copy of the above resolution be submitted by the Chairman of this meeting to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India." This resolution follows as a matter of course from the resolution that you have accepted so unanimously and unequivocally as you have done. It is most regrettable that occasion should have arisen for the holding of a meeting such as this. But we may have the satisfaction that we had no part whatever in the culmination of these circumstances which have led up to the convening of this meeting. On the other hand, the duty that we owe to the best part of ourselves, the duty that we owe to sacred literature, which is a greater, a dearer and a more priceless possession of ours than all the material blessings of the West; the highest dictates of that duty require that this meeting should be convened, and that we should with a unanimous voice give out our views of His Excellency's utterances and policy. I am not sure, gentlemen, that if we keep quiet over His Excellency's utterances, it may not be the case that when once again His Excellency descends to notice the views of the people on what he has said, he may not point to the absence of meetings such as this in confirmation of the views he held forth in his Convocation speech. (Hear, hear.) That reason, if not anything else, necessitates the convening of the meeting we have convened, and if we have adopted the resolutions it is but meet and proper that this resolution of ours should be communicated to His Majesty's responsible Minister of State who has been appointed to look after the interest of this vast dependency of his. In sending it to His Majesty's Secretary of State, I take it that we are sending the resolutions for the consideration of His Majesty himself. (Cheers.) I think therefore, gentlemen, that we shall be acting in a loyal and constitutional manner by adopting this resolution in requesting the Chairman of this meeting to forward to the Secretary of State for India this resolution that has met with your unanimous acc

The resolution on being seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. P. S. Sivaswamy Iyer and supported by Dr. T. M. Nair was put and carried by acclamation. With a vote of thanks to the chair and three hearty cheers for His Majesty the King-Emperor, the proceedings were brought to a close.

Correspondence.

AN EDIFYING SCENE AT PORADAH STATION.

To The Editor.

Sir.—On the 18th March last in the afternoon I got down from the Chittagong Down Mail at the Poradaha Station and went in the Refreshment room to take a cup of tea. Two European gentlemen were drinking liquor at the time and the manager of the hotel stood by their side. As soon as I took my seat on a chair (remote from theirs and placed in one of the corners of the table) those two Europeans, eyed me angrily for some time and then asked the man for some time and then asked the manager to drive me away. Instead of remaining silent, I said "Well, manager, let these fellows be off from the room." This enraged them so much that they got up with their fist cups saying 'Rascal"! By striking you with one of these, we will dislocate your skull." I did not loose time to jump up from the chair with my stick and said. "Devils"! If you move a step further, I will break your heads into pieces." Here the manager intervened and the native-haters manager intervened and the native-haters went away from the place in great disgust.

The manager found fault with me for coming in the hotel in native dress and quarrelling s and quarrellin "Shahebs" who might have purchased many things from his hotel. To pocket an insult instead of protesting against it amounts to giving indulgence. Now, while arguing with the manager, who is a Parsee, on this matter, another gentleman came in. I hear he is the Railway Officer of Damukdia. He heard all that had taken place but made no remark in my presence. I came made no remark in my presence. I came out soon after drinking tea. There was only one second class compartment in the mixed train which reached Poradaha in the evening. That compartment was occupied by three or four ladies. Thinking it improper to travel with them, I asked the permission of the Station Master to travel first class. of the Station Master to travel first class. Having obtained permission, I got into a first class compartment. The railway officer alluded to above was chattering with the manager of the hotel, who was yet standing on the platform. My presence in the compartment made him flow into rage and he asked me in a very objectionable and commanding tone, "Have you got a first class ticket?" His peculiar jesturse, voice, and angry looks failed to make me submissive and I replied thus "what right have you to ask me this question? Do you belong to the station staff? A Ticket-Collector was immediately called by him and he went away hearing that the Station Master had permitted me to sit in the compartment. Thereupon the official remarked that a company of natives had provoked him and he could not bear their presence. He then got down not bear their presence. He then got down and went in the next compartment. I shall now, Sir, moralize a little over the incident. If a European or Eurasian is insulted other Europeans help him, but such is not the case with us. The manager of the hotel is an Indian and belongs to the community which is the most advanced and enlightened of all, but what did he do? He pleased the Europeans by supporting everything they did and finding fault with us. An American gentleman who gave up eating meat and fish and became a strict vegetarian, while walking on the sea shore one day, found the sea shore one day, found a sea-fish devouring another. This surprised i'm so much that he shouted out aying When you eat yourself I must eat you." It is no wonder that Europeans will ill-treat us when we help them to do so, by acquiescence and sometimes by assistance. DAKSHINARANJAN ACHARYYA,

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Bengal Lagisative Councill

A meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber, Writers' Buildings, on Saturday last at 11

The Hon'ble Sir Andrew Fraser, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, presided and there were present: The Homble Mr. L. Hare, the Hon'ble Mr. K. G. Gupta, the Hon'ble Mr. B. L. Gupta, the Hon'ble Mr. P. O'Kinealy Advocate-General of Bengal, the Hon'ble Mr. E. W. Collin, the Hon'ble Mr. R. W. Carlyle, the Hon'ble Mr. W. A. Inglis, the Hon'ble Mr. L. P. Shirres, the Hon'ble Mr. H. W. C. Carnduff, the Hon'ble Mr. R. T. Greer, the Hon'ble Babu Kabi Pado Ghose, the Hon'ble Babu Rhunendra Nath the Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu, the Hon'ble Babu Saligram Singh, the Hom'ble Mr. C. F. Larmour, the Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar, the Hon'ble Babu Ambica Charan Mazumdar, the Hon'ble Mr. J. Chaudhuri and the Hon'ble Raja Ban Behari

INTERPELLATIONS.
SELECTION OF TEXT-BOOKS.
The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu

(a) Has the attention of the Government (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the article entitled "Pathya Nirddharan-Rahasya" or "The Secret of the Selection of Text Books" in the "Basumati" newspaper of the 3rd September, 1904 and will the Government be pleased to say what steps have been taken to remove the grievances mentioned in the said article?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the names of the

state if it is a fact that the names of the experts appointed by the Director of Public Instruction for the preliminary examination of hooks intended for primary schools are kept secret, and, if so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons why the names are kept secret?

(c) Is the Government aware that in spite of the secret secret with the secret s

of the existence of books written by Bengal of the existence of books written by Bengali authors and published in India, and approved by the Text-Book Committee, books published by English publishers, such as Mesers. Mac. Millan and Company, Mesers. Blackie and Sons, and adversely criticized by the press and the public, are given undue preference by the Education Department?

(d) Is the Government aware that contrary to its declared policy of destroying monopoly in text-books and giving encourage-ment to deserving authors, text-books written by the same authors, notwithstanding the existence of other text-books approved by the Text-Book Committee, are selected year after

(e) Is the Government aware that, for Standard VI, the Text-Book Committee re-commended 6 books, of which 5 were written by Bengali authors and published in India and one was published by Messrs. Blackie and Sons and that the Education Department has appointed the book published by Messrs Blackie and Sons as the text-book in all the nine Divisions in Bengal, and will the Government be pleased to state if it approves of such a proceeding?

of such a proceeding?

(f) Will the Government be pleased to state upon whose opinions the Director of Public Instruction prescribes the text-books from amongst the list prepared and recommended by the Text-Book Committee?

(g) Will the Government be pleased to appoint Boards of Studies in the Text-Book Committee for the selection of text-books for primary and middle schools every year, a measure which will remove the grievances of the writers and meet the complaints of the public?

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:—

(a) This article had attracted the attention of the Director of Public Instruction, who found it to be based on an imperfect knowledge of the facts of the case and considered that no action was called for. Thus it is complained that in the month of January 1904, the names of some good books were included in the list of text-books, and that it is a matter of surprise that they had no place in the list published in August, 1904. But the procedure is that lists of books approved of as text-books are published in the "Calcutta Gazette" twice in each year, viz., in January and July; those that are approved of after the issue of the July list being shewn in the "Calcutta Gazette" in January, and those that are approved of after the issue of the January list being shewn in the "Gazette" in July; and it is not the practice to mention any twice over in the "Gazette" in the course of the same year.

(b) It is a fact that the names of the experts to whom books are forwarded by the were included in the list of text-books, and

experts to whom books are forwarded by the office of the Director of Public Instruction office of the Director of Public Instruction for preliminary examination are not published. There is no regular list of such experts kept in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, nor is their number fixed. When books are submitted by authors for approval, books are submitted by authors for approval, they are sent for preliminary examination to selected competent Professors, Head Masters, Head Pandits or Inspecting Officers (not below the rank of a Deputy Inspector) according to the nature of the subject treataccording to the nature of the subject treat-ed of, the selection of experts for the purpose of such examination being made from the whole body of such educational officers and not from a limited number of them. It would serve no useful purpose to make their names known to the public: on the contrary, such a course might do harm rather than good, as authors might be tempted to bring personal influence to bear. It may also be stated that in no case is the condemnation of a book by a single expert accepted by the Director; that when a book is unfavourably reviewed, it is sent to one or more other experts for their opinion, no mention being made

reviewed, it is sent to one or more other experts for their opinion, no mention being made of the fact of a previous examination, and that is only on the result of two or three unfavourable expert opinions that a book is finally condemned.

(c) and (f). A comparatively limited number of books under the new scheme of vernacular education has so far been published by Indian authors; and therefore, the complaint that the productions of English authors receive an unduly large share of patronage is not justified. Since the introduction of that scheme, only one Middle Vernacular Geography, one Middle Vernacular Geography, one Upper Primary Geography, one Upper Primary Science Reader and one Lower Primary Science Reader and one Lower Primary Science Reader in Urdu and Uriya have been recommended to Government by the Text-Book Committee, and all of these were published by Messrs. MacMillan and Company.

The Director of Public Instruction undertakes the duty of selecting text-books for the scholarship examinations, only in order to scoune uniformity and fairness in the competition among the candidates for such competition among the candidates for such scholarship being allone required to read the books selected. In making his selection, the Director sends a copy of each of the books in the approved list for a particular standard to educational officers who are known to be specialists in the particular standard to educational officers

the one by Messrs. Blackie and Sons was considered by him to be distinctly superior to the others. For this reason alone, it was selected as a text-book for all the divisions.

(g) The Text-book Committee is too small to be spilt up into the numerous sections required for Board of Studies for the selection of text books for Primary and Middle Schools every year, and the suggestion made in this connection is considered impractic-

INDISCRIMINATE EXTENSION OF SERVICE.
The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Bosu

asked:—
Has the attention of the Government of Bengal been drawn to an article that appeared in the "Bengalee" newspaper of the 18th March. 1905, headed "Indiscriminate Extensions of Service in the Bengal Public Works Secretariat". Will the Government be pleased to inquire whether the facts therein stated are correct? If so will the Government in stated are correct? If so, will the Government having in view the hardship unnecessarily caused to the large number of junior assistants employed in that office and also to maintain the standard of efficiency also to maintain the standard of efficiency necessary for the proper performance of work, be pleased to issue such orders as may be considered desirable in connection with the grant of extensions of service to men employed in that office who have passed the age of 55?

The Hon'ble Mr. Inglis replied:

The article referred to has been laid before Government. The question of superan-

fore Government. The question of superannuation is regulated by the provisions of Chapter XVIII, Section IV of the Civil Service Regulations; and Government finds no reason for supplementing these by special orders in regard to the Bengal Public Works

BIBHUTI SEKHAR'S CASE. The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu

(a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a paragraph that appeared in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" dated 16th frebruary 1905, regarding the prosecution of Bibhuti Shekhar Mukerjee, an Arms Clerk of Berhampore, by Mr. Carey, the late District Magistrate of the district?

Is is not a fact that case after case, until they came up to ten, was instituted against Bibhuti Shekhar Mukerjee? Will the Government be please

state how many of these cases ended in conviction. and what is the amount of costs incurred by Government to conduct the unsuccessful cases?

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:

The matter referred to by the Hon'ble Member attracted the attention of the Government some time ago, and the Commissioner was requested to report the results of all the prosecutions instituted, the number of which is believed to be ten, as stated on their completion. The Commissioner's final report is still awaited.

ARREST WITHOUT ENQUIRY.

The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu

The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu

asked:—

(a) Has the attention of the Government (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the particulars of a case published in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" of 22nd February, 1905, in which Babu Annoda Prosad Mukerjee, and his son, Bankim Chandra Mukerjee were arrested and hauled up by the Golabari Police, Sulkia, and also to the judgment of the Joint-Magistrate of Howrah, who made the following remarks on the action of the police:—

"I should not feel justified in concluding my remarks on the case without saying some-

my remarks on the case without saying some-thing regarding the action of the police in this affair. Their conduct in the case has been to my mind most reprehensible and is deserving of serious notice. It is clear from the evidence recorded in the case that, previous to the arrest of the accused, practically no inquiry, or at the best, a most perfunctory one, was made, and two respectable men were arrested, in broad day light and in presence of a number of people circumstances of a under ignominious character merely upon the "exparte" statements of their enemies. There is every reason to believe that the version put forward by the defence, viz., that the arrest was engineered by the enemies of arrest was engineered by the enemies of the accused in collusion with the police is

the true one."
(b) Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken on the aforesaid remarks of the Joint-Magistrate?

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:-The case in question is receiving the attention of Government, and the District Magistrate of Howrah has been directed to submit a full report through the Commissioner of Burdwan.

MR. LYALL'S HIGH-HANDEDNESS. The Hon'ble Babu Kali Pada Ghose

Has the attention of Government been drawn to the letter of the Daltonganj correspondent of the "Bengalee," published in its issue of the 10th instant, in which it is alleged that Mr. Lyall, the Deputy Commissioner of Palamau, has committed certain high-handed acts which have given rise to

grave apprehensions in the minds of the people of the district?

If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether any inquiry has been made with regard to the matter?

If not, will the Government be pleased to come an inquiry to be made into come.

to cause an inquiry to be made into each of the specific acts mentioned in the said

letter, viz.—

(a) Deputy Commissioner's treatment of Bhaya Saheb of Nagar Octari;

(b) Deputy Commissioner's treatment of Abdul Majid of Caroo Batooa;
(c) Prosecution of Harnand Ojha;
(d) Prosecution of Saroda Babu, a local

(e) Levying "rasad" through the Police for he "shikar" parties; and inform the Council the result of the

inquiry?

If the above allegations be found to be substantially true, will the Government be pleased to take steps which may be deemed expedient for the purpose of allaying the apprehensions of the people concerned?

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:

cular subjects concerned and after carefully considering the opinions passed by them personally chooses such as seem to him to be most favourably reported upon.

(d) In some cases the same text-books have been in use for more than one year for the scholarships examinations simply be cause they have been reported by experts to be the best on the subjects taken upshibled, it would certainly be allowed a place in due course.

(e) The six books recommended by the Text-Book Committee for Standard VI were examined critically by one of the leading experts in English literature in Bengal, and the one by Messrs. Blackie and Sons was considered to by the Hon'ble Member; interpellation is the first notice that has reached the Lieutenant-Governor. His Honour has not thought it necessary to take any action regarding the prosecutions of Harnand Ojha and Saroda Babu.' The same text-books the most favourable to enquire into above matters and consider the prayer of the people that an Additional District and Sessions Judge might be permanently stationed at Jalpaiguri of the people that an Additional District and seasons Judge might be permanently stationed at Jalpaiguri of the people that an Additional District and Sessions Judge might be permanently stationed at Jalpaiguri of the people that an Additional District and caused the procedure was not quite correct. The other case was found to relate to criminal procease to a speedy trial.

Will the Government be pleased to state if the matters referred to have been considered, and, if so, what relief the Government be related to the procea

take any action regarding the prosecutions of Harnand Ojha and Saroda Babu.' The Lieutenant-Governor has, however, inquired into the question of "rasad," and is informed that in the case of one or two subordinate estates appertaining to a larger property which was confiscated by the Government, it has been the practice for the "jagirdars" and "lakhirajdars" concerned to furnish and "lakhirajdars" concerned to furnish supplies free of cost to all Government officers. Mr. Lyall himself has never approved of the practice, and has been desired to discountenance it in future. Apart from those exceptional instances, Mr. Lyall is, the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied, particularly careful, not only to pay for all supplies received by him, but also to see that the payments reach those for whom they are intended, that they are not misappropriated, and that the people are not oppressed by the police. From all accounts, indeed, the tribute to Mr. Lyall's kindly interest in the people, which is paid at the close of the letter quoted by the Hon'ble Member, is well deserved.

TRYING CASES IN CAMP. The Hon'ble Babu Kali Pada

II (a) Is the Government aware that the Sub-Divisional Officer of Gobindpur in the district of Manbhum and the Sub-Divisional Officer of Raniganj in the district of Burd-wan, try important criminal cases in camp far away from sub-divisional head-quarters? (b) Does the Government approve of such practice which must necessarily entail great inconvenience and expense on the parties and witnesses concerned?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to direct that touring officers who have to try important criminal cases, will so arrange their programme of tour that the dates of important criminal cases may be fixed at the Sadar stations?

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:—
No complaints have reached this Govern ment regarding the trial of important criminal cases by the Sub-Divisional Officers of Gobindpur and Raniganj in camp far away from their respective head-quarters. In a sub-division, the Sub-Divisional Officer himself in the only Magistrate competent to himself is the only Magistrate competent to try important cases, while it is unquestionably in the interests of his charge as a whole that he should visit every part of it. His tour arrangements must be made more or less in advance and, in these circumstances, it is obvious that it would be impossible for him to refrain from trying important cases elsewhere than at his head-quarters. The most that the Government can do in this connection, it has already done by impressing it upon touring Magistrates both that they should endeavour to fix for the hearing of cases those dates on which they will themselves be nearest the which they will themselves be nearest the villages of the persons concerned and also that they must not drag parties and witnesses about from camp to camp unnecessarily. A certain amount of inconvenience is, no doubt, inseparable from the touring system; but it should be remembered that while some persons may thereby have further to go than if the Magistrate were at head apparatus, others obtain easier access to head-quarters, others obtain easier access to him and have their cases tried nearer their

STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENT OF CALCUTTA.

The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu asked the following questions, on behalf of the Hon'ble Babu Nalin Behary Sircar, who was absent:-

(a) Will the Government be pleased to mention the stage which its proposal regarding the structural improvement of Calcutta have reached?

(b) Have they been approved by the Gov-ernment of India and the Secretary of State (c) Do these proposals deal with only

broad principles as regards the work of improvement, or do they deal with a cut-anddry detailed plan of specific works?

(d) Has the financial aspect of the entire scheme generally been dealt with in these proposals? If so, what is the estimated total cost, and what are the ways and means

proposed to meet the expenditure?

proposed to meet the expenditure?

(e) Do these proposals involve the passing of any legislative measure? If so, when is such a measure likely to be brought up before the Bengal Council, and when is it likely to be passed into law?

(f) Are there any reasonable prospects of any work under this scheme being practically taken up in the course of the next financial year 1905-06?

The Hon'ble Mr. Shirres replied:

The proposals regarding the structural improvement of Calcutta are before the Government of India, and the Lieutenant-Government. ernment of India, and the Lieutenant-Gov

ernor is not in a position to make any statement regarding them.
REPRESENTATIONS OF JALPAI-

REPRESENTATIONS OF JAHPAI-GURI PEOPLE.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chaudhuri asked:—
When His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor visited Jalpaiguri the people of the district represented to His Honour:—

(a) that under the arrangements at present in force in the district of Jalpaiguri seconding the trial of Sessions cases, the regarding the trial of Sessions cases, the Sessions Judge or the Assistant Sessions Judge of Rangpur has to come to Jalpaiguri peals and motions against orders of first class Magistrates have to be presented at Rangpur and heard there. This entails great hardship and inconvenience to persons committed to the Court of Sessions and those convicted by first class Magistrates, and they have often to remain in "hajat" for a considerable length of time before their cases are heard:

(b) That as regards civil suits in that district, those exceeding Rs. 2,000 in value and appeals from the orders of Munsifs are now heard by the Subordinate Judge of Dinajpur, who under present arrangements holds his Court in Jalpaiguri for 25 days in every quarter.

in every quarter;

(c) that as regards civil suits from Rs.

1,000 to Rs. 2,000, although one of the Munsiffs at Jalpaiguri is invested with powers to try such suits, yet his ordinary duties are so very heavy that considerable delay at present occurs before such suits can be

The Hon'ble Mr. Carnduff replied:— In the reply to the address referred to by the Hon'ble Member, the Lieutenant-Governor, while expressing his sympathy for any inconvenience that might be caused by existing arrangements pointed out that, on the figures before him, the amount of civil and oriminal work for disposal at Jalpa guri seemed scarcely to justify the posting to that station of an Additional District and Sessions Judge. His Honour at the sametime undertook to make a further enquiry into the matter, and in accordance with that promise, the views of the District and Sessions Judge of Rangpur and Dinajpur, both of whom are concerned, were obtained, and the High Court was then consulted. The Hon'ble Judges have since expressed the opinion that the work which would come before an Additional District and Sessions Judge at Jalpaiguri would be insufficient to occupy any considerable proportion of his time, and that it is possible for the business of the district to be dealt with adequately under the existing arrangements. It was added that the civil business at Jalpaiguri had for some time been receiving the special attention of the High Court, and that any recommendations that might seem desirable would be made to the Government as occasion might arise. There the matter rests, and the Lieutenant-Governor is content to leave it in the hands of the Hon'ble Judges.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. Chaudhuri asked:—
On the same occasion the people of the Jalpaiguri district also represented to His

The Hon'ble Mr. J. Chaudhuri asked:

On the same occasion the people of the Jalpaiguri district also represented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that the jotedars of the Government khas mahals in the Western Duars were not allowed to open separate accounts for their respective shares under the provisions of the Revenue Sale Law (Act XI of 1859,) though their jotes are to be and are sold under that Act in default of payment of any single kist, with the result that for the default of a co-sharer the other co-sharer's jote is also sold. His Honour intimated to the people at the time that he would consult the Board of Revenue and consider if this grievance may be removed. Will the Government be pleased to state if the Board of Revenue has been consulted and any decision arrived at in this respect?

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle replied:-The Board of Revenue has been consulted, but has not yet given a final reply.

Any change would involve legislation.

CALCUTTA PORT ACT. The Hon'ble Mr. Inglis moved that the time for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Calcutta Port Act, 1890, be extended sine die.

The motion was put and agreed to.
The Hon ble Mr. Carlyle moved that the
Report of the Select Committee on the Bengal Smoke-Nuisances Bill, 1904, be taken in to consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle moved that the clauses of the Bill be considered in the form recommended by the Select Committee. The motion was put and agreed to.
The Hon'ble Babu Ambika Charan Mazum

dar moved that the following clause be added to clause 3 of the Bill, viz.:—
(5) "A Magistrate" in this Act means a Presidency Magistrate, a Magistrate of the first class or a Bench of Magistrates exercise. first class powers under the Code of Cri-

minal Procedure.

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle accepted the amendment which was put and carried.

The Hon'ble Babu Ambika Charan Mazum the Hon bie Babu Amorka Charan hazamicher moved that in sub-clause (4) clause 4, the words and expression "Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3)" be introduced before the words "All members" at the commencement of the said sub-clause.

The Hon ble Mr. Carlyle accepted the

amendment which was put and carried. The Hon'ble Babu Amb ka Charan Mazumdar moved that in sub-clause (2) clause 5, the words "all Inspectors" be substituted for the words "the Chief Inspector" appearing after the word "and" in the second line.

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle accepted the

amendment which was put and carried.

The Hon'ble Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar moved that in sub-clause (2), clause 7, after the words "such order" the following words and expression be inserted viz.: within such longer period as the Magistrate

may, for special reason, allow."

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle accepted amendment which was put and carried.

The Hon'ble Babu Ambika Charan Mazum dar moved that in clause (i), sub-clause (2), clause 10, the word "twenty" be substituted for the words "thirty-two."

The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar and the Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle and the Hon'ble Mr. Larmour

opposed the amendment. The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu

the Hon'ble Babu Saligram Sing, the Hon'ble Mr. Chaudhuri, the Hon'ble Babu Kali Pada Ghose, and the Hon'ble Raja Ban Behary Kapur supported the amendment, which was The Hon'ble Mr. Chaudhuri moved that in sub-clause (4) clause 10, the words and expression "Where a Commission has been constituted under section 4" be omitted, and that after the words "the Commission" in

line 3, the words "constituted under section

4" be added.

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle accepted the amendment which was put and carried.

The Hon'ble Babu Ambika Charan Mazumdar moved that the clauses (a) and (b) of clause 11 be amended in the following manner, viz. :-

(a) upon a complaint made with the sanction of the President of the Commission, and (b) within a period of two months from the date of the Commission of the offence, unless the offence is continuous in its nature, in which case within two months from the date on which the Commission or existence of the offence was brought to the notice of the President of the Ommission.

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle opposed the

The Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu and the Hon'ble Babu Kali Pada Ghose sup-

ported the amendment.

The Hon'ble Mr. Chaudhuri opposed the second portion of the amendment.

The amendment was put and lost.

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle moved that the Bill, as settled in Council, be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BENGAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT. The Hon. Mr. Shirres laid on the table

the Bengal Financial Statement for 1905-06 with explanatory notes. He said: with explanatory notes. He said:—
Sir,—I beg to lay upon the table the Financial Statement for 1905-1906, together with the usual appendices and accounts. In the year which is just about to close the crops are reported to have been considerably below the average. The winter rice crop was estimated at 14 per cent below the average; and the "bhadoi" and rabi food crops and the "bhadoi" non-food crops, which include jute and indigo, are said to have yielded only three-fourths of the average outturn. These are, however, probably underestimated. At one time, indeed, until heavy rain fell in October there was considerable anxiety; and even after the coldsiderable anxiety; and even after the coldweather crops seemed secure they were damaged by frost and hail. On the other hand the returns from the Port of Calcutta hand the returns from the Port of Calcutta show that in the first eleven months of the year the exports and imports of merchandise have increased in value by 1½ per cent, the percentages in the case of cotton goods and machinery being 20.15 and 38.8 respectively; while the marvellous industrial expansion which we see going on around Calcutta appears to suffer no abatement, nor do we ever hear of workmen being unable to find work. From a revenue point of view the year has not been unsatisfactory. The revised estimate for the current year The revised estimate for the current year exceeds the original budget estimate by Rs. 12,66,000. This figure includes special grants of two lakhs for University Education grants of two lakes for University Education and of Rs. 75,000 for the improvement of the Port of Chittagong which have been made by the Government of India, but if these are excluded the excess still comes to Rs. 9,91,000. In the previous ten years, owing to the cautious system of budgetting, the average difference between the revised estimate and the budget estimate has been Rs. 10,88,000, or if we exclude exceptional items Rs. or if we exclude exceptional items Rs. 10,58,000. When we framed the budget of the current year in March last we allowed for an increase of Rs. 5,56,000, and we now estimate for a further increase, apart from the grants for University Education and Chittagong, of Rs. 9,91,000, which brings the total improvement during the current year up to Rs. 15,47,000. A comparison of the actuals of the previous six years shows that the average advance from year to year has been Rs. 13,58,000. The enhancement of revenue during the current year is partly from departmental receipts, which involve an increase of departmental expenditure, but on the whole, and in view of the fact that on the whole, and in view of the fact that we receive a smaller share than formerly as "the divided heads," we may be satisfied with the result. In passing I may explain that our favourable position is largely due to an unusual expansion of the stamp revenue, chiefly under the head of Court-fee stamps. The average annual addition to the revenue from stamps in the last five years has been Rs. 3,89,000, and when preparing the budget for the current year we allowed for an increment of for an increment of

three lakhs, giving a provincial share of 1½ lakhs. Now on the strength of the receipts during the first 11 months of the year, we have added six lakhs in the revised estimate of the current year, making a total of nine lakes of which the Local (Government gets one-half or Rs. 4,50,000. In the financial settlement which was concluded last year, the revenues assigned to us amounted to Rs. 4,98,87,000. In the budget for the current year we estimated for an increase of Rs. 5,56,000. The revised estimate for the current year shows a further increase over the budget estimate of Rs. 12,66,000. In the budget for next year we have allowed for an increase of Rs. 6,28,000. If these three sums are added together, we get a total of Rs. 24,50,000 by which the permanent revenue of next year is estimated to exceed the amount assigned to us in the financial settlement a year ago. Of this amount sums 4,98,87,000. In the budget for the current ment a year ago. Of this amount sums aggregating Rs. 19,48,000 have been allotted to recurring expenditure under various heads, leaving a margin of Rs. 5,02,000 which for the present has been devoted to non-recurring expenditure. The details of the recurring expenditure will be found in paragraph 13 of the explanatory notes. The non-recurring expenditure is given in paragraph 14. expenditure is given in paragraph 14.
So far I have dealt with the addition to

So far I have dealt with the addition to the permanent or recurring revenue, but we also begin next year —the a large opening balance, part of which may be devoted to non-recurring expenditure. A year ago we estimated that the opening balance of the current year would be Rs. 1,37,99,000. Owing, however, to adjustment after the close of the year, principally on account of jail manufactures and survey and settlement charges, owing also in some cases to the recharges, owing also in some cases to the re-ceipts having proved better than the revised estimate, there has been an increase in the opening balance of Rs. 4,54,000. This amount has been carried forward and added to the closing balance of the current year, which corresponds with the opening balance of next year. Then, again, the revised estimate of the current year exceeds the budget by Rs 12,66,000 and this excess is also carried forward. Lastly we have a net decrease in forward. Lastly, we have a net decrease in the expenditure of the current year. There the expenditure of the current year. There have been large savings under many heads, but most of these have been transferred to other heads and spent. The net result is that the expenditure falls short of the estimates by Rs. 2,21,000. These three sums Rs. 4,54,000, the increase in the opening balance of the current year over the original estimate, Rs. 12,66,000 the excess over the estimate of the receipts of the current year, and Rs. 2,21,000 the saving from decrease in expenditure, make a total of Rs. 19,41,000, and go to swell the closing balance of the current and the opening balance of next year. In the Budget which was placed before this Council in March last the closing balance of the current year was was placed before this Council in March last the closing balance of the current year was estimated at Rs. 1,05,45,000, but with these additions it amounts to Rs. 1,24,86,000. This is the opening balance which we have to dispose of next year, but out of this we must keep the 50 lakhs which have been specially given for the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, 20 lakhs the ordinary minimum of the Provincial balance, and some part of the lump grant of 50 lakhs which was given at the time of the financial settlement on the condition that the expenditure, should be spread over several years. We propose to carry forward Rs. 12,49,000 for expenditure in 1906-1907 and subsequent years. These three sums amount to Rs. 82,49,000, and we propose to begin next year with a balance of Rs. 1,24,86,000 and to end it with this balance of Rs. 82,49,000. Thus we propose to spend 1,24,86,000 and to end it with this balance of Rs. 82,49,000. Thus we propose to spend out of our opening balance Rs. 42,37,000. The Government of India have also given us grants amounting to Rs. 38,31,000. The total expenditure shown in the Budget which is now before us is therefore Rs. 5,25,52,000, the estimated revenue of next year, plus Rs. 42,37,000, the amount taken from the opening balance, plus Rs. 38,31,000 granted by

the Government of India, making a grand total of Rs. 6,06,70,000. The effect of these arrangement on our financial position is that our scale of permanent recurring income has been increased to Rs. 5,57,87,000, while our been increased to Rs. 5,57,87,000, while our scale of permanent or recurring expenditure has been raised to only Rs. 5,52,85,000, so that there is, as I have already said, a margin of Rs. 5,02,000. On the revenue side the total is made up of Rs. 4,98,87,000 the revenues assigned to us in the financial settlement, plus 21½ lakhs the estimated increase of those revenue next year due to expansion of those revenue next year due to expansion of those revenue next year due to expansion to which I have already referred, plus 345 lakhe the total of the recurring grants made by the Government of India. On the other side we have the scale of expenditure fixed in the financial settlement which is the same as the revenues made over to meet that expenditure, that is Rs. 4,98,87,000, plus Rs. 19,48,000 the total of the items of recurring expenditure enumerated in paragraph 13 or the explanatory notes, plus 34½ lakhs the special grants made by the Government of India.

I now come to the four grants made by the Governments of India for expenditure next year. One of these is a non-recurring payment of Rs. 4,31,000 for the improvement of Chittagong and calls for no special remark. The other three are annual grants of 12. 10 and 12½ lakhs, for police reforms, for primary education and to District Boards, respectively. In addition to these sum a furspectively. In addition to these sum a furer allotment for agriculture is promised, but the amount has not yet been fixed. The special grant for University Education has been made only for the current year and will be utilised principally in extening the premises of the University and in constructing buildings. No provision has been made in the Budget for a repetition of this grant, although it has been indicated that further sums will be received. The Resolution of the Government of India which was published in the newspapers a few days are deals ed in the newspapers a few days ago deals very fully with the measures contemplated for the improvement of the police force; and I need not detain you with any remarks of the subject. No doubt the members of the Council will cordinally welcome the inaugure. tion of these great reforms. Of the ten lakes allotment for primary education a considerable portion will at first be devoted to the construction and equipment of new buildings, both because it would be impossible advantageously to devote ten lakes at once to recurring expenditure and because in many cases the schools are roualid, dark, overcrowded and generally unsuitable, a state of things which is prejudicial to the health of the scholars and which makes effective teaching impossible. Ultimately the grant will be utilised in providing for the education of Mahamedana for the comparison of tion of Mahomedans, for the conversion of lower primary into upper primary schools, for the opening of training schools or teachers of rural primary schools, and for an inspecting agency which will, as in the other Provinces in India and in England, be under the direct control of the Education Depart the direct control of the Education Department. This raises he question of the position of the existing staff of Sub-Inspectors whose duties would overlap. Economy requires that the whole staff of Sub-Inspectors should be graded together and should form one service, a measure which will bring the educational policy in Bengal into line with that followed in other Provinces. The grant of 12½ lakks made to District Boards is approximately equal to 1 of the receipts denyproximately equal to 1 of the receipts derived by the District Boards from provincial and will increase as the rates increase. The annual increment will probably be about Rs. 14,000 a year. At first, as in the case of the former five lakhs grant the money will be placed at the disposal of the Commissioners of Divisions of distribution among the District Boards. Each Commissioner will be given a sum approximately equivalent to a quarter of the provincial rates raised in the Division. A system of rermanent doles the Division. A system of permanent doles is, however, unsatisfactory, and after two or three years if not sooner each District Board will be finally given its own share. It is not considered advisable to do his at once, both because some of the districts when suddenly spend the full amount to the best advantage, while others might be able to spend more, and also because it may be desirable at first to give some special assistance to the more backward districts. This large addition to their resources will enable the District Beards not only to improve the condition of Boards not only to improve the condition of the roads, but also to make more adequate provision for the needs of the districts in provision for the needs of the districts in other respects. Thus, there is a great and preventible mortality among cattle, and those of the Boards which have not yet taken up veterinary work will no longer have an excuse for neglecting to do so. They will also be in a position to maintain, or if necessary increase, their expenditure on hispitals and dispensaries, on schools, and on water-supply and samitation, and in the event of scarcity they will have larger resources on which to fall back. This large grant will also, it may be hoped definitely set at rest the question of the diversion of the road cess. All the District Boards will now be in a position to District Boards will now be in a position to devote the full income from Provincial rates to the purposes contemplated in the Road Cess Act without iijury to any of the institutions which they have established; and the Lieutenant-Governor will be prepared to insert a provision in the Local Self-Government Bill requiring that this condition shall be observed in future. It will then become the business of the auditing officers to see that the expenditure is in accordance with the Act. The fivancial statement will in the prelinary course over up for discussion at ordinary course come up for discussion at the next meeting of Council which will be held on 31st March. I shall be much obliged if Hon. Members who propose to ask for any information or explanation or to comment on any matters in connection with the

ment on any matters in connection with that Budget will give me notice three or more days before the meeting.

The Council then adjourned till Friday next the 31st instant.

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With regard to the disturbance reports from Mashud intelligence has reached India partially confirming them.

Lord Ampthill is recovering from his attack of dengue fever, which was severe and will not, therefore, leave for Ootacamund any earlier than already announced.

The weekly report on the season and crop prospects states that the stading crops are withering throughout the Presidency in Madras except in the Circars, Anantapur, and in the hills, and that owing to the unfavourable climatic conditions of January and February the prospects of the spring crops are not good in Bengal, but the recent rain has facilitated the cultivation of the autumn crops. In Assam more rain is wanted for crops. In Assam more rain is wanted for tea in parts, but tea prospects are generally fair. There was a sprinkling of rain in a few districts in the United Provinces during

A story of an alleged human sacrifice reaches the 'Pioneer' from the tributary mahals of Orissa. A certain petty Chief during a cholera epidemic was alarmed at his wife's illness and he is said to have vowed offerings of human blood to a particular shrine if she recovered. The recovery did take place and now popular rumours affirmed that the goddess worshipped in a shrine has received her awful offerings. At any rate a number of persons mysteriously disappeared from time to time and the only explanation given of their absence was that they were killed by tigers. The local belief that they have been killed is rather significant. Inquiries are being made which should serve to clear up the mystery.

A Customs Circular is published cancelling the Notification issued in December, 1903, whereby countervailing duties were continued against sugar produced before the Brussel Convention came into force, the Government of India being of opinion that sufficient time has now elapsed to render the danger negligible of the importation of such raw sugar or of refined sugar made from it. Countervailing duties have been already abolished in regard to all countries which signed the Brussels Conventions and the only countries against which they still remain in force are Denmark, Chile, the Argentine Republic, and Russia. The only certificates which importers will now be required to produce are those prescribed in the revised rules published in Customs Circular 10 of 1904.

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Indian Ladies' Conference,
Mrs. Ranade's Speech
Mohamedan Educational Conference. Mohamedan Educational Conference.
Mr. Morison's Presidential Address.
Industrial Exhibition.
The Hon, Mr. D. Thackers y's Speech.
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