

Anrita Bazar Patrika

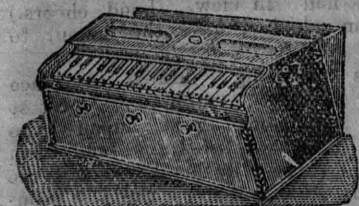
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CALCUTTA, THURSDAY JUNE 8 1905

NO. 46

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Notable Utterances at the National Gatherings of December, 1904

CONTENTS.
 Indian National Congress.
 Sir Henry Cotton's Presidential Address.
 The Social Conference.
 H. H. The Gokhale's Inaugural Address.
 Hon. Mr. Parekh's Presidential Address.
 The Hon. Mr. Chandra Sekhar's Address.
 Indian Ladies' Conference.
 Mrs. Ranade's Speech.
 Mohammedan Educational Conference.
 Mr. Morison's Presidential Address.
 Industrial Exhibition.
 The Hon. Mr. D. Thackeray's Speech.
 H. E. Lord Lamington's Speech.
 H. E. Lady Lamington's Speech.
 Sir Pherozeshah Mehta's Speech.
 Temperance Conference.
 Sir Balchandra Krishnesh's Address.
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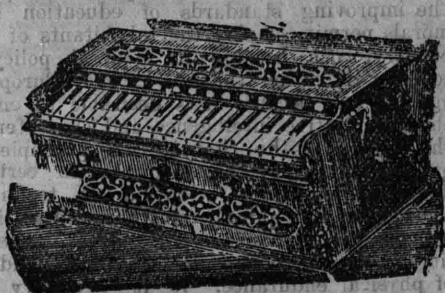
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Ranaghat 21 May 1904

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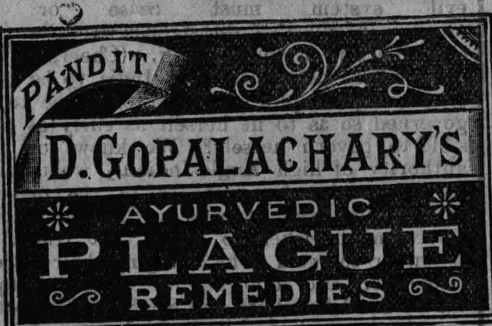
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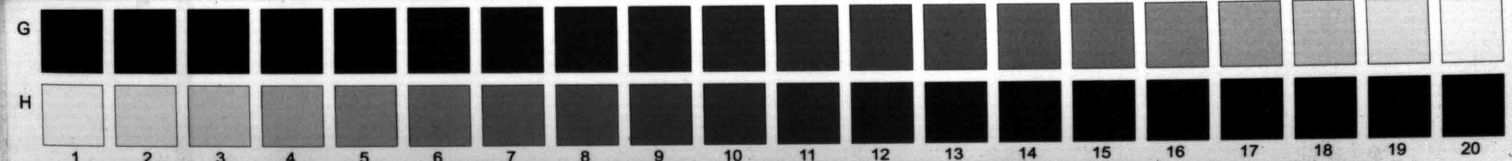
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GREAT PROTEST MEETING
IN LONDON.SPEECHES BY MR. DADABHAI
NAOROJI AND MR. BONNERJEE.

London, May 12.

A meeting of Indians resident in the United Kingdom was held on Saturday last at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, to protest against Lord Curzon's aspersions upon the Indian people and their sacred writings, and against the reactionary legislation that has characterised his administration. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji presided, and among those present were Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, Mr. J. M. Parikh, and Mr. S. Dost Mahomed (who moved the three resolutions), Mrs. and Miss Bonnerjee, Miss Alison Garland, Mr. Mohammed Anwar Ali, Mr. B. C. Chatterji, Mr. E. Dalgado, Mr. Dwarka Dass, Mr. W. V. Desai, Dr. Dikshit, Mr. W. Douglas Hall, Mr. J. A. Hobson, Mr. M. B. Kolascars, Mr. Parmeshwar Tall, Mr. Moola, Mr. J. C. Mukerji, Shamsul-Ulma, Munshi, Mr. C. J. O'Donnell, Dr. Pereira, Mr. K. Prakash, Mr. Hans Raj, Mr. R. N. Ray, Mr. S. Bhapoorji, and Mr. Martin Wood. The English visitors took no part in the proceedings beyond that of spectators.

Before delivering his introductory speech, Mr. Naoroji read the two following communications from Edinburgh and Manchester:

University Union, Edinburgh,
May 12, 1905.

Dear Sir, I have much pleasure in informing you that a special meeting of the members of the Edinburgh Indian Association was held at 6, Nicholson Street, on May 10, 1905, when a resolution was passed cordially sympathising with the proceedings of the public meeting to be held in London on the 13th instant, under the chairmanship of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, one of the honorary presidents of the Association. I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

K. R. Tamir.

Secretary, Edinburgh Indian Association.
The Manchester Indian Association,
155, Acomb Street, Manchester,
May 11, 1905.

Dear Sir, I have the honour to communicate to you the following resolution passed unanimously at our meeting on the 7th instant: "That the members of this Association approve of the objects, etc., of the protest meeting to be held on Saturday next at Caxton Hall, Westminster, by the Indian residents of the United Kingdom." I have, etc.,

S. L. Moodgal, Vice-President.
Dadabhai Naoroji, Esq., Chairman of the
Protest Meeting.

Mr. Naoroji also announced the receipt of sympathetic letters from Dr. Karl Blind and Mr. Donald Smeaton, C.S.I.

The Chairman then said: We are met together to-day for a very important purpose. A unique event has happened, showing significantly a sign of the times. We have had in India a great uprising, and in the cities there have been held monster meetings of Indians, denouncing and protesting against the sayings and doings of the highest authority there, making a protest in clear, unmistakable terms against the policy under which India is ruled. It is, indeed, a unique event. I, at any rate, do not remember anything similar having ever taken place in the history of British India. The Indians have very unanimously, very earnestly, and very emphatically declared that the system of rule they are now under should not continue to be. (Loud cheers.) Let us consider what that means. More than 50 years ago—I will not go back to an earlier period—Mountstuart Elphinstone said:—

It is in vain to endeavour to rule them (the Indians) on principles only suited to a slavish and ignorant population.

And 40 years after—in the last 10 or 12 years—we find, not only a continuance of the same old system, but we find it brought to bear on the people with even more energy and more vigour.

(Shame!) Some 11 years ago Sir Henry Fowler distinctly and decidedly showed us that India was to be governed on the principles enunciated by Elphinstone, for, by his conduct in refusing to give effect to the resolution regarding simultaneous examinations, passed in 1893, he proved that it was intended to continue the same evil system under which the country had been governed so long. Then followed Lord George Hamilton as Secretary of State, and what did he tell the whole world? He said—

Our rule shall never be popular. Our rule can never be popular.

These were his own words, in one of his early speeches, and he has taken very good care that his prophecy shall be fulfilled. But his doings were not so serious as Lord Curzon's, although he managed to go quietly on issuing regulation after regulation with the object of depriving Indians as far as possible of an opportunity of making any further progress. But then comes Lord Curzon, and he out-herods them all. In the first resolution you have enumerated a number of his measures—and not a complete list for there are some more of them—which he passed with the declared and clear intention of continuing to govern India only on principles suitable to slavish and ignorant populations. Here, then, we have a clear and distinct issue. Our rulers—the officials—tell us we shall have no chance of ever becoming a self-governing country—that they will not give us an opportunity of preparing ourselves for it. Undoubtedly the character of the whole of the measures passed within the last 10 years points towards such an intention, and to the retraction of the generous mode which was adopted on some occasions in the time of Lord Ripon. (Now the Indian people have, for the first time, risen up and declared that this thing shall not be. (Loud cheers.) Here is a clear issue before the rulers and the people; they are come face to face. The rulers say—"We shall rule, not only as foreign invaders, with the result of draining the country of its wealth, and killing millions by famine, plague, and destitution, but also by poverty and destitution." While the ruled are saying for the first time, "That shall not be." I regard the day on which the first Calcutta meeting was held as a red-letter day in the annals of India. (Cheers.) I am thankful that the freedom of the Indian people. (Renewed cheers.) The question now naturally arises, what will be

BOWEL COMPLAINT IN CHILDREN.

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the consequences of this open declaration of war—as you may call it—between the rulers and the people? I will not give you my own opinions or my own views, but I will give you the views of eminent high Englishmen and Anglo-Indian officials, who have told us that persistence in the present evil system of government will lead to certain consequences. Sir John Malcolm, a well-known Governor of Bombay, who had a very distinguished career as a political agent and as an official, after describing the system that obtained in the government of India, prophesied what would be the necessary consequences, and said—

The moral evil to us does not stand alone. It carries with it its Nemesis: the seeds of the destruction of the Empire itself.

Again, Sir Thomas Munro said—

It would be more desirable that we should be expelled from the country altogether, than that the result of our system of government should be such an abasement of a whole people.

Bright spoke of many occasions, and always denounced the existing system of government. He always regarded it as an evil and a disgraceful system, and, after describing the system, he would up with these words—

You may rely upon it that if there be a judgment of nations—as I believe there is—as for individuals, our children, in no distant generations, must pay the penalty which we have purchased by neglecting our duty to the populations of India. I say a Government like that has some 'fatal defect which, at some distant time, must bring disaster and humiliation to the Government and to the people on whose behalf it rules.

Sir William Hunter, you know, was a very distinguished official, and while he spoke as favourably as he possibly could of the existing system, he did not fail to point out the evil part of it, and he summed up one of his lectures in these words—

We should have had an Indian Ireland multiplied 50-fold on our hands.

Again, Lord Cromer—(cheers)—said—

Changes should be taking place in the thoughts, the desires, and the aims of the intelligent and educated men of the country, which no wise and cautious Government can afford to disregard, and to which they must gradually adapt their system of administration, if they do not wish to see it shattered by forces which they have themselves called into being, but which they failed to guide and control.

Then, Lord Hartington, when Secretary for India, pointed out that the exclusion of Indians from the government of their own country could not be a wise procedure on the part of the British people, as the only consequence could be to

make the Indians desirous of getting rid, in the first instance, of their European rulers.

I have read to you only these four or five opinions of men of position—of high position in the Government, and of official Anglo-Indians—opinions to the effect that if the present evil system is to continue the result will be to bring disaster to the British Empire—that, in fact, the British Empire in India will vanish. That is the position in which we are at the present time, under an evil system of rule. Either that evil system must cease or it must produce disastrous results to the British Empire itself. (Cheers.) The issue before us is clear. Is India to be governed on principles of slavery or is she to be governed so as to fit herself as early as possible to govern herself? We know, on the authority of high Anglo-Indians, what must be the result of persistence in the present evil system, and it rests with the British Government either to allow that result to follow or to avoid it by changing their system altogether, and following the bright example set by Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote in connexion with the case of the Native State of Mysore, encouraged, as they were, in their action by H. M. Queen Victoria, when they decided that Mysore should be restored to its original sovereign. They were restored to their original sovereignty. They knew very well how to set to work to effect what they wished to do. They removed most of the European officials, they prepared the country for the young Raja who was to succeed, so that he might have his jurisdiction with his own Native counsellors and officers. There can be no doubt whatever that if the Government were to make up their minds that India should be allowed to become self-governing there is in Mysore an example which has been practically carried out showing that it is in the power of the British Government, if they choose to adopt methods which would enable the Indians to prepare to govern themselves. It is in their power, but it is not in our power. We only tell them what is practicable, and if they persist in the evil system under which they have governed India for about 150 years, to the utter impoverishment of the country, draining it now to the tune of 80 or 40 millions every year, causing the deaths of millions by famine, plague, and starvation, and millions by poverty and destitution, they must expect, as their own officials have told them, that the result will be disastrous to the British Empire. Anyone who reads the items enumerated in the first resolution will see that Lord Curzon has set himself most vigorously and most earnestly to the task of securing that Indians shall be treated as slaves, and that their country shall remain the property of England, to be exploited and plundered at her will. (Shame!) That is the task to which Lord Curzon has set himself with a vigour worthy of a better cause. Now, that being the case, there is a duty on the Indians themselves. (Cheers.) They have now broken the ice; they have declared that they will not be governed as slaves; and now let them show a spirit of determination, for I have very little doubt that, if the British public were once satisfied that India is determined to have self-government, it will be conceded. I may not live to see that blessed day, but I do not despair of that result being achieved. (Cheers.) The issue which has now been raised between the governors and the governed cannot be put aside. The Indian people have as one body and in a most extraordinary way, risen for the first time to declare their determination to get an end put to the present evil system of rule. (Cheers.) Now I come to the first part of the first resolution—the aspersions and attacks Lord Curzon has thought proper to make—in, I am afraid, a little spirit of peevishness—against the character and religion of the East. I do

not need, however, to enter into any refutation of what he has said, for the simple reason that, as far as I am concerned, I performed that task 39 years ago, when Mr. Crawford, the President of the Ethnological Society, wrote a paper full of the very same ignorant and superficial charges. I replied to that, and I find that the 'Oriental Review' of Bombay has reprinted my reply for the present occasion. (Cheers.) There are two other aspects of the matter—one or two to dwell upon. It is very strange should like to throw stones at Anglo-Indian officials should throw stones at this matter. Let us have some enquiry into the manner in which the British Government have behaved towards India. Again, I will not give you my own views or ideas. I will give you those of Englishmen whom I will give you the very highest authority.

A Committee was formed in the year 1860, of five members of no less a body than the Council of the Secretary of State, in order to enquire what the Government of the day should do with regard to the Act of 1833, by which all disqualification of race, and by which all high Anglo-Indian officials, who had done much work in India, and whose names were all well known, gave a very decided opinion that the British Government had exposed itself to the charge of having made promises to the East and broken them to the promises to the East and broken them to the promises to the East.

This was in 1860. In 1869 the 'Jure Hope' clearly acknowledged what had been the conduct of the British Government towards the Indian people in these words:—

I must say that we have not fulfilled our duty or the promises and engagements which we have made.

That does not look very like sincerity and righteousness on the part of the British Government. (Cheers.) Then comes Lord Lytton.

Something like 18 years after the Committee had given their opinion—an opinion of which we knew nothing because the report was pigeon-holed—Lord Lytton, in a private despatch to the Secretary of State, used these words—

No sooner was the Act (1833) passed, than the Government began to devise means for practically evading the fulfilment of it. All so many deliberate and transparent subterfuges for stultifying the Act, and reducing it to a dead letter. I do not hesitate to say that both the Government of England and of India appear to me, up to the present moment, unable to answer satisfactorily the charge of having taken every means in their power of breaking to the heart the words of promise they had uttered to the East.

Lord Salisbury summed up the whole thing in two words. He declared that the conduct of the British Government to the Indian people was 'political hypocrisy.' I do not, then, lie very well in the mouth of Anglo-Indian officials to talk of lapses of Indian character and morality. (Cheers.) They forget that they themselves had a very large beam in their own eyes when they were pointing to a little mote which they fancied was in the eyes of the Indians. (Renewed cheering.) They ought to remember that they are living in glass houses, and should not throw stones. The next aspect of Lord Curzon's charges on which I wish to speak is this: He does not seem to realise the responsibility of the position in which he has been placed. He is there representing the Sovereign of the Empire—as Viceroy or Second King—the head of a great people, 300 millions in number, who had possessed civilisation for thousands of years, and at a time when his forefathers were wandering in the forests here. (Cheers and laughter.) He had a special mission. His duty as Viceroy is to attract as much as possible and to attach the good feeling of the Indian people to the rule of the British Sovereign. What does he do? By his Acts he deals a deadly blow to British rule, and then, by a peculiarly ignorant and petulant speech, he creates almost a revolution in the whole of the Empire. It is really very strange that he should do so. But I am not surprised at what he has done, and I will give you the reason why. But, first, I will certainly mention one circumstance in his favour and to his credit. As we all know, he made a very firm stand against any brutal treatment of the Indian people by Europeans, and, in so doing, caused dissatisfaction to his own countrymen. In that he really did a service, not only to Indians, but to the whole British Empire. (Cheers.) That one act of his shall not be forgotten by Indians, for it showed his sense of the justice he as a Viceroy should exercise. (Renewed cheering.) But by all the Acts and measures mentioned in the first resolution he has tried to Russify the Indian Administration, and with that narrow statesmanship with which he has all along associated himself, he has forgotten that while Russifying the Indian administration, he is Russifying also the people of India, who live at a distance of 6,000 miles from the centre of the Empire, and who, consequently, are in a very different position from the Russians themselves, who are struggling against their own Government in their own country. (Hear, hear.) It is remarkable that Lord Curzon, when he was first appointed Viceroy, said that India was the pivot of the British Empire, that if the Colonies left the British Empire it would not matter much, whereas the loss of India would be the setting of the sun of the Empire. What does he do? How does he strengthen that pivot? How does he would put more strength, more satisfaction, and more prosperity under the pivot, but instead of that, he has managed to deposit under it as much dynamite as he possibly can—dynamite in the form of public dissatisfaction, which, even in his own time, has produced the inevitable explosion. Surely that is a remarkable way of strengthening the connexion between the British and the Indian peoples. But, as he had said, he was not surprised at the Viceroyal career of Lord Curzon: he was only disappointed and grieved that the fears he entertained when Lord Curzon was appointed had been fulfilled. It had been a great disappointment to him, because he had hoped against hope for something better. The announcement of his appointment was made in August, 1893, and in the following September he wrote to a friend in these terms:—

I am hoping against hope about Mr. Curzon, for this reason. Lord Salisbury was at one time not a little wild. When he came to the India Office he seemed to have realised his responsibility, and proved a good Secretary of State, as things go—at least, an honestly outspoken one. Will Curzon show this capacity? That is to be seen.

My disappointment is that he did not show this capacity, and did not realise the responsibility of his position—he did not know how to govern the Indian Empire. I will not take up more of your time. The crisis has come, the people and the rulers are face to face. The people have for 150 years suffered patiently, and, strange to say, their patience has been made a taunt as well as viewed as a credit to them. Often I have been taunted with the fact that 300 millions of Indians allow themselves to be governed like slaves by a handful of people. And then it is stated to their credit that they are a law-abiding, civilised, and long-suffering people. But the spell is broken. (Cheers.) The old days have passed, and the Indian of to-day looks at the whole position in quite a different light. New India is becoming restless, and it is desirable that the Government should at once realise this. I hope that the next Government we have will reconsider the whole position, and will see and understand the changes that have taken place in the condition, knowledge, and intelligence of the Indian people. (Cheers.) I hope that steps will be taken more in conformity with the changes that have taken place, and that things will not be allowed to go on in their present evil way, to the detriment of the Empire itself as well as the suffering of the people. (Loud cheers.)

THE FIRST RESOLUTION.

Mr. Bonnerjee: I am glad to see so many of my countrymen present at this meeting, for it is but fitting that the voice which has been raised against Lord Curzon's policy throughout the length and breadth of British India should be echoed by such of us as happen to be residing at the present moment in this country. (Cheers.) Lord Curzon has stirred the people of India to the very depths of their souls, and his policy, retrograde as it has been, has taken away from them the hope that had been given to them by the British Parliament, and by our late beloved Queen Empress, and by certain statesmen in this country. The principle which he has laid down for the government of the country was the principle to carry out which he seems to have gone out to India. That principle was enunciated by him in a speech which he delivered in the Budget debate for the year 1904, and which was subsequently epitomised by him in a resolution of the Government of India in May, 1904, which reads as follows:—

The general principles which regulate the situation are two in number. The first is that the highest ranks of civil employment in India—those of the Imperial Civil Service, the members of which are entrusted with the responsible task of carrying on the general administration of the country—to England and to such Indians as proceed to England and pass the requisite tests, must nevertheless, as a general rule, be held by Englishmen, for the reason that they possess, partly by heredity, partly by upbringing, and partly by the government, knowledge of the principles of education, knowledge of the habits of mind, and the character, which are essential for the task, and that rule of India being a British rule, and any other rule in the circumstances of the case impossible, the tone and standard should be set by those who have created and are responsible for it. The second principle is that outside this corps de élite the Government shall, as far as possible, and as the improving standards of education and the morals permit, employ the inhabitants of the country, both because its general policy is to restrict, rather than to extend, European agency, and because it is desirable to enlist the best Native intelligence and character in the service of the State. This principle is qualified only by the fact that in certain departments where scientific or technical knowledge is required, or where there is a call for the exercise of particular responsibility or for the possession of a high standard of physical endurance, it is necessary to maintain a strong admixture, and sometimes even a great preponderance, of the European element.

These then are the principles which he had in mind when he went out to be Viceroy of India, and these are the principles which he has steadily brought into action in every possible and impossible way. The meaning of these principles is this. I have not the wealth of language which Lord Curzon possesses, and I cannot put it to you in his rhetorical fashion; but, speaking plainly, the meaning is that the government of India is not to be shared or participated in by the people of the country. However able, however conscientious, however courageous, however capable they may be, they must always remain the hewers of wood and drawers of water for the British Government. (A voice: "Rotten.") That is the principle on which Lord Curzon has ruled the country. Is it any wonder that the people of India should object to it? (Cries of "No.") That they should protest against it? I am surprised that the agitation which is now taking place in India did not take place many years ago. But the people of India are as you, Sir, have said, long-suffering and they have not hitherto taken any prominent measures for the purpose of repudiating the principles observed by Lord Curzon in the government of India. But the last straw that broke the camel's back was the speech which the Viceroy delivered at the last Convocation of the Calcutta University. Secure in the consciousness that he had always been actuated by the principles of truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; secure in that consciousness, he has ventured to fling out to us the taunt that we do not always respect the truth, and in point of fact, he has said that the Fountain of Truth was originally to be found in the West, and that it has only trickled down, trickle, by trickles, to the East. (Shame!) The people of India can endure a great deal, but they cannot stomach this from Lord Curzon. (Cheers.) Hence, the whole country has arisen as one man to protest against the Viceroy's policy and the Viceroy's speeches, and the resolution which I have to place before you for your acceptance, shows in what he has been found wanting, as well as the disappointments which the people of India are labouring under. This resolution has been practically endorsed by large and influential meetings—first in Calcutta, then in Madras, then in Bombay, in Allahabad, in Lahore, and finally, in Alexandria. With a few verbal alterations it is exactly the same as the one adopted at those meetings. (Hear, hear.) In presiding over the meeting at CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA AND DIARRHOEA REMEDY.

This remedy is everywhere acknowledged to be the most successful medicine in use for Bowel Complaints. It always cures, and cures quickly. It can be depended upon even in the most severe and dangerous cases. Cures griping, all kinds of diarrhoea, and the first unusual looseness of the bowels should be taken.

BEWARE OF A COUGH.

Now is the time to get rid of that cough, for if you let it hang on no one can tell what the end may be. Others have been cured of their coughs very quickly by using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Why not you? For sale by

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NO COMPETITION.

The uniform success of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the relief and cure of bowel complaints both in children and adults has brought it into almost universal use, so that it is practically without a rival, and as everyone who has used it knows, is without an equal. Sold by

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Calcutta, my friend Dr. Raah Behari Ghose said he had never been an agitator, and had never spoken from the platform of the Indian National Congress. You, Mr. Chairman, and I are not able to say that. (Laughter.) You and I, I am afraid, have been agitators from the time of our infancy—(renewed cheering)—and I am afraid we shall remain so until the grave closes over us. But, if to plead respectfully, constitutionally, and I may say humbly, for the reforms which are needed—for the reforms which have been promised by the British Government to the people of India scores of times on every important occasion—I say if to ask and plead for these reforms is to be an agitator then, Sir, I am proud that I am an agitator—(cheers)—and I wish we had many more of our countrymen who were agitators such as we are. (Hear, hear.) Our time, Sir, yours and mine, is fast drawing to a close, and I do wish most earnestly that our young countrymen will take up the cause which has been so dear to us, and that they will work as they ought to work, for the achievement of the objects which we have always had in view. (Loud cheers.) The resolution which I have the honour to propose is as follows:—

That this meeting desires to place on record its emphatic protest against the aspersions cast upon the character of the people of India, and upon their sacred literature, by his Excellency the Viceroy in his address before the last Convocation of the Calcutta University; and this meeting further desires to record its protest against the general policy of Lord Curzon's administration, especially as evidenced by the following measures: The Indian Currency Act, by which taxation is covertly increased more than 10 per cent.; the restriction of the rights of Local Self-Government; the Universities Act, which circumscribes the area and officialises the system of high education; the Universities Vetting Act, which has legalised executive orders, the validity of which had been called in question; the Official Secrets Act, which was condemned as unnecessary and oppressive by the entire body of newspapers, English and Indian, and by representative bodies throughout the land; the proposed scheme of breaking up Bengal, which has been persisted in notwithstanding the universal and repeated protests of the people; the abolition of the Competitive Tests in India substituting official nomination for appointment according to merit; and appointments in some higher public services, based on racial distinctions in violation of the Act of 1833, and of the Royal Proclamation of 1858.

This resolution, you will see, enumerates a vast number of measures to which we take exception. It has not, however, taken into account one policy which has been pursued by the Viceroy, and to which we also take the greatest possible exception, and that is his forward frontier policy. He sent out what he was pleased to call a peaceful mission to Tibet. He sent his Foreign Secretary to Calcutta for the purpose of coming to some agreement with the Amir of which we have, as yet, no sufficient news. He sent out a roving Commission to the Persian Gulf, to make I do not know what treaties, and to follow what policy no one knows, with regard to the people of those places. These expeditions to Tibet, Afghanistan, and the Persian Gulf, have laid the country under the severest financial difficulties. (Cries of "Shame.") These are Imperial projects, and, that being the case, it is impossible to say why the Imperial Treasury should not pay the expense incurred in connexion with them, and why the poor and poverty-stricken people of India should be made to pay the whole of the outlay. (Cheers.) With these remarks I commend the resolution to the meeting.

The Chairman: Before calling on the second, I desire to bring to your notice a regrettable act on the part of the Government of India—the refusal of Lord Curzon to forward to the Secretary of State for India the resolution passed at the Calcutta meeting. (Cries of "Shame.") In many ways that is a most regrettable act, and in his position; he would, perhaps, have made a little more amends for the wrong he has already done by performing his undoubted duty and allowing the people of India to make their appeal to the higher authorities at home, as they have a right to do. (Cheers.) I repeat that it is a most regrettable act on his Excellency's part. I will refrain from characterising it in stronger terms. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Mohammed A. Ali expressed his thanks for the honour conferred on him in asking him to second this resolution, but said he feared they would be disappointed because his words would seem harsh and hating after the eloquence of the speakers who had preceded him. Before he seconded the resolution he would like to remind them that they were assembled to make their protest against the misgovernment of Lord Curzon, and against the speech which he thought fit to make on the occasion of the last Convocation of Calcutta University. Lord Curzon had made a good many promises to them in the past, none of which he had carried out. In his case it had simply been the rendering of lip service—(hear, hear)—and in that he had, unfortunately, been very successful. As to his misgovernment, it was quite sufficient to cite some of the measures outlined in the resolution as examples of what he had done. By his University Act he had handicapped their education; by his Official Secrets Act he had muzzled their mouths; by the abolition of Competitive Tests ability had been compelled to give way to favouritism, and the competition for public appointments; and the result of all his measures had been to bring calamity on India, causing the people to suffer mentally, morally and financially. (Cheers.) With regard to the speech at the Convocation of Calcutta University, he was bound to say that it sounded to him very much like the squabbles of a quarrelsome schoolboy. From beginning to end it was founded on total ignorance. But, by means of it, Lord Curzon had done his best to estrange the people of India from the British Govern-

See Page 7.

CONTRACTED NEURALGIA DURING THE WAR.

I had a bad case of neuralgia which I contracted during the war. I tried several kinds of medicine but they did me no good until a friend of mine recommended Chamberlain's Pain Balm which gave me immediate relief. I have had no trouble since and must say that I find Chamberlain's Pain Balm a fine liniment. I have since used it for other troubles and always with good results. J. Viljoen, Jacobsdal, Transvaal. For sale by

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THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JUNE 8, 1905.

ALLEGED DOINGS OF THE 9TH
LANCERS.

The story told in the columns of the "Morning Leader," that some soldiers of the 9th Lancers plundered the bazar of an Indian town and killed some people, is most probably a fiction; but it suggests an element of danger which, we think, ought to form a subject for discussion. There was a time when the Indian Sepoys almost alone conquered territories in India for the British. There was also a time when the Indian Rajas helped the British Government for the same purpose. The policy is now changed. The Indian has been disarmed and emasculated, and the Government has to rely entirely upon British soldiers, even for its own existence.

During the Ilbert Bill agitation we came to learn, from a very high official that if Lord Ripon had been forced to yield to Anglo-Indian clamour, it was owing to a very disquieting incident, namely, that attempts were made, and that with some success, to tamper with the fidelity of the British troops in India. That this was not quite a myth was made plain by the open declaration in the Anglo-Indian papers of the time to the effect that the best course for the Anglo-Indians was to form an alliance with Australia and convert India into a Republic under Anglo-Indian control, giving up the mother country altogether! That some such thing was seriously discussed has also been acknowledged by no less an authority than Mr. Buckland in his work, "Bengal under the Lieutenant-Governors." He says:

"The Governor-General, the Marquis of Ripon, was personally insulted at the gate of Government House on his return to Calcutta for the cold weather of 1883-84. A conspiracy had been formed by a number of men in Calcutta, who bound themselves, in the event of Government adhering to their projected legislation, (namely the Ilbert Bill) to overpower the sentries at Government House, put the Viceroy on board a steamer at Chandpal Ghat, and send him off to England via the Cape." Mr. Buckland says that "the existence of this conspiracy was known to the Lieutenant-Governor, and to the responsible officer who subsequently gave me this information." There is thus not the slightest doubt about the authenticity of the fact, and the conspirators would not have ventured to talk of deporting a live Viceroy if they had not been assured of military help.

It was then for the first time we realized what enormous powers British soldiers here carry with them. The great boast of British rule in India is that it has brought peace and security in the land. That is quite true. The Moguls cannot now fight the Pathans, nor the Hindus, the Mussalmans; neither can Afghanistan commit any raid upon India with impunity; yet the Government derives all its strength from the British soldiers. If the latter prove disagreeable, our Government and protector becomes absolutely helpless.

This was not so before when the British authority here was defended, both by British troops and Indians. But, as we said, the policy, which Akbar had initiated, and which was followed not only by his lineal descendants but also by the British, of making the Indians interested along with the ruling caste, in the matter of defending the Empire, from internal revolutions and external aggressions, was latterly given up. The Indian element was practically expelled, and the protection of the Empire placed solely in the hands of the British troops.

This, however, is not the case anywhere else. All civilized Governments in the world derive their strength from the people. The United States has, practically speaking, no standing army; yet it is the strongest country in the world. Similarly, England has a small standing army; yet it is stronger than countries which have larger standing armies, because, of the patriotism of its inhabitants.

India itself, during the days, of the East India Company, was defended mainly by the Sepoys, even when the country fought with the Nepalese or Sikhs; but now the entire reliance of the Indian Government is upon British troops. In short, India is not now permitted to be defended by its own inhabitants. Nay, every effort has been made to render the Indian people absolutely useless, weak, and helpless. They have been driven from the army; they have been disarmed; even gun-licenses are most sparingly issued to them; in short, they have been shown in an unmistakable manner that they are not trusted.

True, we have an indigenous army called the Sepoys, and numerically they are stronger than the white troops; but they are badly armed, and they are never encouraged, and no patriotic feelings. They are the mercenary slaves of the State; they are made to feel by every means that they are outsiders and not trusted. Such an impression does not create enthusiasm. The enthusiasm that the Indian troops felt previously, as defenders of the Empire has been crushed.

It comes to this then, that the security of the Indians, and of Europeans in India, both official and non-official, nay, the security of the Government itself, lies solely in the feeling of patriotism of the white troops in India. The latter are Englishmen and it is no light work, therefore, to seduce them from their path of duty. It is upon this unflinching patriotism of the British troops that the security of us all depends. Of course we can safely depend upon this unflinching patriotism; yet the better course for the Government would be to adopt Akbar's method, the method, which they had followed during the Company's rule, of trusting, not only the British but also the Indians, for the defence of the Empire.

But the feeling created against the representative of the sovereign during the Ilbert Bill controversy, spurious and foolish though it really was, shows that it is possible, on the part of designing conspirators, if not actually to tamper with British troops, which is next to impossible, but to frighten the Government. The attitude of the 9th Lancers, who hied Lord Curzon, also proves that British troops are fully aware of the commanding position they hold in the country, which means, that though we have an Emperor, a Cabinet, a Parliament, and a Viceroy, it is the seventy thousand British troops who are masters of the situation. The above idea will force itself irresistibly into the mind of every thinking man who hears of the story, false

though it apparently is, of some soldiers of the 9th Lancers having raided the bazar and killed people, because of certain acts of the authorities not agreeable to them.

There is another consideration which is not likely to encourage the British troops in India to feel a particular affection for the existing bureaucratic Government in India. From the sentiments that we find disseminated through the columns of "evening papers, published in England, which represent the lower millions, one can see at a glance that they are not in favour of the system of rule that now prevails in governing the Empire. Their idea is that at the present moment, both England and India are ruled for the benefit of the few and that the Indians should get all the privileges that a British subject enjoys. No wonder that this should be the view of the organs of the vast bulk of the English people; for, men are naturally good and Englishmen come from the noblest stock. But the most potent reason why they do not love the bureaucratic rule in India is that it does not, in any way, serve the interests of the lower millions; for the fat of India is divided only among a few thousands of Englishmen, the lower millions do not get a drop of it.

Why should then Tom Atkins, who comes from the lower millions, with his one shilling per diem and dreary barrack life, feel in the same way for the present system of Government as the higher classes of Englishmen, who enjoy the leaves and fishes of the State do? At the same time, he knows his power; he knows that he and his comrades are the masters of the situation; he further knows that the military has only to lift his finger to cow down the strongest of officials. This is our position, the position of both Europeans and Indians in this country. We have thus a latent element of danger hanging over our heads. Why? Because, the policy of the Government is to weaken the people and strengthen brute force, as much as that is possible, forgetting that brute force is always blind.

What we submit is that volunteering should be encouraged not only among non-military Europeans but also among non-military Indians, and in this way another military force be created in the country for the benefit of all. This arrangement, as we said, prevails everywhere in the world except India. And the other way is to trust the people as they were trusted before. The emasculation of the people means the undermining of the foundation of the Government itself.

A CRY FOR A STRONGER HIGH COURT.

Is there any doubt that the Executive has completely succeeded in making itself supreme over the Judicial, whether it be the High Court, the District Judge or the Subordinate Magistrate? No one knows it better than the High Court itself; yet the Hon'ble Judges feel themselves quite unable to cope with the growing evil. And that is a calamity which is attended with more far-reaching consequences than honest mistakes, however grievous, committed by judicial officers in the trial of individual cases. We may, perhaps, claim to be more familiar with the feeling that prevails in the country as regards the merits and attitude of the Executive and the Judicial respectively, than many of our esteemed contemporaries; and we can confidently say that, while, as a rule, the Executive, to popular mind, is associated with pomp and power, with "zulum" and "zabardusti," the Judicial, as a rule, is associated with gentlemanly bearing, with redress of wrong, with protecting the innocent, and with punishing the guilty.

For the Executive to find it possible to lord it over the Judicial is, therefore, nothing less than a disaster all round, to the Government as well as to the subject, a disaster whose gloom thickly and ominously overshadows the vaunted distinctive enlightenment of the British rule in India. Even the High Court, such as it has unfortunately come to be in recent times, commands a more willing respect than Lieutenant-Governors. As regards District Judges, there are good and there are bad; and while the best of them are adored, beyond Magistrates and Commissioners, as real "Dharmavats," as powerful bulwarks against tyranny and oppression, and as inspirers of confidence in the integrity of the British rule, the worst of them have never so perilously degraded the Government in the eyes of the people, as some Magistrates and Commissioners have succeeded in doing.

A weekly contemporary the other day characterized the whole of the Rolt affair as "a soiled chapter in the annals of Bengal administration." If by "soiled chapter" is meant a chapter which records a determination on the part of the Executive to "break" a subject, a Judge's coming to his rescue, the executive trying to thwart the Judge and ending by flouting his judgment, and snubbing him and even seriously jeopardising his prospects for his post, nothing like it is to be found in the Rolt case, which has taken away the breath of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries. Such soiled chapters are, however, of so frequent occurrence as to nearly make up the whole book. Had our contemporaries, or the non-official Europeans in general, been more in touch with the conditions that prevail in our rural and Executive-ridden tracts, in that larger area which is real Bengal—Calcutta is mainly plagued with the Executive vices of the Mackenzie Corporation—they would not have beaten their breasts or torn their hair over a solitary European incident, in which the accused was treated on the whole in a considerate manner unknown in the case of an Indian accused, when hundreds of "Native" ones occur in the mofussil every day.

Indeed, they would not have made a martyr of Mr. Justice Henderson, nor even a fair of whose head as a Judge Sir Andrew Fraser is privileged to touch, when there are several District Judges, martyrs to their ideal of duty in a really substantial sense, and at the absolute mercy of an unscrupulous Executive; they would not have extolled the easy independence and outspokenness of that learned Judge, when, under circumstances of far greater difficulty and peril, many Mofussil Sessions Judges have, in the interests of the subject, of justice, of good Government, acted with more decisive independence and spoken out with clearer-ringing emphasis; they would not have characterized the Rolt case, which has had a purely adventitious importance attached to it by reason of Mr. Rolt's color and the fact that the opinion expressed about it was by a Judge of the High Court, as the gravest judicial scandal of the day or as the heaviest blow to the prestige of justice in India during recent memory, but would have accepted it as

negligible incident belonging to recognised and pampered order of the day, the result of the administrative tendency from many a year back. Except to the "molly-coddled" official, it is abundantly clear to the meanest understanding, that the downward suicidal march of that tendency must be arrested by the combined resistance of Europeans and Indians, if it is not to hurl the administration over the precipice to headlong and shivering ruin.

But have our Anglo-Indian contemporaries fingered the real plague spot? It is synonymous with the now universally recognised deterioration of the present High Court, the very same body to which the petted and belauded Mr. Justice Henderson belongs. Like a sheep summarily thrown on its back, it is allowing itself, with its eyes blindly turned towards the heaven and without even so much show of indignation as may be expressed by the faintest of bleats, to be shorn, one by one, of its prestige, its independence, its character as the uncompromising upholder of right against wrong. The lynx-eyed vigilance of Sir Barnes Peacock alertly guarding the heir-looms of judicial tradition against the stealthy and cat-footed approach of the Executive enemy is gone. The tiger-strength with which he fought the Executive hyenas is no more. The British lion which in former days supported the dignity of the seat where justice was enthroned is now only to be seen, crouching with a nonchalant stare, upon the columned gate of Belvedere and the Government House.

We need not remind a keen reader of history like Lord Curzon of the most remarkable thing that took place in the Delhi Durbar preceding his own, and presided over by that most brilliant but Toriest of Viceroy, Lord Lytton. With a dramatic pose that, perhaps, Lord Curzon himself would in vain try to imitate, with a diction whose exuberant eloquence and poetic richness were never echoed in 1902, with a true sighted statesmanship which is the despair of later and more degenerate times, he, the first representative of the Empress of India, addressed that brilliant gathering, flashing with diamonds and golden sword-hilts. Not for one moment were his keen penetrating eyes riveted to the flash of diamond or of gold. The Indian Chiefs and the valiant British Generals were ignored. His gaze straightly sought the soberly-robed High Court Judges.

"Valuable," he said, "is the loyal friendship of the Native Chiefs; valuable is the strength of grip with which the British Generals wield their swords; yet not upon them, but upon the vigilance, the independence, and the fearless conscientiousness of thought and utterance of Her Majesty's Judges do the safety and glory of the British Empire in India depend." We do not possess the eloquence or the authority of Lord Lytton. We humbly pray to Lord Curzon: Give us a High Court, such as Lord Lytton had in his mind, and a judiciary above the evil of the Executive and subject able to spare the invincible Lord Kitchener and his costly mountain fortresses, and even—the "Amrita Bazar Patrika." And we exhort our Anglo-Indian contemporaries to join in the prayer.

The marvellous manner in which the Russian Squadron was annihilated by the Japanese, as if in an instant, has created an impression in the minds of the common people here, that the latter must have been aided by the Devas or the gods. Fancy the situation. The Russians, at a huge cost and immense trouble, prepared what they considered an invincible Armada. This magnificent fleet was under the management of expert commanders and brave sailors. The ships are sighted by the Japanese and what was the result? The whole Squadron is annihilated, as if they were so many paper boats, in a moment! Such a spectacle was never witnessed in the world—in ancient or modern times. Of course Nelson won the battle of Trafalgar, and immortalized himself. But the fighting on both sides was long and severe, and for a time there was no knowing whom victory would favour. But here in this Russo-Jap conflict, we see there was scarcely any fight at all. The Japs saw the squadron and destroyed it immediately. We believe, this unprecedented achievement is mainly due to one principal fact. The Russians fought as mercenaries or as men who were compelled to fight against their will, but the Japs fought for the glory of their country and their very existence. It is genuine and unselfish patriotism which has made the Japs irresistible and practically invincible. It is the love of their country which makes a nation great. A country which is saturated with this love has nothing to fear. Even when numerically weak, such a country succeeds, not only in maintaining its independence, but extorting respect from its neighbours. Those who have no patriotism are likened to "human sheep," which the Americans call the Indians.

As usual, the speech of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji as President of the Lord Curzon Protest Meeting in London, was full of information and sound sense. He quoted chapter and verse to show how the British rulers made large promises to the people of India when they took possession of the country, and how they have broken them one by one with the advance of their rule. He thus turned the tables upon Lord Curzon by pointing out that, if the Indians in his opinion were untruthful, of which there was no proof, there was ample evidence to convict the British Government of making promises which they never performed. For instance, says Mr. Dadabhai, a committee was formed in the year 1860, of five members of no less a body than the Council of the Secretary of State, in order to enquire what the Government of the day should do with regard to the Act of 1833, by which all disqualification of race and creed was abolished. This Committee of five men—all high Anglo-Indian officials, who had done much work in India, and whose names were all well known, gave a very decided opinion that the British Government had exposed itself to the charge of "having made promises to the ear and broken them to the hope."

This was in 1860. In 1865 the Duke of Argyll clearly acknowledged what had been the conduct of the British Government towards the Indian people in these words:—"I must say that we have not fulfilled our duty or the promises and engagements which we have made."

"That does not look very like sincerity and righteousness on the part of the British Government," says Mr. Dadabhai. Then comes Lord Lytton. Something like 18

years after the Committee of 1860 had given their opinion, Lord Lytton, in a private despatch to the Secretary of State, used these words:—

"No sooner was the Act (1833) passed, than the Government began to devise means for practically evading the fulfilment of it for all so many deliberate and transparent subterfuges for nullifying the Act, and reducing it to a dead letter. I do not hesitate to say that both the Government of England and of India appear to me, up to the present moment, unable to answer satisfactorily the charge of having taken every means in their power of breaking to the heart the words of promise they had uttered to the ear."

And no less a personage than Lord Salisbury summed up the whole thing in two words. He declared that the conduct of the British Government to the Indian people was "political hypocrisy." "It does not, then," says Mr. Dadabhai "lie very well in the mouth of Anglo-Indian officials to talk of lapses of Indian character and immorality."

Mr. Dadabhai draws a very important moral from the protest meetings held in India for the purpose of passing a vote of censure upon the present head of the India Government. He says, here is a clear issue between the rulers and the people: they are come face to face. The rulers say:—"We shall rule you not as British subjects but only as foreign invaders, with the result of draining the country of its wealth, and the poverty thereby created causing the deaths of millions by famine, plague, pestilence, and malaria." While the ruled are saying for the first time,—"That shall not be." And the Grand Old Man, with the enthusiasm of a young man of 30, remarks:—"I regard the day on which the first Calcutta meeting was held as a red-letter day in the annals of India. I am thankful that I have lived to see the birth-day of the freedom of the Indian people." We quite agree with Mr. Dadabhai that it was an epoch-making event—this protest of the nation at a public meeting against the present system of Government; but then, we shall never be able to attain our object if we remain apathetic and do not exert ourselves incessantly to better our condition.

This battle of India's regeneration must be fought in India and not in England. Thereby we do not of course deprecate agitation in the ruling country. It is, however, a fact that the English public will not attach much importance to the opinions of the band of patriots who are serving the cause of India in England unless they are backed by the voices of millions in this country. The meeting of the Indian residents in the United Kingdom, which is the subject of this note, would have produced very little impression in England, if it were not the result of the wave of patriotic enthusiasm created in this country by the "repressive policy of the Government." We think, what the nation should do is to rally round that banner of liberty which the late Queen-Empress graciously conferred upon the people of this country in 1858, and carry on a systematic and sustained agitation for the fulfilment of the terms contained in the Royal Proclamation. Mr. Dadabhai would do an incalculable service to India if he would see his way to impress upon our people of the grave importance of such a movement. Our only hope lies in the solemn words of the Queen that the Indians would be treated equally in every respect with her European subjects. Now that the authorities are seeking to give a different meaning to the Proclamation, this is the most opportune time not only for entering protests against such a monstrous interpretation, but also for insisting on the fulfilment of its provisions. A word from Mr. Dadabhai in this respect will carry a good deal of weight with our people.

One hears it asserted sometimes, in the columns of British Indian newspapers, that His Highness the Nizam's Public Works Department is the worst-managed Department of the State, capable of no improvement, so long as it continues to be under Indian control. But really things are not so bad as they are painted by outside critics, either from prejudice or want of accurate information. The best way of proving it is merely to indicate the reforms that have been carried out within the last 3 or 4 years, say, since the appointment of the present Public Works Secretary. At one time—that not long ago—all public works were in the hands of a handful of influential contractors. Some of these had the contracts of a whole District, and others those of two or three Districts, year after year. And they executed them very much as they liked. Being friends of the higher authorities, they had it in their power to make it uncomfortable for any of the District Staff that dared to offend them in the due discharge of their duties. So few Officers had the courage to submit the results of their periodical inspections to higher authorities. The result was, the contractors grew very rich in the course of a few years, and the return the Government got for the large sums spent by it annually was inconceivable. Roads were mostly in a very bad condition. Finding that no action had been taken on repeated representations on the subject, the British Resident went the length of threatening to take charge of the roads connecting one or two of the British cantonments in the Dominions. (N. B.—How we wish, we had somebody here in Calcutta to hold out similar threats to the Executive of the Calcutta Corporation.) The heads of the District Police, Jails, Customs and Post Office also pressed upon the Government the advisability of their being permitted to carry out their own works. Further, big estimates were sanctioned for small works; public monies were spent for private purposes; and, in certain cases, no accounts were rendered of permanent sources of income. Nor was this all. The Department was officered very indifferently. The only qualification demanded of a man desirous to enter it was that he should have influence. Even men who did not know how to draw a straight line became Supervisors and Assistant Engineers.

All this has been changed. For all works tenders are now publicly invited through notifications published in the "Jareeda" or the "Government Gazette." They are received in the first instance by the District Engineer who, with his opinion, forwards them to the Chief Engineer. This Officer has the authority to sanction works up to Rs. 2,000. Where more costly works are concerned, tenders are submitted to the Moin-ul-Maham or Departmental Minister, for approval and sanction. The effect of this system has been to break up the old course of monopoly, and widen the sphere of competition of contractors.

which, in its turn, has led to the reduction of old rates of payments by about 20 per cent. In regard to roads, contractors are required merely to supply metal and masonry. The work of spreading this is done departmentally. Many of the public works which were a dead charge, formerly on the Public Treasury are now beginning to be profitable. The Bilkapur Channel, for instance, which was constructed at a cost of several lakhs, and was being maintained at an annual cost of about Rs. 14,000, brought little or no return. Much of its water was stolen, and little entered the tanks it was meant to feed. Silt having accumulated in its bed, obstructed the passage of water to the Hussain Sagor Lake, which is the chief source of water-supply to Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Now, the theft of water has been stopped. Silt-clearing being done regularly, the depth of water in the lake has increased by about 9 feet. The old favourite practice of keeping Officers in the same place, for long periods, sometimes for 16 or 17 years, enabling them thereby to engage in trade, has been discontinued. And only qualified men are now appointed to vacancies caused by death, retirement or dismissal.

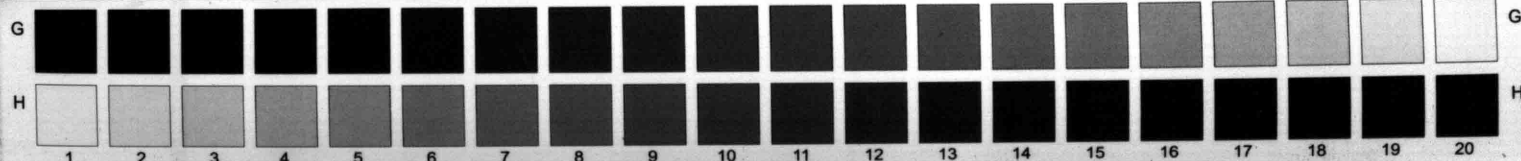
Is it possible that the "Statesman" has failed to understand the joke of the "Englishman"? In his speech on the Official Secrets Bill, his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor had hurled his threats in impassioned language on those who were to violate its provisions. Moulvi Shamsuz Zoha had done the same thing in regard to his own subordinates in the Khagra estate, who were in charge of the Rolt case papers. The Moulvi had issued a notice to the effect that he would prosecute the parties who would betray the secrets connected with the Rolt Case. The "Englishman," thereupon, realizing the humour of the situation, sought to expose the ludicrousness of the Lieutenant-Governor's position by declaring that, of all men, his Honour should have been the last to censure the Moulvi for carrying out what Sir A. Fraser had so vehemently advocated! That was, we think, the plain meaning of the "Englishman's" paragraph, which we quoted in our Saturday's issue, with our comments upon it. The "Statesman," however, seen in this joke of the "Englishman" the "commendation" of the latter for the Moulvi! This is, however, a matter between the "Englishman" and the "Statesman" in which we have no concern.

We, however, object to the ingenuity of the "Statesman" in applying our alleged argument, which we never made, for the purpose of proving the so-called defect in the "Englishman's" line of reasoning. Our contemporary suggests that the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" might with equally agreeable results exculpate Mr. Heard of all his blame. "Thus, for example," says the "Statesman" "the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' might argue that that Officer's real misdeemeanor is his 'artistic appreciation of fine furniture by Lazarus,' and that his real strength and independence were shown in his refusal to obey improper instructions from the Collector not to issue the warrant." So the "Patrika" might argue! But, did it ever do it? No, never! It is, however, quite true that Mr. Heard showed his independence and strength of character by refusing to obey the improper order of Mr. Lea not to issue a warrant; for which he deserves praise, and not censure, even from our contemporary as an ardent advocate of the judicial independence of the subordinate Magistrates. The act of issuing by him a warrant may be condemned when a summons would serve the purpose, but, by not yielding slavishly as a judicial officer to the telegraphic "hukoom" of the District Magistrate, Mr. Heard undoubtedly maintained the prestige of the Judiciary for which he deserves support.

As for his issuing a warrant Mr. Heard's explanation is that, as Mr. Rolt was implicated in a warrant case, he was perfectly within his legal rights to issue a warrant. There was also another ground in his favour which Mr. Heard, for obvious reasons, could not urge, namely, that if an Indian had been accused of a serious offence like the one preferred against Mr. Rolt, Mr. Heard would not only have issued a warrant against him, but perhaps given him no bail, as some of the sections under which Mr. Rolt was charged are non-bailable. Would not the public have seen an invidious distinction in the conduct of Mr. Heard if he had issued a simple summons in the case of Mr. Rolt, whereas his practice had been always quite otherwise in the case of the Indians? It is rather surprising that the "Statesman" whose only interest in the Rolt case apparently lies in his notion that it involves the question of the relation between the Executive and the Judiciary, should find fault with Mr. Heard for showing judicial independence which entitles him to the support of every one who is against the undue encroachments of the executive upon the rights of the judiciary. By all means condemn him for his harshness towards Rolt; but give him also his due for not giving up his judicial independence at the dictation of his official superior.

A correspondent writes:—News comes from Kangra that the other day a boy fell accidentally into a well, but no one among those on the spot ventured to go down to his rescue. All were hesitating when a young Bengali gentleman Babu Jagan Mohan Roy who was passing that way, heard of the occurrence, and boldly descending brought out the lad. The latter, however, was unfortunately so exhausted that he died within a few hours. Babu Jagan Mohan's plucky act deserves notice. He has been working as a Volunteer with the Relief Fund of Pandit Sunder Mal for over two months.—"Tribune."

The recent agricultural prosperity of the Central Provinces is reflected in the Report on the Reformatory School for the past year, the number of admissions having been considerably lower than the average of the previous five years. The license system worked excellently, and owing to the diminishing number of boys in the school the demand for them considerably exceeded the supply. No police supervision is exercised over the boys once they leave the institution, and it is interesting to note that this confidence is not misplaced. Having once undergone the discipline of the Reformatory the boys are allowed to forget their bad start in life. The industrial teaching at the Reformatory was successful, but it is a pity that this institution does not possess the facilities for agricultural training.



ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, May 19.

"Unless we perform Divine service in every willing act of life, we never perform it at all. The one Divine work, the one ordered sacrifice—is to do justice; and that is the last we are ever inclined to do. Anything rather than that! As much charity as you choose, but no justice."—RUSKIN.

ANOTHER TRIBUTE TO INDIA'S CHAMPION.

MR. WILLIAM DIGBY, C.I.E.

Last Tuesday the annual meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society, London, was held, and in the course of the proceedings reference was made by the Chairman, Sir Raymond West, to the long death roll for 1904 of members of the Society. Sir Raymond took the place of Lord Reay, President of the learned Society, who was detained by his duties at the House of Lords. Lord Reay himself has deservedly won renown for his graciousness and tactfulness, no less in India than in England; and it may well be said that he stands almost unrivalled in the admirable manner in which he refers to valuable service rendered in any phase of life's activities by those who have been called out of their sphere to labour, we believe, in a higher sphere. However, as Lord Reay was not able to reach the Society's rooms in Albemarle Street in time, as he intended, to pay a fitting tribute to distinguished men whose death the Society mourns, no better substitute could have been found than Sir Raymond West who ever keeps a sympathetic mind towards India and her people. No less than fifteen members of the Society have passed the gates of Death since the last annual meeting, and among them are such eminent men as Lord Northbrook, Major General Forlong, Field-Marshal Sir Henry Norman, Sir Henry Norman, Shaikh Hassan Tawfiq, His Excellency the Marquis de Yotha, Mr. William Digby, Sir John Scott, Dr. Edmund Hardy, and orientologists in France and Germany. The five names to which Sir Raymond made reference were Lord Northbrook, Sir William Rattigan, Sir John Scott, Major-General Forlong and Mr. Digby. Time did not allow for more. One can understand that the great services of Lord Northbrook to the Empire and to oriental learning should be fittingly recognised by the Society of which he was for some years President. Sir William Rattigan's services, too, in a special branch of law were not forgotten; Sir John Scott's memory, beloved both in Egypt and in India and his devoted interest in the East were feelingly spoken of by Sir Raymond as a personal friend; and to Major-General Forlong the Society is indebted for a benefaction amounting to £5,000. This was gladly recognised. When Sir Raymond came to the name of Mr. Digby he remarked that he was a man who had rendered important service in his special sphere of activity. This sympathetic recognition by the Royal Asiatic Society will be gratifying to all who know India's devoted champion, and especially to all who had the privilege of calling him friend, while to his own family the kind words will come with something of a healing effect to their deep sorrow. The Society which leads the way in all oriental research and knowledge numbers the name of William Digby among those members whose deaths during the past year it deeply deploras.

POVERTY AND PLAGUE.

Some very plain speaking was heard yesterday afternoon with regard to the true condition of the people of India at the extra meeting of the Indian Section of the Society of Arts, when Dr. Creighton read a paper on the subject of plague in India. The eminent pathologist did not reach Calcutta in carrying out his recent investigations on plague; he appears to have restricted his journeys in India to the Bombay Presidency, the Punjab, North-West, and Central Provinces. But the facts and figures he set forth were terrible. One of the subsequent speakers characterised the paper as the saddest he had ever listened to. It told of lack and lack of people carried off by the dread disease, and little or nothing done to cope with it. It may be mentioned that the lecturer himself was scornful in his references to the recently appointed scientific commission, announced with a flourish of trumpets as intending to make a thorough investigation into the origin and causes of plague, but in reality the two bacteriologists were proceeding to India, he said, "to work with a view to settling all open questions in the hypothesis of flea-bites." Although a truly scientific man himself, Dr. Creighton does not imagine that science is going to eradicate plague. He propounds the theory that the mud houses in so many Indian villages are fruitful sources of plague germs. For this reason, plague infection resides in the ground, especially in old inhabited and undrained areas. In building their houses of mud, the germs are built into their lives. Especially at night is the danger great when, by the laws of soil-infection, the ground-air moves naturally towards the walled space. The people of India, he declared were well aware of this fact, and understood long ago the advisability of evacuating their houses at night. He gave instances seen during his travels of streams of people leaving a town or village at sunset and spending the night in the open. In some cases the night camps are becoming really the new village, the old area being deserted. However, to come to the Doctor's chief point, he maintained that "Pukka" houses of brick or stone, paved roadways, and an improvement in the standard of living were essential. Even the new colonies of the Punjab, the Chenab, and others, have been attacked by plague and the loss of life has been appalling. The inhabitants of these colonies have built their houses of mud; they have used the soil that has received the accretions of rubbish of centuries; little wonder that plague hatches and thrives in such circumstances. It remained for Professor Simpson and another speaker in the debate to take up and press home this conclusion of the lecturer. Better houses. Yes. But what about the cost? It is the abject poverty of the people which prevents an outlay of this kind. They can scarcely keep body and soul together, how can they be expected to build stone houses? It would, it was argued, be difficult perhaps to overcome the conservatism of the people, their inclination to continue in old ways, but that was by no means the greatest difficulty. Their poverty stood in the way of carrying out the Doctor's advice.

As the argument progressed it reminded me of what from time to time happens in England. Poor patient, perhaps consumptive, is taken to a doctor; he advises rest, good living, a change of air, perhaps a sea voyage, and the patient probably finds it almost impossible to make ends meet in the simplest expenditure, leaving luxuries out of the question. Of course in England there are free hospitals, free convalescent homes, free institutions for dealing with almost every disease, not to mention charitable societies of all kinds. Individual cases may seem hard and some doctors heedless in their advice, but there are many who, recognising a patient's circumstances, will guide them to the proper channels for receiving benefit without cost. But how to cope with the poverty of India? Charitable institutions would be needed in thousands, and then little effect would be made. How much might be done, however, if instead of spending money on what an Anglo-Indian official described to me the other day as "wild-cat schemes" beyond the frontier, the grinding burden of taxation were relieved. Then there would be some chance of the people getting both food and better houses—but meanwhile the scientists are to work in London and two young men are to go to India, and it is thought plague will be stayed.

The meeting was prolonged to so late an hour that one speaker, who feels very strongly on the question of dealing with plague in India, was crowded out. It was Dr. Pollen, whose service in Bombay revealed many facts regarding plague. He was almost boiling over with indignation at what he called "finkering" with the evil. In a chat I have since had with him he declared that the people of India are being bullied and vilified all to no purpose. "They know more about plague," he declared, "than all these Doctors chattering here. It makes me furious." He insisted on the fact that the people understood the value of evacuation; they knew that it was useful to leave an infected area. Professor Simpson again insisted, as he did last year when Mr. O'Connor read the paper that caused such a sensation among the Anglo-Indian ex-officials of the Society, that no country could be called prosperous that lost one in three hundred of its inhabitants. But since last year the losses in India have advanced from 1 in 300, to 1 in 79, 1 in 33, and even, on Dr. Creighton's showing to 1 in 4 in some places. There has been nothing like it, Professor Simpson maintained, either in or out of India since 1348, when the Black Death swept over Europe. The position is not realised in England. He said he had looked, but looked in vain, for large administrative measures but all that happened was that a few scientists sat at work in London and two young men were sent to India. Something more worthy of a great nation should be done in a crisis like this. The people may be blamed, as Dr. Pollen says, but in reality it is their poverty that renders them an easy prey to the fell invader.

SCRAPS.

Rainfall during the week was fairly general and in places heavy. Sowing of early rice and jute is approaching completion, but that of winter rice and autumn crops is still in progress. Prospects continue favourable. Cattle-disease reported from a few districts, but there is no want of fodder or water. The price of common rice has an upward tendency, but there is nothing abnormal in the figures.

A sensational story has reached us from Dinapur. Since sometime past, a practice prevails in the Dinapur Cantonment to kill dogs within its jurisdiction, and a man has been engaged for the purpose. It so happened that, on the 3rd June, while a dog was fired at, the shot instead of killing the animal wounded a number of women and a girl. There is no doubt of it that the mishap was due to accident, but all the same, an enquiry should be made into the circumstances leading to it.

Mr. Harold Stuart, C. S., Director-General, Criminal Intelligence Department, acts as Home Secretary to the Government of India, vice Mr. Hammick reverted to his appointment as Chief Secretary, Madras.

Rai Baij Nath, General Secretary of the Vaish Maha Sabha writes to say that Pandit Kirpa Ram Upadhyak of the Sabha was deputed to find out and help sufferers in the earthquake at Kangra. Rs. 1500 were raised and these were spent in distributing food and clothing the great wants of the place. The suffering is still great. The Sabha will be glad to receive contributions.

His Highness the Maharajah of Bhavnagar while out for a ride received intimation of a panther having crossed the road into the Victoria Park, which is only half a mile distant from Nilambag, his Highness's residence. The Maharajah at once proceeded to the park and soon despatched the beast, which measured seven feet. Before being shot dead, however, the panther charged and slightly wounded two of the hunters.

Information comes from Kuttappuram, in the Ponnani Taluk Calicut, of an outrage in a Hindu Temple standing on a neighbouring hill. The popular report is that the offence was perpetrated by a gang of Moplahs belonging to the locality. The idol and its pedestal were knocked down and destroyed. It would appear that two attempts were made previously to burn down the temple, but in both cases, it was not found possible to trace the culprits. There is a Moplah mosque near the temple, and the Hindus believe that these recurring outrages are due to this circumstance, since a Moplah priest is believed to have expressed the opinion that a temple in such proximity to a mosque must always be a source of misfortune and calamity. The present case is being closely investigated.

High Court.—June 6.

CRIMINAL BENCH.

Before Justices Pargiter and Woodroffe.

A MAINTENANCE CASE.

Mr. Philip Morton with Babu Sasi Sekhar Basu moved on behalf of one Thakur Das Shu Kalwar. One Mungree applied to the Northern Division Magistrate for her maintenance against the petitioner on the allegation that she was the petitioner's wife and that the petitioner refused to maintain her. Proceedings were taken against the petitioner and he was eventually ordered on 16th October 1903 to pay Mungree Rs. 10 a month. On 20th September 1904 Mungree executed the said order of maintenance, the goods of the petitioner's father at Howrah were seized and he had to pay the money under protest. The petitioner moved the High Court and obtained a rule, which rule was made absolute by Justices Henderson and Geidt on 3rd February last. According to the directions made in that order the case was sent down to the Presidency Magistrate's court to determine the question whether any notice of the maintenance proceedings against him had been served upon the petitioner. The Magistrate confined his enquiry only to the service of the notice dated 23rd September 1903 and did not allow any question relating to the alleged service of summons issued by the Magistrate on the 16th September 1903. The Presidency Magistrate came to the conclusion that notice was served upon the petitioner and so declined to make a report to the High Court. Counsel urged that on the facts found the court below had no jurisdiction to make the order dated 16th October 1903 and as such the whole order ought to be set aside and that the Magistrate had not properly carried out the order of the High Court.

Their Lordships issued a rule upon the Chief Presidency Magistrate to show cause why the order directing the applicant to pay maintenance to the complainant should not be set aside on the grounds urged by the counsel.

ALLEGED BREACH OF THE ARMS ACT.

Babu Shama Prosonno Mozumdar on behalf of Ashutosh Ghose, lately a Sub-Inspector of Police, moved for a rule upon the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum to show cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioner should not be set aside.

The petitioner was prosecuted for an offence under sec 19 cl. (a) of the Arms Act for having illegally sold a gun to Rani Dhamoni of the Dalbhoom Raj family. It was pointed out by the petitioner that the transaction was made by a man who was a common officer of both the Raja and the Rani. The Raja was exempt from the operations of the Arms Act and the petitioner did not know to whom the gun was sold. The Deputy Commissioner, however, convicted the petitioner under the above section and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 20.

Learned Vakils urged that in the absence of any finding that the petitioner knew that the purchase of the gun was really for the Rani, the conviction was illegal, that six members of the Raj family being exempt from taking out licenses, the Deputy Magistrate should not have convicted the petitioner, and that in the absence of any evidence to show that the Rani was prohibited from possessing a gun, the Deputy Magistrate was wrong in convicting the petitioner.

Pargiter, J.—But why was the petitioner at all prosecuted? The petitioner had incurred the displeasure of the District Police Superintendent and hence the prosecution. Their Lordships granted a rule on the merits of the petition.

A COMPROMISE NOT ALLOWED.

Babu Bankim Chunder Sen moved on behalf of Hriday Nath Mozumdar and 4 others who were summoned before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Thakurgaon, in the district of Dinajpur, at the instance of one Matilal Mitra under Sec. 504 I. P. C. for using insulting and abusive language to the latter. Several Sections were mentioned in the petition of complaint, but the Court issued proceedings under Sec. 504. On 20th May a petition of compromise was filed by both parties and the Magistrate was asked to dismiss the case according to the provisions of Sec. 815 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The Magistrate, however, instead of giving effect to the compromise at once postponed its consideration observing that as there was a charge under Sec. 149 I. P. C. he would like to take the advice of the District Magistrate as to whether the compromise should be accepted.

Learned Vakils argued that this was wholly irregular as one offence which was under enquiry before the Court was one under Sec. 504 which was compoundable under the law. Their Lordships passed the following order:—Let a rule issue upon the District Magistrate of Dinajpur to show cause why the case against the petitioner should not have been at once dismissed upon the compromise petition being put in by both the parties inasmuch as the only offence the Deputy Magistrate was enquiring into was one under Section 504.

A RULE MADE ABSOLUTE.

Babu Atulya Charan Basu appeared in support of a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Champaran and to the opposite party to show cause why the final order of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Bettiah should not be set aside on the ground that the initial order did not state the ground upon which the Magistrate was satisfied that there was a dispute likely to cause a breach of the peace. The facts of the case are as follows:—On the 9th of January last the Magistrate at the instance of Mr. Shaw, Manager, Harpur Factory, drew up proceedings under Section 145 Cr. P. C. The opposite party filed the written statement and contended inter alia that there was no likelihood of a breach of the peace on their behalf. The petitioner filed his written statement alleging that the notice served on the petitioner was vague and indistinct and did not contain the information required by law to enable the petitioner to state clearly the facts about the property in dispute, and that the said notice did not contain the boundaries of

the lands in dispute nor did it give the name of the Mouza in which the lands lie. On the 18th January last, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate passed an order declaring the opposite party to be in possession of the disputed land. Babu Atulya Charan Basu for the petitioner contended in the 1st place that there were not sufficient materials before the Magistrate justifying the imputation of proceedings under sec 145 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and as such the entire proceedings were void on the ground of want of jurisdiction. Their Lordships made the rule absolute.

A CASE OF SATI.

Their Lordships delivered the following judgment in the appeal case preferred by one Somnar Chowkidar who had been convicted under sections 304 read with section 114 and sentenced to 1 year's rigorous imprisonment by the Sessions Judge of Patna. The facts of the case are fully stated in the judgment:—

On the 8th October last one Chandhuri Misar died and his widow burnt herself with his body in the evening, the fire being lighted by their son and some Brahmins. Four Brahmins, two Chamars and Chowkidar Samar were found guilty by the jury under sections 304 and 114 I. P. C. All appealed to this court but only the appeal of Samar Chowkidar was admitted the rest being summarily dismissed.

The facts alleged against Samar were that, as Chowkidar, it was his duty under sec. 44 Cr. P. C. (and also sec. 39 Chowkidari Act.) to prevent the commission of this murder, to arrest the persons who committed it and to give immediate information of it to the Police; but he was present as a spectator and deliberately neglected all his duties so that by his illegal omissions he really abetted the offence. The arguments urged before us are that the learned Sessions Judge misdirected the jury in the following respects: (1) he did not put all the facts before them; (2) he did not explain the law to them fully and (3) he did not show how the accused could have stopped the Sati.

We have read the charge carefully and we do not think that the learned Judge has misdirected the jury in these ways. He went through the whole of the evidence and put that affecting each of the accused persons separately, and pointed out that there was only one witness who incriminated this Chowkidar. He also pointed out how the accused was alleged to have abetted the "Sati" and warned the jury that active participation was necessary. He pointed out that this Chowkidar not only did not interfere at all but also omitted to give information to the Police.

He concluded his charge with putting the case of this Chowkidar to the jury in the following words: "As regards the Chowkidar Samar I pointed out to the jury most carefully that there was only one witness against him. Bhairu Chowkidar, that what was charged against him was that he had intentionally aided the carrying out of the 'Sati' by illegally abstaining from giving information at the time, and that unless the jury found the intention, the Chowkidar was not guilty."

The question of sentence has also been pressed upon us. It is one year's rigorous imprisonment. We do not think, considering the extreme gravity of the offence and the Chowkidar's absolute neglect of all his duties, that the sentence is excessive.

The appeal is, therefore, dismissed.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A SETTLEMENT OFFICER.

Babu Dasrathi Sanyal appeared in support of a rule obtained on behalf of one Burhan Sing, who had been convicted under section 211 I. P. C. and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment by a Deputy Magistrate of Ranchi, calling upon the District Magistrate to show cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioner should not be set aside.

On 8th June 1904 Burhan Sing filed a petition of complaint charging an Assistant Settlement Officer, Babu Satish Chunder Sing, with having on the 5th idem caused him to be assaulted by a clerk and a Chaprasi. The allegations were that on that day the petitioner was called by the Assistant Settlement Officer to Pirihatu for the decision of some disputes and that he was asked to admit the claims of the ryot and was told that unless he admitted the claims he would be beaten. Then he denied to admit the claims saying that the lands were his "Khudkhas" and that evidence might be taken. On this the Assistant Settlement Officer was alleged to have ordered the peon and the clerk to beat him and to make him run seizing him by the ears and said that this being done he would admit the ryot's claim. Then according to the order the peon and the clerk fisted and kicked him and struck him with a stick and made him run seizing him by the ears and the Assistant Settlement Officer also told him that he must be present at the camp always otherwise he would be fined Rs. 100 daily. Babu G. C. Banerjee, Deputy Magistrate, before whom the petitioner filed the above complaint took the unusual course of submitting the records to the Deputy Commissioner for orders before dealing with the complaint himself. Mr. Carnduff, the Sessions Judge remarked that the Deputy Magistrate was "acting on the executive side" and wished to apprise the head of the district of the fact that a serious charge had been preferred against a responsible public servant employed in it and also no doubt to give him an opportunity for deciding by whom so important a case was to be tried. The Deputy Commissioner was absent from headquarters at the time and the Joint Magistrate was in charge of the current duties of the office. The Joint Magistrate on receipt of the complaint, took cognisance of it himself and sent it to the Settlement Officer Mr. Lester for enquiry. On receipt of the Settlement Officer's report, the Joint Magistrate on 21st July was satisfied that the complaint was false, dismissed the complaint and called on Burhan Sing to show cause why he should not be prosecuted under section 211 I. P. C. On 11th August Burhan filed another petition repeating the charge against the Assistant Settlement Officer and declared that he was prepared to substantiate it and prayed that witnesses be examined. After taking the deposition of witnesses the Joint Magistrate was still of the same opinion that the charge was a pure fabrication and directed the prosecution of Burhan under section 211 I. P. C. The case was sent to the Deputy Commissioner who in his turn transferred it to the file of Babu N. N. Dutt, Deputy Magistrate, who convicted Burhan under section 211 I. P. C. and sentenced him to one year's rigorous imprisonment. There was an appeal

to the Sessions Judge, but the appeal was dismissed.

Mr. Douglas White, Deputy Legal Representative, opposed the rule.

Woodroffe, J.—Had the Assistant Settlement Officer any power to tell his open to catch hold of the petitioner?

Babu D. Sanyal.—There is absolutely no power, so far as I am aware. The Assistant Settlement Officer has got the powers of a civil court in certain matters. Surely no civil court possesses or should possess a power like that exercised by the Assistant Settlement Officer.

Woodroffe, J.—What is the complaint?

Babu D. Sanyal.—The petitioner was under the orders of the Assistant Settlement Officer taken by force before him and he was assaulted by the peon and the clerk and the petitioner was obliged to execute a bond for Rs. 100 to secure his attendance before him on the next day.

Woodroffe, J.—The Judge finds that there was mutual pushing and the Assistant Settlement Officer admits that too. The bond was also executed.

Babu D. Sanyal.—Yes, my lord.

Their Lordships then delivered a lengthy judgment in which they believed that there was actually a scuffle between the petitioner and the peon. The judgment concluded with these words:—"We do not think that the accused was justified in inferring that the Assistant Settlement Officer had, as he alleged, ordered his chaprasi to beat him. We think that perhaps the accused may have, under the circumstances, attributed the action of the Chowkidar to the order which was admittedly given to the latter by the Assistant Settlement Officer. In any case we are not prepared to say that the charge which the accused laid, though undoubtedly an untrue and exaggerated one, was a false charge for which he should be convicted under the section under which he has been charged. We set aside the conviction and sentence and order the discharge of the prisoner."

BANKIPUR NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Bankipur, June 3.

THE RECORD THEFT CASE.

This scandalous affair has entered a new phase. Although the matter is under police enquiry ever since the occurrence has taken place, yet nothing has transpired that can lead to the detection of the culprits. In the course of their investigation the police made a search in the house of the individual employee of the copying department and while they were thus busy in this wild goose chase some of the missing documents were sent to the 3rd Sub-Judge by post with the assurance that the rest have been consigned to flames. Does not this show that the perpetrators of the deed are bold rascals whom it would be very difficult for the Patna Police to lay hand upon? Our opinion of the utter inefficiency of the Patna Police is not the result of any meaningless prejudice against them, but is formed mainly from past experiences. Take for instance the late arson case in which the 4th Muniff's Court was burnt down. What did the police do to unravel the mystery? All that they did was to send up a Civil Court peon for trial, who, however, to their utter discomfiture was honourably acquitted by the Sessions Court. So, if the authorities are in earnest not merely to fasten guilt on somebody for the day's work, but to find out the real culprits then the matter ought to be placed in the hands of some skilful detectives imported from outside the rank of Patna Police. Then, by the bye, may we enquire here why such scandals do not occur in the offices of the Divisional Commissioner and opium agent but are mainly confined in the Civil and Criminal Courts. We of course, don't know if ever any record was similarly stolen from the Criminal Courts, but the "Bank forgery case" of last year was not a whit less scandalous than the present theft of records from the Civil Court. There can be only one reply to our query and that is amlas in the Civil and Criminal Courts are in some cases recruited without any regard being paid to their qualification. For instance we are told that a District Officer while leaving the station thrust the son of his menial servant into his office as a mark of his appreciation of the services of the father. Kindness such as this is indeed very good in its own way but there can be no denying the fact that such recruitment materially lessens the efficiency of the staff. As I have already pointed out in my last letter, the amlas of the Civil and Criminal Courts are ill-educated, so much so that in these days of cheap B.A.'s and M.A.'s the entire amladom can scarcely boast of a single B.A. within its fold, and with such ill-educated men, is it not a fruitless attempt to think of checking corruption merely with stringent rules. Year before last Mr. Holmwood at the instance of the High Court framed some stringent rules to check corruptions among the amlas but even before Mr. Holmwood had left the station those rules became practically dead letters. The corruptions in the Civil and Criminal Courts of Behar ought to engage the serious attention of the authorities.

AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT.

On Saturday morning a lamentable accident took place near the Digha Ghat station which brings to mind the incident connected with the "Sir John Lawrence." We are told that a steamer carrying a bridal party consisting of nearly 250-300 men was caught in the tempest and capsized midway between the Digha and Paliz Ghat stations. It is said that all the passengers with the exception of 4 women and 1 child were drowned. We have not yet been able to gather any authentic information but as the incident has made a deep sensation all over the town we give the bazar gossip as it is.

BETWEEN THE TWO HORNS OF A DILEMMA.

A District Court pleader has been put in a nice fix under the following circumstances. He owns a house which he had rented to a European gentleman formerly serving as a manager under a Zemindar. The manager having lost his appointment has locked the house and gone away where nobody knows. Now, as the proprietor cannot take possession of the house without undergoing some risk, he applied to the police to take inventory of the articles left in the house. We hear both the police and the District Magistrate have refused to comply with the request of the pleader. So here is indeed a nice situation for him.

A SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER AS A COMPLAINANT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hooghly, June 5.

A case of a very sensational nature is pending in the court of the Joint Magistrate of Hooghly. The complainant is Babu J. K. Singh, Deputy Magistrate, Atambagh Sub-division. The accused is the Assistant Station Master of the Muga Junction. The story for the prosecution is as follows:—The complainant was coming from Purulia on transfer to join his new post. He alighted at the Muga Junction Station on the E.I.R. and was unnecessarily detained by the Assistant Station Master, handed over to the G. R. Police and was sent in company of a constable to Bandel (Hooghly) Junction Station. His family was also detained, but no provision was made by the station staff even for the females to pass the night comfortably. They were kept wrongfully confined in a room. Though he disclosed his position no attention was paid to it.

The case for the other side is that the Deputy Magistrate had travelled without a half ticket for his child and refused to pay fare and penalty and did not disclose his position.

A STRANGE APPLICATION OF A MARRIED MAN.

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS.

On Tuesday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Shib Chander Ghose made an application, on behalf of Mungul Khan. The allegations were that Chumman Khan had a young daughter named Balatun Bibee. The marriage between the applicant and his daughter was arranged and it was given out by the defendant that the age of his daughter was 16 years. On the 23rd of April last the marriage ceremony took place and the couple became man and wife. Shortly after the marriage, the girl came to live with her husband and it was then discovered that the young wife of the applicant was in an advanced state of pregnancy. It was further alleged in the application that the first husband of the young woman was still living from whom she had been living separately.

Court:—(to the applicant) when you came to know that she was big with a child?

Ans:—A few days after the marriage when she came to live with me. She confessed it before me. She further said that she was 18 years old.

Court:—Do you want your wife back?

Ans:—What shall I do with a woman who is big with a child, for four months. (laughter in court.)

Court:—Had you known that before you married her?

Ans:—No, certainly not.

The Court then ordered the issue of a summons under section 420 I. P. Code (cheating) against Churaman Khan.

MAHBOOL KHAN DEFEATS SANDOW'S PUPIL.

Last night, there was a crowded audience to witness the performance at the Graeco-Roman Arena, principally on account of the previously arranged wrestling match between Mahbool Khan, the Bangalore wrestler, and two of Sandow's pupils. The contest came in after the usual items on the programme, and was witnessed with great interest by the spectators. The first opponent of Mahbool Khan was Sandow's "New Zealand" pupil and the wrestling was catch-as-catch-can style, the contest lasting fully 20 minutes; it was declared drawn. In the second contest, Mahbool Khan wrestled in the same style with Sandow's "Switzerland" pupil and succeeded in shouldering his opponent and thus won Rs. 100 amidst the applause of the audience. To-night, Mahbool Khan will wrestle with some other pupils, and it is expected that this will again draw a bumper house. Two more wrestlers from Bangalore have accepted the offer made by Mr. Sandow in these columns a day or two ago, and though they do not aspire to wrestle with Mr. Sandow himself, they are prepared to meet any of the pupils selected by him. The matches will begin on Monday next.—"Hindu."

The Allahabad High Court recently decided a curious case in which one Mrs. Ramm applied to be made guardian of her own daughter. It seems that the child had been given up by the mother to her brother one Mr. Spencer when she was only 2½ years old and had been brought up by Mr. and Mrs. Spencer as their own child. The child had also looked upon the Spencers as her parents. After the lapse of 14 years the mother Mrs. Ramm applied to the High Court through her counsel Mr. R. K. Sorabji to be declared guardian of her daughter. Mr. Satya Chunder Mukerji opposed the application on behalf of Mr. Spencer and contended that the case should have been brought in the District Court and that the High Court consequently had no jurisdiction. This objection was overruled and the case proceeded with. The High Court held that the mother could not obtain guardianship but should be allowed to see her child whenever she wished.

According to the final forecast of the Wheat Crop of the North-West Frontier Province for the year 1904-05 the actual area is now ascertained to be 822,179 acres against 994,062 acres in 1902, the first year for which separate provincial figures are available. As compared with last year, which was the largest crop on record, there has been a slight falling off in Bannu, a considerable one in Peshawar, and an enormous contraction of nearly 50 per cent. in Dera Ismail Khan, while Hazara and Kohat show a substantial increase. The irrigated area—32 per cent. of the whole—was practically the same as in 1904 in all districts but Peshawar, where it fell by 32,000 or about 20 per cent. The fluctuations in the unirrigated area are accounted for by the rainfall conditions already related. The total return is estimated at 267,637 tons or 67.5 lbs. per acre against 802,094 tons equal to 681 lbs. per acre in 1904, 234,594 tons equal to 658 lbs. per acre in 1903, and 159,279 tons equal to 461 lbs. per acre in 1902. The exceptionally cold winter of this year does not appear to have injuriously affected the yield, though the crop has matured late and the outturn of straw of the later sowings is poor.

The Barisal Sensation

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Barisal, May 31.

I have already sent you the particulars of the case in which Dy. Magistrate Babu B. N. Mukerjee drew up proceedings against Babu Ram Kanai Karmakar, a local Muktear under Sec. 480 Cr. P. O., and which resulted in the latter being fined Rs. 5. To-day I send you some records in connection with the case.

Proceedings under Sec. 480 Cr. P. O. against Ram Kanai Karmakar.

Whereas you interrupted the Muktear for the prosecution while the latter put the following question to B. S. Mukerjee, a defence witness:—"Can the accused call you maternal uncle instead of cousin?" and whereas in spite of being asked by me to stop you did not care to obey me, and whereas being told by me that you had no business to interrupt the Muktear for the other side and that I could draw up proceedings against you if you did not stop, you said that the court was at liberty to draw up proceedings if it thought fit, and whereas your conduct not only amounted to an insult to the court but also interrupted the court, you are therefore directed to be detained in custody till the rising of the court, when you will show cause why you should not be punished for the offence under Sec. 228 I. P. O.

(Sd.) B. N. Mukerjee, Deputy Magistrate.

Order.

Written statements filed now. In view of certain allegations made against the court itself in this statement I thought it desirable to take the evidence of a witness before passing any final order. Babu Ram Chander Chatterjee, Muktear for the prosecution in the original case, was the only person present in court besides the parties, witnesses and my bench clerk. I issued a summons for him but he could not be found.

In his written statements accused says that he did not interrupt the court, nor did he offer any insult. Now the following question was put to the accused in his examination:—

"Why did you not stop in spite of being told to do so?"

"As the court told those words in English, I could not understand it as I don't know English."

This is an admission that he did not stop when he was told to do so.

It is now alleged in the written statements of the accused that "the court used insulting or abusive words to the accused."

This is a misrepresentation of facts. The words that I used to the accused are set forth in the proceedings. I said that accused had no business to interrupt the Muktear for the prosecution when he was putting questions to the witness. If the accused now had any objection to make, the accused had stood up and addressed the court instead of indulging in a passage of arms, while sitting with the Muktear on the other side. Moreover how did the accused understand that the words the court used, were insulting and abusive words when he does not understand English?

Another allegation is that the court "red-dened" its eyes, twisted its eye brow, and in an angry tone enquired whether the accused would go to hajut or remain in court.

This is a gross and unpardonable misrepresentation. When drawing up the proceedings against the accused, I told him that I was going to draw up proceedings against him and that accused had to remain in custody till the rising of the court when his case would be taken up and enquired whether he preferred to remain in court or in hajut till that time. This, I think was a favour shown to him, as I was not bound to consult convenience of an accused person before passing an order which I was justified by law to pass. Accused's pleader says that accused might have misunderstood my motive and hence he made this allegation. But I think that there was no reason for a misapprehension, because I distinctly told the accused at the time of asking the question that I had, as a special case, put this question to him as I was not bound to do so.

Another allegation is that I had detained the accused in custody before drawing up the proceedings and recording his statement.

Now this statement is quite incorrect. Though it would not have been irregular if I had done so, still I did not do this. The proceedings were first drawn up and then explained to accused. It was then that he must have known that he had been ordered to be detained in custody. But this order was not enforced. The accused was present here as his client's Muktear. He was allowed to argue his client's case and to go away when he had finished his arguments. Consequently he was not at all detained. After the accused had left I took up another case and examined six witnesses. Accused was then sent for and came with his pleader and submitted a written statement. Accused's pleader says that an accused person is privileged to make incorrect statement. In my opinion though this argument of his is applicable to the case of a man charged with theft, murder, and dacoity it does not apply to the case of a legal practitioner.

Under these circumstances I think it undesirable to pass my order myself. It is passed at 7-20 p.m. now. Put up. . . .

When I shall consider whether or not this case should be sent to the District Magistrate under Sec. 482. No security need be taken from accused.

(Sd.) B. N. Mukerjee, Deputy Magistrate.

23. 5. 05 Judgment.

Examined Babu Ram Chander Chatterjee, Muktear, in presence of the accused. His evidence bears out the fact recorded in the proceedings. He says that the accused interrupted him when he put a question to B. S. Mukerjee, a defence witness, and then on this there was a discussion between him and the accused and that the court remarked to the accused, "You should not interrupt him when he is putting questions to the witness. He further says that he asked the Court to pardon the accused. It is evident from these that the accused intentionally interrupted the Court in course of a judicial proceeding. This is also proved from accused's own admission that he did not stop in spite of being told to do so as he did not understand my words which were spoken in English. As regards accused's allegations contained in his written statement, it is proved from the evidence of Ram Chander Chatterjee that they are not correct. Under these circumstances I don't think it necessary to submit the records to the District Magistrate under Sec. 482 Cr. P. O.

I find accused Ram Kanai Karmakar, Muktear, guilty under Sec. 228 I.P.O. and

sentence him to pay a fine of Rs. 5 only, in default simple imprisonment for a day.

I could not pass final order yesterday as the witness could not be found but as the case was taken cognizance of yesterday before the rising of the court I am of opinion that the order passed to-day is not illegal.

(Sd.) B. N. Mukerjee, Dy. Magistrate.

24-5-05.

THE SOVA BAZAR TRAGEDY

INQUEST.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. D. H. Kingsford, the officiating Coroner of the city with a jury held an inquest regarding the circumstances, touching the death of a male adult whose body was found in a bath room in a garden at 5 Kally Kissen Street, with wounds on it.

At the outset Inspector Nripendra Nath Ghose read out the report which had been submitted to the Coroner on the day the body was found, which disclosed there were injuries on the neck face and chest. It was in a highly decomposed state.

As soon as the reading of the report was finished the Coroner inquired whether any body could say that it was the body of the deceased Ganga.

Inspector:—The mother of the deceased could speak to the crescent mark on the thumb of the deceased which had been found by the Police Surgeon.

The first witness called was Sona Sha on being examined said:—I live in Rajah's house Sovabazar. My son Ganga was a servant in the house. My son's name is Ganga "Oriah." I heard that he had been murdered. I did not recognise the body.

Coroner: (to the Inspector) What she knows?

Inspector:—She knows about the mark. Your honor she doesn't understand the questions put to her in Bengalee language.

Coroner:—Why don't you send for an interpreter.

Here the witness was told to stand back and the next witness was called.

Hari Oriah examined said:—I live in the house of Kissen Babu. I am a bearer. On the day the body was found, I was driving ducks. The body was found in the room in the garden. I don't remember the day. The body was in the room.

Coroner:—What did you do?

Witness:—I called Girish (accused before the court.) I then called my master. Master sent information to the thana through the Gomasta of the house. The police came and removed the body.

Coroner:—Do you know how he came by his death?

Witness:—No.

Coroner:—Do you know one Ganga?

Witness:—Yes. I knew him. He was servant in the house. I could not identify the body.

Coroner:—Can you identify the clothes of Ganga?

Witness:—Yes. This cloth and gamcha (shewn) belonged to Ganga.

Coroner:—How could you identify them?

Witness:—Because Ganga used to wear them. I recognise them to be that of Ganga by the red border.

The Police Surgeon who held the post mortem examination deposed that the death was due to wounds on the neck nearly separated from the body. It appeared that the wounds were inflicted by a weapon with an edge that of a sword.

Inspector Hem Chunder Lahiri deposed:—

On the 28th May last, I was informed by a man of the Babu that a bad smell was emanating and that a dead body was found there. I went to the spot and found a male adult lying on his face inside a room in the garden. There was pool of blood.

The body was taken out and sent to the morgue and the Police Surgeon was informed. I searched the house of accused Girish on the 30th May and found his bed sheet, a blanket and a piece of silver, a wooden small box belonging to the deceased. A knife was also found in the tank. The Dhooby could identify the blanket and clothes.

Kusum a woman on being examined deposed:—I live in Balakhana. I know the accused Girish. I was under his keeping. My house was searched about nine days ago. This brass cup, a blanket and a cloth were found. The police also found the bed-sheet and a piece of silver. These things were found in my room. Accused brought the things. He brought the things on the day he cut his finger. He brought the things eight days before the police came to my house. The cuts were on fingers of both right and left hands.

To the Inspector:—When did you first notice the cuts?

Witness:—In the morning on that date. I don't remember the day he brought all these. On the next day I noticed the cuts on his hands.

Foreman:—Did you question him how he came by his cuts?

Witness:—Yes. He said by a Soda water bottle.

Here the Coroner's clerk Babu Preo Nath Bose asked if he would say anything. The accused Girish began to make an ugly statement when the Coroner's clerk again explained to him that this Court would not try his case. On this the accused said he would not say anything now.

A few more witnesses were examined and the Coroner summed up and the jury then returned the following verdict:—The death was caused by blows dealt on the neck by a heavy cutting instrument, under circumstances amounting to murder by some person or persons unknown.

The Maharaja of Tikari, with Mr. and Mrs. Christian, arrived at Colombo from Bombay on a motor tour in Ceylon.

The Amir has recently been touring in the Kohistan to the north of Kabul. He took with him, in his suite, his half-brother, Sardar Umar Jan, with a view to showing the people that the latter is no longer in disfavour. A frontier correspondent states that on the whole there is now complete accord between the sons of the late Amir, Abdur Rahman, though Sardar Nasrullah Khan is said to be opposed to the return to Afghanistan of refugees in India and elsewhere, who formerly belonged to the Shere Ali faction.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

THE UNREST IN RUSSIA.

London, June 6. General Trepoff has been appointed Assistant Minister of the Interior, and head of the police and gendarmery, with extensive powers throughout the Empire. He retains the Governor-Generalship of St. Petersburg.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, June 3. The Russian Admiral Enquist with the Aurora, Oleg and Jemchug, all damaged, have arrived at Manila with many wounded on board. It is expected at Washington that they will all be interned.

The naval prisoners in Japanese hands are now nearly five thousand. Many have been picked up on the coasts.

It has been decided to erect an enormous lighthouse at Dyinoshima, radiating for a distance of eighty miles, as a convenience to navigation and the constant memorial of a glorious achievement.

London, June 2. A Tokio telegram says that the sinking of the "Jemchug" is confirmed.

The possibility of a Japanese bombardment and invasion of the Baltic ports is being popularly discussed in Russia.

In giving the Japanese losses yesterday the "Ashama" should be "Oshima," a gunboat.

London, June 3. Count Cassini called on President Roosevelt yesterday, when Mr. Roosevelt expressed his earnest hope, as a friend of Russia, that she should seek for peace in response to the wish of the entire civilized world. The prolongation of the war would mean increased Japanese demands. He pointed out that Russia could hardly hope to win. He was, he said, moved solely by motives of humanity and offered his services as mediator or intermediary in any way acceptable to Russia.

Count Cassini said that he was without instructions. Personally he believed that Russia would continue the war, because the moment was not advantageous to discuss peace. She had not lost any of her own territory, and there was nothing in the present situation necessitating her suing for peace; but he promised to communicate to the Tsar Mr. Roosevelt's view and offer.

London, June 3. The "Standard" publishes a telegram from Washington stating that the American Ambassador at St. Petersburg has been instructed to communicate President Roosevelt's conception of Japan's position, namely, that an indirect proposition would be acceptable and that the slightest opening in the direction of peace overtures would be utilised.

The "Daily Chronicle" says that President Roosevelt has communicated to Count Cassini information received from the Japanese Minister relative to Japan's feelings regarding the situation.

London, June 4. Reuter at Shanghai wires to-day that the British steamer Ktillin is now towing in a Russian destroyer found helpless in the north of Shantung.

London, June 4. Reuter at Manila wires, that the casualties on the Aurora are three officers wounded, 20 of the crew killed and 83 wounded. The Oleg had thirteen of the crew killed and eighteen wounded, and the Jemchug 21 junior officers killed and thirty wounded. The war ships are not damaged below the water line, but the funnels are riddled and many guns dismounted.

London, June 4. Admiral Togo visited Rozhdvestvensky in hospital at Sasebo yesterday and praised the courage of the Russians. Rozhdvestvensky was deeply moved and said that it lessened the sorrow of defeat to know the high character of the victors.

London, June 4. The Russian officers at Manila declare that the Japanese used a number of submarines. The Captain of the Aurora was killed.

Admiral Enkvist was not wounded. The destroyer towed into Shanghai had been drifting for six days and was almost foodless and waterless with 180 men on board.

London, June 4. The Tsar and Tsaritsa, and the Imperial family attended mass at Tsarskoelso to-day in memory of those fallen in the Baltic Fleet.

London, June 5. A telegram from Washington says the United States has ordered the immediate internment of Russian ships at Manila.

Reuter's correspondent at Hongkong says that a Russian Volunteer ship, two torpedo boats, a cruiser, and transports were sighted 240 miles south-east of Hongkong.

Admiral Alexeff and M. Bulygin have resigned the Viceroyalty of the Far East and the Ministry of the Interior respectively, but the resignations have not been accepted.

London, June 6. Reuter wires from Shanghai that Admiral Uritskiy with a squadron has arrived off Gutzlaff.

1,400 officers and men of Baltic fleet were killed and drowned in the great naval battle, 4,000 were captured and three thousands escaped.

The American Government's standpoint regarding the Russian ships at Manila is that only ordinary damages and not those received in battle are repairable without internment.

Reuter's Correspondent at St. Petersburg says the M. Bulygin's resignation is obviously due to the virtual dictatorship conferred on General Trepoff. The latter has prohibited the Congress of Members of the Zemstvos who were meeting at Moscow to-day.

Count Lamsdorf will to-morrow communicate to the Tsar Count Cassini's account of his interview with President Roosevelt.

GENERAL.

London, June 2. The Persian Minister is returning to London from Teheran with the temporary rank of Ambassador Extraordinary, bearing presents to the King as a mark of the Shah's particular desire to foster friendly relations.

London, June 2. The War Office announces that General Sir William Nicholson has been permitted for private reasons, to resign his appointment of Governor of Gibraltar.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL.

London, June 2. In the Lords to-night the Marquis of Bath said that the Government was satisfied with the arrangement now made with Afghanistan. It was a good and sufficient one, and the Indian Government had accepted that decision.

The Mission had shown the Afghan tribes that the policy of the Indian Government was unchanged. The Government attached great importance to the treaty and still greater importance to the friendly disposition of the Amir during the negotiations.

Lord Lansdowne denied that the Mission was abortive. We had achieved the main object, namely, to induce the Amir to renew the agreement, which had been reaffirmed in a much more formal contract; and it was fortunate that our Envoy was able to bring back a renewal of agreements the lapse of which would be a most serious misfortune.

London, June 3. An earthquake in Albania has devastated Scutari, killing an hundred and injuring 250.

London, June 3. Mr. Lowther, British Agent, arrived at Pex on the 31st ultimo, and was welcomed with imposing ceremony.

London, June 3. Five hundred Indians and 50 Europeans have been killed in the hurricanes at Natal.

London, June 2. At a Conservative dinner, given at the Holborn restaurant last night, Lord Lansdowne referring to the hope expressed by Sir Edward Grey that the Anglo-Japanese agreement would be maintained, said that at no time had there been on either side any question whatever of withdrawal from the alliance. In his opinion when the time comes, as soon it must, to consider the renewal of the agreement, the only practical question will be whether it shall be renewed in its present form or whether we should not seek for some means of strengthening and consolidating it. The alliance, he said, had been a potent instrument of peace, and if possible we should so modify it that it would not prevent the spread of a conflagration when begun but prevent it altogether. All true lovers of peace would welcome such a modification.

There never was a moment when our good relations with France were more firmly based. If the inner history of the anxious months lately passed was ever written it would show that the understanding with France has greatly mitigated the friction and trouble inevitable when a great war is in progress. The alliance with Japan and the agreement with France alike, had no selfish or aggressive purposes. Our sole object had been to secure peace and restrict the evils of war.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

PROSPECT OF PEACE IN BAJOOR. Allahabad, June 4. There seems every prospect now of peace in Bajoor. The Nawab of Dir and his brother met on the 1st instant and discussed matters amicably and practically patched up a settlement. The moveable column will, however, remain at Chakdarrah for the present.

FAILURE OF CROP. Allahabad, June 4. Reports from Kandahar state that the fruit crop has been a complete failure owing to late and severe winter.

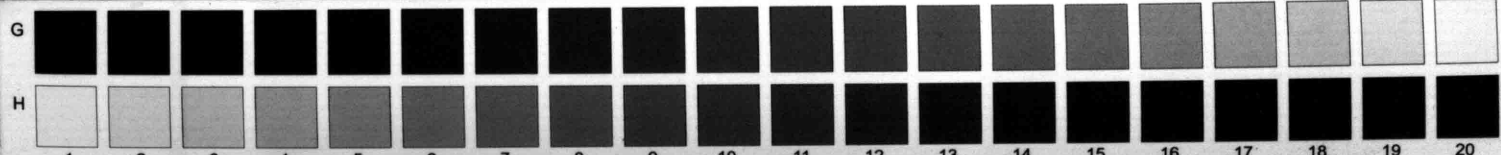
MEHTARSHIP OF CHITRAL. Allahabad, June 4. Among the grandsons of Aman-ul-Mulk, the old Mehtar of Chitral, who first admitted British Officer to his country, is Ghulam Hyder Khan, a man who has still pretensions to Mehtarship. The fled to Kabul after the Chitral Expedition of 1895 in the hope of gaining Afghan assistance but this was never accorded to him. Having now grown tired of waiting he has appeared at Peshawar and will presumably join the great army of the trans-frontier pensioners who live on the bounty of the British Government.

DAUD SHAH AND HIS SON. Allahabad, June 4. At the time of the Cavagnari massacre in 1879 the name of Daud Shah, who was the Commander-in-Chief of the Afghans, was a very familiar one. He escaped trial for complicity in the massacre of the British Agent and his escort but was deported to India. He did some years ago his loyalty to the Gherai family preventing him from accepting offers of Ameer Abdur Rahman to return to Afghanistan. His eldest son however, who was brought up in India, recently left Peshawar for Kabul being assured of his personal safety by the Amir families of Zakariakhan and General Taj Mohomed. Both the men who played important parts, in 1879-80 are also returning to Kabul.

INDIAN CROP PROSPECTS. Simla, June 2. The week's season and crop report shows that some 4,500 persons are receiving relief in the Kaira, Belgau, Ahmedabad and Panch Mahals districts in Bombay during the week. Rain is still considerably needed in parts of Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad and Rajputana. Prospects are on the whole good in Bengal, Mysore, the United Provinces, Assam, Punjab, N.W. Frontier Provinces and Burma. It is understood that the policy initiated a year or two ago of withholding the monsoon forecast from publication will be continued this year.

THE NAVAL BATTLE. TOGO'S NINTH REPORT. Bombay, June 3. The ninth report from Admiral Togo, received on the afternoon of the 1st instant, says that the "Iwate" and the "Yakumo" report that there is no Russian ship between Forjima and Shanghai. Rear Admiral Shimamura reports that his flagship the "Iwate" cannonaded the "Zemichung" vigorously at 8000 metres on the afternoon of the 27th May and undoubtedly sank her.

BENGAL COUNCIL ELECTION. PURNEA'S DELEGATE. Purnea, June 3. The Purnea District Board have elected Dr. Kamachyanath Ghose as their delegate to vote for Babu Jogendranath Mukerjee, rakes, the Purnea candidate for the Bengal Council.



Calcutta and Mofussil.

Plague.—There were 5 cases and 3 deaths from plague in the city on Monday, the 6th instant, when the total mortality from all causes was 49 against a quinquennial average of 58.

Legislative.—The Lieutenant-Governor nominates Mr. Edward Albert Gait, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial and Municipal Departments, to be a Member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Depredations by a Mad Elephant.—The "Paridarsak" of Sylhet reports that a mad elephant is carrying on a sad havoc in the neighbouring villages of the suburb Akhalia. The people should be immediately relieved of its depredations.

Gold Reserve Fund.—A statement published regarding the Gold Reserve Fund shows that on the 31st March the closing balance was Rs. 28,528,657. The net profit on the coinage of rupees during the quarter was Rs. 257,266, which was credited to the Fund.

The Sova Bazar Tragedy.—Joggeswar Ahir alias Gris Gwala, was charged before the Chief Presidency Magistrate with the murder of a Uria named Gunga Gwala at No. 5, Raja Nohi Kishen Street, Sova Bazar, on the 23rd ultimo. The murder is believed to have been committed with some sharp weapon and was of a brutal character. This is the case in which a Kumar was originally charged with the crime. He has now been released by the Commissioner of Police but has entered into the usual bond to appear when required.

Inventions and Designs.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed:—Lewis Surge Hollings, engineer, of 240, Birchfield Road, Handsworth, Stafford, improvements in cartridge holders or chargers for magazine rifles; Alfred Lancelot James Tait, electrician, of No. 137, Napier Street, South Melbourne, a method or process of and apparatus for treating and dressing flax and other fibres; Constant Lecaine, engineer, of Ambares, France, improvements in and relating to rotary engines; The Portable Folding Mosquito Bar Frame Company, of Galveston, Texas, a portable folding mosquito bar frame; William Alfred Lambert, mechanist, of Calcutta, an automatic punkah working apparatus, to be called "The Lambert Punkah System."

Tragedy at Tollygunge.—On Saturday, at the Alipore Criminal Sessions, before Mr. Cox, Additional District and Sessions Judge, one Dorson Parsee, a toddy seller of Tollygunge, was charged with murder. The accused was robbed of some articles from his shop and suspecting Mathor Sahoo, who was standing in front of his shop, he attacked him with a piece of heavy wood. Mathor Sahoo fell down at the first blow and died subsequently. Mr. Ibrahim contended on behalf of the accused that there was no intention of causing death, and that according to the medical evidence the deceased had been suffering from an enlarged spleen. The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty on a charge of simple hurt, and the Judge, taking into consideration the old age of the accused, fined him one rupee, or, in default, a week's rigorous imprisonment.

Tragedy at Budge Budge.—At the Alipore Criminal Sessions, before Mr. Cox, the Additional District and Sessions Judge, one Sheikh Omed Ali, a young man of Budge Budge, was charged with murder. It was stated that the accused had improper intimacy with one of his neighbour's wife. The younger brother of the husband of the woman came to know of the matter. The boy threatened to disclose all about it to his elder brother whereupon Omed Ali got annoyed and on the night of the 16th April last he dealt a severe blow with a sharp "dao" on the neck of the boy severing his head from the body at one stroke. The parts of the dead body was at first concealed under a stack of hay whereupon they were subsequently thrown into a neighbouring tank at dead of night. The elder brother came to know all about this from his wife. The only eye-witness to the occurrence was this woman. The jury disbelieved her story and brought in a unanimous verdict of "not guilty" and the Judge accordingly acquitted the prisoner.

Alleged Fraud by a Raja.—On Saturday last Mr. E. A. N. Singh, Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah, proceeded with the hearing of a case in which Raja Mohun Bikram Shana, of Benares, stands charged with cheating one Bhola Nath Singh. It would appear that the complainant had an "ex parte" decree against the accused for Rs. 5,663 in the High Court, and it was set aside on the ground of improper service of summons. The suit was revived and subsequently the Judge, it is said, made a settlement that if the complainant withdrew the suit he would pay him Rs. 1,600. In accordance therewith the complainant made all the necessary arrangements for the withdrawal of the suit and called on the accused who, it is alleged, took away all the documents in connection with the suit and decamped. After some eight months he was traced to Benares and the present proceedings were instituted. The accused was permitted to appear by agent, Mr. Khoda Buksh, Barrister, appeared for the defence. Some six witnesses were examined and the case was adjourned by the Magistrate to consider whether he will frame a charge or not.

Suits against the Government.—Mr. Beachcroft, the Special Land Acquisition Judge of Alipore delivered judgment in six land acquisition cases taken together in which the Secretary of State on behalf of the Port Commissioners of Calcutta acquired 105 bighas of land in the villages of Hurobas and Bullerampore, on both sides of Budge Budge Road and west of Hurobas Road and north of Bhukylas Road for the purpose of the extension of the Grain Depot by the side of the Kidderpore Docks. The Land Acquisition Collector awarded varying rates from Rs. 120 to Rs. 85 per Cottah according to the position and nature of the land. The claimants in four of such cases were Babu Shibho Prasanno, Vakil, High Court, manager of the "Debut" estate of Bhukylas Raj; Family, Morian Bibi, Ibrahim Buttler and families; Morian Bibi. The claimants claimed originally Rs. 200 and Rs. 300 per Cottah, but subsequently reduced their claim to Rs. 120 and Rs. 100 per Cottah. Mr. Casper, Counsel instructed by Mr. Egger for Messrs. Sanderson and Company with Babu Debendro Chander Ghose, Senior Government pleader, and Lal Behari Mitter, Mukhtar pleader, appeared for the Secretary of State, Babu Joggeswar Ray for Bhukylas estate and Babu Jibon Hari Mookerjee appeared for Ibrahim Buttler. The Judge confirmed the Collector's award except in that of Ibrahim Buttler and Morian Bibi who got an increase of Rs. 600 over Collector's award besides statutory

Cock-fighting and Gambling.—Before Mr. J. Ghosal, Honorary Magistrate of Sealdah, Mr. W. Manley, residing in Banianpooker, Entally, and thirty-five others, including Christians, Mahomedans and Hindus, were charged by Court Inspector S. Chatterjee, of the first accused with being the occupier of a house in which betting on cock-fighting was permitted, and the others with being found on the premises while cock-fighting was going on. The case was adjourned to the 10th instant, the accused being enlarged on bail.

Coral in India.—In the past year there was little variation in the quantity of coral (177,209 lbs.) received into Calcutta, but the price rose by 33.6 per cent. The higher value is attributed to the bad harvest in the Sicilian fisheries, necessitating the importation of larger quantities of the rough material from Japan to supply the deficiency. It is stated also that the competition of inferior coral has become very keen, and very possibly has been more severely felt in the lower qualities of coral, so that in consequence the imports in 1904-05 were generally of the better quality. The artificial production is of a perishable nature, readily tarnishing and turning black; it is questionable whether it will continue to be successful in competition with real coral. As in the previous year the absence of buyers in the local market from Nepal and Tibet was again conspicuous.

The Tarakerwar Mohanta's Case.—This case came on for hearing before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bodilly on Tuesday. A document was filed by the plaintiff, Upendra Lal Dutta, which was not properly stamped. This agreement was in favour of the defendants and it provided that all sums should be, from time to time, advanced by the plaintiff to the defendants for the purpose of carrying out the litigation in which the defendants were then engaged. A preliminary objection was raised as to what sums should be claimed according to that agreement and as to the payment of the penalty. His Lordship held that the only amount that could be claimed now was the amount referable to the value of the stamp with which the agreement was stamped. On seeing that the plaintiff had reduced his claim in this case to the sum of Rs. 25,000 his Lordship held that the bond could not be used in evidence until the penalty up to that sum was paid.

A Divorce Suit.—At the High Court before Mr. Justice Sale, Mr. A. N. Chowdhury instructed by Babu Basanto Kumar Bose, applied on behalf of the petitioner in the divorce suit of George Randolph Rowland vs. Eugenie Rowland and Thomas Arthur Palmer, that decree nisi for dissolution of marriage might be made absolute; and the co-respondent might be ordered to pay the costs of and incidental to the decree absolute. Decree nisi was made on the 28th of November 1904, and notice of this application was served personally on the respondent and the co-respondent, and there was the usual certificate from the Registrar, showing that no cause had been shown. His Lordship made the decree nisi absolute and ordered the co-respondent to pay the costs.

ESTATE OF PRINCE MAHOMED BUKHTEAR SHAH.

At the High Court, before Mr. Justice Bodilly, Mr. B. C. Mitter, instructed by Babu Purno Chunder Law, applied on behalf of the plaintiff in the suit of Nilmoney Bannerjee vs. Prince Mahomed Bukhtear Shah, that Babu Ramtaran Bannerjee, a pleader practising in the Alipore Judge's Court, might be appointed Receiver of the property known as the Dalbhoom Mining Estate, situate partly in Singhbhum, and partly in Midnapore, belonging to the defendant, with the consent of all the creditors of the defendant numbering 68, and whose debts amounted to Rs. 6,12,630-6-0. It appeared that sometime in the beginning of the year 1904 the defendant, who is a descendant of Tipu Sultan, who was at one time the reigning sovereign of Mysore, being in great pecuniary difficulties, applied to the Government of India for help, and Government of India granted to the defendant a life pension of Rs. 500 per mensem, besides a well-furnished house to live in. The Government also, in consideration of the defendant's noble connection, instructed its solicitor to take steps to bring about a composition with the defendant's creditors to spare him the indignity of passing through the Insolvent Court. Accordingly Mr. Egger, Solicitor to the Government of India, convened a meeting of all the creditors of the defendant at the Dalhousie Institute, in order to ascertain their views and to set forth the statements of the defendant's affairs. It was resolved that a committee consisting of Mr. Egger, the District Magistrate of the 24-Pargunnahs, Babu Ramtaran Bannerjee, and Babu B. S. Ghose might be appointed to inquire into the assets and liabilities of the defendant, and to devise means for a satisfactory composition with the defendant's creditors. The committee held several meetings, and they found upon enquiry that the only valuable asset left was the Dalbhoom Mining Estate, the other three properties, namely, No. 1, Theatre Road, No. 6, Mullaahat Road, and No. 55, Moodilal Road having been sold in execution of decrees obtained against the defendant. It was stated that various offers were made to the defendant by various firms, both in India and in England, for the sale of the Dalbhoom Mining Estate, ranging from five to eight lakhs of rupees, but it was alleged that the defendant trifled with such offers, with the result, that he did not accept any of the offers, and it was believed that if a Receiver be not appointed of the said property, the defendant, who is not a business man at all, would never succeed in selling the same, that the appointment of a Receiver would not only be conducive to the realization of the object of the Government, but it would also tend to secure the interest of the large body of creditors, inasmuch as the sale of the property by the Receiver would in all probability fetch an adequate price with which the claims of all the creditors would be easily satisfied, and the defendant would probably be able to get some profit out of it. Mr. S. K. Mullick, instructed by Babu Radhicanath Gangooly, consented to the appointment of a Receiver, but asked that the Court Receiver might be appointed. Receiver of the defendant's Dalbhoom Mining Estate. His Lordship, after hearing both sides, appointed the Court Receiver to be the Receiver of the Estate of the defendant, and ordered that the costs of the plaintiff and the defendant be paid out of the estate.

Calcutta Gazette.—June 7.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Rai Narayan Chunder Naik Bahadur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Jessore district, on being relieved of his Settlement duties in Angul.

Maulvi Afzalur Rahman, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madaripur, Faridpur, is appointed to have charge of that subdivision, during the absence, on leave of Babu Girish Chandra Dutta.

Babu Nand Kishore Lal, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave is posted to the head-quarters station of the Singhbhum district.

Babu Jogendra Nath Ghosh, Officiating Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dacca and Mymensingh, is appointed to be District and Sessions Judge of the third grade, vice Babu Rajendra Coomarr Bose, about to retire, and is also appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Noakhali, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. C. W. A. Pictar.

Babu Sasi Bhushan Chaudhuri, Subordinate Judge and Assistant Sessions Judge, Rangpur is appointed to act, as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dacca and Mymensingh, vice Mr. Kedar Nath Ray, on furlough but to be on deputation as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Midnapore.

The gentlemen named below are appointed substantively pro tempore to the eighth grade of Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and are posted to the head-quarters stations of the districts mentioned against their names:—

Mr. Khetire Chandra Banerji, B.A. Rangpur; Babu Ganga Mohan Laskar, M.A. Dacca; Maslvi Asdazzaman, B.L., Farid.

Mr. J. A. Milligan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Cuttack, is appointed to have charge of the Waranganj subdivision of pur.

The Dacca district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. F. B. Bradley-Birt.

Babu Surendra Nath Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave is posted to the head-quarters station of the "our district."

Mr. F. O. Swaine, Assistant Superintendent of Police Faridwan, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the 24-Parganna district.

The following confraternities, promotion and appointment are sanctioned in the Indian Civil Service, with effect from the 18th April 1905, but the officers concerned will continue to act in higher grades, or appointments, Confirmed in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. F. O. French, vice Mr. H. LeMesurier, O.I.E., promoted to the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. Purna Chandra Mitter, vice Mr. F. C. French, confirmed.

Mr. J. T. Rankin, vice Mr. F. C. French. Appointed substantively pro tempore to the third grade of Magistrates and Collectors.

Mr. Kiran Chandra De, vice Mr. J. T. Rankin confirmed.

Mr. E. P. Dixon, vice Mr. J. T. Rankin Confirmed in the second grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collector.

Mr. A. H. Vernede, vice P. P. Dixon. Babu Mohendra Nath Mukerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Girish Chandra Dutta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Madaripur, Faridpur, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days.

Mr. J. J. Platel, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Rangpur, is allowed combined leave for six months.

Babu Bepin Behary Banerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rangpur, is allowed leave for three months.

Maulvi Syud Zahar Hossain, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector is allowed combined leave for six months.

Maulvi Abu Nasr Muhammad Ali, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahi is allowed leave for one month.

Mr. F. B. Bradley-Birt, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Narayan-ganj, Dacca, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Mathura Nath Banerjee, substantive pro tempore Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for six weeks.

Mr. C. A. Tegart, Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the District Police, Jessore, is allowed leave for three months.

Babu Girindra Chunder Mookerji District Superintendent of Police, Jessore, is allowed an extension of furlough for one month and fifteen days.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Nikunja Behary Dutta, B.L. is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at Narayan-ganj during the absence, on leave, of Babu Benode Behari Mitter.

Babu Kumud Kanta Sen, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Bankura, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Rama Prasad Moitra.

Babu Aswini Kumar Das, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Birbhum, to be ordinarily stationed at Barabazar, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Brajes Chandra Sinha.

Babu Bhuvan Mohan Ghose, Small Cause Court Judge, Howrah, Hooghly and Serampore, in the district of Hooghly, is allowed leave for twelve days.

Babu Behari Lal Ghosh, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Backergunge, to be ordinarily stationed at Patuakhali.

Babu Brajes Chandra Sinha, Munsif of Durrainpur is allowed leave for thirty-five days.

Babu Gagan Behari Chowdhuri, Munsif of Ulubaria, is allowed leave for sixty-one days.

Babu Bepin Behari Ghose, Munsif of Bagerhat, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Hem Chandra Bose, Additional Munsif of Kushtia Ranaghat, now on deputation to Chudaganj, is allowed leave for seven days in extension.

Babu Satish Chandra Biswas, Munsif of Murgura, is allowed leave for six months.

Mirza Bedar Bakht, Munsif of Aurangabad, in the district of Gaya, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Nitya Gopal Sarkar, Munsif, on leave, is allowed leave for eight months in extension.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Bhikari Charan Das, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, now employed as Officiating Tahsildar of Government estates Kotdesh, etc. Puri, is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Satyendra Nath Batabyal, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Puri, is appointed to act as Tahsildar of Government estates Kotdesh, etc. Puri, during the absence on leave, of Babu Bhikari Charan Das.

Babu Broja Nath Rai, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Chittagong Division, is posted to Sandip in the district of Noakhali.

Babu Rajani Kanta Mukherjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Sandip, Noakhali is transferred to the Chittagong Hill Tracts district.

Babu Girindra Narain Singh, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Basirhat, 24-Parganna, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the district of Jessore.

The gentlemen named below are appointed substantively pro tempore to the fourth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors and are posted to the Divisions mentioned against their names:—

Moulvi Atai Elahi, B.A., Burdwan Division; Mr. David Macdonald, Rajshahi; Babu Bhiswar Das, Sub-Deputy Collector, Deoghur, Sonthal Parganas, is allowed an extension of furlough up to the 10th May, 1905.

The gentlemen named below are appointed substantively pro tempore to the fifth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors and are posted to the Divisions mentioned against their names:—

Babu Nihar Ranjan Banerji, M.A., B.L., Burdwan, Mr. Oliver Godwin Robinson Bha-galpur, Maulvi Syed Musi Kazim, M.A., Patna, Babus Brajabhandhu Bhaumik, B.A., Bhagalpur, Radha Krishna Basu, M.B., Orissa, Amal Krishna Mukerji M. A. Burdwan, Nand Kishore Jain, B.A. Presidency;

Maulvi Syed Mohamed Naziruddin, M. A., Patna, Babus Anadi Ranjan Bose, B.A., Orissa, Prasanno Kumar Ghosal, M.A. Bhagalpur, Jogesh Chandra Sen M.A., Dacca

Mohini Mohan Senapati, B.A., Jyotish Chandra Maitra, B.A., Orissa, Maulvi Sved Eshar Hassan, B.A., Burdwan, Maulvi Mohammad Abdus Salam, B.A. Babu Abhay Charan De, B.A. Patna, Babus Susil Kumar Ganguly, B.A. Rajani Kanto Mukhopadhyay, B.A. Presidency, Radha Charan Das, B.A. Orissa, Maulvi Abdul Mahamed Rashad M.A. Patna, Babu Sasi Bhushan Bhattacharjya, B.A. Presidency, Dharendra Nath Sarkar, B.A. Bhagalpur, Sati Prasad Gnguli, B.A. Presidency, Gopinath Das, B.A. Orissa, Gopendra Kumar Ghose Chaudhuri, B.A. Rajshahi, Prabodh Chandra Majumdar, B.A. Chota Nagpur.

Babu Sarat Chunder Chatterjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, now employed as Khas Tahsildar, Chittagong, was on leave for seventeen days.

Mr. W. J. H. Ballantine, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Howrah district.

Babu Rehati Nath Chatterjee, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Howrah, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Bankura district.

The shooting season for large game on the Nilgiris closed at the beginning of this month. It is satisfactory to note that the protection of ibex of late years seems to have had the desired effect, for the herds have been increasing.

A severe duststorm passed over Meerut in the afternoon of Thursday at about a quarter to five. It was intensely dark for five minutes. The storm burst from the north and lasted for about an hour and a quarter. There is a slight fall of the temperature.

It transpires that Mr. Hammick, C. S. does not return to Simla as acting Home Secretary, as his presence is required at Ootacamund owing to the illness of Mrs. Hammick, and another officer will probably be selected to act as Home Secretary till Mr. Risley returns from leave.

A fatal accident occurred at Karachi on the 28th ultimo to a Parsi young man, Rustomji M. Dhatigara. By chance his coat got entangled in the cog-wheel machinery of his grandfather's ice-factory, with the result that he lost his right leg. He was removed to the Civil Hospital where he expired after an hour.

The estate of the late Mr. Henry W. Oliver, of Pittsburgh, is valued at between Rs. 80,000 and £10,000,000, says the "New York Herald." Fifteen years before his death Mr. Oliver was a bankrupt and penniless. He built up his fortune mainly by a lucky stroke in the Mesaba iron mines, in which he succeeded in interesting Mr. Frick and other Pittsburgh millionaires.

The Secretary of State having sanctioned an appointment of Third Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, by adding a Deputy Commissioner of the 3rd class to the Central Provinces Commission, the Chief Commissioner has appointed Captain T. C. Plowden, I. A., to be Third Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, provisionally, with effect from the 27th March.

The duststorm at Lahore on the 30th ultimo caused a tragedy in the city. The uppermost storey of a house that had been rendered shakely by the earthquake crashed down on the terrace of a lower tenement adjoining at about midnight in a lane in Chowk Jhanda. Of those sleeping on the open roof two boys and a girl were killed and others received injuries. In the morning the funeral procession to the graveyard was followed by a large number of mourners.

A correspondent writes from Pondicherry:—Monsieur Pille (Anglois Pilly), a wealthy member of the Panchama community died recently leaving several lakhs of rupees. He began life poor and in humble circumstances. He worked his way upward by his energy, his business aptitude and his integrity. His fortune was made as a supplier to steamers of the Panchama community who are well-to-do in Pondicherry. They are all "Renoncants": that is to say, they have changed their legal status by complying with the provisions of a French "citizenship" law. Almost all the cooks, waiters and other servants in this town are of the castemen converted to Christianity. So there are three electoral lists, the Hindus, the "Renoncants" and the Europeans and Eurasians.

INDIAN RAILWAYS IN 1904.

The administration report on Indian railways for 1904 dwells with legitimate satisfaction on the formation of a Railway Board and informs us that the mileage now open to traffic in India is 27,904, while a mileage of 3,055 is sanctioned and under construction. With an addition of 621 miles to the open mileage, the gross earnings of all Indian railways, during the calendar year 1904 compared with 1903, amounted in round figures to Rs. 3,964.97 lakhs, against Rs. 3,600.82 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 364.15 lakhs. Of the increase in the earnings, Rs. 166.41 lakhs were absorbed in additional working expenses. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 2,087.47 lakhs against Rs. 1,889.73 lakhs, or an increase of Rs. 197.74 lakhs. These net earnings yielded a return on the capital outlay on open lines and lines partly open (Rs. 35,285.95 lakhs) of nearly 6 per cent., which is an improvement of about 1 per cent. over the return yielded in 1903. Of the increase of Rs. 364.15 lakhs in the gross receipts, the Northern Western State Railway earned Rs. 129.98 lakhs or 36 per cent., the East Indian Railway earned Rs. 60.64 lakhs or 17 per cent, and the remainder was contributed principally by the Bengal-Nagpur, Great Indian Peninsula, Madras, Burma and Southern Mahratta railways. The development of passenger traffic noticed in the last report, continued during the year under review, and a large number of pilgrims, native marriage parties, visitors to fairs, etc., were carried by railway. The total number carried was 227,10 millions against 210.23 millions, and the earnings therefrom Rs. 1,176.20 lakhs against Rs. 1,098.14 lakhs. The number of third class passengers carried was more by 15.36 millions and the earnings by Rs. 73.32 lakhs. The other classes also showed satisfactory increases. Of the increase of Rs. 78.06 lakhs in the passenger receipts, the Great Indian Peninsula Railway earned Rs. 15.53 lakhs or 20 per cent., and the remainder was contributed principally by the Bengal-Nagpur, North Western State, Bombay, Baroda and Central India, and Oudh and Rohilkhand State railways. The average rate charged to passengers per mile was 2½ pies, just over 1-5th of a penny, and the average distance travelled was about 40 miles. There have been no material fluctuations in these figures since 1884. The aggregate tonnage of goods lifted during the year 1904, and the earnings therefrom were 62.05 million tons and Rs. 2,518.81 lakhs respectively; an improvement over the previous year of 4.37 million tons and Rs. 276.89 lakhs. It is needless to remark that the figures quoted indicate substantial progress in the general commercial prosperity of India. The financial result of the working of the State and Guaranteed railways for the year 1904 was a net gain to the State of 26.22 lakhs of rupees, the largest yet obtained in any year, after meeting, in addition to the expenses of working, all charges for interest on capital outlay by the State and on capital raised by Companies, and also the annuity payments for railways purchased by the State, including both interest and the portion that represents redemption of capital. This is the fifth year in succession in which there has been a surplus. The report, which has been very much curtailed, is accompanied by an admirable diagram showing the statistical position of Indian railways at a glance; and by a map illustrating the railway system up to the end of April last.—"Englishman."

INDIAN NOTES

THE CEYLON PEARL FISHERY.

An interesting relic of the ancient days of the Ceylon Pearl Fisheries has quite recently been received at the Colombo Museum, says the local "Observer". It has been presented by Mr. George G. Dixon. This is an old diving stone, which was used by the divers for reaching the bottom. The stone was discovered by Mr. Dixon when excavations were being made at Marish-chikadda for laying the foundations on which to place the oyster washing machine. The stone was found some 6ft. or more under the surface, and it is very difficult to account for its being there. It is an oblong wedge in shape, with the usual hole near the pointed end for a rope, and is of granite. There is a curious legend attached to the use of these old diving stones, of a custom which has apparently gone out of usage. Before the diver started for the banks at the commencement of the fishery he placed his diving stone at the brink of the sea, and smashed a coconut on it. If the coconut immediately cracked, allowing the milk to run out, the diver would be sure to have good luck on the banks; if the nut broke into pieces, all the milk flowing out, he would have extraordinary good luck; but if the coconut failed to crack, the unhappy diver had nothing but ill fortune to look forward to, and probably on that first day he would refuse to go out at all and try another nut for a better omen the following day.

INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND TIBET.

The China papers, by this week's mail, publish the result of Tang-Shao-yu, the Chinese Envoy's negotiations with the Indian Government with regard to Tibet. The Commissioner has informed the Waiwupu that the British Government has drawn up the following six articles with reference to the conduct of Chinese affairs in Tibet (1) The British Government is willing to recognise China as the paramount Power in Tibet. (2) If no other Power interferes with Tibetan affairs Great Britain will not desire either to annex Tibet, or to supervise the government of that country (3) If any commercial port be established in Tibet or the telegraph be extended to the Indian border, Great Britain demands equal advantages therein. (4) The Tibetan treaty signed on the 28th day of the 7th month, 30th year of Kuang Hsu (7th September, 1904) and the additions thereto made afterwards, shall be appended to these presents. (5) This treaty shall be drawn up in English and Chinese and two copies of each made out. Should there be any difference of opinion as to any part of the text, the English version shall be taken as the true one. (6) Officials in charge of affairs in Tibet shall not engage of Chinese only. China shall not engage people of any other nationality. The Chinese Commissioner adds, regretfully, that he endeavoured to have altered some unsatisfactory items in the Treaty, but he was made to understand that the Indian Government had reached the limit of its concessions in the above articles.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

GAYA NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Gaya, June 3.

NEW SCHEMES.

The Superintendent Engineer, Bankipur, has, it is understood, addressed a circular letter to the District Engineer on the subject of topping the metalled roads in the District with "mud" instead of with gravel or "kunker". But, when the Surki or the concrete with which the roads are topped at present and which stick to the earth very much don't last long, how can mud topping be an improvement? It will either be blown away by the summer wind or washed away by the rains leaving the stones in all their nakedness. It will prove a nuisance to the passers-by and a danger to the wheel traffic. Besides, the cost incurred in topping the roads with mud will be mere waste of money. I trust the Superintendent Engineer will reconsider the subject over again.

TRAM AND MOTOR SERVICE.

Some of the Jehanabad Zemindars in this District have moved the District Board for the construction of a tramway line from Jehanabad to Arwal. The Board has resolved to take statistics of the traffic along that road. It is an important road in the District and it will be very convenient for the passengers if a tramway service is opened here. Equally important is the Serghatti road. A company has come forward to run a motor car service from Gaya to Serghatti via Dohbi. The idea is splendid, but the promoters of the scheme want a subsidy of Rs. 200 per month from the District Board for 1 year for the purpose. The District Board has refused the grant and so the idea has been dropped. But a tramway service will as well be advantageous to the people.

RAJ CASES.

It will be within the recollection of our readers that Babu Chotey Narain Singh had instituted 3 big suits against the 9 annas Raj, 7 annas Raj, and Moyer. The first was withdrawn before the actual hearing commenced. The second was dismissed for default and the last was decreed. An appeal was preferred against the order of dismissal of the suit against the 7 annas Raj and was pending in the High Court. It has been compromised, the plaintiff accepting some landed properties and cash. The Maksudpur Raj case was instituted by Babu Chandreshwar Prasad Narain Singh of Chupra against the Rance claiming the Raj on the demise of his brother the husband of the present Rance. The case was hotly contested. Mr. Howard and Babu N. K. Lal of this Bar had gone to Patna to instruct Mr. Hill of Calcutta. The case has been concluded but no judgment yet pronounced. The people are anxiously awaiting the result.

A CONVICTION SET ASIDE.

I am extremely gratified to learn that Babu Prakash Chunder Sircar, Vakil of the Gaya Bar has at last come out scot-free of the prosecution launched by the officials against him. It will be remembered that some how or other he incurred the displeasure of a late Munsif of Gaya, and that was the beginning of his troubles. He had to move the District over and over again. Finally, the District Judge reported him for perjury but the High Court wanted a conviction before taking notice under the Legal Practitioner's Act. Prosecution was launched and he was convicted and sentenced to a fine of Rs. 500 and to one day's imprisonment to be undergone in the court room. On appeal the District Judge of Patna upheld the conviction, but the High Court has set it aside and ordered the fine to be refunded. Though Prakash Babu has been successfully punished by the continuous law prosecutions it is gratifying to note that he has at last succeeded in vindicating his character and preserving the dignity of the Bar. I congratulate him upon his success.

RAILWAY.

The Patna-Gaya railway service has undergone an important change in the timing and the running of that line from the first June 1905. Previously there were only 2 trains both ways, one starting from Gaya at 1 p.m. and the other at 11-30 p.m. both very inconvenient and the speed was very slow. In fact it was considered to be a deserted line. But now the trains start at 6-15 a.m. and 3-45 p.m. from Gaya and reach Bankipur in 2 1/2 hours. Besides, there is a third running of a mixed goods train at 11-25 a.m. It is very convenient and the public are grateful to the railway authorities for this much needed change. Now one can go to and come back from Patna during the day without any inconvenience to himself and so also from Patna.

MATTERS MUNICIPAL.

Babu Hari Charan Ghosh, Overseer, Newtown, has fallen on evil days. He was found fault with by Mr. Forrester and was once fined and again suspended. During the time of Mr. Donald also, who has been here for a very short time yet, he was again suspended. At the last meeting the Commissioners have resolved to make him revert to his old post of store-keeper which means a monthly loss of Rs. 25 to him.

WATER WORKS.

From what I dropped from the lips of Mr. Donald at the last Municipal meeting, it appears, he will advance materially in the cause of water works in this city. It was originally conceived during the time of Mr. Macpherson, and the foundation stone was laid by Mr. Savage, but fund was not forthcoming. Various devices were planned for coming to the purpose but to no effect. It has been suggested to take money from the title-hunters. The Magistrate seemed to approve of the idea. If this policy is adopted, it will be an accomplished fact in the near future.

"No Doctors Treatment"

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

Price per box Rs. 1.
Packing and postage As 4.
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Govt. Medical Diploma Holder.
10-1 Lower Chitpur Road.

SUDHA CHURNA.

IS THE BEST REMEDY FOR Acidity, Indigestion, Dyspepsia and Colic, either acute or chronic.

One dose will give immediate relief and if continued regularly will radically cure the disease.

M. Kunhi Raman Vydyer Esqr., Sanskrit Pandit of the German Mission High Institution and landowner of Tellicherry was suffering from chronic dyspepsia for a long time. His appetite was gone. Whenever he took even an ounce of cow milk, there was an acute pain and rumbling noise in the lower abdomen. He was also suffering from piles, and his weight was much reduced. He tried all sorts of medicines, but derived no benefit from any of them. At last he wrote to us of a large phial of 'Sudha Churna', and after using it for a month and a half he has got much benefit, and has written the following letter to us:

"I, Kar Sir—The phial of 'Sudha Churna' which I brought from you, has done me immense good. I, a dyspeptic patient for a long time, could not take without experiencing an acute pain and rumbling noise in the lower abdomen, even an ounce of cow milk. But after taking a phial of your 'Sudha Churna', can now easily consume sixteen ounces of milk a day without feeling any uneasiness. I am glad to say that there has been a steady and remarkable increase of my appetite ever since I have been taking your valuable 'Sudha Churna' which also aids a good deal the excretory functions impaired by piles. I would like to add that weight of my body was only 98 lbs before taking the medicine, but it has now increased to 104 lbs."

Price—Large Phial Re 1-4 and small phial Ans. 14.

This medicine is to be had of the MANAGER, Bharat Vaisajyanilaya, SHAMBAZAR, CALCUTTA.

CHYAVANA PRAS

Far Surpasses

COD LIVER OIL.

Its action is unrivalled

in nourishing and strengthening the system and eradicating diseases of LUNGS, HEART, THROAT and other ORGANS.

It is a sovereign remedy for Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, Consumption, Phthisis, Susceptibility of Cold and other complaints of Lungs and Throat.

It radically cures Nervous Debility, Prostration, Brainfag and similar complaints due to any cause or causes.

It purifies the blood, gives tone to the weak constitution, corrects the liver, creates good appetite, and makes a NEW AND HAPPY MAN.

J. T. Peters Esqr., S. T. Corps, Umballa, writes:

"Kindly send me by return post one phial, containing medicine for a month, of CHYAVANA PRAS. I feel much better by taking one bottle."

Babu Goures Sunker Roy of the Cuttack Printing Co. Ld., Cuttack, writes:

"I am very glad to say that the bottle of CHYAVANA PRAS, which I got from you a month ago, has done me much good. It has checked the cold and tendency to fever which troubled me, and the shaking of hand owing to NERVOUS DEBILITY is somewhat less. Please send me another bottle to last for a month."

Medicine for one month's use — Rs. 3.
ditto for one week's use — Rs. 1.
Postage, packing and V. P. charges extra.

MANAGER, BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, 129-1-2, Cornwallis St. Shambazar, Calcutta.

Lemo Salis

Is

PALATABLE TO TASTE

AND

a delightful beverage

during the hot season.

It is a specific for

INDIGESTION, FLATULENCE, LOSS OF APPETITE and other forms of DYSPEPSIA.

It is an excellent remedy for

DIARRHÆA, VOMITTING, COLIC and CHOLERA.

IT IS ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM ALCOHOL.

PRICE—ANS 3 PER 4-OUNCE PHIAL AND RS 5 PER DOZEN.

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"I have used it and have found it an excellent appetiser. It has a delightful taste and serves as the beverage."

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Rare Opportunity.

Why be weak or weak-minded,

pay nothing.

You have simply to write to the person mentioned

address and you will get by return post an excellent

book in English (p. p. 100) post paid. It will

answer all your questions relating to your mind

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principle to guide your health, wealth and prosperity.

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THE UNRIVALLED BLOOD PURIFIER & TONIC.

It is a sovereign remedy for the radical cure of

all kinds of syphilis, mercurial and other poisonous

sores which have their origin in the impurities of

blood. It is a tonic and alternative it is also highly

beneficial to ladies who suffer from weakness after

confinement. From the very commencement of its

use, the poison will be gradually eliminated from

the system, and cheerfulness and vigorous energy

will take the place of despondency and lassitude.

It may be freely taken at all seasons by young

and aged persons alike without any apprehension of

side effect.

Price per phial Rs. 2.

To be had of the MANAGER, BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, SHAMBAZAR, CALCUTTA.

SWARNA BANGA.

This is an infallible remedy for all sorts of Gonorrhoea, Diabetes, Albuminuria and other diseases of this nature. It makes one stout and strong and sharpens one's memory.

Price Rs. 4 for 14 pills and Rs. 7 for 28 pills.

BHRIAT MASH TOILA.

This is one of the best medicated oil for which the Ayurvedic Sastra is famous. This is a marvelous remedy for all sorts of Rheumatism, Paralysis, Muscular pains, Nervous debility, Shooting pains, Dislocation of the cheek-bone, Tetanus, etc.

Price, half-a-poua Rs. 4.

DADRUDABANAI.

All sorts of Kingworms will be cured by using this medicine for 2 or 3 days. Like moths, the medicines for Kingworms, it does not contain mercury and any other injurious materials.

Price, 6 annas per phial.

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DIABETES.

Of any stage and standing is sure to be radically cured by our specific even after other remedies have failed to produce the slightest effect. Price Rs. 3 only.

The Rev. H. David, Madras, writes:—"The medicine for DIABETES you sent me was found to be very effective. Please send one bottle more and oblige." Rao Sahib C. Rangaiya, Judge of the Small Cause Court, Nagpur, writes:—"I have derived much benefit from the use of your specific."

N. E. Hill, Esq., District Munsif, 1st grade, Tellicherry, writes:—"Your specific for DIABETES is undoubtedly a boon to the public. A relative of mine, who had been suffering from DIABETES, and who derived no benefit from native medicines of different kinds has considerably improved by the use of the specific which I obtained from you. She is still using this medicine and I hope that in the course of a few months more she will be perfectly cured of this foul disease."

J. Falcke, Esq., Jettur, writes:—"After using your medicine for a month I find that I am perfectly cured of DIABETES and I am very much pleased at the results, my case having been a long standing one of eight years."

ASTHMA

Bronchial Troubles, Irritation of the AIR-PASSAGES and all Lung-diseases will be cured outright by our specific. It is the only well tried medicine of which a phial is generally sufficient even in hopelessly bad types of ASTHMA. Price Rs. 5 only.

N. E. Hill, Esq., District Munsif, 1st grade, Tellicherry, writes:—"Your ASTHMA specific has completely cured my attack. I tried several mixtures and cigars retted to no purpose before this." Mrs. Ostoch, Jaipur, writes:—"The young lady for whom I got two bottles of your specific for ASTHMA has been cured. She thought she never would have been cured. It is a wonderful cure."

INDIAN BLOOD MIXTURE

For chronic rheumatism, SYPHILIS, Gout, muscular pains and all impurities arising from whatever cause, whether inherited or acquired. Price Rs. 3 only. Mr. H. Lal, Munsif, Jhalna, writes:—"Your Blood Mixture has done me much good."

"Your Blood Mixture has done me much good. I think I shall be a new man indeed."

To be had only of

J. C. MOOREEJEE & CO.,

The Victoria Chemical Works,

RANAGHAT, BENGAL.

The World, "Incurable" HAS BEEN BANISHED FROM THE MEDICAL VOCABULARY SINCE THE DISCOVERY OF

Healing Balm

For it cures Gonorrhoea, Gleet and kindred Genito-Urinary diseases that so long defied the medical skill.

Puts an instantaneous stop to discharges however painful and obnoxious.

Is a deadly enemy of Gonococci, the Gonorrhoea-bacillus.

Has not hitherto been known to fall in any cases however complicated.

Removes immediately all complaints about urination.

Is equally effective in chronic and acute cases.

Destroys the susceptibility to stricture, retention of urine, penicillitis, and other horrible effects of gonorrhoea.

At once removes all agonising symptoms not to speak of itching inflammation and ulceration of the an affected.

Restores, without fail, the vital power, buoyancy and the normal desires.

Brings life to the living dead.

MITIGATES THE PENALTIES OF SIN AND BRINGS HOPE TO THE HOPELESS.

What the Doctors say:—

One of the Leading Medical Journals the "Indian Lancet" says:—"We have no hesitation in saying that R. Laughin and Co's Healing Balm is a safe and reliable therapeutic agent and one on which medical men and the general public may without any doubt, depend."

Dr. K. P. Gupta, Col. I. M. S. M. A. M. D. F. R. C. S. (Edin) S. Sc (Cambridge) J. P. H. D. (Cantab) late Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, etc. says:—"Healing Balm is almost a specific for Gonorrhoea and may be safely and strongly recommended for that troublesome and obstinate disease."

Dr. B. K. Bose, Surgeon-Major M. D. C. M. I. M. S. etc. says:—"I have tried Healing Balm in cases of acute Gonorrhoea with success."

Dr. U. Gupta M. D. M. C. (Edin) F. C. S. (London) etc. says:—"I tried R. Laughin and Co's Healing Balm and found it really a very excellent medicine for both chronic and acute Gonorrhoea."

Dr. G. C. Bez Borna, L. R. C. P. (Edin), L. F. P. C. and L. M. (Glasgow) &c., says:—"I tried Healing Balm. It is a splendid remedy for the diseases of Genito-urinary tract and it acts like a charm. Its diuretic property is well marked."

Dr. Edwin S. Pashong, M. D., P. & S. London, says:—"I have much pleasure in stating that Healing Balm certainly has a most striking effect in Urinary infections. Not case will be found to resist its beneficial and specific effect."

Dr. R. S. Chackrabarty, M. D. Late Asst. In-S. of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital London, says:—"I certify with great pleasure that Healing Balm has been found efficacious in cases of chronic and acute Gonorrhoea. The scalding sensation ceases in 24 hours."

Dr. R. G. Kar, L. R. C. P. (Edin) Secretary, Calcutta Medical School, etc., says:—"I have used it in many cases of Dyspepsia and am convinced of its efficacy. I recommend it to the profession for trial."

BABU AMRITA KRISHNA MULLICK B. L. PLEADER, CALCUTTA SMALL CAUSE COURT WRITES.

"I have used it and have found it an excellent appetiser. It has a delightful taste and serves as the beverage."

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Price 2 OZ. PHIAL RS. 2-8 EACH, 1 OZ. PHIAL RS. 1-12 EACH.

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EBONY,

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The Indian Hairdye,

The most durable hairdye ever discovered, sure to give satisfaction to all grey-haired men. Highly Spoken of by the press and the public.

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All sorts of Sastric Medicines, GHRIITAS, OILS etc., are always in stock.

People, stricken down by diseases, will be good enough to write to us, with full description of their ailments, and prescriptions from competent Kabi-raj of this firm will be sent to them free.

Letters should enclose a half-anna postage stamp Apply for our Catalogue.

The Editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika writes:—

"I can confidently recommend the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA to the public as the medicines are prepared by expert with great care."

Raj Bahadur Dwarka Nath Bhat-ghajya, Retired Sub-Judge writes:—

"I am glad to be able to say that the medicines prepared by Kabi-raj KASHAB LAL ROY, Superintendent Physician of the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, are genuine."

Babu Amar Nath Basu, Zamindar, Bagbazar, writes:—

"I can very strongly certify as to the genuineness of the medicines prepared at the BHARAT VAISAJYANILAYA, and to the extraordinary care with which KABI-raj KESHAB L. ROY executes his treatment upon me."

Babu Madhu Sudhan De, Retired Jailor, writes:—

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