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Gatherings of December, 1904

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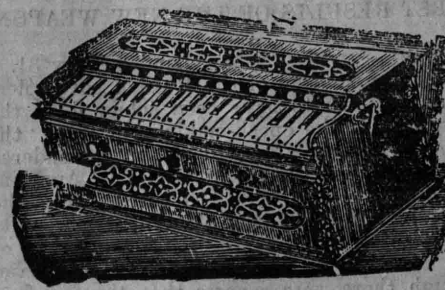
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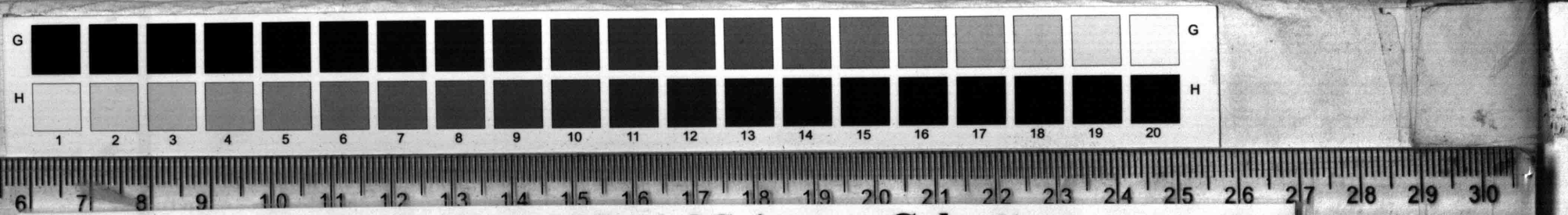
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GREAT JAPANESE VICTORY.

DECISIVE NAVAL BATTLE.

RUSSIAN FLEET ANNIHILATED.

London, May 29.

The news which we give to-day from a correspondent for whose trustworthiness we can vouch, shows that the Japanese fleet has gained a decisive victory. It has met Admiral Rojdestvensky's armada, attacked in battle, disabled several of its ships, and pursued the remainder from the field. Success has come with dramatic suddenness to the arms of Japan, before it was actually known that the Russian Admiral was attempting to move north by the Korean Straits.

There are as yet no details of the fighting, nor are such to be expected for some days. But from the fragments of information which have reached the West we can reconstruct the situation and ascertain some part of the Russian plans. Admiral Rojdestvensky seems to have divided his fleet, and sent at least six of his ships by the northern route to Vladivostok. They were instructed to appear off the extreme north of Japan on Thursday last, on which date they were duly sighted from Iturup, one of the forlorn islands in the Aleutian Archipelago, which belongs to Japan. The object of showing these ships was unquestionably to lead the Japanese to suppose that the Russians were coming by the northern route, and to induce them to move their fleet from the Korean Straits.

As another means of drawing off the Japanese and to keep them in complete uncertainty as to his intentions, Admiral Rojdestvensky sent a number of cruisers and colliers on Thursday into the Yangtze.

SHADOWING THE RUSSIANS. All Wednesday and Thursday last he seems to have been steering a devious course through the China Sea, endeavouring to put the Japanese cruisers, which were shadowing him, off the scent, but heading for the Straits of Korea when he thought himself unobserved. On Friday he was seen near the Island of Quelpart, which lies south-west of the Korean Straits, with twenty-six warships, among which were some destroyers and four large transports. The vessel which saw and reported him also saw Japanese cruisers near at hand, and these were undoubtedly closely watching his movements, signalling them back by a line of vessels equipped with wireless telegraphy instruments to Admiral Togo at his base.

On the afternoon of Saturday the Russian admiral made his dash through the Straits. Probably he expected to find the Japanese only in weak force, as he would calculate that they would have detached ships to the north of Japan and to Shanghai. But if so, he was grievously disappointed. The Japanese would seem to have brought their whole effective force to bear upon him, suddenly appearing with their four battleships, their eight powerful armoured cruisers, and their host of smaller cruisers and torpedo craft.

The channel which the Russian admiral essayed to pass was the one to the east of Tashima, between that group of islands and Japan proper. It is possible that certain portions of this channel had been mined. In these narrow waters there was no escape should the Japanese be seen in force. That they were seen, we now know, though the world has yet to learn how Admiral Togo burst forth from that "certain place" in which he had so long lain concealed, and fell upon the great mass of Russian ships struggling north.

HOW THE BATTLE OPENED. Probably the battle opened by a long-range attack, delivered by the Japanese battleships and armoured cruisers, the object being to damage the Russian ships, slow them, and render them easy victims for the attack of the Japanese torpedo craft when the hour for that attack should come. The Japanese marksmen would shoot far better than the scratch crews of the Russian ships, and when the great 12-in. projectiles began to go home, when the steel mounds rang and reeled under the terrific blows, when the hail of fragments from Shimose shells covered the upper decks and rendered it impossible for the Russians to man their smaller guns, discipline would be lost on board Admiral Rojdestvensky's fleet, and the ill-compacted congeries of soldiers, landsmen, conscripts, and foreign mercenaries degenerated into a mere rabble.

The Russian line would lose its order and formation; ships would mask each other's fire; while ever at a safe distance would be the well-formed line of Japanese ships, vomiting incessant flame and death upon their hapless targets.

When the Japanese heavy ships had produced disorder and damaged the Russian upper works, the moment would come for the Japanese torpedo-boats. Here the Russians had nothing with which to reply to the Japanese attack. Their torpedo craft numbered only eight, and one appears to have been left behind; the other seven would be speedily overpowered by the twenty-two Japanese destroyers and the three scores of Japanese torpedo-boats, leaving the way open for these deadly little craft to dart in and discharge their hissing Whiteheads at the big Russian ships.

THE TORPEDO ATTACK. It may have been in this stage of the battle that the Russian battleship and the four other Russian warships were sent to the bottom, which fact is vouched for by the American Consul at Nagasaki. But even if the torpedo craft did not obtain any great and visible success in destroying ships, the moral effect of their vigorous attacks as twilight fell and deepened into darkness would be far-reaching. The night of Saturday would be one of terror for the Russian Fleet. Everywhere hostile torpedo craft; wild and furious firing by the Russian crews in every possible direction; firing at rocks, at comrades, and at everything but the real target—the Japanese boats. But here there would be something which was missing when this very fleet assailed the fishing fleet on the Dogger Bank, or when it bombarded and sank a de-

fenceless American merchantman in Formosa waters—real torpedoes fired by men, armed and panting for vengeance upon the enemy who came to attack Japan.

The battle appears to have continued all Saturday afternoon and evening and to have lasted well into Sunday. From various ports on the Japanese coast the sound of heavy cannonading was heard, proceeding always north as the Russian advances in the direction of Vladivostok degenerated into a rout. Later news can only add to the completeness of the victory; of its reality there can be no doubt. The position of the Russian Fleet is miserable in the extreme. One of Admiral Rojdestvensky's best battleships, the Borodino, lies at the bottom. Probably half a dozen more are in a battered and crippled condition, wandering in the bogs of the Japan Sea amid hostile flotillas of torpedo craft and menaced with hourly destruction.

INTERCEPTING THE RETREAT. If the remnant of the Russian Fleet reaches Vladivostok, it will probably find there a powerful detachment of the Japanese Fleet, if not Admiral Togo's whole armoured force, supported by innumerable torpedo-boats. The Japanese have the higher speed, and can easily outstrip their damaged enemies. They can thus intercept the retreat and perhaps compel the Russians to drive their vessels ashore on the Siberian coast. As for those ships which do crawl home, their prospects are not enviable. The repairing facilities of Vladivostok are very limited indeed. There is only one dock, and the number of workmen is small. The place will speedily be cut off by Marshal Oyama's army and besieged, when a repetition of the Port Arthur tragedy seems inevitable.

Practically the news of to-day means the disappearance of the Baltic Fleet as a serious factor in the war. Parts of it will no doubt escape the meshes spread by Admiral Togo, but as a beaten and dispirited mob of ships with no power of offence and no desire once more to encounter the terrible Japanese. The backbone of the force is broken, and Russia's forlorn hope has proved of no avail. Far better had it been for Russia had she refrained from unscrupulously violating international law, from seizing and using bases on French territory, from insulting the weakness of China, and kept her fleet at home, where at least it would have been safe. For now it will be observed that, on the precedents established in this war for Russia's special interest, Japanese fleets can penetrate even to Europe and carry out the plan which has been considered by the Japanese staff, of attacking Russia in her own seas.

The Japanese Navy, having been freed from all danger by its great victory, can also turn its attention to the Russian vessels at Shanghai and in the north of Japan. We shall be greatly surprised if these are not made to suffer grievously for venturing within Admiral Togo's reach. All the colliers and transports which have aided the Russian admiral can be pursued and attacked, or interned till the close of the war for ultimate surrender to Japan. The neutral flag under which these vessels have sailed cannot protect them from punishment, should the Japanese admiral determine to give them a taste of his mettle.

UNPARALLELED ACHIEVEMENT. Our allies are to be congratulated on an achievement which is almost unparalleled in war. The odds against them in numbers of battleships were nearly two to one, yet in the face of such overwhelming strength they have accomplished overwhelming victory. There were many doubts and fears among even those who recognise the great fighting qualities of the Japanese seaman. The doubts have been dispelled; the fears allayed. Nothing now can hinder Japan's final and complete success in the present war, and the longer Russia delays her acceptance of the terms of peace which Japan is prepared to grant the worse it will be with Russia in the end. Each Japanese victory necessarily raises the stringency of the terms, and now an indemnity of £200,000,000 is mentioned where six months ago an indemnity of half that amount would have purchased peace.

STORY OF THE BATTLE.

HOW TOGO ATTACKED.

London, May 30. The picture of the great naval battle which was reconstructed in the "Daily Mail" from the information furnished by such telegrams as were available yesterday, and in particular from the important message which appeared exclusively in the "Daily Mail," proves to have been substantially correct. But we are now able to add to it many touches from the fuller despatches which are published this morning.

The Russian Fleet made its onset in two columns of line ahead. On the starboard side were the pick of Admiral Rojdestvensky's battleships, the four magnificent units of the Borodino class, the hulking Oslabia, and the smaller and less conspicuous Sissoi, Navarin, and Nicolai. A swift cruiser led the mighty line as it approached the scene of conflict.

On the port beam of this line were the weaker Russian ships, the Nakhimoff, the three coast-defence ships, and a number of cruisers. The place of the Kamschatka, the invaluable repair ship with an immense outfit of spare parts, and with all the machinery needed to effect repairs, is not stated, but she was probably between the two lines of armoured monstrosities.

It would appear from some of the telegrams that the weather was foggy when the Russian admiral neared the fateful waters which had seen some months before the terrible defeat of Admiral Jessen and the Vladivostok ships. But, if so, the Russians were held under watch by the Japanese scouts which gained touch of them off Quelpart, and thereafter signalled their every movement to Admiral Togo at his base. Invisible messages sped through the

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 used it for other troubles and pains with good results."—J. Viljoen, Jacobabad, Transvaal. For sale by All Chemists and Storekeepers Price 1 Re. 2 Rs.

air; the Hertzian waves of the wireless transmitter rattled and crashed over their fateful tidings from the observing ships, while the receivers on board the Japanese battleships at Masanpo—for that was the Japanese base, as we may state now that it is safe to abandon all concealment—took in the great news.

THE HOUR FOR ACTION.

As the receivers spelled out the messages with dot and dash on the long tapes, Admiral Togo knew that his great hour had come. The Baltic fleet was moving to the easternmost channel of the two which lead past the island group of Tanshima into the Japan sea. Smoke arose from the funnels; there was the din of heaving up anchor and getting under way; and presently the Japanese Fleet was heading for the north of Tanshima, in gallant array, prepared for battle, steaming to its greatest victory and its last in this war.

What formation was adopted by the Japanese we do not know. But the great aim of every able commander is to bring a crushing fire to bear from every gun in his fleet's broadside upon some part of the enemy's fleet while but few of the enemy's guns can fire. This aim is most surely attained by crossing the T, or making with your own fleet the upper limb of that letter, while the enemy's fleet in formation represents the perpendicular stroke.

It was the manoeuvre which Kamimura tried with brilliant success upon Admiral Jessen, and which Admiral Togo had attempted without complete success in the battle of Ronnd Island. It differs altogether from the tactics adopted by Nelson at Trafalgar, but the aim is the same—to destroy the enemy by using the whole of your fleet to crush some part of his.

Rounding Tanshima the two fleets came into view of each other. The Japanese had a speed at least three knots greater than that of the Russian armada; they could choose the range and determine the nature of the fight—an advantage which in the hands of a skilful manoeuvrer, such as Admiral Togo has proved himself to be, spells success, unless the odds are hopeless. They were heavy against him on that morning of May 27, but he looked upon his foe with the eye of a Nelson or a Jervis. "No more of that counting the fifty; the die is cast; and if there are fifty sail I will go through them. A victory is very essential for Japan at this moment."

TERROR OF THE HEAVY SHELLS.

The trial shots boom heavily over the water the Japanese fire to get the range; a spurt of flame flies out from the barbettes of the Mikasa, and the shells pass whirring through the air. The Russians' flagship replies, and then the whole Japanese line breaks into flame with a roar that would rend the sea and sky.

The heavy, terrible roll of continuous firing from enormous guns; the continuous roar of enormous projectiles through the air; the crash of the armour-pieces as they strike the Russian mail, and flashing lightning in contact with the hard steel; splash back into the sea; the smoke and flying splinters from the Shimose common shell, as they burst against the unarmoured portions of the Russian vessels' sides, or erupt through the decks, tossing high in the air fragments of wreckage and of human form—these are the incidents of every great naval battle.

On the Russian side the fire is slow and ill-directed, for nothing else will explain the absence of heavy losses of ships on Japan's part. As the Japanese shells drive home, as the Russian losses increase, as the crews feel the ships beneath them trembling under the terrific blows dealt by the Cyclopean force of the Japanese heavy guns, the Russian fire becomes wild and hurried.

The crews in the turrets hear the beat of steel upon steel and feel that the fight is going against them. Above and below them funnels are tottering, steam pipes being shattered by the violence of the blast of shells impinging on the armoured leeches; the unarmoured parts of the ship are dissolving under the rain of projectiles into a confused tangle of steel-work; the scuppers run blood; the decks

are littered with the yellow-stained dead and wounded. The vehemence of the fire dies down, and, with dismay, through the smoke of shells, the Russians see the Japanese Fleet still intact, ever pressing upon them with the menace of destruction, every gun blazing as the muzzles point constantly at the Russian lines.

In some ships the speed begins to fall; some are heavily down by the bows and others by the stern; on the conning-towers of the great battleships ring an incessant storm of shells large and small, as the Japanese shoot to kill the captains and admirals in their penthouses of steel.

TORPEDO CRAFT RUSH IN.

The Japanese attack was so delivered as to drive the Russians away from Vladivostok and to shepherd them into the midst of the torpedo flotilla for the hours of darkness. After sunset, after a long day of battle had broken the spirit of the Russians and shaken their moral, the destroyer and torpedo-boat divisions were let go.

Admiral Togo has told the world of the feelings with which on the night of February 5 he sent the crews of his torpedo flotilla to what he firmly believed might prove their death.

His were the emotions of Captain Yatsuhiro, of the Asama, who when he dismissed the Asama's volunteers upon their errand to block Port Arthur, thus addressed them: "Go, then, dear comrades, and with perfect faith in the grace of Heaven and courageous submission to the will of God, go, and with serene confidence discharge the great task now entrusted to you as an honour. You, my dear comrades, have been honoured with the discharge of this noble duty. I adjure you to fight, to fight, though wounded and maimed, unto the very last."

The torpedo craft rushed in. It would seem that to their prowess must be ascribed the loss of the Borodino and Alexander III., two of the finest battleships in Admiral Rojdestvensky's array. They closed on the maimed Russian ships with terrible tenacity, and drove home through the sheet of fire that streamed from the Russian guns. The wild confusion of a torpedo attack by night after battle is a thing not to be described by any language at the command of

BOWEL COMPLAINT IN CHILDREN.

During the summer months children are subject to disorders of the bowels, and should receive the most careful attention. As soon as any unnatural looseness of the bowels is noticed, Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy should be given. For sale by All Chemists and Storekeepers Price 1 Re. 2 Rs.

man; the crush of torpedo-boats, the glimmering through the blackness of night of the white bone of spray that each boat carries in her teeth, may unnerve even the bravest and best-trained crew.

AGONY OF THE RUSSIAN FLEET.

The wild flashing of searchlights, if any remained serviceable after the battering the Russians had undergone, would serve only to show up the targets to the Japanese, and fail to protect the Russians from the merciless Whiteheads. The ships sunk must have been struck again and again with the powerful 18-in. fish torpedo, till they sank lower and lower in the water, and the end drew near. There was no beaching of ships upon a friendly coast, as at Port Arthur; no haven of refuge for the sinking armour-clads. The sea closed over the Borodino, over the Suvaroff, with Admiral Rojdestvensky himself, if report can be believed, over the Ushakoff, and over five of the cruisers with his fleet.

With daybreak, after the attacks of the torpedo craft, the Japanese heavy ships resumed their fire upon the Russians. A group of broken and disabled ships was sighted in the straits, and promptly compelled to strike. The haul made was invaluable to the Japanese Navy.

The prizes included the battleship Orel, a sister of the Suvaroff and Borodino, one of the best ships in the Russian line, the smaller but serviceable battleship Nicolai, and the two third-class battleships Senavin and Apraxin. They appear to have offered but little resistance, finding themselves left helpless, in the midst of a host of enemies, with the coast of Japan just under their lee.

COMPLETE AND DECISIVE SUCCESS.

The pursuit continued, and, according to reports which are not yet fully confirmed but which are probably correct, the Russian battleship Sissoi has also been captured by the Japanese. The cruiser Vladimir Monomach appears to have been run ashore to save her from foundering, and then to have been captured by the Japanese. She is not likely to see any further service.

The victory is amazing in its completeness. Of the formidable ships of the Russian Fleet, only three escaped of eleven which entered the battle. At Trafalgar the beaten fleet numbered thirty-three battleships, of which one was sunk in the battle and seventeen captured. Proportionately, then, Trafalgar was an even less decisive success than the action of the Korean Straits. And whereas at Trafalgar the victorious admiral died gloriously in the hour of his triumph, here it is the defeated admiral who has succumbed, and has not lived to see the greatness of the disaster which has befallen his country.

In the Korean Straits the prisoners number 3,000 with one admiral at least; at Trafalgar they were about 7,000, and included the two admirals commanding in chief. The loss of the British at Trafalgar was 449 killed and 1,241 wounded, of a total force of 16,820 engaged; of the French and Spaniards, 5,860 killed and wounded of a total strength of 21,580. But at Trafalgar the damage and loss inflicted upon the victorious fleet were out of all proportion greater than will probably prove to be those in the Korean Straits.

SUBMARINES IN ACTION.

FIRST RESULTS OF THE NEW WEAPON.

London, May 31.

The annihilation of the Russian battle fleet is now known to have been achieved by the Japanese in the epoch-making battle in the Korean Straits. Yesterday's news rendered it certain that the Orel, Nicolai I, Apraxin, and Senavin had been captured, and the Borodino, Ushakoff, and Alexander III, sunk. The fate of the Suvaroff, the flagship, and of the Navarin and Sissoi remained uncertain, though there were reports that the first had been sunk and the third captured. The Oslabia was thought to have made her escape.

But now we know, on the authority of a report made by the Russian cruiser Almaz, that the Oslabia and Suvaroff were both sunk, while a despatch, stated to have been received from Tokio by the American Naval Department, adds that the entire Russian battle fleet has been captured or destroyed. Our Tokio correspondent cables that the Navarin and Sissoi are either Japanese prizes or at the bottom, which is ample confirmation of the American news.

The completeness of the success is, indeed, bewildering, and it has inspired in French telegrams suggestions of panic and cowardice among the Russian crews, for which charges there is as yet no foundation in ascertained facts. Yet it is difficult to see how the Japanese could have dealt out such complete destruction unless the officers and men on board the Russian ships lost their heads.

SUBMARINES IN ACTION.

A factor which may have conduced to panic is the use of submarines by the Japanese. On the authority of our Tokio correspondent, we have it that submarines were in action on the Japanese side. The Japanese possess a flotilla of thirteen of these craft, and even if they did little actual damage, the appearance of their periscopes above water and the rising of their devilish hulls from the green depths would be enough to inspire dismay among men unfamiliar with them. Moreover, the Korean Straits are peculiarly suited to their employment, and for the past two months a number have been kept constantly manoeuvring off Tanshima.

It is believed by those in a position to know that the Japanese ships did not go far afield to meet the Russians because experience in the earlier battles of the war had shown that it was vital to have a large supply of ammunition on board. Togo's ships, therefore, had only just sufficient coal for a pursuit of the Russians to Vladivostok, and all the weight saved was given to increasing the ammunition supply. For obvious reasons the Russian ships could not adopt the same plan; they wanted every ton of coal they could carry.

THE CAPTURED ADMIRALS.

Thus it is quite possible that the Russian ammunition gave out towards the end of the battle; and if there was much hurried firing at long range that would explain the absence of serious loss or damage on the Japanese side. It would also explain the surrender of so many Russian ships in the last stage of the battle.

A French commentator has suggested that the Russians failed in doing their duty by not

NO COMPETITION.

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opening the Kingston valves and sending the disabled units to the bottom. It appears to be forgotten by those who argue thus that combatants who sink their own ships carry by naval precedent be refused quarter, though it is true that the Japanese have never acted upon this stern rule.

All the three Russian Admirals, including Rojdestvensky himself, are known to be Japanese prisoners. Rojdestvensky is reported to have been wounded and to have been transferred from the Suvaroff to a smaller Russian vessel, which was presumably taken later. A heavy fire would certainly be concentrated upon his ship, as the Japanese follow the rule of the British Navy, to fight always "with the King of Israel," or to direct their main attack upon the hostile flagship.

THE JAPANESE PRIZES.

Of the Japanese prizes, the Orel, Nicolai I, Apraxin, and Senavin have been safely brought into port. The Orel is a magnificent vessel, and will fill the place of the lost Hatsuse in the Japanese line. She is absolutely new, and was only completed last summer. The Nicolai I. is an old ship, but has recently been reconstructed, and is said to steam well. With the Apraxin and Senavin, she will be most useful for work off the Japanese coast, and for guarding the Tuguru or Soya Straits. As the Yashima is now being raised, the capture of these ships leaves Japan actually stronger than on the first day of the war, and in an impregnable position. She may even consider the plan of transferring the war to the Russian waters in Europe.

The repair of the captured ships will require some weeks or months, but the Japanese have so many dockyards that it is relatively a simple matter. If the war is prolonged they should be at sea by August; it is doubtful if they are more damaged than was the Mikasa in the battle of August 10 off Port Arthur.

Nothing more has been heard of the Russian ships which left Shanghai some days ago, except that the Rion and one or two others are now returning. It is probable, however, that they have been driven back by the Japanese cruisers which are certain to be despatched against them, with orders to sink or capture them. They must either be interned or go out and fight an absolutely hopeless battle.

STORIES OF THE GREAT BATTLE.

TORPEDOES EXPLODE ON ALL SIDES.

Admiral Togo's lucid and simple narrative and the long telegram from our Tokio correspondent add many details of the great battle. Notwithstanding Russian reports to the contrary, it is certain that no large Japanese ships have been sunk, though the Asahi appears to have been considerably damaged. Three large Russian ships, however, seem to have been still afloat in a damaged condition in the neighbourhood of the scene of the battle on Tuesday, and the Japanese are stated to have taken steps to secure them.

On the Russian side we have numerous narratives from the crew of the Almaz, the only large ship known as yet to have reached Vladivostok. But as this ship fled early in the battle, these narratives must be treated critically, as it is quite clear that heavy drafts have been made upon the imagination. They are forwarded by Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent, and the essential passages are as follows:—

Before the fight began on the morning of May 27 four Japanese cruisers appeared. They were received by the fire of the battleship Nicolai and beat a precipitate retreat. Admiral Rojdestvensky ordered his ships to assume battle formation and to engage the enemy. The Japanese endeavoured to surround the flagship Suvaroff, which fought desperately. Five fires were extinguished on board her. The Navarin, Senavin, Apraxin, and Ushakoff fought magnificently and came out unscathed from the first day's fighting. The battle reached its height at noon and was renewed at night.

The Nicolai turned turtle. The Orel was last seen smoking with masts and funnels shot away. The Aurora was damaged and dismantled. Two ships of the Borodino class were heeling over, but were still afloat.

Eye-witnesses say they saw three Japanese vessels, one a three-funnelled one of the Nisshin type, and another unidentified, in flames, before sunset. The first torpedo attack was repulsed.

JAPANESE LOSSES.

It must, however, be stated that the Nisshin is not a three-funnelled vessel, which somewhat spoils the picture. Another narrative from the same source states:—

Both fleets had sustained terrible losses when the Almaz broke through the hostile line. Of the Japanese ships two battleships had gone down before the officers' eyes, and two cruisers with their sterns high out of water seemed ready to plunge bow foremost to the bottom.

It will be observed that this tale differs altogether from the other, which makes no allusion to the sinking of any Japanese battleships. It may have been doctored for Russian consumption by the censors at Vladivostok. The narrative proceeds:—

The Russian Fleet was in even sadder plight. The Suvaroff, Borodino, Oslabia, and Ural were utterly destroyed, and when the fog closed down and hid the scene of battle from the sight of the ship the Alexander III, seemed in sore distress. She was limping northwards, but was maintaining a valiant fight against throngs of swarming torpedo-boats and the attacks of cruisers.

Torpedo-boats were also clinging round the other ships of the Russian Fleet like angry wasps, the separate flotillas darting in again and again to launch their weapons.

THE SUVAROFF'S END.

Yet another narrative gives a picture of the fate of the Suvaroff:— The officer on the bridge of the Almaz early in the battle, saw the flagship shudder from stem to stern, as though under a blow from a huge hammer, and hesitate in her course. There was a great upheaval of the waters around the armoured giant, and then she began to list and sink. The officers of the Almaz believe that this was the debut of the submarine as an effective agent in naval warfare, or else the Suvaroff must have been sunk by a large mine.

So extensive was the damage that the flagship sank rapidly; as her decks reached the level of the sea, officers and men could be seen struggling with the waves. A Russian torpedo boat ran in and picked up a number of the swimmers; through glasses one of these was recognised as Admiral Rojdestvensky.

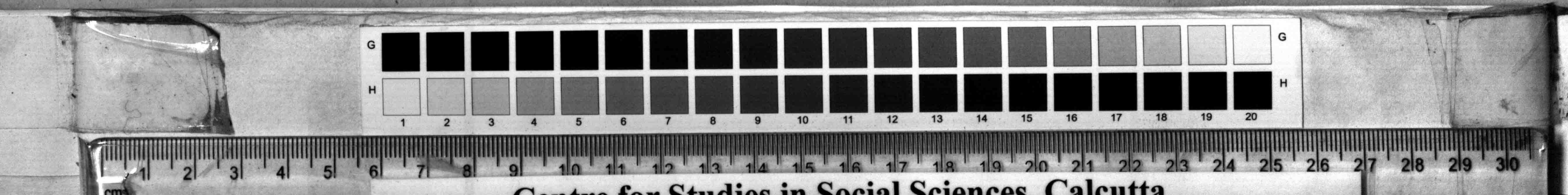
This account of the Suvaroff's end exhibits some discrepancies from the other, but has at least the merit of being picturesque and probable. (See Page 7.)

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THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JUNE 22, 1905.

SOME OTHER FEATURES OF THE ROLT CASE.

There are some important constitutional questions involved in the Rolt case. These, we fear, have not attracted the notice of the Anglo-Indian papers. It is here, we think, they and their Indian contemporaries may meet on a common platform and fight for the integrity of the High Court.

It is an universally accepted principle in this and other civilised countries that the judgment of the finding of a Court of Law should never be commented upon by the executive Government, even when the conclusions arrived at are erroneous. It is in this way that Judicial Officers are enabled to discharge their duties with fearless independence and absolute honesty.

The trial of Mr. Rolt at the High Court, it will be remembered, was suddenly stopped by the presiding Judge, Mr. Justice Henderson, at the request of the Jury, before any evidence of all the prosecution witnesses had been taken.

This ground was that Mr. Lea had appointed "to try the case a man (Mr. Heard) who was himself an applicant for Rolt's oillet." The Jury naturally laid much stress on this point; but, it is quite clear from the Resolution of the Government that Mr. Heard was not an applicant for Mr. Rolt's post when he was entrusted with the case.

What Mr. Justice Henderson did, however, was to allow himself to be led by the Jury, who had made up their minds before hearing the entire evidence, and were thus not in an absolutely fit condition to arrive at a proper conclusion, specially as they had not the advantage of an address from the Bench.

Here a very important point arises. Is it to secure justice in its entirety that the trial be stopped by the recommendation of all prosecution witnesses had been heard? Is the procedure legal? We do not know; we put the question for information. What occurs to us as laymen, however, is that if the Jury were to feel an impulse for stopping the trial without hearing the evidence of all prosecution witnesses, they should be at once discharged, inasmuch as they had already formed their opinion upon insufficient data, and replaced by another set of Jurors.

What we had to know is, is it safe to accept the verdict of a Jury, with such a frame of mind, as conclusive of the innocence of the accused? Yet another point of importance. As we have already said the Jury were led to believe that Mr. Heard was an applicant for Mr. Rolt's post and this was one of the main grounds which moved them to ask

presiding Judge to acquit the accused. From Mr. Heard's explanation taken by the Government after the trial, it was found that Mr. Heard had given up all idea of occupying Mr. Rolt's place, when he was entrusted with the judicial enquiry. Was not the verdict of the Jury vitiated in any way by the subsequent discovery of the fact that they were influenced by an alleged statement which had no foundation in fact?

The trial of Mr. Rolt was thus marked by features some of which were of a most extraordinary nature.

The public are vitally interested in the issues raised above, and it is the duty of all journalists, irrespective of creed or colour, to urge upon the Hon'ble Chief Justice and his Hon'ble colleagues to pronounce an authoritative declaration on all of them.

CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECT OF THE ROLT CASE.

We said that the line of action taken by both Mr. Justice Henderson and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in the Rolt case affected an important constitutional right of the High Court. The point is intricate, but, we hope, we shall be able to make it as plain to the reader as possible. It will be remembered that Mr. Justice Henderson took an unusual interest in the matter. We say, "unusual," because we do not remember to have ever seen or heard of any other learned Judge of the High Court acting in the way he was led to do in connection with a criminal case.

We have already pointed out that Mr. Justice Henderson stopped the trial of Mr. Rolt at the recommendation of the Jury before all prosecution witnesses had been examined. He also did not sum up the evidence and deliver any charge to the Jury. Further, when the Jury handed over a written statement to him saying that they were convinced that the whole case was a "wicked concoction," the learned Judge showed it to the Standing Counsel who said that it was useless to continue the case when the Jury had made up their minds, and the accused was immediately discharged. Now, we humbly think, that, instead of discharging the accused at this stage of the trial, the proper course for the presiding Judge was to discharge the Jury, and empanel another set of jurors in their place. It is thus quite evident that the manner in which the trial of Mr. Rolt was conducted was not of the usual type.

But, it is not during the trial alone that Mr. Justice Henderson evinced this great interest in the case. Subsequent events also showed the same thing; for, he took certain steps which were of a most extraordinary and unusual character. Is it the practice with the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court to write Minutes upon cases disposed of by them? Of course not. We, however, learn from the Government Resolution on the Rolt case that, after the trial was over, Mr. Justice Henderson engaged himself in writing a Minute on the subject for submission to the Government of Bengal. Now, this was not only an extraordinary and unusual procedure, but also a somewhat risky one; for, a Minute, prepared by a learned Judge when not sitting on the Bench, is not a judicial but an extra-judicial document, and, as such, could be criticised by the Government without the latter's laying itself to the charge of violating any principle.

Was Mr. Justice Henderson justified in inviting, through his Minute, such a criticism upon himself from the Government, thereby compromising his own position directly, and that of his learned colleagues in an indirect way? The step which the learned Judge took was all the more risky as his Minute could not be based upon absolutely unshakable grounds; for, beyond the uncorroborated assertions of Mr. Rolt, who was the accused, and the confused statements of Mr. Lea, extorted from him by severe cross-examination—an ordeal from which very few, if any, could come out unscathed, or sometimes making a fool of himself—he had no other premises and conclusions. If he felt indignant at the conduct of the executive officers who prosecuted Mr. Rolt and wished to denounce it as a Judge, he might have very well done it in his charge to the jury, for that is a judicial document and the usual mode of executive criticism. But, he did not choose to adopt this ordinary and safe course, why, we cannot say precisely, though we can guess.

Well, the learned Judge was apparently not sure whether the Government would take any notice of his strictures in his charge to the Jury on the alleged objectionable methods of the executive officers or not; but the Government was bound to take action upon a Minute if he were to submit one directly. It seems, however, it did not occur to him that, by thus forcing the Government to enter into a discussion on the merits of the Rolt case, he ran the risk of enabling the executive authorities to criticise his judicial proceedings and thereby aim a blow not only at his own prestige as a Judge, but also that of the High Court itself. Indeed, if the executive Government wants anything most ardently it is only an opportunity to offer criticism upon the proceedings of a judicial officer; and Mr. Justice Henderson only created such an opportunity when he engaged himself in preparing a Minute for submission to Government.

While preparing the Minute, an opportunity however presented itself of which Mr. Justice Henderson might have taken advantage, if he were so minded, not only to extricate himself from the prospect of an undesirable discussion with the Government on the Rolt case, but also to secure the object he had in view, namely, to make the Government take notice of the alleged harsh dealings of the executive officers towards Mr. Rolt. What happened was that the Lieutenant-Governor himself, having read the newspaper reports of the Rolt case, was anxious to know all about it from the most reliable source possible. His Honor, therefore, wrote to Mr. Justice Henderson, asking the learned Judge "to favour him with an authentic report of the evidence and of his observations thereon."

Two courses were now open to the learned Judge. Under the law he was not bound to submit such a report at the instance of the Government. But if he did not like to take this step let it might be construed as discourteous, his other course was to consult his colleagues. Did he do so? Apparently not; for, then the fact would have been mentioned in his Minute or the Government Resolution. What Mr. Justice Henderson did, however, was to reply to the Lieutenant-Governor that he had already been preparing

a Minute and he would send it on when completed, which indicates that he was glad to receive a communication from the Government asking him to submit a report on the subject.

We now come to the constitutional point. If Mr. Justice Henderson had sent a Minute of his own motion when not sitting as a Judge, the Government was perfectly free to publish a Resolution on it and traverse its arguments; for, as stated above, it was not a judicial or confidential statement. But, when a learned Judge submits a report, not voluntarily but at the request of the Government, it at once becomes a confidential document, which should never see the light of the day, much less be subjected to criticism in a Government Resolution. Both Mr. Justice Henderson and the Lieutenant-Governor ought to have known this fact. In England judicial officers are now and then asked by the Home Office to submit reports on important cases; but they do it on the distinct understanding that their reports should be treated as confidential documents. The same principle holds good here also. The publication of Mr. Justice Henderson's confidential report, with a Government Resolution on its contents, is thus a violation of this principle; for the Minute was ultimately submitted by Mr. Justice Henderson at the request of the Government, and not of his own motion, and it was therefore strictly confidential.

A constitutional principle has thus been violated, and Mr. Justice Henderson and the Lieutenant-Governor are responsible for it. The learned Judge's Minute should never have been published, neither should it have been commented upon in a Government Resolution. If the learned Judge had sought the advice of his Chief and his learned colleagues they would have, we believe, never allowed him to submit the Minute unless the Government had given an undertaking to the effect that it would treat the paper as confidential and offer no strictures upon it. As for the Government, it ought to have known that it had no right to publish a report sent up to it by a learned Judge at its request, which was strictly confidential, much less to offer criticism upon its contents.

The result of this contumacious is very serious indeed. The head of the Executive Government, under the constitution, cannot touch a hair of a learned Judge of the High Court. But, what we find is that, not only has a confidential report of an Hon'ble Judge of the High Court been brought to light in breach of a constitutional principle, but he has also been made an object of attack in an official paper. This should never be permitted, and the prestige of the High Court lowered. We trust, the High Court will take necessary steps in this connection.

The heat has become intolerable to the Indians though they are natives of the soil. It is a wonder how Europeans are bearing it, especially as their customs compel them to wear clothes suited to cold countries. For their information we shall enumerate some of the methods the Indians adopt to protect themselves from heat. For instance, during the hot season the Indians do not cover themselves with thick clothing—nay, they do not use anything more than what is absolutely necessary. The Europeans will no doubt suffer less if they will only adopt our "dhoti"; that is to say, abjure their own costume and accept the one suited to warm countries; but we fear they will never do that. And, why? Because pride will not permit it. It is felt, though very unjustly, that to adopt the "dhoti" of the Indians is to come down to their level. Europeans will therefore prefer to be roasted rather than appear before an Indian without their warm clothing. Many Indians during this season bathe twice. We think this the Europeans can easily do without the fact being known to the outside public. One other method adopted by the Indians to keep their body cool is to besmear their body with "Chandan" (sandal paste). To do this the Europeans will have to keep their body uncovered. Will they agree to do it? We do not think they will, for any consideration. There is, however, a drug which is considered a protection against heat. That is "Bhang" or cannabis sativa. It is a narcotic though not only much milder than the "ganja" but absolutely harmless. Besides, it does no harm to the system and costs a trifle. We, however, fear that the vast bulk of the Europeans will never adopt any one of the methods enumerated above and the reason is their pride will stand in their way. It is demeaning to adopt any native method. That is their notion. They are masters here and the people of the country are an inferior race. Are not Englishmen the proudest of all races in the world? Why would they follow the methods of a race whom they govern? There is, however, yet another way by which they can avoid heat without sacrificing their pride. It is by not coming to this country at all. Those who are in the service can take pension and go home. Those who are tempted to come to India on account of its alleged pagoda tree should give up that idea at once; for we can assure them that Englishmen who are now residing in India are repenting for the wrong step they had taken in coming out here. We think there are yet some who would never like to leave this country for the sake of base lucre. They are so very fond of gold that they will prefer to be burnt to death rather than deprived of the opportunities of acquiring it. Let them however do one thing. Let them fly to the hills leaving their Babus to work for them in the plain. We already see that the Commissioners of Divisions have permission to spend the hot season at Darjeeling, their assistants doing their works during their absence. The Magistrates and Collectors can in this manner go to the hills and we can guarantee that their Deputies will very well be able to do their duties. As for other Europeans, has not every one of them a Babu of his own? The Babus will do pretty well for them. In this manner, the problem of heat, as far as Europeans are concerned, may be solved.

The London "Daily News" publishes the following letters:—"Sir,—The question of military expenditure in India is much under discussion at present. And it is being all thrown on wretched India. Let us see what it is for that all the expenditure is incurred. "I would give only one extract out of several from the statements of the Government of India itself (despatch March 25, 1890):—"Millions of money have been spent on increasing the army in India, on armaments, and on fortifications to provide for the security of India, not against domestic enemies or to prevent the invasions of the warlike peoples of adjoining countries, but to maintain the supremacy of British power in the East."

"Now, may I ask whether it is just and worthy of the British name, conscience, and wealth, to burden India with this expenditure? India, impoverished, bleeding, and perishing by England's own draining of its wealth of over 30 millions every year, and thereby afflicted with famine and plague! Is it not cruel in the extreme?" "May 20. Dadabhai Naoroji."

"Sir,—With regard to the military expenditure in India, I give another acknowledgment by the Government of India as to its Imperial necessity:—"It would be much nearer the truth to affirm that the Imperial Government keeps in India and quarters upon the revenues of that country as large a portion of its Army as it thinks can possibly be required to maintain its dominion there; that it habitually treats that portion of the Army as a reserve force available for Imperial purposes; that it has uniformly detached European regiments from the garrison of India to take part in Imperial wars whenever it has been found necessary or convenient to do so; and, more than this, that it has drawn not less freely upon the Native Army of India, towards the maintenance of which it contributes nothing, to aid it in contests outside of India, and with which the Indian Government has had little or no concern."

"So much does the Government of India itself acknowledge, though it falls much short of the full reality of the injustice and affliction upon the Indian people." "May 25. Dadabhai Naoroji." "We take out some strong expressions from the second letter of Mr. Naoroji. But are strong expressions necessary to explain the situation? The following, by the last mail, will be read with exceeding interest:—"Conduct of Troops in Meerut.—Sir Mancherjee Bhowagree asked the Secretary of State for India: If he has received any official information as to the conduct of troops in Rawalpindi after it was found that a native, charged with having killed a sergeant of the 9th Lancers and admitted to bail, had absconded; and will he state

part now lies either at the bottom of the sea or is in the hands of the Japanese. He (shortly the belief among Englishmen was that Trafalgar was the greatest naval battle fought in the world. That belief has however got a rude shock, and an English paper is found to write in this strain on the subject:—"Among naval battles this is the most overwhelming on record, since now we know that the entire Russian battle fleet has been annihilated. Even Nelson at the Nile and at Trafalgar failed to account for the entire force opposed to him. We have to go to the American victory of Santiago in 1898 to find any precedent for the complete destruction of a hostile fleet, and at Santiago the Spaniards were greatly inferior in force and in a deplorable position when they made the famous sortie, against which the gallant Cervera had so bravely protested as a wicked and a useless sacrifice of human life."

The "DAILY MAIL" thus describes the effect of the great victory in these significant words:—"The world has not yet recovered from the stupefaction with which it learnt that a fleet of thirty-six units had been struck out of existence in twenty-four hours. In fifteen months of war the Japanese have accounted for eighteen battleships, five armoured cruisers, nine protected cruisers, twelve gunboats, and thirty-six destroyers or torpedo-boats belonging to the Russian Navy. They have wiped out eighty-one units from the effective list with a loss to themselves of less than twenty units. It is an unparalleled achievement, which sheds a dry light upon the extraordinary efficiency of the Japanese Navy."

Out of the various lengthy reports published in the English press regarding the battle it is indeed very difficult to pick out the most concise and the most interesting for the edification of our readers. We, however, print in another column a portion of the reports published in the several issues of the "Daily Mail." Others will be published in due course. It would appear from the reports that mines and torpedoes were largely employed by the Japanese, and had indeed been suspected from the enormous losses in ships suffered by the Russian fleet, which further bear testimony to the deadly efficacy of the submarine. "The swift and unexpected manner in which the Admiral Nakhimoff went down can have been due to no other cause but a mine, or a torpedo suddenly fired at close quarters by a Japanese submarine, while the story told by the crew of the Russian cruiser Almaz ascribes the loss of the Suvaroff to the same terrible agency."

what steps the Government of India have taken in the matter. "Mr. Brodrick:—I am informed by the Viceroy that no occurrence has taken place upon which such a report, as that referred to by my Honourable friend, could be founded."

The rumour of the incident, referred to above, necessarily created a good deal of sensation here; the Secretary of State might have, therefore, allayed all suspicion by a plain and less diplomatic reply. What the public wanted to know was whether a sergeant was killed; whether an Indian was accused of killing him; whether the latter was admitted to bail; whether there was any raid in the bazar &c., but the Secretary of State makes not the slightest attempt to throw any light on the above points and remove suspicion about the alleged atrocities of the 9th Lancers in Rawalpindi. We were led to point out the danger to the Empire if the lower millions in England were awakened to the power that they possess. An impression is gaining ground among them that it is they who work and fight, and the upper ten thousands only enjoy the fruits of their labour and sacrifice.

An organization in England, the particulars of which reached us by the last mail, has taken our breath away. There are many men in England who suffer for want of work. What the unemployed in other countries do is to seek employment. But in England that is not the way with them. "A remarkable scheme"—described by some of the English papers as "an invasion"—the object of which is to bring pressure upon the Government to pass their own bills now before Parliament, which deal with the unemployed—has been conceived in Manchester. So a bill is now before the British Parliament for the benefit of the unemployed! The Government of course is not in a hurry to take it into consideration. Thus, what the unemployed now mean to do is what has been described as "an invasion of London." The idea emanated from the Manchester "Unemployed Committee." The idea is that the unemployed shall journey to London by different routes, at the rate probably of 200 or 300 hundred a week, from all parts of England. The large number of people will seek the shelter of the casual wards on their march in preference to appealing to private charity on road side. The men will leave their wives and children behind them, on the understanding that the authorities will feed them, knowing full well that the latter will never dare any such creatures, left bound, to die of starvation. It is not the intention of these invaders to meddle with Parliament, or to petition, clamour, or speechify, but to concentrate such a vast mass of workless men in London that the authorities shall actually see the necessity of doing something speedily.

The "Pioneer" of Leicester has thrown further light on the subject. Our contemporary says:—"Various suggestions are to hand for the consideration of Mr. Sherriff and his colleagues. One is that the number of the 'Army' should be limited, so that the capacity for accommodation of towns such as Market Harborough and St. Albans should not be tested beyond their limits. Another is that only picked men, able to stand the hardships of the journey, should be allowed to start. A further suggestion is that so far as possible, trade unionists should be chosen for the march before non-unionists. Unquestionably, the very best men among the unemployed should form part of the forces. The essence of the whole thing is that it is an organised demonstration of men who are willing and capable, but are unable to find work. If they are also members of voluntary organisations for trade protection purposes, the tragedy of their situation and the effectiveness of their appeal becomes intensified to an enormous degree. We have heard the idea put forward that it would be an excellent thing if the whole of the demonstrators would pledge themselves to abstinence from intoxicating liquors during the march to London and back."

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SCRAPS.

aged their estates either themselves or through Indians. The Government practically occupy the places of these deceased Zemindars, how could it then employ Europeans as managers of their properties without committing a breach of trust, especially when Indians, more competent than they, are available on lower salaries? It seems, the authorities here are perfectly unconscious of the fact that, their sense of justice is being gradually decimated, and that they are not now ashamed of committing many acts which are unjustifiable on the face of them.

AFTER screwing the Municipal rates to the utmost limit and squandering lakhs of rupees on the Central and District Offices, the authorities of our Corporation were naturally anxious about their own quarters, and so a Sub-Committee was appointed on the 17th February to consider the question. Charity, they say, begins at home, especially if the charity, has to be made with money not one's own, and so our Municipality with its customary generosity might have voted free quarters for every one of its officers, the cost of construction being of course met out of the rate payers' pockets.

As regards the other officers the sub-committee laid down the principle that a rent of 10 percent on the salaries would be charged for the quarters provided. The sub-committee perhaps thought that, in view of the splendid and luxurious quarters that are to be provided, the ten per cent rent would represent quite a concession rate, but the committee soon after relented, and thought that even this would press heavily upon certain high-salaried officers.

A STILL more serious difficulty has arisen in the case of the Secretary, Mr. Gainsford, who was originally not in the list of officers requiring quarters; but certain influential Commissioners came to feel that it would be scandalous if the Secretary were to go without the Municipal quarters. The question was considered by the sub-committee which after mature deliberation decided that as the Secretary was getting a salary of Rs. 1000, he should not doubt pay Rs. 100 per month for his splendid quarters, but he should at the same time receive an extra allowance of Rs. 100 as caretaker of the building!

THE Secretary, we hope, will now have no cause for complaint as regards niggardly treatment. Mr. Robert Turnbull began on Rs. 500 and it took him 30 years of approved service before he could get his maximum, while Mr. Gainsford is getting his maximum pay of Rs. 1000, within four years of his service, and he can also look forward to free quarters in a palatial mansion, which means again an indirect increase of salary by at least Rs. 100 to which he is not legally entitled.

THE importance of commercial education on practical lines is receiving increased attention in the United Provinces. The Upper India Chamber of Commerce was recently approached by the Collector of Moradabad with a view to apprenticing scholars to engineering concerns. The Committee replied that Messrs. Begg Sutherland and Company would be prepared to accept apprentices in connection with the Cawnpore electrical scheme.

A case which has produced more than ordinary sensation in the locality is pending before the Town Magistrate of Calicut. The accused is Mr. E. Achinthum, a local Sanitary Inspector, and the complainant is the Revd. Mr. Markely. The nature of the offence with which the accused has been charged is of a somewhat extraordinary nature. Mr. Achinthum got up a procession to celebrate his marriage, and, as is the custom from time immemorial music formed an essential part of the procession. Now, it so happened that while the procession was advancing with music, the Revd. gentleman was conducting service at St. Mary's Church. The noise caused by the music disturbed the progress of the service, and hence the criminal case. Hitherto it was the European officials who had a serious grievance against Hindu music. The contagion is now spreading and affecting even meek and gentle Christian missionaries. The vigorous nature of the prosecution is apparent from the fact that the Assistant Collector Mr. T. Noyce was produced as a witness by the complainant. A charge has been framed against the accused.

The following story hails from Champaran: Mr. Hoperoff is an indigo planter of the District of which Mr. Beylan is the District Superintendent of Police. They were good friends. A short time ago, Mr. Hoperoff came to the latter's place, where he was his guest for a few days. Now, Mr. Hoperoff owned a horse, which had a peculiarity. It was quiet enough for night work if driven without lamps being used but it got terrified if it saw the reflection of light on the road. On the last day of Mr. Hoperoff's visit, Mr. Boylan told his guest that he would prosecute him if he drove his horse without light. The planter took this threat as a jest and that very night followed Mr. Boylan's carriage in his own trap without light. Next morning, when Mr. Hoperoff came to say good-bye to his host before leaving for his factory, Mr. Boylan gave orders to the Court Inspector to prosecute Mr. Hoperoff for driving without light. In due course the case came to be heard by the District Magistrate, who dismissed it. The particulars are taken from the 'Indian Planter's Gazette.'

The Bombay papers announce the death of a familiar figure of the Dekkani Maratha community and we regret to record that Mr. Shamrao Vitthal is no more. Plague claimed him as a victim at Santacruz and he has gone to his long home rather a little earlier than expected. Mr. Shamrao was one of our best and oldest pleaders, a conspicuous and inspiring example of a self-made man, whose rise to a high status and retention of that status stand high above being affected by competition of younger men of whatever talent. Mr. Shamrao was a scholar and his attainments in Hindu philosophy and in the Kanarese literature were of no common order. He was one of the trusted representatives of the Faculty of Law in our University Syndicate. The most striking characteristic of Mr. Shamrao Vitthal was his sturdy independence of thought and act. One incident of his life is not likely to be easily forgotten. Chosen as President of the last Bombay Provincial Social Conference, he made a speech so conspicuous for its making short work of all conventionalities, that it almost produced a panic in the camp of the reformers who had chosen him to praise but found that whilst he praised he also blamed. Well that showed that Mr. Shamrao was a man with true courage of convictions. Would that there were many such.

The highest state of efficiency and organization of the Japanese army clearly shows that Japan had been long and actively preparing for the war which she knew perfectly well will break out sooner or later on account of Russia's aggression into Manchuria. And who do you think was the man that set the wheel of progress and preparation in motion? It was Marshal Oyama. Oyama was born in 1843 and is therefore now an old man. He belongs to the Kagashima class of the famous Samuria. In his early life he entered the service of his country and studied with the utmost possible labour and assiduity the methods of scientific war. It was not, however, until the Chinese war that he had any positive experience of fighting. He was in charge of the land force upon which devolved the onerous task of capturing Port Arthur and his scheme of operation on this occasion excited unstinted admiration from every possible quarter. Oyama was also in charge of the Japanese army which captured Wei-hai-Wei, one of the most conspicuous successes of that war. But his fame is chiefly acquired in the present war. He worked with efficiency, yet with a promptness and diplomacy almost unequalled before. Oyama is like an embodied fate preparing in mystery deadly and decisive blows that are sure to fall on mighty armaments with crushing effects and are calculated to crown a great military power with ruin and humiliation. He is certainly the most accomplished of modern strategists.

Bangalore, June 15.—After much waiting and delay the Victoria statue, which is to be erected at the entrance to the Cubbon Park, has arrived in India and will probably be in Bangalore to-morrow. The Mysore Government are to take over the statue till it is decided when it is to be put up and unveiled. A Meeting of the Executive Committee will shortly be held to decide these details, and also to pass the expenditure on account of the freight and insurance on the statue. It was anticipated that these expenses would amount to Rs. 6,000.

Evidence continues to accumulate of the far-reaching effects of the restrictions recently imposed upon the sale of land in Upper India. The last North-West Frontier Province registration report attributes to this cause a material falling off which has taken place in both the number and value of the deeds registered. The total number of instruments of sale and mortgages, of which registration is compulsory in the province, increased from 7,196 in 1902 to 7,554 in 1903, and fell to 6,573 in 1904. The value of the property transferred in 1904 was a lakh of rupees below the value of that transferred in 1902 and 1903. An even larger reduction is expected in the future. The report states that "as these restrictions did not come into operation till half the year had expired, it is probable that the present year will show a greater decline in both the numbers of transactions and the value of the property transferred."

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, June 2.

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK.

"The nation and citizens should guard against the habit of speaking loosely of foreign peoples and races."

—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, May 30, 1905.

"Racial prejudices and international jealousies are entirely contrary to the Christian conviction. . . . The teachings are beautiful, but the practices of the West are subject to question."

—SATORU KATO, (Japanese) June 1, 1905.

"It is the history of our kindnesses that alone makes the world tolerable. If it were not for that, for the effect of kind words, kind looks, kind letters, multiplying, spreading, making one happy through another, and bringing forth benefits, some thirty, some fifty, some a thousand fold, I should be tempted to think our life a practical jest."

—R. L. STEVENSON.

"THE SPIRIT OF OUR ANCESTORS."

"THE VIRTUE OF THE EMPEROR."

The whole world has been astounded this week at the extraordinary completeness of Admiral Togo's victory over the Russian fleet. Day by day, almost hour by hour, as the details of the fight have come to hand, the wonderment has grown. It was anticipated that the Japanese would at least cripple the Russian ships, but that they would be practically annihilated, the admiral taken prisoner, and Russia rendered navy-less, was hardly looked for even by the most sanguine of Japan's admirers. And the next feature in the whole wonderful story is the motive power which animates not only admirals but every individual in the fleet. There is no self-glory in it, no hunting for future honours, it is devotion to an ideal which moves the Japanese to perform the most heroic exploits. The Mikado appreciates the splendid success of his navy by attributing it to the loyalty of officers and men by which "we have been enabled to respond to the spirit of our ancestors." Admiral Togo and others ascribe the victory to the "virtue of the Emperor." Well may President Roosevelt, in referring a few days ago to the Japanese victory, have warned his hearers and the citizens of the United States against speaking "loosely of foreign nations and races."

The Western world has been compelled to recognise the nobility of character and devotion to their country of the Japanese, and to accord to them all honour for their utter self-sacrifice. The tale of the last eighteen months has completely transformed the opinion of the white races with regard to the people of Asia. What the Japanese can do is significant of the possibilities of other Asiatic races, especially the people of India. But it is through years of steadfast toil that the goal has been reached, and—most important factor of all—the Japanese have been able to develop and assimilate the western knowledge without let or hindrance; they have been subject to no alien rule. Yet the people of those islands in the Far East stand out as an object lesson of what may be accomplished by the utter devotion and self-sacrifice of the few in the face of giant strength, but giant strength unlearned and wanting the all-conquering motive power of self-annihilation for the good of the nation. A Japanese officer in London, who served many months last year with Admiral Togo, said yesterday that from stoker to admiral every man in the Japanese navy knew his work and took the greatest pride in it. This has been the secret of success. The great British Admiral, Lord Nelson, signalled before the battle of Trafalgar: "England expects every man to do his duty; and that duty was done. A century after an oriental admiral signals to his men on the eve of an equally important fight "The fate of the Empire depends on this conflict. You must do your utmost." That utmost was done, and the victory was complete. "To do your utmost" is a good text to preach from, whether the work be stoking or directing a line of battleships, or pea-driving, or trading, or administering a province. It is the only sure foundation on which a structure can be raised, and it inspires that mutual confidence between those who command and those who obey which alone can ensure successful action. The strength of the Japanese character was certainly demonstrated on that day weeks, nay, months, ago, when Admiral Togo sailed away into the unknown to meet the enemy. From that day to last Saturday his whereabouts have been a secret; there has been no outcry on the part of the Japanese people to know what he was doing. Sufficient to them that they trusted him to do his utmost and to appear on the scene of action at the critical moment. And most splendidly have the admiral and his men repaid the absolute confidence reposed in them.

You will have heard the details of the struggle as we have done, and I need not write of the "superbly terrible" scene in the Sea of Japan. As to journalistic enterprise with regard to the earliest and best news of the battle, the "Daily Telegraph" has scored a great success. It has been enabled to give to its readers the report of the fight almost hour by hour through a special Correspondent who was with the Japanese fleet. Graphic and terrifying is his account of what took place, and this information has now been supplemented by descriptions by Russian prisoners who have related to the Correspondents of British newspapers their experiences during those terrible hours of Saturday and Sunday. And what is the man like who has thus served his country at an hour of need? Here is a pen picture of "Togo the Lucky," sketched by a British friend:

"In personal appearance Togo is short, even for a Japanese; he measures not much more than five feet. Handsome he is not, with his high cheek bones and massive jaws, but his face is not on that account the less interesting; for there is strength in every line of it, keen intelligence, too. A hard, ruthless face it certainly is. He has none of that gentility which often proves a passport to the favour of the multitude. He is almost inhuman in his stony coldness, and there is always the same expression on his face, whether shells are falling round him or whether the air is alive with 'Bengers' raised in his honour. His subordinates literally worship him. There is only one commander who can use those under him as his own fingers, and his name is Togo,' is a saying in the Japanese navy. . . . Needless to say, Togo is the hero of the war in the eyes of his countrymen."

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

The illustrated papers are publishing pictures of the result of the disastrous earthquake in North-West India and of the scenes in Kabul witnessed by Mr. Dane's Mission. On the latter point articles continue to appear dealing with the question of the defence of India; they vary according to the politics and out look of the journal in question, and may be described as frankly supporting the Forward Policy, or advocating retrenchment and allaying alarmist fears. One writer, Col. Mark Bell, advocating the defence of the Afghan frontier as Britain's duty, and trading against the policy of "masterly inactivity" with regard to Afghanistan, has the graciousness to state that "it is an Imperial duty" for Britain to construct railways in Afghanistan. He does not add that the Imperial Treasury should pay for an Imperial duty, but it is at least a step in advance when it becomes more and more widely recognised that "wild-cat trans-frontier" schemes are not essential to the safety of India; they are Imperial, not Indian schemes, and Britain must pay for such indulgences. Mr. Naoroji again this week, in a brief letter to the "Daily News," quotes from a memorandum of the Indian Government showing the army in India is regarded as a reserve available for Imperial purposes, but quarters it upon the revenues of that country. The enormous expenditure on naval and military needs in India is shown by the Financial Statement published this week, but British readers are led away from the contemplation of what those huge figures mean to the starving ryot, by the parade of three and-a-half millions surplus, together with the promise of remission of taxation next year. It is to be hoped that Mr. Balfour will keep his half-promise to introduce the Indian Budget Debate before the end of the Parliamentary session, and that an onslaught will be made on the Indian figures. I hear that possibly even in June India may this year have her turn in the House of Commons, and only trust that the rumour may prove to be true. Mr. Balfour's illness has necessitated the postponement of the vote of censure, but, though delayed, he is not likely to escape it. He is to take part in the great demonstration of Conservatism to-night, and his mood in the near future will no doubt be affected by the results of this week's elections at Whitby and Chichester, as well as by those made necessary by the retirement of Mr. Gully from the Speakership and the death of Mr. H. C. Richards. Judging from the brilliant function which took place at the National Liberal Club last night when guests were invited to meet the Leaders of the Party, the Opposition may be considered to be in good fighting form. Rarely, in recent years, has so enthusiastic a gathering taken place, and, in spite of the heat and the crush, the speeches of Lord Carrington, Lord Spencer, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Asquith, and others were listened to with rapt attention and loudly cheered. The Government's majority in the House may be compared to the Russian ships and we know what happened to them at the hands of Togo.

INDIAN'S WAR LORD IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The sensation of the week has been the Japanese victory in Far Eastern waters; but we have also had another sensation which had not the exploits of our allies been so extraordinary, would have dominated everything. The third volume of the "Times" history of the War in South Africa has been published, and the conduct of the campaign is severely criticised. The volume deals principally with General Buller's operations in Natal, and with Lord Roberts's progress in the west. The History is edited by Mr. L. S. Amery, and he is ably assisted by Mr. Lionel James and Mr. Bron Herbert. Each of the responsible generals comes under the lash of the critic, and the men do not escape scot free. After the pen pictures given above of the Russian and Japanese admirals, it will, probably, be of interest if I append the criticism and estimate given in the "History" of Lord Kitchener. Here are a few of the striking sentences:

"Sure calculation rather than sudden intuition, inflexible strength of will rather than buoyant confidence, were Kitchener's chief characteristics. Where Roberts trusted to his insight into the personal factor, Kitchener put his faith in energy, organisation, and numbers."

"Without Roberts's consummate mastery of the art of war, Kitchener possessed certain compensating qualities less fully developed than his chief: the instinct to destroy, the indifference to life, and the determination to push the results of victory to the utmost." Lord Kitchener's determination to attack at Paardeberg is approved, and the capture of Cronje is declared to be due to "the indefatigable, furious energy and driving power of Lord Kitchener, and to the bold conception and unflinching execution of the Commander-in-Chief."

"Whatever mistakes Kitchener may have made, there can be no comparison between his impatient and unquenchable thirst for victory at Paardeberg and the paralytic stupor of Spion Kop or Vaal Krantz. Above all, he refused to accept a partial check as a defeat." Criticism comes in when Lord Kitchener is blamed for not giving precise enough instructions; he had not had great experience of the conduct of a severe battle.

Lord Roberts does not escape prolonged, repeated, and severe condemnation for investing, instead of attacking, Cronje's laager; the lives he saved were lost afterwards by disease, and the seeds were sown of that guerrilla warfare which lasted two years at the cost of thousands of lives and £150,000,000 of money. "His skill in manoeuvre combined with his natural humanity, too often inclined him to forget that killing is the primary and normal method of compassing the great ends of strategy." This is the criticism of Lord Roberts which sets in relief the high praise elsewhere bestowed upon him. Of Generals Buller, Warren, Clery, Cock, and others hard things are said, and the British public now knows that incompetence and muddle were not restricted to the stores department.

The latest weather reports show that the Bay of Bengal branch of the Monsoon is setting in steadily. Rains are later than usual on the Bombay coast.

The latest report in regard to plague in the Mysore Province is dated the 9th inst and gives the figures for the week ending on that date as 21 seizures and 13 deaths, as against 7 seizures and 5 deaths in the previous week. The figures for the corresponding week of 1904 are 239 seizures and 147 deaths. The only Districts in the Province now infected are Bangalore, Mysore, Tamkur and Shimoga, but the cities of Bangalore and Mysore are free.

High Court.—June 20

CRIMINAL BENCH

(Before Justice Pargiter and Woodroffe.)

DISPUTE BETWEEN S. D. O. and P. W. D. OFFICIALS.

Babu Atulya Churn Bose with Babu Prokash Chunder Sirkar moved on behalf of one Hurry Mohun, P. W. D. Sub-Overseer, for the transfer of his now pending before the Sub-divisional Officer of Basirhat, 24 Perganas. The petitioner who was in charge of the construction of the Munsiff's buildings at Basirhat on 22nd January last submitted a report to the Executive Engineer, P. W. D. to the effect that the Deputy Magistrate in charge of the sub-division was stopping the work. Again on 12th April last petitioner wrote to the S. D. O. that the local police were greatly interfering with the construction of the Munsiff's building and abusing and insulting the labourers. The above was forwarded to the Police Inspector for report. On 5th May the Inspector reported to the effect that one Behary Ram Ram, a peon attached to the Basirhat criminal courts lodged an information in the Basirhat police that fuel to the value of Rs. 4 were gradually stolen from behind his house, that a constable came and took possession of the wood, that the petitioner came to the place and behaved towards the constable very rudely and that at the instigation of the petitioner a Mistry pressed the mouth of the constable with the palm of his hand and another man snatched the wood away. Thereupon a first information was drawn up by the Sub-Inspector in which he represented himself to be the informant. It was forwarded to the S.D.O. who passed the following orders:—"Put up after disposal of cases under secs. 379, 353 and 212 I.P.O."

Learned vakil contended that the case was the offspring of a private dispute between the officials of the P. W. O. on one side and the S. D. O. and the Police on the other over a fencing which the former wanted to put up round the site of the Munsiff's court building in spite of the S.D. Officer's protest and as such it was not expedient for the ends of justice that he should try the case himself.

Their Lordships issued a rule on the District Magistrate of the 24 Pergamas to show cause why the case of the petitioner should not be transferred to the file of some other Magistrate from that of the sub-divisional officer of Basirhat.

RETRIAL ORDERED.

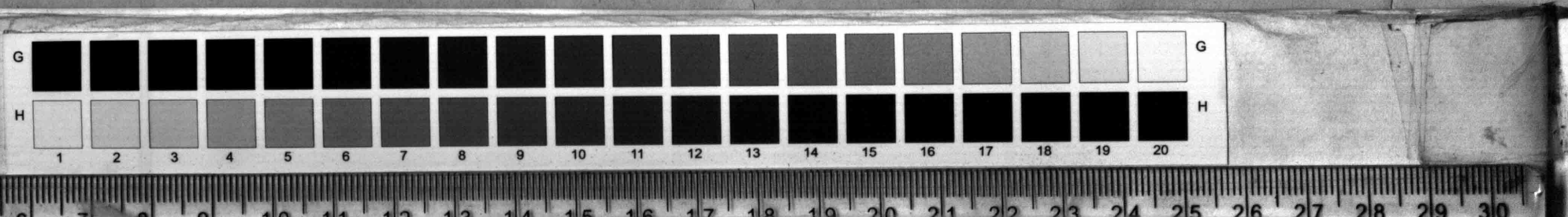
Babu Jyoti Prasad Sarvadhikari appeared in support of the rule obtained on behalf of Soro Dhuba and five others who had been convicted by the Deputy Commissioner of Manbhurn under sections 354 and 452 I.P.C. assault with intent to outrage the modesty of a woman and house-trespass and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment. The appellants appealed to the Sessions Judge of Bankura but the appeal was summarily rejected. It was contended on behalf of the appellants that this was a case which ought never to have been rejected summarily and the judgment of the appellate court was far too meagre. It was further contended that the Deputy Commissioner had imported his personal knowledge into the judgment and used police diaries as evidence in the case and that there was nothing to show that the appellate court had, in arriving at its decision, taken these facts into consideration. Their Lordships after hearing the learned vakil made the rule absolute and directed the appeal to be readmitted and heard in the regular and proper way, eliminating all matters which were not legally evidence in the case.

RIGHT OF PRIVATE DEFENCE.

THIS is an appeal preferred by one Kailash Kaibarta and three others who were convicted by the Sessions Judge of Sylhet of rioting, and sentenced Kailash to 2 years and the others each to one year's rigorous imprisonment. The facts are shortly these. There are two villages, one Dhitpur on the north bank of the river Bihyana in Sylhet and another Chouki on the south bank. It appeared that there was a mutual arrangement between the inhabitants of these two villages to the effect that the Dhitpur people should cut grass from the land of the Chouki village and the Dhitpur people in return should allow the Chouki people to cultivate certain land in village Dhitpur. Last year there was some scarcity of grass and in consequence the Chouki people refused to allow the Dhitpur people to cut grass and when the time of cultivation came, the Dhitpur people objected to allowing the previous arrangement to continue. It appeared that the Chouki people insisted on their right of cultivation. On 14th November they crossed the river to Dhitpur for the purpose of ploughing and sowing. The Dhitpur people opposed the Chouki people and there was a free fight. The result was that one Madhu was killed and 3 others wounded on the Dhitpur side and on the other side two men received contused wounds. The appellants all belonged to the Dhitpur party. The Sessions Judge of Sylhet said that no question of right of private defence could arise in the present case and convicted and sentenced the appellants in the manner stated above. But their Lordships viewed the case in another light and they remarked that the Dhitpur people were at liberty to refuse the Chouki people to cultivate their land, that the Chouki people in going their armed with all sorts of weapon were not acting with legal right and that the Dhitpur people were right to oppose them. Their Lordships held that the appellants did act within the right of private defence and not committed any offence under sections 147 and 148 I. P. C. In the end the conviction and sentence was set aside and the appellants were ordered to be set at liberty.

A regulation further to amend the Assam Land Revenue Regulations of 1876 is published in the current issue of the "Gazette of India."

Sanction has been accorded to the complete survey by the agency of the Bengal Nagpur Railway Company of a line on the Moubhanj State via Chabasa, to a point on the Bengal Nagpur Railway between Chardharpur and Simi, a distance of 52 miles, and a reconnaissance of a line of about 3 1/2 miles from the hill to a point on the Bengal Burmahasi Nagpur Railway between Murshighur and Chakulia.



NEWS OF THE DAY

Calcutta and Mofussil.

It is reported that the Chinese Government intends to adopt "zone time," throughout the whole empire.

Rain has been falling steadily at Rangoon since Sunday, and there is no appreciable rise in plague cases.

Sir Charles and Lady Rivaz will leave Europe for India by the s.s. "Arabia" about the 15th September.

The first special troop train of the Kalka-Simla Railway brought the 1st Sappers and Miners for employment on the Simla-Kulu road.

The Indus and its tributaries are in exceptionally high flood this summer. The irrigation by inundation canals in Sind is consequently well assured.

Intimation has been received at Simla that on Sunday a duffadar of the Khole Levy Corps was shot by a Waziri twenty miles from Fort Sandeman and his rifle carried off.

Colonel J. McConaghey, I.M.S., Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab, is going home on leave about the middle of July, and his successor will be Lieutenant Colonel T. E. L. Bate, I.M.S.

In a telegram that was published on the 9th instant it was stated that "a considerable amount of prospecting for gold is going on in the Nilgiri District, and numerous new licenses are being granted daily. We have since made enquiries and the information we have received is to the effect that little prospecting is going on and that only one new license has lately been issued.

Vladimir Antonovitch Horvitch, the Russian who was recently convicted at Singapore of trespassing on the fortifications at Pulo Brani, and of being in possession of sketching materials, within the vicinity of a fortification, appealed against the conviction. The Chief Justice has quashed the conviction on the second count and the Russian will therefore only have three months to serve for trespass.

The following letter appears in the "Times" of May 31.—Sir,—Just ten years ago, in May, 1895 I passed through Chifu and saw the Russian Pacific squadron of that day lying in the roads cleared for action against the Japanese in the event of the Mikado's Government rejecting the demand peremptorily put forward by Russian diplomacy, backed up by Germany and France, for the surrender of the fruits of Japan's victories in the Liautung Peninsula. Most of the ships that were then preparing to coerce Japan formed part of the third Baltic squadron which Togo has sunk or captured. Surely history has seldom recorded so striking a Nemesis.—Yours, Far East.

The following is the weather and crop report of the Punjab for the week ending 13th June 1905: Ferozepore and Sialkot Districts report over 1 inch of rain. Other districts received light showers. Price of wheat rising in Hissar, Amritsar and Lyallpur; falling in Sialkot and Multan. Prices of other food-grains fluctuating. Harvesting of Spring and sowings of Autumn crops continue. Rain wanted in Mianwali. Outturn of Spring crops about average. Standing crops are in good condition. Extra Spring crops promise well. Some damage due to hail storms reported from Sialkot. Cattle in good condition. Fodder sufficient except in parts of Shahpur and Multan. No complaints of water-supply.

Mr. Edgar Thurston, Superintendent of the Government Museum, Madras, wrote as follows to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, in April last:—"Sir Frederick Price informs me that Miss Leggatt, of Ootacamund, is willing to part with a book of water-colour paintings of Nilgiri orchids by Mrs. Jerdon (wife of the Naturalist), which is in her possession, for Rs. 350. Sir Frederick Price brought the book to me for inspection during a recent visit to Madras, and I am, of opinion that as the paintings are exceedingly good, and further possess some historic interest, they should be acquired by a small special grant for preservation in the Connemara Library." The Madras Government have sanctioned the purchase of the book.

The fact is brought out in Mr. Morgan-Webb's settlement report for part of the Henthawaddy district, published by the Burma Government, that rice cultivation in this region has gone up by 228 per cent., and other cultivation almost in proportion, while the population has increased by 72 per cent. during the past ten years. The growth in the portions of the Prome and Tharrawaddy districts, which have also been under settlement, is smaller. Even in tracts in Prome, so remote that the carriage to the local market absorbs nearly a third of the price obtained for the rice, some enhancement in the revenue appears to have been found practicable. As the result of the total operations the Government demand has been enhanced by over a lakh of rupees per annum.

While train No. 12, mixed, was running between Cuddalore New Town and Nellikuppam on the 11th instant, the driver found the body of a man crushed to the rail and mangled, and stopped the train immediately. The body was cut in several pieces and the face was broken beyond recognition. The accident took place at about 7.30 p.m., near a foot-path crossing, and the man is believed to have been caught while crossing the line, doubtless unaware of the approaching train. The mangled remains of the body were collected together, and after putting them in charge of the train orderly and the gang mistry, the train left on its journey. A big white light was formerly used to put in the funnel-head of the engine, which threw plenty of light ahead besides being visible from a long distance, but now this has been discontinued.

Govind Bhana, a syce in the service of the Hon'ble Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtoola of Bombay met with his death in his master's bungalow at Pedder Road, by a gun shot wound, on the 9th instant. Govind and four others were engaged in cleaning his master's bungalow on the day in question, preparatory to Mr. Rahimtoola's return from Lanouli. While the servants were engaged in one of the front rooms, one of them, named Rama Hari, came upon a leather case, containing a rook rifle. He opened the case out of curiosity, and took the stock and barrel of the rifle out. Not knowing that the barrel was loaded, he fitted it to the stock and began to handle the cock in order to see how it worked, when the gun suddenly went off. The deceased, who was standing near Rama, watching the fire-arm, was shot and the bullet passed through the left cheek and extended to the brain. Death was almost instantaneous. A coroner's inquest was held at the Morgue, when Dr. Powell, who made a post mortem examination of the body in his evidence said that death was due to laceration of the brain caused by a gun-shot wound. The jury returned a verdict of accident; death.

Plague.—There were 6 cases and the same number of deaths from plague in the city on the 19th instant, when the total mortality from all causes was 56 against a quinquennial average of 58.

Standard Time in Post Offices.—The Postal Department has accepted the adoption of standard time only for combined post and telegraph offices. The Post Office in general will, as usual, keep local time.

Plague Regulations.—The regulations for the prevention of the introduction of plague by sea imposed in the ports of Orissa and Chittagong against the vessels arriving from Bhowanagar, have been withdrawn.

Finance Department.—Now that Mr. Noel Paton has returned to Calcutta, Mr. Robertson will relinquish charge of the Statistical Department of the Government of India and revert to the enrolled list of the Finance Department. He will temporarily be placed on special duty at Simla.

A Huge Crocodile Killed.—A correspondent writes in the "Dacca-Prokash":—"A regular crocodile scare now prevails in the village on either side of river Dhaleswari in Manickgunge. The other day a Mahomedan was caught by a crocodile, which was eventually killed by the people who gathered together on the shore. It measured 8 cubits and a half!"

Sir Andrew Fraser's Monsoon Tour.—The programme of the Lieutenant-Governor's approaching tour has been settled. His Honor leaves Darjeeling on the 29th June by special train, and reaches Calcutta on the 30th. He will give a State Ball on the 26th June before leaving Darjeeling to the European residents of the station. He will proceed to Bankipore from Calcutta on the 10th July and will visit many of the subdivisions of Behar, making Bankipore his headquarters where there has already been acquired a house for His Honor's use and occupation. The Hon. Mr. Carlyle will accompany. His Honor throughout the Behar trip, which will take up about three weeks. He will then return to Calcutta for a short stay. The programme for August is not yet finally settled, but it is probable that Sir Andrew Fraser may go out on a river trip for three weeks and visit Ranchi for a fortnight. His Honor, after a short stay in Calcutta, will return to Darjeeling by the 14th September.

Wrongful Dismissal.—At the High Court before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harrington Mr. C. C. Robinson instructed by Babu Satendra Nath Sen applied for the admission of a plaint on behalf of A. E. Vass against the Secretary of State for India in Council. Counsel said that the plaintiff was appointed as a clerk in the Foreign Office. He was appointed in the year 1872 under a contract by the Government of India and it was agreed that he should not be dismissed arbitrarily, otherwise than for good cause. His salary was Rs. 150. After serving for over twenty-five years the plaintiff was entitled to the termination of his service to a pension of Rs. 75 a month. On the 10th January 1900 Government dispensed with the services of the petitioner without any cause. Government also denied to give him any pension upon the termination of his service. The plaintiff claimed to be entitled to Rs. 9605, his salary from 10th January 1900 to 10th May 1905 or in the alternative he was willing to receive his pension. His Lordship after hearing the learned Counsel admitted the plaint and ordered written statements to be filed.

Serious Allegations Against a Father.—On Tuesday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Tarak Nath Sadhoo on behalf of one Sremetee Nistarin Dassi made an application against the father of the applicant, under the following circumstances. The complainant is the sole executive to the estate of her late husband. Her father's name is Damodar Boral. He lost his house and came to live in the house of her daughter. During his stay in the house, he used to manage her estate. Complainant entrusted the defendant with money for the purpose of making purchases on the occasion of her daughter's marriage. He did not render any account of the money. Complainant became suspicious on the 3rd of January 1905, complainant intrusted to the defendant two Government Promissory Notes to the value of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 3,000, for renewal, for the purpose of drawing interest, as there was no space left in the papers. It was alleged, that the defendant instead of renewing the securities, sold them in the Bank of Bengal and purchased, in lieu of 3 1/2 per cent, two Promissory Notes of 3 per cent and thus criminally misappropriated the difference of the value. Further more, complainant was informed that the difference misappropriated is about Rs. 1478-12-0. The pleader prayed that the court might order the police to make a sifting enquiry into the matter and to take cognisance of the case. The court ordered the police to take cognisance in the matter.

Imperial Library.—The following are among the latest additions to the Library:—(1) Baker (J.L.) Browing Industry; (2) Beadker (Karl) Handbook for London. Fourteenth revised edition; (3) Bennett (R.) and Elton (J.) History of Corn Milling. Vol. IV. Some Feudal Mills; (4) Besant (Anne) Hindu Ideals; (5) In the Outer Court; (6) Bhattacharya (Dikshita). The Sidhanta Kaumudi. Translated by S. C. Vasa. 2 vols; (7) Bradley (Birt (E.B.) The Story of an Indian Upland; (8) Ellissen (H.) Trust Investments; (9) Ellworthy (W.R.) and Camping (C.C.) Book-Keeping; (10) Epigraphia Zeylanica: Inscriptions of Ceylon. Edited by M. de Z. Wickramasinghe; (11) Gilpin (W. J.) and Wallace (H.E.) Clearing House of New York City; (12) Humieres (Vicome R. d.) Through Isle and Empire; (13) Hunt (T.F.) The Cereals in America; (14) Jebb (R.) Studies in Colonial Nationalism; (15) Jwala Sahai Loyal Rajputana; (16) Kanalu'd-Din Ahmad and Abdul-Muqtadir Catalogue of Arabic and Persian Mss. in Calcutta Madrasah; (17) Knox (A.) A Glossary of Geographical and Topographical terms; (18) Lane-Poole (S.) Salsadin; (19) Lenox-Conyngham (H.M.) Burdon Camels; (20) Mathews (J.M.) The Textile Fibres; (21) Mohabir Misra Police Reform; (22) Oldham (Dr. C. F.) The Sun and the Serpent; (23) Ferris (G.H.) The Results of the Sugar Convention; (24) Scott (A. Maccallum) The Truth about Tibet; (25) Tozer (S.) Handbook of Foreign Consular and Customs Regulations; (26) Victoria Memorial Hall. Class of Objects required for the collection; and (27) Wegener (G.) Tibet and the English Expedition.

Mr. Stapleton's Case.—A Comilla correspondent writes under date June 17:—Mr. Stapleton's case having been referred to the High Court by Mr. Brown, the Sessions Judge, to decide where the trial should be held, the High Court disallowing Mr. Stapleton's application for trial at Chittagong or Sihar decided that the case should be tried in the High Court Sessions, and Mr. Stapleton appeared to-day in the Court of Mr. Soroope, District Magistrate. He was defended as before by the Railway vakil, Kamini Babu, with Digendra Babu of the Local Bar, Mr. Venters, District Engineer of Chittagong, also attended, and became surety for Mr. Stapleton, who was formally committed to the High Court Sessions and admitted to bail. His vakil then applied for subpoenas upon six witnesses, including a Sub-Registrar. The application was allowed after some discussion.

Over Head Electric Wires.—The damage done to the over-head electric wires by the recent small but violent storm in Calcutta again brings up the question as to the safety of this form of electric connection when compared to the underground wire. It is scarcely necessary to point out how great is the danger to the public from the falling of 'live' wires. After the storm of Saturday last there were five horses electrocuted by coming in contact with fallen wires. On previous occasions there have been numerous deaths amongst the human population. It would be scarcely fair to ask the Calcutta Tramway Company to alter their present system of over-head traction for any system, such as the 'cable' one, which is found to work so successfully in the big cities of the Australian colonies; but there is no reason why the wires of the Electric Supply Company for house connections for lights and fans, and the numerous telephone wires should not all be taken underground and thereby lessen the present danger. A very fruitful source of accident to over-head wires is the falling tree, and in Calcutta the majority of the trees are soft-wooded ones, with very little root-depth, and therefore particularly liable to be blown down. Some thing might be done in the way of pollarding trees of a dangerous height in the vicinity of electric wires—and this could easily be accomplished in the case of the tramway wires—or in other cases of seeing trees where they would be liable to be broken in a severe storm. On Saturday for about ten minutes the wind blew with hurricane force, and though the actual area of the storm was very restricted, those parts of the maidan which got the full concentrated force of this miniature tornado suffered severely. The course of the damaged trees can be easily traced by close observation, which will be seen upon close observation, are all in a more or less direct line. The wind blew so hard across the southern end of Mayo Road, the thoroughfare by which every one goes down to the city, as to cause the telegraph posts to buckle, and to bend one of the small metal discs which mark the stopping places of the trams.—T. D. News.

Inventions and Designs.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed:—Hariboy Dhanji Mistry, merchant, residing at Lusala, Kathiawar, Bombay Presidency, improvements in cotton gins; Henry Livingstone Sulman and Hugh Fitzalis, Kirkpatrick Picard, metallurgists, and John Ballot, London Wall, of London, improvements in or relating to ore concentration; Carl Bergmann, engineer, of 55, Thalstrasse, Meissen, Germany, improvements in and relating to flyer spindles for spinning, doubling, twisting, and like machines; Heman Coulthurst, engineer, of 1, Avondale Road, Darwin, in Lancaster, Jeshurun Coulthurst, engineer, of 51, Blackburn Road, Darwin, Lancaster, Matthew Yarrow, engineer, of 9, Ivy Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancaster, and Walter Raymond Haworth, engineer, of 16, Ivy road aforesaid, improvements in apparatus for making earthenware and like ptes; David Phillips, mill manager, Dura Works, Dundee, improvements in or relating to spindle-driving arrangements of spinning frames and the like; Henry Braby, engineer, of 87, Street, Annandale, Sydney, improvements in burners for heating and illuminating purposes; James Nicholas Ryan, company manager, 30, Mair Street, Ballarat, liquid fuel burner; Jyoti Persad, proprietor of the Shib Iron and Brass Works, Moghalsarai, hand-power three roller sugarcane machine; and Thomas Power Shelly, Jr., machinist, of the city of Montreal, Canada, bolt heading process and bolt heading machine.

A Defamation Suit.—On Saturday counsel applied before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sale on behalf of the defendant in the suit of Miss Rose May Mell vs. Mr. W. H. Lee for an order to examine three witnesses at Mymensingh on commission, two of whom are in the Civil Service and over whom they had no control. Counsel said that this suit was originally instituted in the Subordinate Judge's Court at Mymensingh, claiming Rs. 25,000 as damages for slander, and on the application of Mr. Garth, counsel for the plaintiff, it was transferred to this Court for trial by Mr. Justice Bodilly, but his lordship did not express any opinion as to whether all the evidence should be taken in Calcutta. The other side made a similar application, and it was granted. These witnesses, Mr. Gregory submitted, were material witnesses, and it was very deniable that they should be examined on commission. He understood that the other side was going to apply to have the hearing of the case expedited, and, if that application were granted, the defendant would be greatly prejudiced if these witnesses were not examined before the hearing of the suit. Counsel submitted that the examination of these witnesses was essentially necessary; they were absolutely beyond the defendant's control and they were not at all interested in the case. He asked that the application might be granted. Mr. Garth, instructed by Messrs. Orr, Dignam and Co., appeared for the plaintiff, and opposed the application on the ground that if this commission were granted, the plaintiff would have to instruct counsel to go up to Mymensingh which meant considerable expense to her and which she would not be able to meet, being supported by her mother. Counsel also submitted that no ground had been made out for a commission, and the application ought to be dismissed with costs. His lordship said that it would be very hard if he dismissed the application. He would, however, allow the matter to stand over till Monday week to ascertain in the meantime whether these witnesses had been asked, and had refused to come down to Calcutta to give evidence.

TELEGRAMS

TELEGRAMS

REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

London, June 18. Russia has endeavoured to reopen the question of the meeting place of the Plenipotentiaries. It is authoritatively stated that Washington will be unchanged owing to the Japanese objection to any European capital.

London, June 19. It is proposed that cholera and dysentery are still raging at Harbin, where the death rate is a hundred daily. There are now 56,000 sick and wounded there.

London, June 20. General Lansevitch reports that the Japanese who occupied Liaoyangwoping consisted of a division of infantry, thirty squadrons of cavalry and four batteries. The attack began at two and ended at eight in the morning, when the Russians were outflanked. He does not mention the losses and adds that reports from Korea shows the Japanese have advanced to Kongchen and Mursan.

London, June 20. M. Takahira has informed President Roosevelt that the Japanese Plenipotentiaries are able to reach Washington on 1st August, and, if acceptable to Russia, the conference would convene about the 1st August. Count Cassini called at the White House subsequently and said that negotiations were progressing.

THE UNREST IN RUSSIA.

London, June 19. The Warsaw Jews are exceedingly disturbed over a report, that the popular representation scheme excludes Jews from the franchise. Numerous indignation meetings have been held, which the police and military dispersed.

London, June 19. The Tsar received the Zemstvoists' deputation to-day, but no details are known.

London, June 19. The Tsar informed a deputation from the Congress of Zemstvoists that he was unalterably resolved to convoke the National Assembly. The deputation was fully official and included three representatives from St. Petersburg. Prince Trubetzkoi addressed the Tsar for half an hour dwelling on the melancholy state of Russia. The Tsar was deeply moved; he regretted the enormous sacrifices of the war, particularly the defeat at Tushima, and said that the convocation of the National Assembly was his daily care and he hoped the Zemstvos from to-day would all work to reunite Russia and the Tsardom. The delegates were pleased with their reception.

London, June 20. Several hundred officers met on the 15th instant in a mess room at Krasnooselo to discuss the situation of the army in view of recent events. General Rehbinder appeared on the scene and ordered the officers to disperse, the meeting being illegal. A group then stepped forward and declared that they were all faithful subjects of the Sovereign but were unable to continue to act as military police which completely isolated them from society to which they played the part of butchers. General Rehbinder promised them the opportunity of meeting legally.

GENERAL

London, June 18. The Germans have been unsuccessfully endeavouring for many months to subvert the rebels in South-West Africa. The Hotentots on the 2nd instant captured Warmbad and seized the stores; the German officers are escaping. Subsequently they captured the supply depot at Kalkfontein.

London, June 18. The Shah has arrived at Vienna and was received by the Emperor and proceeded to the Hofburg.

London, June 19. Reuter wires from Fez, that the French stopping arms and munitions for the Sultan's forces and winking at similar importations for the pretender's forces greatly irritates the Sultan, who talks of retaliating by dismissing the French Military Mission at Fez. He threatened this last year, but then it was an empty threat while he now enjoys German support.

London, June 2. The Marquis of Lansdowne took Mr. Balfour's place at the dinner to the Conservative agents at the Holborn Restaurant last night, and aroused great enthusiasm by his references to the loyalty felt in all ranks to the Premier and to the cause.

Sir Edward Grey in a recent speech, he said, had expressed the hope that the Anglo-Japanese Agreement would be maintained. "I do not want to be led away into any indiscretions," continued the Foreign Secretary, "but I think I may say, without violating that reserve which is expected of the Foreign Office, that at no time has there been on either side the question of a withdrawal from that alliance. (Cheers.) I will go a little further and say that in our opinion when the time comes, as it must come soon, to consider what should be done with regard to a renewal of that 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." (Loud cheers.) This alliance, he went on, had been a potent instrument for peace, and if it should be possible so to modify it as to prevent a conflagration ever taking place, he believed that all true lovers of peace would rejoice at such a consummation. (Hear, hear.)

With regard to our good relations with France, "I am again able to say without indiscretion," continued Lord Lansdowne, "that I don't think there was ever a moment when those relations were more firmly based than at the present. If ever the inner history of those anxious months through which we have been passing is known, I believe it will appear that the good understanding with France has been the means of greatly mitigating the friction and the troubles which are inevitable when a great war is in progress.

"Never lose sight of the fact that both our alliance with Japan and our understanding with France have been designed for no selfish or aggressive purposes. (Cheers.) We have had no desire to deprive other people of that which belonged to them, no desire to conspire against other Powers. Our only desire has been to secure peace, to restrict the terrible evils which must arise when great nations have recourse to the arbitrament of arms."

Lord Lansdowne concluded with an optimistic reference to the fate of the party which ever the general election should come.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

A GERMAN VESSEL SUNK BY THE INDECENT ASSAULT ON A LADY. EUROPEAN RAILWAY OFFICER CONVICTED.

Allahabad, June 14. The judgment of the railway assault case delivered by Mr. Justice Knox to-day. The sentence was passed as follows:—

"James Walter Davies, I have looked into your passed record, and you know it yourself in the present instance, you have, in my opinion, committed a more serious offence in as much as you were an employe of the East Indian Railway and it was your duty to protect persons travelling by that railway; in spite of this duty, you have committed a dastardly assault upon a defenceless woman. I have no other alternative than to pass upon you the maximum sentence allowable under section 354, Indian Penal Code. I sentence you to undergo two years' rigorous imprisonment."

Rangoon, June 19.—In the suit of J. N. Thales versus the Secretary of State for India for Rs. 15,000 damages for wrongful dismissal from the Public Works Department, the plaintiff was permitted to-day by Mr. Justice Bigge to sue "in forma pauperis." The suit was ordered to be put on the regular defended board and the defendant was directed to file his written statement.

Madras, June 19.—A scheme has been put forward by a syndicate to establish a Madras University Library in close conjunction with the Connemara Public Library. The latter has recently had added to it the Victoria Technical Institute Library and this under the present scheme is destined to develop into a three-fold institution, a general library, a technical library and a University library. It is proposed to assign to the University Library Committee a definite position such as that of the Board of Advice in the Administration of the Connemara Library. Rs. 28,000 is said to be immediately available for the purchase of books for the University Library, and it is proposed to spend annually Rs. 4,500 on the purchase of books. The scheme has been sanctioned by Government and is expected to be given effect to at once.

Rangoon June 19.—The libel suit of Penneil versus Wilson, which was on the board to-day for settlement of issues, has been postponed to next week.

THE MUSCAT QUESTION.

Allahabad, June 20. The Pioneer's London correspondent writes:— King Victor Emmanuel to whom Great Britain and France have referred their differences in regard to Muscat has appointed the well known Australian Jurisconsult Professor Lammasch as the supplementary arbitrator.

REVISION OF RULES FOR RAILWAYS.

Allahabad, June 20. Revision of general rules for the working of open lines of Railways is under consideration and it was proposed to have a meeting of the principal officials of Railways in Poona in July for the purpose of discussing draft rules which have been drawn up. It has, however, been found inconvenient to have the meeting there for various reasons: one of which is the difficulty of finding sufficient accommodation for the delegates of the various Railways. It is now proposed, therefore, that the meeting shall be held in Simla commencing on Monday the 31st July.

THE KRISHNAGHUR DEFAMATION CASE.

Kishnaghur, June 20. The district Judge's Defamation Case is postponed till the 12th July. Accused Babu Hari Mohan Moitra, mukhtar, himself filed a petition under sec 526 for transfer of the case to some other district. Three weeks time has been granted. Both the accused were present. The Judge did not attend the court. Many prosecution witnesses including some pleaders were present.

VICEREGAL.

Allahabad, June 20. The Viceroy will probably prolong his stay in camp at Naldera until rains break at Simla.

MOSLEM SHURHID SAMMILANI.

Panaga, June 20. A meeting of the Moslem Shurhid Sammilani was held on the 18th inst. Two thousand Mussalmans assembled and lectures on education, religion etc., were delivered by Maulavi Monirazzaman and others. A branch Provincial Mahomedan educational conference was also established. A consulting meeting was held at Choudhury bari on the 19th E. K. M. Md Rowshan Mali, Editor, Kohinor, was elected Secretary and Maulavi Alimazzaman, President. A Madrasa is going to be established.

EDUCATION IN THE PUNJAB.

Lahore, June 19.—On the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction the total sum of Rs. 1,22,676 has been granted to the District Boards of the Province for expenditure by them on primary schools during the current financial year.— A meeting of the Senate of the Punjab University has been called for Monday, the 26th June, in the Senate Hall to consider the revised regulations prepared under the Indian Universities Act. As a large mass of papers have to be dealt with it is expected that the meeting will last the whole day with an hour's interval for lunch. Fifty-four amendments have been proposed and seconded by various Fellows and these will be discussed one by one. The proposed regulations, it may be briefly stated, relate to the election of ordinary Fellows by the Senate and Faculties, the constitution and working of the Faculties, Syndicate, Senate, and Boards of Studies, the appointment and duties of officers of the University, Examiners, the affiliation of colleges, registers of students and private candidates the courses of study, examinations of scholarships, admission to degrees, financial rules, rules relating to the Oriental and Law Colleges, endowed leaders and translators, and academical costumes.

RIDING ACCIDENT TO LADY WHITE.

Rangoon, June 19.—This afternoon a wire was received from Maymya announcing that Lady White, the wife of the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, met with a riding accident that morning while out riding. The accident is not believed to be serious, but in consequence of it the Lieutenant-Governor, has postponed his departure for Rangoon.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta. Includes a ruler and a grid of 20 numbered squares.

Zulum Over a Rani

It was an evil hour for the Tamkubi estate in the district of Goruckpur, when the late Raja died, and the heir being a minor the estate came under the superintendence of the Court of Wards. About two years ago, a cloud rose in the land not larger than a man's hand when the Court of Wards fell out with the dowager Rani. Since then it has more distinctly gathered into shape and swelled in volume and it has ever been a part of the policy of the Court of Wards authorities to thwart the wishes of the Rani in everything however insignificant and to humiliate and offend her in various ways. The administration over the estate and the superintendence over the person and property of the minor vest in the Court of Wards which is represented by Mr. Way, the Collector, and one Mr. Judson, the special manager. It appears that these two officials consider the Rani to be a creature of the Old Testament, who has no place in the New. On more than one occasion, the Rani had to apply to the Board of Revenue for interference and she verily believe that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor for the United Provinces is aware of the strained relations between Mr. Way and the lady.

Under the Court of Wards Act, the Collector has no authority either to negotiate or arrange the marriage of the ward. In the matter of the ward's health or education or the management of his property, we do not question the competency of the Court of Wards. But in matters affecting the observance of family customs or the performance of religious duties, the ward is absolutely beyond the control of the Court of Wards and according to the law of the land quite free to ply his own music. The present Raja is approximately 12 years and six months old. According to Hindu law and the immemorial custom prevailing in the family and in fact all over the country, the mother as the natural guardian is after her husband's death the only competent person to negotiate the marriage of her minor son. It is further clear and section 34 of the Court of Wards Act is express on this point that the minor is absolutely free to pick and choose in the matter of his marriage. From the report that has been submitted to us (which though representing one side of the case seems to be well supported by facts and figures) the Collector has arranged the marriage of the minor Raja with a daughter of the Raja of Sheohar in violation of the provisions of law and in direct opposition to the wishes of the Rani and the minor Raja. Without caring for the opinion of the Rani, it appears that Mr. Way obtained the sanction of the Board of Revenue to the intended marriage sometime about the 8th of March. It is doubtful if this sanction has any legal value, so as to bind the minor to a contract of this description. On the 8th of May, the Collector wrote to the Rani that the marriage of her son had been arranged with the Sheohar girl, requesting her to get a day appointed for the performance of the "Phaldan" and "Tilak" ceremonies and ordering her peremptorily to send reply within five days failing which the marriage arrangements were to be placed in other hands. The minor Raja is the only son of the widowed Rani. The choice of a bride is a matter of enormous gravity amongst Hindus and the importance becomes considerably magnified when we remember that the bride is intended for the heir of Tamkubi. Astrologers have to be consulted. Relations and kinsmen have to be referred to. Secret emissaries have to be sent to various places to report about the personal qualifications of the girl and the history of her family. Mr. Way is not a baby in his swaddling clothes. He has long been in this country. He ought to know that the procedure for a marriage negotiation is on different footing from the one for the regulation of summary trials. He gives her but five days' time to arrange for the "Tilak" and if she fails to reply within five days, she is warned that she shall be excluded from the marriage arrangement of her only son. This illustrates the attitude of Mr. Way towards her.

As a matter of fact, the Rani was ill at the time, when this letter was received and she could not reply to it before the 25th of May, when she urged on the necessity of postponing the marriage of her son for two years at least and submitted that she could agree to the match if it was acceptable to her kinsmen and after that she had satisfied herself as to the age, temper, personal appearance and health of the intended bride. This was a very reasonable request, but on the following day, Mr. Way informed her that the Raja must be married to the Sheohar girl and that the Tilak ceremony must be performed on the 29th May. As a matter of fact, the "Tilak" was performed on the 29th of May. It has been described by Mr. Mazhar ul Haque, a Barrister of Chapra, in the following terms:

I had a call from the Rani to go to Tamkubi and file a petition before Mr. Way, the Collector of Gorakhpore, who was expected to be present at the ceremony. Unfortunately the Collector did not turn up and the petition objecting to the ceremony and praying for its postponement could not be filed. However, I experienced some very curious things, which I proceed to relate.

I reached Tamkubi at about 5-30 p.m. but there was no body to receive me or to take my message to the Rani. Every one appeared to be afraid of Mr. Judson the manager.

Well, after a couple of hours I had an interview with the Rani who unfolded to me a long tale of insults and interference with her private affairs. All the time she was bitterly crying and I felt very uncomfortable indeed. In my presence she sent several times for the minor Raja, but she was told that a watch was set over his movements and that he would not be allowed to see her before the "Tilak" ceremony. Practically, the boy was in confinement under the orders of Mr. Judson. The reason of her sending for the boy was to make him worship the family gods and perform certain ceremonies which she had vowed to the deities. But she was denied these ordinary desires of a Hindu mother. To me the whole affair was a most cruel and wanton disregard of the lady's feelings. But I was helpless and could not do anything for her. I was told that Chhotay Sahab, the uncle of the minor, might be able to help me inasmuch as he was reported to be against the marriage. I at once went to him and spoke to him. He told me plainly that he was too much afraid of Mr. Judson to move in the affair. As a matter of fact I found him say nothing but sincere. All

the time he was talking to me protesting his friendship towards the Rani and giving vent to his annoyance at the ceremony, he was giving orders to his servants to prepare this unfortunate Tilak. In sheer disgust I left him.

The custom is that the Tilak ceremony should be performed in the Zenana Mahal but in this case it was performed in the apartment of the Chhotay Sahab, who had supplied the boy with his own jewellery and ornaments for the occasion. While the ceremony was being performed a heart-rending lamentation went on from the Zenana. It was an extremely sad and cruel ceremony to have witnessed. Next morning the Rani told me that when the boy was allowed to see her, the mother and the son had a good cry over this affair.

I need not say that the ceremony was invalid and illegal and could be set aside any day by a civil Court.

The Rani had previous to this been given to understand that the marriage was to take place next year; but, on the 8th of June, the Hon'ble Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya in answer to his query was informed by the Collector that the 24th of the current month was the date fixed for the marriage. A representation has been made to Sir James Latouche requesting his interference. If such are the real facts of the case, as those narrated above, it is proper that His Honour should take serious notice of the conduct of Mr. Way. Nothing is more calculated to lower the prestige of the Government than high-handedness and abuse of power on the part of persons in authority.—"Citizen" of Allahabad.

NITROGEN-FIXING BACTERIA.
The Madras Government which recently obtained a supply of Nitrogen-fixing bacteria from the United States has just published some reports throwing some light on the subject. It would appear that the special bacteria received from this source can only be applied to such leguminous crops as common peas or red clover, which are not ordinarily grown in the plains of Southern India, and cannot be utilised for the inoculation of other families of plants. Government have accordingly handed over the whole supply to the Curator of Government Parks and Gardens on the Nilgiris with the request that the results of his experiments may be reported in due course. It is noticeable in this connection that Dr. Leather Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India, remarks that "while it is not desirable to discourage all experiment with Dr. Moore's cultures"—the supply obtained from the United States—"it will probably be more satisfactory to prepare cultures from Indian pulse crops." And he adds:—"It is perhaps unnecessary to state that inoculation of other families of plants with this bacterium is without any effect whatever. Also that if the land is already well supplied with the organism, the artificial inoculation of the leguminous seed or the field will be equally useless." It will be remembered that the Inspector-General of Agriculture in India, in a circular letter which we published some weeks ago, pointed out the same limitations with regard to the bacteria, and suggested that experiments should be started to isolate and cultivate the nitrogen fixing bacteria of one or two of the principal leguminous crops of each Province.

PRISON ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA.
There is little that calls for special comment in the Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1904, just issued. The number of convicts imprisoned during the year was 16,333, showing a decrease of 411 from the figures of the previous year. The decrease in the number of prisoners sentenced to terms not exceeding six months is particularly encouraging. The Lieutenant-Governor also observes with satisfaction the marked fall in the number of juvenile offenders sentenced during the year. Admissions of female prisoners show a similar decrease from 646 to 541. There was also a decrease in the total number of jail punishments, and discipline appears on the whole to have been well maintained. The Inspector-General makes some interesting remarks on the subject of the conduct of habituals and the effect of their association and example on casual offenders. It seems clear that the latter class of convicts cannot be injuriously affected by a forced association with the former, and that an effective source of contamination would be avoided by a total separation between the two classes of prisoners. It is satisfactory to find that the earnings from jail manufactures are on the increase and that, consequently, the average net cost of maintaining the prisoners is less than in the previous year. As regards health, the Inspector-General has paid careful attention to the question of diet and to the standard scale of rations supplied to the prisoners, and considers the present scale suitable. His opinion is that prisoners were generally good, with the exception of those in the Central Jail at Mandalay, who suffered severely from both cholera and dysentery. These outbreaks were attributed to a bad water-supply and to the water-logged nature of the soil on which the Mandalay jail stands. Measures have accordingly been taken to remedy both those defects. The problem of improving the drainage of the jail site is also being examined by the Public Works Department.

THE RUBBER QUESTION.
A Trevelendrum correspondent writes:—A curious person, a rubber enthusiast, fond of statistics, the other day calculated that the revenue yielded by the Travancore Forest Department per annum amounted to one rupee only for every three acres; and he declared that if the Government would give out their forest land for rubber cultivation they would reap fourfold in revenue. This may or may not be, but there can be no question that inside and outside the Reserves there are what are known as "cherial" lands which could be given over to rubber cultivation. Under the existing system a small tax is levied "on the portion actually brought under cultivation each year" and it is left to the tax leviable every year. As the question of "cherial" cultivation is an important one, the Dewan Peishear of Kottayam has been asked to collect information on the special features of this kind of cultivation. The Dewan is of opinion, as he let some petitioners know that it would be more profitable to cultivators to substitute rubber for our idols, and the time for release from that bondage is not yet come.

THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT BUDGET.

Lahore, June 19.—The budget of the Punjab Government for 1905-6 exhibits an unwontedly comfortable state of finance, resulting from a re-arrangement of terms on a more equitable basis with the Government of India. The following are the essential facts:—A quasi-permanent settlement has been introduced, with effect from the current year under the new conditions. The Government of India have reserved the power to revise the terms whenever necessity may demand it; a power that will be exercised only when the variations from the initial relative standards of revenue and expenditure have, over a substantial term of years, been so great as to result in unfairness either to the Province itself or to the Government of India, or in the event of the latter being confronted with the alternatives of either imposing general taxation or seeking assistance from the Provinces. Subject to these reservations, the Local Government will enjoy without limit of time the full benefit of the annual increment of the growing revenue now assigned to it. In fixing the terms of the new settlement, the basis of which with a few exceptions has been the sanctioned estimates of 1904-05, the provincial shares of Land Revenue and stamps have been reduced from two-fifths and three-fourths to three-eighths and one-half respectively. Those of excise have been raised from one-fourth to one-half, while the revenue under the head of registration has been entirely provincialized for the first time. A direct provincial interest in irrigation measures has been stimulated by giving the local Government a share in the transactions of canals classed as imperial. Under this arrangement the Provincial Government receives three-eighths of the income bearing the same proportion of the working expenses and interest charges subject to a guaranteed net annual income of 28 lakhs. In addition to this district dak charges have been imperialised and the entire cost of construction and maintenance of the buildings for the use of Imperial Departments will be borne by the Imperial Government. An initial grant of 50 lakhs has been made to provincial revenues, of which 21 is provided as a final allotment to cover all plague charges.

EARTHQUAKE AT KULU.

The Kulu correspondent, of the 7th June, writes to the "Daily Times":—There were four shocks of earthquake on the night of the 27th ultimo, and five during the day on the 28th, on which day there was a thunderstorm, with rain and high wind from the north, lasting over two hours. Thousands of sheep are going up the valley daily, and the guddis, who come at a fixed date annually, have just arrived. Gujars will have a rough time of it, as their summer quarters butts have all fallen, and being built of whole trunks of trees they are not very easily repaired. Some of the requests for deodar trees for repairs are decidedly modest as a specimen, Rughath, the leading deo in Kulu, has by his "pujarahs, asked for one hundred and forty-four deodar trees to repair his temple; forty trees would probably be ample. Two men were repairing a very shaky house in Sultanpur when it fell, thrown down, it is believed, by a slight shock. One man had his arm broken, the other his leg. There were only two shocks on the 29th ultimo, with three at night; three during the daytime of the 30th, with six at night. Only one during the day of the 31st, and two at night. The D. P. W. are busy blasting out the fallen boulders that have blocked the Simla road south of Bajaura, and are also repairing the Bajaura dak bungalow. A man who was assisting to rebuild a house in Farsh was killed by a beam falling on his head. The stones keep on falling at the Larji landslip. Some Balti men who were on their annual journey from Simla to their homes in the north came to me on the 4th with one of their number badly cut on the head by a falling stone. They told me that others of their party had a narrow escape. The hills are so cracked everywhere that should the coming rains be heavy we may expect landslips in all directions. Both the salt mines at Drang and Guma were wrecked, but can be cleared. The earth tremors come, almost invariably of late, two by day and one at night, all very slight, but those at night seem the most prolonged. Labour is very hard to get. Unskilled coolies, who never dream of getting more than the usual two annas per diem, are now getting six and eight annas from the banias for rebuilding their shops. There was a talk of trying to get coolies from the Tonsa Valley, but I have not heard of their arrival. A Mandi native official tells me that the total number of casualties in the entire Mandi State was about 2,000. He also tells me that the Bawan temple at Kangra was certainly over 2,000 years old.

CIVIL HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES IN U. P.

The triennial report of Civil Hospital and Dispensaries of the United Provinces for the years 1902, 1903 and 1904 draws special attention to a grievance which is by no means confined to the provinces in question. This is the deficiency of hospital assistants. Owing to the very unsatisfactory condition of the cadre, the number of new dispensaries opened in the immediate future will be small. There are not enough of such assistants in Government service to man new dispensaries, or even to meet current existing demands. On the 1st of January 1905, the cadre was 54 below its authorized strength of 416. The present outturn of the Agra Medical School is hardly more than sufficient to replace casualties from deaths, resignations, dismissals and supernuations. The Inspector-General gives a full explanation of this state of things. On assuming charge, in March, 1902, he found that a large number of civil hospital assistants were on deputation for plague work and at the disposal of the Sanitary Commissioner, that the ordinary dispensary work was suffering considerably and that all leave for men of this class had practically been closed for a long time, resulting in discontent throughout the service. To make matters worse for some years past demands for the services of men of this class for duty in Burma, East Africa, and elsewhere had been complied with, as though the United Provinces had an unlimited supply of them. In spite of the return of a number of hospital assistants to ordinary duty, the pressure continued, and inquiry showed that the trouble was primarily due to short recruitment in the years 1898 and 1899, and, secondarily, to the fact that the Agra Medical School was and is turning out an inadequate number of men qualified to meet the pro-

vincial requirements. Recruiting from other provinces has been obtained. Otherwise the Civil Hospitals are not ungenerously treated. In April, 1902, the Government put at the disposal of the Inspector-General the large sum of one lakh of rupees for improving the general equipment and condition of the hospitals and dispensaries. This money was chiefly expended in replacing throughout the provinces the surgical equipment which had become in most cases very defective and antiquated. Another marked defect in the hospitals of the United Provinces, which has received attention during the past triennium, is the condition of the operating rooms. Many of these were of the most singular character, the absence of light being their most prominent feature. The general rule seems to have been the provision of a small skylight, and the small amount of light derived therefrom was often excluded by sun and rain shades. At a number of Sadar hospitals new operating rooms have been built, at other large north windows have been introduced and at a third new class rooms or reconstruction has been inaugurated, thanks to the liberality of the District Boards and the activity of Civil Surgeon in collecting private subscriptions.

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GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Nobin Chandra Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinajpur, is appointed temporarily to have charge of the Thakurgaon sub-division of that district. Mr. H.E. Ransom District and Sessions Judge Chittagong, on leave, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Backergunge during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J.H. Temple. Mr. J. A. Ezechiel is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Rangpur, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. T. W. Richardson, being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating District and Sessions Judge of Backergunge. Mr. J. Johnston, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Mymensingh district. Mr. J. H. Price is appointed substantive Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the eighth grade and is posted to the head-quarters station of the 24-Parganas district. Babu Surja Kumar Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Faridpur, is transferred temporarily to the Araria sub-division of the Purnea district. Mr. J. D. Sifton, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Backergunge district, on being relieved of his Settlement duties in that district. The following confirmations and promotions are sanctioned in the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service:—

- Confirmed in the third grade. Babu Khetter Mohan Mitter.
- Confirmed in the fourth grade. Babu Sasibhusan Basu.
- Mr. Dejon Lal Roy.
- Babu Amrita Lal Mukherjee.
- Confirmed in the fifth grade. Maulvi Syed Abdool Malek.
- " Mohiuddin Ahmed.
- Babu Hira Lal Sen.
- " Kali Coomarr Roy Chaudhry.
- Maulvi Ashfaq Husain.
- Promoted substantively pro tempore to fifth grade. Babu Jyotish Chunder Sen.
- " Jogeshwar Biswas.
- Confirmed in the sixth grade. Mr. A. J. Ollenbuck.
- Babu Suresh Chunder Sarkar.
- " Abhoy Prasad Das.
- " Hara Krishna Mahanti.
- " Anath Bandhu De.
- " Surendra Nath Chakravarti.
- Promoted substantively pro tempore to the sixth grade. Mr. H. A. Lane.
- Babu Sorab S. Day.
- Confirmed in the seventh grade. Mr. E. A. Oakley.
- Maulvi Shamsuddin Haidar.
- Babu Krishna Lal Day.
- Babu Chundralal Nath Mookerjee.
- Babu Chuni Lal Roy.
- Babu Durga Prasad.
- Promoted substantively pro tempore to the seventh grade. Babu Jyotish Chandra Acharyya.
- Mr. J. F. Graham, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Shahabad, is allowed combined leave for one year and four months.
- Babu Surendra Nath Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed an extension of furlough up to the 30th June 1905.
- Babu Satyendra Nath Das, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Thakurgaon, is allowed leave for three months.
- Babu Ashutosh Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is allowed leave for fifteen days.
- Mr. J. Platel, Officiating District and Sessions Judge, Rangpur, is allowed combined leave for six months.
- Mr. C. G. H. Allen, I.C.S., has been granted by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough up to the 5th July 1905.
- Mr. C. Fisher, I.C.S., has been granted by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of leave for six months.
- Babu Siva Prasanna Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed furlough for six months.
- The order of the 9th June 1905, appointing Mr. G. Milne, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, to have charge of the Sadar sub-division of the Howrah district on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Shahabad, is cancelled.
- The order of the 9th June 1905, granting three months' privilege leave to Mr. W. D. R. Prentice, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Howrah, is cancelled.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Sris Kumar Son, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore, to be ordinarily stationed at Jherida during the absence, on leave, of Lala Damodar Prasad. Babu Shib Charan Sil, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Dacca, to be ordinarily stationed at Munshiganj during the absence, on leave, of Babu Jamindra Chandra Bose. Babu Brajendra Kumar Biswas, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Tihut to be ordinarily stationed at Hajipur during the absence, on leave, of Babu Satish Chandra Basu. Babu Bepin Behary Chatterjee, Subordinate Judge, Jessore, is allowed an extension of leave for fifteen days.

SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

The under-mentioned substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors of the Burdwan Division are posted to the stations mentioned against their names, viz.:— Babu Maulvi Atar Elahi, Serampore, Hooghly. Babu Nibar Ranjan Banerji, Burdwan. Babu Anil Krishna Mukerji, Ghatal, Midnapore. Babu Syed Ezhr Hassan, Contai, Midnapore. Babu Promode Chandra Sen Gupta, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, is posted to the Ranch district on being relieved of his Settlement duties in Bihar. The substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector of the Bhagalpur Division, named below, are posted to the head-quarters stations of the districts mentioned against their names:— Babu Bhojo Bhandh Bhaumio, Bhagalpur. Mr. O. G. Robinson, Purnea. The substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors of the Presidency Division, named below, are posted to the head-quarters stations of the districts mentioned against their names:— Babu Nand Kishore Janti Murshidabad. Babu Susil Kumar Ganguli, Nadia. Babu Rajani Kanto Mukhopadhyay Khulna. Babu Sasi Bhusan Bhattacharjya Jessore. Babu Sati Prasad Ganguli 24-Parganas. The substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors of the Orissa Division, named below, are posted to the head-quarters stations of the districts mentioned against their names:— Babu Radha Krishna Basu Cuttack. Babu Radha Charan Das Outack. Babu Anadi Ranjan Bose Balasore. Babu Mohini Mohan Senapati Balasore. Babu Gopinath Das Puri. The substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors of the Patna Division, named below, are posted to the head-quarters stations of the districts noted against their names:— Maulvi Syed Musi Kazim Saran. Maulvi Syed Mohamed Naziruddin Patna. Maulvi Mohammad Abdus Salam Shahabad. Babu Abhay Charan De Muzaffarpur. Maulvi Abul Mahomed Rashad Darbhanga. Babu Amjad Ali, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Dacca, is transferred to the head-quarters station of Backergunge district. Babu Jogesh Chandra Sen, substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector, Dacca Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Dacca district.

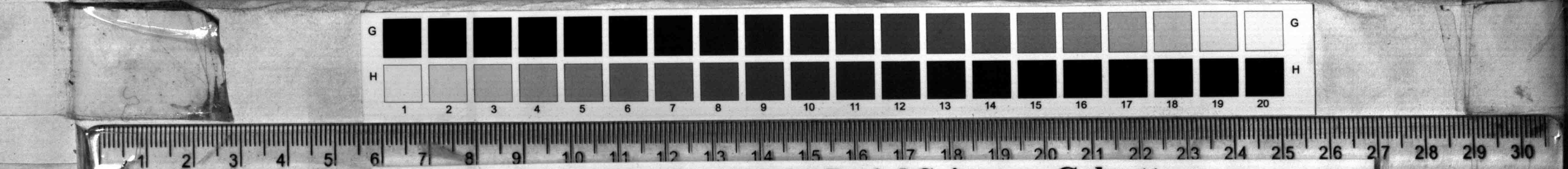
THE RANGOON MURDER CASE.

Rangoon, June 19.—Before a full bench composed of the Hon. Mr. Harvey Adamson, Chief Judge, and Justices Fox and Irwin today, Mr. Eddis argued the accusation of Hla Gyi, who was sentenced to death by Mr. Justice Irwin at the last Chief Court Criminal Sessions on the charge of the murder of Hock Kan, under circumstances already reported. Counsel said this was the first case of its kind before the Chief Court bench, under section 12 of the Lower Burma Courts Act, since the passing of the Act. That section provided that the Chief Court may, on its being certified by the Government Advocate that, in his opinion, the decision of a Judge of the Chief Court exercising the jurisdiction of a criminal court of jurisdiction should be further considered, review the case or such part of it as may be necessary, and finally determine the question, and may thereupon alter the judgment, order, or sentence passed by the Judge and pass such judgment, order, or sentence as it may think right. Counsel, who occupied the greater part of the day in his arguments, commented severely on the misdirections given by the Judge, pointing out that the Judge had not read or explained the law to them. All that the Jury were told was that, if there was stabbing, then it was murder. The unanimous verdict of the Jury, namely, guilty of stabbing without intention to commit murder, Counsel claimed, amounted to an acquittal, and there being no alternative charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and causing grievous hurt, the Judge had no power to send back the Jury to reconsider the verdict; and their second verdict of guilty of murder was, therefore, bad in law and could not be considered by this bench. The hearing is proceeding.

Japanese journals report, says the "Japan Mail," that 62 Chinese students have just graduated from the Police School of Japan, 34 are from Peking and 18 from Hupeli. They have received practical instruction in the discharge of police duties. There remain still studying in the same school the following numbers:—Peking Students 8, Hunan Students 18, Szechuan Students 27 Hupeli Students 53, and Kiangsu Students 20. Total 126.

Do plants ever commit suicide? The "County Gentleman" makes a suggestion of the kind in the case of some of the clematites: "You can," it says, "plant a clematis which does admirably for few months, even for a few years, in a piece of ground which apparently suits it excellently, and suddenly, on a particular day—even when it has been growing and blooming for two or three years—it seems to decide that it will die. The buds droop, the plant withers, and in a few hours it is brown and dead. Why? Nobody has satisfactorily explained this queer propensity to sudden death on the part of plants which, under certain conditions not yet thoroughly understood, flourish amazingly well." This tendency to go off suddenly is not altogether confined to the clematis. Without any apparent reason the "Marchal Niel" rose will sometimes go off "in a night," and limbs of an apricot tree wither as if struck by lightning. Whole beds of pansies succumb as if smitten with paralysis in their prime.

In the new map which the Railway Board has prepared various "projected lines" are marked in the United Provinces. Among these is one from the Curzon Bridge at Paphamau, direct to Rae Bareilly, a chord line that secures direct communication between Allahabad and Lucknow. Further, another projected line is shown as running from Rae Bareilly to Cawnpore, and yet a third from the same junction to Fyzabad. These would all be on the broad-gauge and would yield a good return on capital; and the Local Government will doubtless press for early construction, at least as regards the Paphamau-Rae Bareilly chord. Looking far ahead one sees that the East Indian Railway will not rest content with its present route to Bombay via Naini Junction. In fact on the new map a chord is shown as running from Mirzapur through Rewah to Mairah on the Jabalpur Extension, with a branch to Satna. The project will probably have to wait until the lines projected in Bengal have been finished, but it is certainly one that must command attention a few years hence.



STRUCK BY A MINE.

RUSSIAN CAPTAIN'S THRILLING NARRATIVE.

Tokio May 31. The captain of the Russian armoured cruiser Admiral Nakhimoff, who is now a prisoner at Oso, gives the following account of his experiences in the great battle:—

"The first we saw of the Japanese was at 6 a.m. on May 27, when we suddenly and unexpectedly encountered the enemy's fleet, just as we were moving to the east of Tsushima. They steamed towards us and opened fire.

"Only ninety minutes after the firing began a sudden shock was felt under the Nakhimoff, and she began to sink with great rapidity. It is my belief that she had been struck by either a mine or a torpedo.

"My crew numbered 600 officers and men. The majority of them went down in the ship, as there was no time to get the men on deck. I myself, with the commander and a number of survivors, with the aid of life-belts swam to a small launch, which rescued us, and about 10 a.m. we went aboard a fishing boat. All the officers were sent to Shimomoseki.

"In the engagement fought off the Liancourt rocks, the Russian battleships, were surrounded by the Japanese ships, which circled about them, pouring a terrific fire upon them. They almost immediately fell into hopeless confusion. Then, seeing their plight and understanding the folly of further resistance, Admiral Togo signalled from the Mikasa a demand whether they were ready to surrender. Our ships complied with the demand.

CANNONADE LIKE EARTHQUAKE. The roar of the cannonade was so terrible that houses at Yamaguchi, twenty-eight nautical miles distant from the scene of action, shivered, and the people imagined an earthquake was taking place.

A Russian destroyer fled along the Korean coast, and was hotly pursued by the cruiser Tsushima and the destroyer Murakumo. The Russian vessel was finally headed off, driven ashore, and captured.

The Japanese Fleet suffered comparatively little. Of the battle fleet the Asahi was the most often hit and suffered the heaviest loss, but she none the less fought on, and did not quit the fighting line.

Of deliberate purpose Admiral Kamimura was sent southwards at the beginning of the battle with a comparatively small squadron, and allowed the Russian ships to pass him. Then Admiral Uru broke in upon them from Iki, and passed across the head of their line, raking them severely again and again. It was a remarkable coincidence that the waters in which the great battle opened were those where a year ago the Japanese transport Hitachi Maru was sunk with her cargo of troops by the Vladivostok cruisers.

Submarines were actually engaged in the battle on the Japanese side, and proved to be most effective weapons of offence.

The Russian cruiser Vladimir Monomach hoisted the white flag during the battle, and with 160 of her crew surrendered to the garrison of Isumida.

A warrant officer of the Russian repair ship Kamschatka states that the fleet consisted of thirty-six ships. The Kamschatka was very badly hit early in the battle, her steering gear was disabled, and she could only circle round and round.

SANK WITH A TREMENDOUS ROAR. While in this condition she was hit by a shell in her engines and completely disabled. Of her crew, fifty-six hurriedly lowered boats and took to them. Barely had they done so when the Kamschatka lurched, her bows rose in the water, and she sank with a tremendous roar. Her captain was killed, three officers were drowned and two wounded. The fate of two others is uncertain.

As he was in the Kamschatka's boat the warrant officer saw the Japanese close round three Russian battleships. Smoke rose from these battleships; they were sinking steadily in the water, and torpedoes appeared to be exploding all about them.

The steamer Doric, which arrived at Namsaki yesterday, reports having seen three vessels, evidently of the Baltic Fleet, near the Goto Islands. One of them had three funnels, and looked like the Osabia. The other two resembled the Aurora and Izumrud. All three were down in the water and were busy pumping.

One of them made as though she would steam towards the Doric, but after slowly proceeding a small distance stopped and retired. The three then turned south-west. The Japanese Fleet has left in pursuit of these ships, and their capture or destruction is expected every minute. The whole sea is being thoroughly searched by the Japanese torpedo flotilla.

Batches of Russians, many of whom are badly wounded, continue to land in Yamaguchi province. The scenes of human agony are indescribable.

I learn that the Baltic Fleet stopped a Norwegian steamer between Formosa and Luzon, and begged the captain to inform the Japanese that Admiral Rodjstevsky was coming north by the Korean Straits. Seemingly the Russians supposed that Admiral Togo would discredit the news and move his ships north.

Admiral Rodjstevsky was severely wounded in the arm and head, and is now at the Sasebo Hospital.

"LAST THRUST AT THEM."

THE JAPANESE DESTROYERS' ATTACK.

Tokio, May 31. The following account of the battle is given by a Japanese officer:—

It was 2.13 p.m., when the enemy opened fire. He sent two shots which fell short of our line. Some minutes later we opened and the battle began, both sides maintaining a heavy fire. The enemy's destroyers kept to the port side of their main squadron, and in this formation we pressed them against the coast of Kiusiu.

The engagement became very fierce, and the Russian battleship Borodino was seen to be on fire. A little later the enemy headed to the west, and we changed our course accordingly. Five ships of our second division concentrated their fire on the Borodino.

Enclosed on all sides, the enemy were helpless, and powerless to escape. Previous instructions had been given to the destroyers and torpedo-boats to attack those of the enemy's ships which were set on fire, and following this order, our fifth destroyer flotilla advanced against a Russian vessel upon which the second division was pouring in a terrible fire, signalling, "We are going to give the last thrust at them." The Russian ship continued to fire, and seeing the approaching torpedo-boats, directed its fire on them.

Nothing daunted, our destroyers pressed forward—the cruiser Chitose in the meantime continuing to fire on the Russian—until it arrived within a cable length of the objective.

The destroyer Shiranui first launched two torpedoes and the other destroyers one each. The Shiranui received two shells, but her companions escaped damage. The Russian ship, on the other hand, was sunk.

DESTROYERS RUSH IN. The fifth destroyer flotilla, after sinking the Borodino, followed in the wake of the second division. A signal reading something like "Enemy's submarines sighted. Attack them," being received, the flotilla followed and located the object which had been taken for a submarine. It proved to be a sinking ship, which had turned turtle and was floating bottom upwards. Thirty survivors were clinging to the wreck crying for assistance.

Firing ceased with darkness. Orders had been given for a torpedo attack when darkness fell, and the destroyer flotillas, dividing into two squadrons, proceeded against the Russians, the attack being kept up the whole night.

The enemy frustrated the first and second attempts by means of their searchlights, but the third attack was carefully executed, and the destroyer Yugiri sank a ship of the Borodino type and struck others of the Russian vessels.

During the night the enemy continued to move. We preserved our enveloping movement, keeping some distance from the enemy's position.

Our ships always kept ahead of the enemy, and the battle was resumed at nine on Sunday morning. The fight lasted all day, and it was here that the enemy suffered the heaviest losses.

Wounded Japanese sailors who have arrived at the hospital in the Maizuru navy yard supply the following particulars of the great battle:—

Sunday morning broke mistily, but the weather soon cleared, and a search for the remnants of the enemy's fleet was begun.

It was soon discovered that five of the Russian ships were in the vicinity of Liancourt Island. They were immediately surrounded.

They hoisted the Japanese flag over the Russian colours, apparently wishing to surrender, whereupon Captain Yashiro, commanding the armoured cruiser Asama, who speaks the Russian language, put off in a boat to ascertain their real intentions.

Meanwhile, however, Admiral Nebogotoff lowered a boat, came alongside the Asama, and formally surrendered.

THE SPIRIT OF THE JAPANESE NAVY.

A Japanese gentleman sends to the Times the following translation of a letter received by him a week ago from a friend in command of a first-class torpedo-boat in Admiral Togo's fleet:—

Dear O—A thousand apologies for my lengthy silence. We have been and are still busy, busy preparing a royal reception for the guests from Baltic.

When we of Suiraidau (Torpedo Corps) meet ashore, we discuss and often wonder if after all the Russians will come or will they fail us. Do they know that we are ready? To north-west lies the harbour of Masampho, to south that of Sasebo, while Moji is on our east, and here we are waiting, waiting and waiting for the enemy. Will he never come?

If you do not hear from me when a meeting has taken place, take this as my farewell. I do not expect to see you again in this life, except perhaps in your dreams. When my boat goes down, I shall go too and a Russian ship with us.

It takes her weight in shells to sink a torpedo-boat—it's marvellous how they, the shells, do not hit.

I have seen, not one, but many torpedo actions, and I know. With six compartments in the boat we ought to be able to cross in within 20 yards of the target before she is sunk. If we hit, we shall go down with the Russians; if we are hit the Russians shall come with us, for the last man alive will steer the spare torpedo in the water. What is life but a dream of summer's night? Can one choose more glorious an exit than to die fighting for one's own country and for the Emperor who is a ruler and leader to the nation's heart? Does not man uphold the honor and the glory of being Japanese. By going down with them, we shall, in a measure, pay the debt we owe for the slaughter of these poor innocent peasants. They too are fighting for their country, so shall Bushi honour Bushi. There are more torpedo-boats and torpedo-boat destroyers than the number of ships in the whole fleet of Admiral Rodjstevsky, and if each of them destroys or disables one of the enemy's vessels, it ought to do us.

Father Togo, now grey-haired, walks quickly to and fro on the bridge of Mikasa, and keeps silence, so all will go well. Do you remember the story when he went up to Tokio for the first time since the commencement of this war? Some public school boys were determined to unharness the horse off his carriage, at the instigation of the "Asahi." I believe, and themselves draw it up to the gate of the Imperial Palace. Well, Father Togo got wind of this, and so he sent his chief-of-staff in the carriage, while he was seen, but not recognised, to be quietly walking towards Nijubashi, with his little daughter's hand in his. Will he play another trick upon the poor unsuspecting Russians when they come?

I bid you again farewell. Work, work, and work, for the coming Japan depends on you young fellows.—I remain your ever humble brother.

T. N.

Rules relating to all Civil Courts and Small Cause Courts in Berar are published in the current issue of the "Gazette of India."

Reports from Dir and Swat state that everything remains quiet in the tribal country, and that the settlement recently reached will be effective, at least for the present.

A case of suicide was reported from Fort Dufferin, Mandalay, on Wednesday, the victim being Arthur Crowe, aged 24, of the King's Own Scottish Borderers. The act was committed by the deceased placing a loaded musket to his forehead and blowing his brains off. The men had been called out to drill, and it is said that he had reserved a cartridge out of the rounds which had been served out on a previous occasion.

Some of his comrades had noticed Crowe to be dull and despondent for a few days past and had endeavoured to cheer him. It is believed that he was suffering from temporary mental aberration.

mittee referred to the defective lighting of carriages on some lines and asked for the introduction of electric fans. They also suggested the desirability of running through passenger trains, especially to the hills and to obviate as far as possible the necessity of changing at junctions by the free interchange of rolling stock between the various companies.

Inquiries at the Mayo Hospital, show that the ex-police officer Pollock, who attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself in Messrs. Walter Locke and Co.'s shop, Lahore, on the 12th instant, is progressing favourably towards recovery. His wound does not appear to be as serious as was at first feared; though, but for Mr. Tilley's attempt to prevent the rash act, which disconcerted Pollock and unsteady his hand, the bullet would in all probability have passed through the brain and caused death. Pollock, who now expresses great contrition for what he has done, admits that he owes his life to Mr. Tilley's promptness. He explains the attempt on his life as due to the fact that he was quite destitute, and having had his papers stolen was unable to obtain employment.

The Lahore Improvement Committee hold that the Canal revenue should contribute towards improving the provincial capital, whilst the local Government owes special duty towards its own capital, not regarding Lahore as merely a municipality. The Lahore paper suggests, instead of the proposed fresh taxation on rental, the taxing of vacant and waste lands along the main business and residential roads, which are allowed to lie waste for the value to be forced up. Some belong to Government which cannot make up its mind to build sufficient suitable offices and hires private bungalows for its offices, thereby helping the forcing up of rents.

The second list of subscriptions to the Earthquake Fund opened by the United Provinces Government amounts to Rs. 4,133, making a total of Rs. 18,164.

Mr. Clough, District Superintendent of Police, was bitten by a mad dog on the 10th instant at Ludhiana. He left for Kasauli the same night for treatment at the Pasteur Institute.

THE MADRAS FISHERIES ENQUIRY.

The Government of India, in a recent letter to the Madras Government on the proposed deputation of Sir Fredrick Nicholson, K.C.S.I., to investigate the fishery industry, both inland and marine, in the Madras Presidency, have sanctioned the proposals which the latter Government put forward. They say that they wish to be informed, from time to time, of the progress made with the enquiry, and they ask that detailed proposals regarding Sir Fredrick Nicholson's proposed tour in Europe may be submitted in sufficient time to admit of the Secretary of State being addressed on the subject before Sir Fredrick Nicholson leaves India. The latter's term of special duty will last for two years, the first to be spent in India and the second or such part of it as may be necessary, in Europe. He will be paid a fixed monthly travelling allowance of Rs. 250, and will be given a clerical establishment, including an assistant on a salary not exceeding Rs. 175 per mensem. He has been requested to state whether he is prepared to begin his enquiries at once, and to report to Government the date from which he wishes to entertain his establishment. He has also been requested to furnish the Government with quarterly reports of the progress of his investigations, and to submit detailed proposals with regard to his tour in Europe.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL SCANDAL.

The Officiating Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay has forwarded to Government letters with regard to the charge recently made against the treatment accorded to small-pox patients in the above Hospital during the recent epidemic. Lieut.-Colonel Boyd, Physician-in-charge, contends that the accommodation provided was ample. The complaints of an "Ex-Patient," made in the "Times of India," were very misleading and he deals specifically with each and every complaint. The Government, after considering this correspondence, came to the following conclusion:—The attention of the Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay was invited to the letters which appeared in the daily papers regarding St. George's Hospital, and he was requested to report on the allegations made regarding the treatment of patients in the small-pox wards of the hospital. The reports of the Physician-in-charge and of the officiating Surgeon-General have received the careful consideration of Government. His Excellency in Council accepts the conclusions of Lieut.-Colonel Henderson, and is of opinion that, although the complaints are exaggerated and took inadequate account of the difficulties to be contended with in meeting a sudden emergency, there were defects which might have been prevented by closer supervision. The Surgeon-General was directed to take immediate action to apply the deficiencies in equipment pointed out in his letter, and it is anticipated that those articles which could be obtained locally have already been procured.

Owing to the withdrawal of troops from the Southern Shan States and their replacement by military police, the military buildings at Kengtung, Fort Stedman, and other places in the Southern Shan States have been transferred to the civil authorities.

At a recent meeting at Cawnpore between members of the Railway Board and a Committee of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce, reference was made to the delay in the transport of goods upcountry when handed over to the Calcutta Port Trust Railway. The Board said that steps were being taken to give the railway greater facilities in handling goods. The Committee last oilseed crop has a sad tale to tell. The area sown with linseed, rapeseed and mustard was slightly larger than in 1903-4, but the injury done by frost and rust was even greater than in the case of wheat. The result is a diminished outturn of nearly 37 per cent in the case of pure linseed, 38 per cent in mixed rapeseed and 13½ per cent in pure rapeseed. The last is to a very large extent grown in Bengal, where the effects of the frost were not so severely felt; hence the comparatively small decrease shown.

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 All Chemists and Storekeepers Price 1 Re.

India in Parliament

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(Friday, May 26.)

Title of the Ruler of Afghanistan.—Col. Legge asked the Secretary of State for India: When the title of the Ruler of Afghanistan was altered from Ameer to King, and his style from Highness to Majesty; what is the reason for the alteration: whether it has been notified by proclamation in Durbar; whether it makes any difference in regard to the relations of Afghanistan with foreign Powers; whether the letter from the Viceroy of India of Feb. 22, 1883, referred to in paragraph 3 of No. 4 on page 6, and the Agreement of 1873 between Russia and England, referred to in No. 5 on page 7 of Cd. 2534 of 1905, can be printed and delivered to members; and whether he will cause a map of Afghanistan, showing the boundaries agreed upon between the Government of India and the Ameer, to be placed in the tea room.

Mr. Brodrick: 1. The title of King was used by the late Ameer of Afghanistan, and was never questioned. Its use makes no difference in the relations of Afghanistan with foreign Powers so far as our agreements with the Ameer are concerned. 2. The agreement with Russia of 1873 as to the boundaries of Afghanistan will be found in Cd. 699 of 1873. It does not seem necessary to republish this paper or the Viceroy's letter of Feb. 22, 1883, which, as stated in the foot-note to page 6 of the recent parliamentary paper, is printed on page 72 of Cd. 3,930 of 1884. 3. I will consider the question of preparing a map showing the frontiers of Afghanistan for the use of the House.

(Monday, May 29.)

East India (Income and Expenditure).—Return presented, relative thereto [Address May 25; Sir Henry Fowler]; to lie upon the table, and to be printed. [No. 178.]

The Mecca Pilgrimages.—Mr. Stevenson asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he can announce the steps which have been taken or will be taken, for the safe escort of British Mahomedan natives of India travelling between Jeddah and Mecca, and Medina, during the present pilgrim season.

Earl Percy: The pilgrim season for this year is now over, and no complaints have been received from the Government of India in regard to the amount of protection afforded by the Turkish authorities to pilgrims from British India.

The Assassination by Mahsuds.—Sir Edward Grey asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether, having regard to the assassination of Capt. Bowring in September and of Lieut. Col. Harman in February last, by Mahsuds enlisted for frontier defence, the Government of India is taking precautions to prevent other valuable lives from being sacrificed in the same way.

Mr. Brodrick: The subject has engaged the very careful attention of the Government of India. Immediately on the murder of Col. Harman, the Mahsuds in the Southern Waziristan Militia, some 400 men, about a quarter of the whole strength of the corps, were disbanded, and a full jirga of the tribe was summoned to meet the Chief Commissioner of the North-West Frontier Province. The Chief Commissioner reported that the attitude of the representatives of the tribe at the meeting was satisfactory, as also appeared to him to be the condition of the tribe as a whole. It has been decided not to re-instate the disbanded men, but to make a fresh enlistment of from 100 to 150 selected Mahsuds, for whose individual conduct the tribe would be willing, in accordance with an undertaking given at the meeting, to furnish a full guarantee. Steps are being taken to select recruits and obtain the necessary security from the tribe in the case of each of them. It should be added that the murderers in both cases were apprehended and duly executed. The state of these frontier forces will be closely observed. I would take the opportunity to express my profound regret for the loss of these two officers and my appreciation of the value of their services. Capt. Bowring held the important post of Political Agent in Southern Waziristan and was an officer of great promise. Lieut.-Col. Harman was commandant of the Southern Waziristan Militia. The gallantry displayed by him and by Capt. Plant, who without hesitation rushed unarmed upon the assailant and seized him, was the means, though Col. Harman's life was sacrificed of saving the lives of their brother officers who were with them at the time the attack was made, and I feel that no words of mine could add to the feeling which their devotion will excite in this House.

Title of the Ruler of Afghanistan.—Col. Legge asked the Secretary of State for India when the late Ameer of Afghanistan used the title of king; whether it was recognised by the Government of India; and whether it appears in any official documents previous to the Treaty of March 21, 1905.

Mr. Brodrick: The late Ameer appears to have first used the title of king in his communications with the Government of India in 1896. His adoption of the title did not need the recognition of the Government of India, which recognises the independence of Afghanistan; and, as stated in my answer to the hon. member of May 26, it was not questioned. The letter of 1896 to the Governor-General, using the title was an official document.

Conduct of Troops in Meerut.—Sir Mancherjee Bhownagree asked the Secretary of State for India: If he has received any official information as to the conduct of troops in Rawul Pindi after it was found that a native, charged with having killed a sergeant of the 9th Lancers and admitted to bail, had absconded; and will he state what steps the Government of India have taken in the matter.

Mr. Brodrick: I am informed by the Viceroy that no occurrence has taken place upon which such a report, as that referred to by my Honourable friend, could be founded.

(Tuesday, May 30.)

The Earthquake and the Gorkha Officers.—Sir Henry Meyses-Thompson asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether anything, and if so, what has been done to assist the Gorkha officers in rebuilding their private houses, and also their mess-rooms, which were destroyed by the earthquake at Dharmasala.

Mr. Brodrick: The Commander-in-Chief in India had submitted certain proposals to the Government of India for concessions to assist the Gorkha officers in rebuilding their private houses and their mess-rooms, which were destroyed by the earthquake at Dharmasala. The nature of the proposals had not been submitted to him, but any plans which the Government of India forwarded would be most favourably considered.

Admiral Togo's Victory.—Mr. Gipson Bowles: May I ask whether his Majesty's Government have any information to communicate now to the House with reference to the naval engagement, and especially whether they have received any telegram from our naval attaché with Admiral Togo? Earl Percy: No, Sir; I am not in a position to make any other than a general statement. Perhaps I ought to add that it is manifestly impossible for his Majesty's Government to anticipate statements of this kind which the Japanese Admiralty will themselves make when they think proper. (Hear, hear.)

(Wednesday, May 31.)

The Report on the Commercial Mission to Persia.—Mr. Charles Hobhouse asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs: Whether the report of Mr. Newcomen, the head of the British commercial mission to Persia, has yet been received; and, if so, whether it will be printed as a parliamentary paper.

Mr. Brodrick: The final report of the commercial mission sent from India to Southern Persia has not yet been received. On its receipt the question of presenting it to Parliament will be considered.

(Thursday, June 1.)

Losses of Gorkha Officers from the Earthquake.—Sir Seymour King asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether his attention has been drawn to the losses of the British officers of the 1st Gorkha from the earthquake in Lhammsala; whether he is aware that the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Regiments of Gorkhas were given a guarantee that the station originally assigned to them should never be changed without their consent; that Dharmasala thus became the permanent headquarters of the 1st, and, when their 2nd battalion was raised in 1896, the expansion of the cantonment was carried out with the knowledge that the regiment as a whole was assured of its fixed location; that accordingly the British officers purchased houses, and a mess-house was eventually provided equal to the requirements of a double battalion; that in the latter instance debentures were taken up by the officers, the Government advancing such money as was required and seeing that the earthquake has wrecked the mess house and the private residences, and that this means little short of ruin to the officers, while all have to face liabilities over the mess, there being outstanding debentures of about 32,000 rs., whether the Government of India will afford relief to the officers.

Mr. Brodrick: I am aware that in some cases a guarantee has been given that Gorkhas shall remain permanently at their stations. Otherwise I am not in a position to reply to this question which is, in effect, an amplification of a previous question to which I replied on May 30. The Government of India have the subject under consideration, and, as I then said, any proposals which they may submit will favourably be regarded.

Mr. Craven and the Zemindars.—Mr. Weir asked the Secretary of State for India: If he will cause inquiry to be made into the proceedings of Mr. Craven, the sub-divisional officer of Habiganj Sylhet Assam, in connection with a recent dispute between two zemindars, and to the strictures passed on his proceedings by the High Court.

Mr. Brodrick: I have no reason to suppose that the Local Government or the Government of India have not taken, or will not take, adequate notice of the case referred to in the question, and I do not propose to order an inquiry.

The Assault on Capt. Ronayne.—Mr. Weir asked the Secretary of State for India: If he will cause inquiry to be made into the circumstances under which the Alipore Joint Magistrate recently imposed two months' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of 15 rs. on Husain Raza, a native tramway conductor, for alleged assault on Capt. Ronayne on March 30 last, notwithstanding the fact that the conductor complained of serious maltreatment at the hands of the prosecutor.

Mr. Brodrick: I have read the judgment in the case as printed in the newspapers. The sentence on Husain Raza appears to have been two weeks, not two months' imprisonment. The courts are open to anyone who considers himself aggrieved by the decision, and I do not see that any good purpose could be served by ordering an inquiry.

NOTICES OF MOTION &C.

The Ameer's Title.—Mr. Vincent Kennedy.—To ask the First Lord of Treasury: Whether he is aware that the Ameer has been erroneously described as Siraj-ul-millat wa-d-din in a parliamentary paper; whether he should have been set out as Siraj ulmillat-wa-d-din; whether he is aware that the name Habibulla is a contraction for Habibullah; and will the authorities see that this matter is at once put right to avoid further confusion. (Tuesday, June 6.)

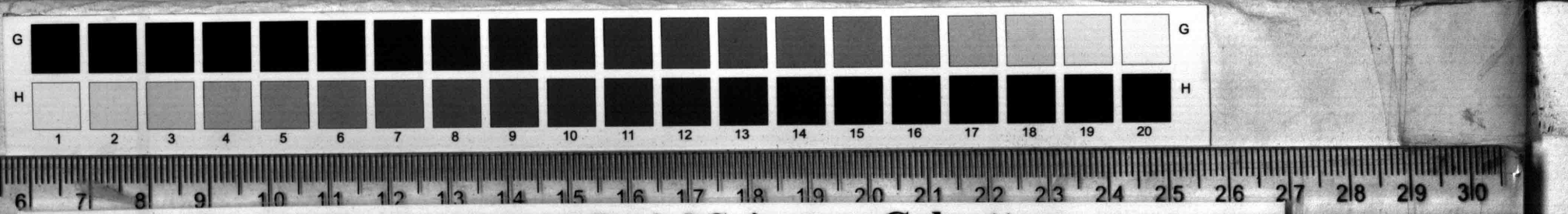
The Partitioning of Bengal.—Mr. Herbert Roberts.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: Whether he has received any proposals from the Government of India for partitioning the province of Bengal; and, if so, whether he will state what decision has been arrived at upon the subject. (Monday, June 5.)

The New Field Guns for India.—Sir Charles Dilke.—To ask the Secretary of State for War: What has been the extent of the delay of the delivery of the new field guns for India, which is alluded to in the memorandum of General Sir Edmond Elles. (Tuesday, June 6.)

Deaths from Plague.—Mr. Field.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: Whether he is aware that in India in 1901 the total deaths from plague were returned as 273,679, in 1902 the number rose to 577,427 in 1903 it reached 851,263, and in 1904 it was 1,022,299; and whether he can state what steps are being taken by the Government for the prevention and spread of plague. [Wednesday, June 7.]

The New Indian Loan.—Mr. Buchanan.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: What is the amount of the New Indian loan, and for what purpose is it being raised. [Monday, June 5.]

Expenditure on Extra Land for Troops.—Sir Charles Dilke, to ask the Secretary of State for India: At what stations it is proposed to expend the 10 lacs on extra land for troops, additional to the 22 lacs for barracks and the 7 lacs for hutting taken in the Budget in connection with Lord Kitchener's redistribution scheme. [Wednesday, June 7.]



Burdwan Notes.

(From our own Correspondent.) Burdwan, June 15.

A DACOITY.

A respectable gentleman informs me that on the 2nd instant at about 1 a.m., a gang of dacoits, numbering about fifteen and armed with deadly weapons, invaded the house of one Babu Lakshman Chandra Dey, a respectable and well-to-do inhabitant of village Pabulampur under the Rayana thana. Rasik Bagdi, a Chowkidar of the village, was out on his round when the dacoits entered the house with devilish dauntlessness. Having perceived their movements, this Chowkidar at once made for his home and having provided himself with a sharp spear, went about to awaken the villagers. Ere long there was a strong muster of the latter. Himself at the head of some twenty-five villagers armed with whatever weapons they could lay their hands on this dauntless Chowkidar with spear in hand, stationed himself at the front door of the aforesaid house. Before the two dacoits who were mounting guard near the gate, could inform their accomplices of the approach of the villagers, the latter raised a hue and cry. The ruffians had no other alternative but to face the danger manfully and a severe struggle ensued between the parties in the course of which one of the dacoits fell dead on the spot, another was severely wounded and the rest made good their escape. The police came, commenced a vigorous investigation after taking charge of the dead body and of the wounded dacoit. I am informed that as a result of their investigation, the police have hitherto made four arrests. The name of the dacoit killed in the affray is Golap Bagdi. His dead body was identified before the police by his mother and wife. I am further informed that the persons arrested have made disclosures that they belong to village Kooara near Rayana. The District Superintendent of Police has already been informed. Investigation by the police is still going on.

ANOTHER DACOITY.

News has been received of a dacoity committed on the 25th Baisak last, at the house of one Mahendra Lal Adhikary, a well-to-do Brahmin of Khurda within the Mongalkote police station. The owner of the house was not at home at the time of the commission of the crime. The dacoits entered the house in defiance of all resistance offered by the servants who had to suffer much at their hands for such audacity on their part. The ruffians pillaged the house from corner to corner and demanded it of all valuables, which made up the property worth about Rs. 800, and then triumphantly went away. A police investigation has been going on, but no trace of the culprits has yet been found out.

ALLEGED COUNTERFEITING KING'S COIN.

One Preobandhu Banerjee an inhabitant of village Harpur under the Satgachia police station, has been arrested under orders of the District Superintendent of Police on the alleged charge of counterfeiting King's coin. It is said that some instruments necessary for coming have also been found in his possession. The alleged offender is now in hajat and will shortly be placed on his trial.

NITI GOALINT'S CASE

Niti Goalin, a public woman, lived at Mitthupukur. On the 15th of Bhadra last, she was suddenly taken ill at about 11 a.m. and breathed her last at about 10 p.m. the same day. The suddenness of her death, she being all hale and hearty without the least trace of any disease, gave rise to suspicions in the minds of some neighbours and so an information was sent to the police station. Accordingly the police came, and as the dead body was then being carried away for cremation, stopped it halfway and channeled it for post mortem examination. It is said that the Government Assistant Surgeon who in the absence of the Civil Surgeon held the post mortem examination, recorded his opinion to the effect that the deceased had not died a natural or at least a purely natural death. Now, if it be true, how was it that the matter ended so very smoothly after all? The woman had a paramour, a certain asyasha named Suria Kumar Ghose. After her death, this man produced a will executed in his favour. By this will she had given away her piece house, a pair of ornaments and certain other minor valuables to her lover. Now the lover applied to Mr. Roy the then District Judge for a probate. To ascertain the genuineness of the will, the Judge forwarded it to the Collector who deputed Babu Bhabadeb Sarkar, Deputy Collector for local inquiry. It is said that during this inquiry on the spot, many ugly disclosures were made before the Deputy Collector. From the report of this official, forwarded by the Collector, the District Judge has rejected the man's application for probate. I understand that the latter has moved the High Court in the matter. In the meantime Government has taken possession of the house, holding that she had died intestate.

It is possible, a Solangor planter reports in the Malay Mail, that Para rubber seed will be scarce in the Federated Malay States this year. There was plenty of blossom, but owing to the large rainfall it did not set. The present price of seeds is about \$5 a thousand. It was recently reported in Ceylon that a good supply of seed could be relied on from the Straits, but it does not seem that such is likely to be the case.

The following Press Note has been issued at Rangoon:—A short while ago a man belonging to Pakokku, Chin Hills, was kidnapped, while travelling in the un-administered tract, by a trans-border villager. The affair originated in a family quarrel, and the false report that the hills were being evacuated by the British led the kidnapper to take action. The prompt action of Mr. Ommanney, officer in charge of the Hills, and the tact of a Chin head constable resulted in the recovery of the captured man, and there is no likelihood of any further trouble.

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

M. Kunhi Raman Vydier Esqr., Sanskrit Pandit of the German Mission High Institution and landlord of Telicherry 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 for 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: "Dear 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. 1-4. This medicine is to be had of the MANAGER, Bharat Vaisajyanilaya, SHAMBAZAR, CALCUTTA.

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It is a sovereign remedy for the radical cure of all kinds of syphilitic, mercurial and other poisonous cases which have their origin in the impurities of blood. As a tonic and alterative it is also highly beneficial to ladies in their weak state 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 old of both sexes alike without any apprehension of bad effect.

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It is a powerful remedy for nervous and mental debility and loss of retentive faculty, caused by excessive drinking, sedentary habits, and by too much study or over-exercise of the brain. This is especially beneficial to students for it improves and strengthens memory and sagacity. It gives tone to general health, cools the brain, gives new vigour of life, increases the activity of the Digestive Organs.

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It also cures all sorts of organic disorders. Babu Bharat Ohandra Biswas, Rampal Khulna, writes:—"Using Jogeswar Ghrita, I am unexpectedly benefited."

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J. Falcke, Esq., Jettipur, writes:—"After using your medicine for 3 months 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."

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