

# Amrita Bazar Patrika

BI-WEEKLY EDITION--PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AND SUNDAY

VOL XXXVI

CALCUTTA, THURSDAY 29 JUNE 1905

NO. 50

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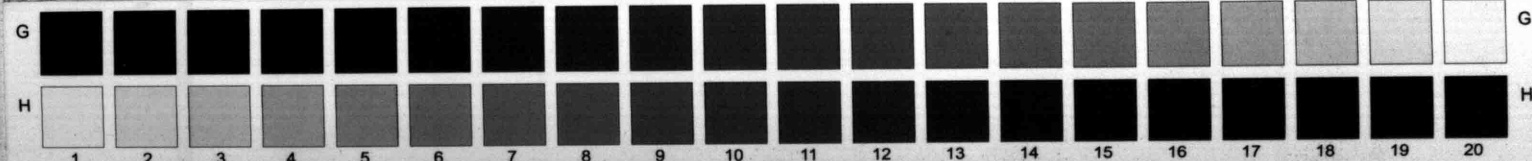
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## THE CASE OF RAJA SARADA NARAIN SINGH.

## DISPOSITION OF WITNESSES.

(From our Special Reporter.)

Giridih, June 24.

## DR. NEWMAN'S DEPOSITION.

The deposition of witness No. 2 for the applicant who voluntarily swore on the New Testament taken on the 13th day of June 1905 before the Munsiff of Giridih:

My name is E. A. R. Newman. My age is 38 years. I reside at Hazaribagh, Pargana Kharkidha, District Hazaribagh, where I am the Civil Surgeon.

I have been working as Civil Surgeon for 5 or 6 years. I am an M.D. of the Cambridge University. I am Surgeon Captain in the I.M.S. I examined the Raja on the 6th and on the 8th instant. On the first occasion I had been with him for 2 hours and on the 2nd for an hour. The Raja spoke in Bengalee and the Assistant Surgeon Sarasi Lal Sarkar translated his statements into English on both the occasions. Pleader Satish Babu and the Raja's manager Gopi Babu were present when I medically examined the Raja. They at times interposed as to the correct translation and I accepted the Assistant Surgeon's translation. They did not object to the translation being incorrect. I have submitted my report. This is the report (shown). It is written and signed by me (Ex. 1). This report is true and accurate. I think the Raja is of unsound mind and incapable of managing his own affairs. (Here the vakil for the applicant asks the witness to read the facts in the judgment reported in I.L.R., 7, Bombay, Page 15, with the object of asking the witness as an expert to compare the present case with that reported therein, and to say that the two cases are on all fours. The opposite party's vakil objects that no law can be put in the hands of an expert. I disallow the question put by the applicant's vakil.) I received this report from the said Assistant Surgeon. I know his signature (shown Ex. 2). It bears also my signature. This report is signed by the Assistant Surgeon Sarasi Lal Sarkar. I know his signature (points out Ex. 3).

In cross-examination the witness deposed:— I have been at Hazaribagh since April 1904. I met one or two zemindars of this district, viz., the Raja of Padma and the zemindar of Dhanwar. The former attends the District Board Meeting at Hazaribagh. That is all I have seen of him. I think I met the zemindar of Dhanwar at his dispensary; but I am not sure if I at all met him. I cannot say I have turned my attention to judging the average intelligence of the people of this district from the zemindars to the peasants. I got the history of the case from the persons indicated in my report and the answers of the Raja to my questions and my own observation of the Raja, and on these only I made my report. This is the gentleman Krishna Chandra Ghosh from whom I said in my report that I got my history of the case. He is present in court. I don't remember if I enquired if he had ever seen the Raja, nor do I know whether Krishna Babu's knowledge was hearsay, or direct knowledge. I know the name of the Government pleader. His name is Girindra Kumar Gupta. I don't know if he had any personal acquaintance with the Raja. I saw Krishna Babu about the 10th May at my bungalow. He came by himself. He did not bring with him anything in writing. I then met Krishna Babu and Girindra Babu at the Sudder Hospital on or about the 2nd instant. These are the only occasions when I met them for discussing the facts of this case. I went there by appointment. I wrote to the Deputy Commissioner and asked for facts. That was early in May when I had been requested by him to see the Raja. Krishna Babu brought me a written statement of facts that he had told me about before. It may probably be with me at Giridih. I have no objection to the production of the document, if found.

On the first day I met the Raja in a varendra and in the course of conversation we conversed outside, and on the 2nd day I met the Raja in the same place out in the open between two houses. When I actually met him, the Raja received me with courtesy and respect due to my position as a gentleman. He shook hands with me, but I was not asked to take a seat, but I asked him to take a seat and so we both of us sat down. The appendix Ex. 2. (shown) does not contain the conversation we had with the Raja on the 6th or 8th inst. It is not dated. I was not present at the interview reported in Ex. 2. My signature at the bottom of Ex. 2 only means that it was submitted to me and that I have seen it. I received it, though I received it before I had interviews with the Raja. At the time of the conversation with the Raja I took down no notes thereof, but I made some notes when I got home on both the occasions. The Assistant Surgeon made no notes there at the conversation. I don't know where my notes are and I may file them when I get them. I might have asked the Raja in English during conversation. I can follow the general terms of conversation in Bengali. Practically I do not speak Bengali. I stayed at Rajshaya for 6 months and in Calcutta for nearly 15 months. My report goes fairly full reasons. I should not consider it to be exhaustive. My notes are not exhaustive as to the conversation I had with the Raja. I am inclined to say that something of importance might have been left out in my report. I wrote my report continuously, and its last part was written about the same time I wrote the rest of it. I began writing at half past 9 a.m. and finished it after some interruptions at half past two; I wrote only 3 lines before breakfast, and I took up writing again at half past twelve of the 9th instant. The report was complete including signing and dating &c., by half past 2 p.m. I read the report before sending it on to court to the Deputy Commissioner who and myself were staying in the same bungalow. I have no recollection of any remark he made on the report being read by him. I don't recollect if he said "yes," "all right," or "that will do." He probably made some remark. I can't say that he did not remark to that effect. (Here the Court rose for late hours and further cross-examination was resumed on the 14th instant).

The witness in continuation deposed:—I can add to my report.

Question:—If you desire to add anything to your report, please do it.

Answer:—I wish to modify this sentence: "Though his acts are strange, they do not appear to me insane actions," and the modification is the particular acts I referred to were "the want of action or total disregard of all advice sent by wire, letter or in other ways, meaning that the Raja declined personal interviews with his legal

advisers; that when a question of some two lakhs was involved the Raja took no steps to represent how matters stood by legal representation in Court and by saying nothing or taking no action. In this way he incurred the loss of the sum he had lent, the property which had been given as security for the loan and a considerable further sum due as interest. It was only necessary, I am informed, for him to put in a petition asking for stay of the decree to gain a further time; but even this he declined to do. In the Bengal Colliery Case he permitted, so I am informed, the case to go by default, on two occasions, even though he had paid, I believe, about Rs. 4,000 in costs to be allowed to reopen the case. These acts show clearly incapacity to manage his own affairs and if they cannot be described as insane acts, they are very closely allied to them; and his conduct on these occasions, though perhaps not actually insane, is that of a weak-minded man who requires the protection the law affords to insane or lunatic persons to prevent him losing or frittering away the remainders of his estate."

Instead of the words "this I consider a definite delusion" I should like to say "these I consider two delusions" and I would add, namely, (1) his belief that he was mesmerised on one occasion, (2) that this could be done again at a distance. That is all that I should add or modify. I may add that my report, though a fairly full one, is not a verbatim report of our conversation.

Question:—Have you anything else to add or subtract from?

Answer:—I have nothing else to add to or subtract from or modify my report. As far as I know, I cannot pretend that this report is absolutely exhaustive in all its details, and that questions of fact and details depending thereon, may not be raised during my examination in court. I have however to the best of my ability given a full and impartial statement of the case of the Raja of Serampur's mental condition and the circumstances connected with it, his conduct amongst other things.

Spermatorrhoea may bring on physical exhaustion and physical weakness. When a man is suffering from physical weakness he feels disinclined for work and feels languor and depression generally.

Question:—Did you examine the Raja professionally with a view to ascertain the state of the Raja's physical health?

Answer:—I am not sure if I have under stood the question: If it is meant, did I examine the Raja's pulse and listened to his chest, I did not examine him physically, but I observed his looks and appearance and drew some conclusions as to his physical condition. Beyond observing his looks and appearance I did nothing else to find out the state of his physical health. I had no opportunity of seeing the Raja do any Zamdary work. I have a general notion of the nature of the work which a man of the Raja's position has to do in managing his property. I presume the Raja has to supervise the keeping of accounts, that includes collection of rent and disbursement of salary and subscription and other expenses. The Raja has also to look after the legal conduct of his own cases, issue instructions to his manager, receive his reports and decide questions of bigger items of expenditure and keep an eye on affairs generally. If a man does not do any or all of these things from laziness or physical weakness, would not call him a weak-minded man or a man of unsound mind. I should call him a lazy or a physically weak man.

Question:—Will you kindly tell the court what you understand to be the characteristics of a sound mind as distinguished from a sound body.

Answer:—I am not prepared to tell the court. The question conveys no meaning to me.

Question:—If a man has a fairly good memory, fair reasoning powers and fair judgment, would you call that man of unsound mind under any circumstances?

Answer:—I can well conceive circumstances under which I might have no hesitation in certifying such a man to be insane.

I will try to enumerate the requisites of a sound mind. They include a reasonable degree of memory, judgment, reasoning power, the absence of any delusions or hallucination, presence of self-control and the ability to conduct affairs in a manner which is not inimical to any obviously high degree to the person's interests. I am conversant with the Wyndham case reported in Brown's Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity and quoted at page 334 of Lyon's Medical Jurisprudence (3rd edition). The same case is referred to in Taylor's Medical Jurisprudence, Vol. II, page 541 (4th edition). There was great conflict of medical expert opinion in that case.

Question:—Are you prepared to risk an opinion of your own on the Wyndham case upon the facts reported in the books? (On the ground that the relevancy was not explained the munsiff disallowed the question). The applicants' vakil objected to the question). The witness continued.—That case cannot be compared with the Raja's case. There is one great difference in the two cases. In the Wyndham case there was no delusion, and in the Serampur case there is; excluding this (the question of conduct arises in both cases. The conduct was vicious in the Wyndham case and there is no such suggestion in the Raja's case, and in this sense this Wyndham case was worse).

Since two or three days I was refreshing my memory by reading books on mental diseases.

Question:—If the Raja was charged with an offence, would you, as a result of your examination, say that he is not responsible?

Answer:—I might, I might not. It all depends on the nature and the circumstances of the offence. I have formed an opinion on the Raja's criminal responsibility. Under certain circumstances he might be held to be not responsible for his actions.

I was in charge of the Bhowanipur Lunatic Asylum as Superintendent for 2 months in 1899. I have examined about 40 to 50 persons of unsound mind since the beginning of my service. (To Court) those 40 to 50 cases are exclusive of the patients of the asylum.

The majority of 40 to 50 cases were alleged criminal lunatics. I recollect only 2 cases, there might be others in which the unsoundness of the patient's mind with reference to his capacity to manage his affairs was in question. One was the Kumar of Banaili and the other was a European tea-planter. I shall be

very surprised to hear that the Raja of Serampur up to yesterday managed his affairs in every detail. I understand there has been no regular manager in the Raja. There has been a Naib manager these 3 or 4 years. The Raja told me that he looked after his own affairs himself. I had no choice. I accepted the statement. I remember I asked the Raja something about rat-killing in connection with plague, and his answer was a query,—"Was it any good?" and I think he added "I think it is no good" or words to that effect, and I remember he said that he had no objection to rat-killing being carried on. I consider that to be a perfectly sane and sensible answer. The reason why I suggested to the Raja to place his estate under the Court of Wards was that this enquiry was being held mainly with a view to the Raja's estate being placed under the Court of Wards and his statement that he was not always equal to the work of managing his property. I am inclined to think that, from an official letter I received from the Deputy Commissioner, that the present case was being tried with the object of placing the estate under the Court of Wards; and I don't think that the Raja has dislike to the property being taken out of his hands. (The attention of the witness being drawn to the passage of his report "He (Raja) had no particular objection etc., etc., permanent arrangement" the witness says). This statement is correct. The Raja disliked that the property be permanently taken over by the Court of Wards. I suppose that is fair conclusion. I believe in mesmerism and hypnotism. The terms are synonymous. I don't believe that a man can be put into a mesmeric trance at a distance. I never practised mesmerism myself, but I have seen others practise and mesmerise. I have seen of mesmerism more than average people would do. My reason for disbelief in mesmerism is that it is such an exceedingly difficult operation with the consent of the subject that I do not think it could be performed at a distance, and one of my reasons for saying that a distance is a delusion. I have heard the word "spiritualism," but it conveys no definite meaning to me. I have not studied spiritualism. My impression is that occult powers were very rarely come across now-a-days, and that this is always the case with the advance of civilization. I know there are people who believe or have believed in miracles. I don't think those people who believe in miracles or occultism are subject to delusion. I am aware of the existence of the Society for Physical Researches in England and America. I know what a "Jogi" is, but I don't know what "Jog" is. A "Jog" is a religious mendicant, "Jog" is occult power, as I understand from the definition given by the vakil, believed in by Hindus as Hindoos and therefore I don't call all those people as subject to delusion. I am not aware if the Raja is orthodox Hindu. In my report the passage "there were two Brahmins present saying Mantras" means that the Raja told me that during his illness, in the course of which he became unconscious, there were two Brahmins present in the room saying "Mantras." The Raja told me, I remember, that Tincoi Babu and his (the Raja's) servant suggested to him (the Raja) that his unconsciousness was due to mesmeric trance. The Raja used the very English word "mesmerised." I may have heard the word "Jadu" having been used during the conversation about mesmerism. Question:—Please try to give us in what connection the Raja told you that he thought he heard once only a voice whispering or speaking to him.

Answer:—We had been discussing Theosophy, which the Raja explained to me as having power over ghosts (Boots). To test the fact as to whether he had any hallucination in this direction, I asked him if he had conversed with them or if they ever came to talk to him. He denied this. On pressing him, after some hesitation the Raja said that on one single occasion when he was lying down thinking about his health and whom he should consult, he thought he heard a voice whisper in his ear the word "whom." The English word "whom" was not used, but I don't remember if the vernacular word "kekra" was used, and my conclusion was that the Raja is not labouring under a hallucination. There was plague in this district at the time when the Bengal Coal Co. case was on. Scarcely plague follows outbreak of the disease.

The Raja's sadness of expression and at times vacancy of expression were not due to the inquiry about his sanity acting on his mind. I am prepared to swear that the said expression could not have been due to the enquiry because it was the expression of settled sadness. Any emotion due to this enquiry might be reasonably expected to betray itself by anger or nervousness. The temperament of a man has something to do with the expression of a man's countenance. The passage in my report running "He was acquainted with minor details" is not intended to exclude the Raja's acquaintance with details of other matters.

I derived my information regarding the two cases chiefly from Krishna Babu and the Government pleader Girindra Babu, and I also discussed these matters with Sakti Babu (points out the applicant's vakil) and the Deputy Commissioner. I have not examined the merits of those two cases myself. I have no recollection whether or not the Raja told me that his actions in the two cases due to "galti" (error of judgment) on his part, but certainly he was not insane.

In re-examination.—I have brought the written statement I got from Krishna Babu. (The Court showed it to the opposite party's vakil). In my answer I stated that the physical weakness etc., would bring on depression generally, I meant physical depression. As official visitor of the asylum in Calcutta it was part of my duties to enquire into the mental capacity of lunatics confined there before release and as temporary Superintendent I had the same duties to perform in making my monthly report to the Board.

To Court:—I came out to India in 1893. I qualified as a medical in 1890 and I obtained my M. D. degree in 1898 or 1899.

## NO COMPETITION.

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

All Chemists and Storekeepers Price 1 Rs. 8 Rs.

Towards the end of my report I have given my opinion that the secluded life of the Raja is due to delusion and the weakening of his business capacity and weak judgment were due to his secluded manner of living. I should say that the delusion the Raja is labouring under is of such a nature as to render him incapable of managing his own affairs, and my reasons are that he constantly lives in a vague state of fear of mesmerism and consequent evil in the mesmeric state though he cannot describe or state them accurately. The delusion referred to in my report are two, as I have stated to-day.

To Assessors:—Question:—Is any aberration of the mind incapacitating a person from managing his affairs sufficient to constitute lunacy?

Answer:—Yes, in my opinion.

Question:—Are the delusions you speak of the Raja is labouring under, such aberration as is mentioned in the previous question?

Answer:—Yes, most decidedly.

(The witness said when the deposition was read over to him that he also stated the following. "I have not noted the truth of the facts of these two cases. I have no opportunity of verifying the truth of the facts but accepting them as true I did examine the merits of the legal cases.")

Thus the examination of the medical expert was finished. Dr. Newman was the last witness examined on behalf of the applicant.

## Matters Commercial

The distribution of quinine and cinchona febrifuge from the Government Cinchona Plantations in the Darjeeling district during the year 1904-05 amounted to 18,338 lbs. or an increase of 2,787 lbs. over the previous year. Increased production at the Factory and lowering of prices have operated in bringing about a greater demand for the drugs.

A New industry lately started in the suburbs of Calcutta is the utilization of country tobacco for the purpose of cigarette manufacture. The promoters have erected a small cigarette making plant in connection with their business. Cigarette-smoking has undoubtedly come "to stay" in India where the natives have now quite taken to it. During 1904-05 Calcutta imported cigarettes to the amount of 534 millions of the value of Rs. 21,07,000. Of the total imports the United Kingdom supplied 385 millions, and the United States, China, Egypt and the Straits Settlements the balance.

The Rangpur Agricultural Demonstration Farm which it is proposed to establish ought to receive a good start, as, in addition to the expenditure voted for it by the District Board a native gentleman of the District—Raja Janaki Ballav Sen of Dima—has generously contributed a donation of Rs. 8,000 towards the expenses of the farm. This is an example which might well commend itself to other wealthy land owners in the Province. Improve the agriculture of your district and so bring about prosperity and contentedness among the people, is a precept which might be more widely followed by those who are land owners in this part of the country.

India depends largely on Japan for its imports of camphor, the greater portion of which comes to the country via Calcutta. During the last two or three years the trade has been declining largely, and in 1904-05 the imports fell to 185,881 lbs. as against 258,881 lbs in the year preceding. The past official year witnessed a great rise in the price of the product, due of course to the Japanese, who are stated to have almost a monopoly in the production, and who since camphor is necessary for the manufacture of certain explosives, have laid up a vast reserve for the war, in addition to exercising the most rigid control over the output.

## COST OF THE NAVIES.

## A FIFTEEN-YEARS COMPARISON.

A return of the naval expenditure of Great Britain in 1880, and of Great Britain, France, Russia, Germany, Japan, and America in 1890, 1901, 1902, 1903, and 1904, has been presented to Parliament. The figures are as follows, those of foreign countries being the estimates only, while those of Great Britain (except in the case of last year) show the actual expenditure:—

|                                    | 1880.       |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Great Britain                      | £10,513,469 |  |
| (Other countries not available.)   |             |  |
|                                    | 1890.       |  |
| Great Britain                      | £17,042,182 |  |
| France                             | 8,125,929   |  |
| Russia                             | 4,268,208   |  |
| Germany                            | 3,938,869   |  |
| Japan                              | 1,142,452   |  |
| America                            | 4,627,203   |  |
|                                    | 1901.       |  |
| Great Britain                      | £38,726,491 |  |
| France                             | 13,610,701  |  |
| Russia                             | 11,695,766  |  |
| Germany                            | 9,624,956   |  |
| Japan                              | 3,711,526   |  |
| America                            | 16,012,438  |  |
|                                    | 1902.       |  |
| Great Britain                      | £34,201,994 |  |
| France                             | 12,271,948  |  |
| Russia                             | 10,667,983  |  |
| Germany                            | 10,029,083  |  |
| Japan                              | 2,809,415   |  |
| America                            | 16,203,916  |  |
|                                    | 1903.       |  |
| Great Britain                      | £38,970,560 |  |
| France                             | 12,588,861  |  |
| Russia                             | 12,349,567  |  |
| Germany                            | 10,262,014  |  |
| Japan                              | 2,848,897   |  |
| America                            | 16,824,058  |  |
|                                    | 1904.       |  |
| Great Britain                      | £40,327,850 |  |
| France                             | 12,513,143  |  |
| Russia                             | 12,072,381  |  |
| Germany                            | 10,566,342  |  |
| Japan: Information not obtainable. |             |  |
| America                            | 20,180,310  |  |

Colonel Hume Henderson, M.D., Civil Surgeon of Poona, has sent in his resignation of his position as President of the Sanitary Committee. In doing so he has complained of the paucity in the attendance of members and the want of consideration of the opinions and recommendations of the Committee. The Hon. Mr. Gokhale, presiding at a special meeting of the Poona City Municipality, repudiated Colonel Henderson's allegations, which, he said, the latter was not justified in making in face of facts to the contrary. The consideration of the resignation has been postponed for a week.

## PIGMIES ARRIVE.

## WHAT THEY ARE REALLY LIKE.

London, June 9.

The African forest pigmies arrived safely in London yesterday, and last night they slept in beds for the first time in their lives. To-morrow, probably, they will have an audience with His Majesty the King.

Much nonsense of the usual ignorant "Missing Link" type has been written about these interesting little folk. They have been described as mere wild animals, dull and stupid creatures, more like monkeys than men in appearance, less bright than the gorilla in intelligence, and possessed of no language beyond four or five guttural noises, and having no notions except those of eating, sleeping, and wallowing in dirt.

They are nothing of the kind, writes one of our representatives, who spent a couple of hours with them yesterday afternoon. They are certainly not beautiful to the eye nor pleasant to our sense of smell. But they are quite the reverse of repulsive in appearance, and, indeed, when they can be brightened up into a smile, their faces wear a merry look which is distinctly attractive. That they possess a complete and melodious language I am convinced. Their behaviour shows that they have a marked sense of humour, a knowledge of courtesy, and a quick appreciation of the varying human tones with which they may be addressed. Oddly enough, they showed but little curiosity.

Throughout the journey up the Thames yesterday they slept in the saloon and paid no heed whatever to the new country, to which they were coming. But when the ship reached its berth in the docks, and they found that the journey was finished, Mogani, the chief, gave the word, and, stripping to their loin-clothes, the four little men entered into a solemn song-dance upon the deck.

From the ship they came up to Charing-cross Pier on a launch. And there, for the first time, the two ladies asserted themselves. They absolutely refused to ride in the same four-wheeler as the four men.

There is something pathetic about these two frail little black women. One can see it in their eyes, but cannot make out what it is. It is not fear; they show no sign of shrinking when approached, nor when their hands are taken hold of. But nothing will make them smile. They do not look sulky, but sad, with a touch of offended dignity. I am inclined to think that there is a something which is offending their sense of propriety.

At the Hippodrome they have been given a large room, in which they will live during their stay in London. On one side two soft wool mattresses side by side, with blankets, accommodate the four little men.

It was curious to see how quickly they adapted themselves to these luxurious surroundings.

Mogani, a fact, polly-looking, old dog, big enough to pass for an undersized man, promptly appropriated a large sofa to himself, as his right as chief, with a delicious air of regal importance. He soon learned the way to take his ease. In white woollen knickers, white woollen sweater, and black stockings, lying on his back with his legs crossed and one foot in the air, he formed an amusing picture. He had taken off his boots and put them on the table.

When I was introduced to them, the four men saluted, the women took no notice. Not a word was said at first, and all looked very solemn. But when Matuga's ribs were tickled, that friendly approach broke the ice. Matuga roared with laughter and talked freely. Very little tickling got on the friendly side of the lively Mongongo, for though probably over 20 years of age he is just like what a little boy of his size would be. Both Mongongo and Matuga talked then to one another and to the others. Whatever it was that they said, it made the others laugh very heartily; and, very often, it began to look very suspiciously that they were making remarks about their visitors, and very distinctly poking fun at them, or else eyes never were less truthfully tell-tale. At last, too, they even moved the ladies into speaking in a soft, low, quick murmur, which told that it was some fun which was passing.

A box of cigarettes was presented to them. But though the case was left open on the table none helped himself a second time until invited. The first cigarette Matanti Mengi tried to light at he gold-tipped end, but was shown that that was wrong. At the next cigarette he did not make the mistake again. A box of matches had been put on the table for them. Later it was taken up lest it might not be safe to leave with them. Matanti Mengi promptly asked for it back, and, shaking it to be sure that it still contained matches, put it back on the table beside that cigarettes.

Some toys that squeaked when extended with the breath amused them very much, until one burst with a bang. But watches, even the sounding of repeaters, gave them no interest, and were evidently beyond them.

During the voyage to England the sailors taught the men how to bath, and the ship's doctor taught the ladies the use of soap and water. The sailors also taught them some English words. They are surprisingly quick in imitating, and repeat the tone so accurately as almost to seem to be mimicking mockingly. At home they use their fingers, but they have now learned how to use a spoon. But Mogani cannot yet understand the table-cloth. He wants to array himself in it during the meal.

The Pigmies will make their first public appearance at the Hippodrome on Monday. The King and the Prince of Wales have expressed desires to see them, and they are also to appear before the Anthropological and the Royal Geographical Societies.

## CONTRACTED NEURALGIA DURING

## THE WAR.

"I had a bad case of neuralgia which I contracted during the war. I tried several kinds of medicine but they did me no good until a friend of mine recommended Chamberlain's Pain Balm which gave me immediate relief. I have had no trouble since and must say that I find Chamberlain's Pain Balm a fine liniment. I have since used it for other troubles and pains with good results."—J. Viljoen, Jacobadale, Transvaal. For sale by All Chemists and Storekeepers, Price 1 Rs. 8 Rs.



THE  
Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JUNE 29, 1905.

QUARREL IN HIGH OFFICIAL  
CIRCLE.

As expected Lord Kitchener has triumphed in his quarrel with General Elles, the Military Member of the Government of India, who was of course backed by Lord Curzon. The dispute, in fact, was practically between the Commander-in-Chief and the Viceroy, and both relied upon their respective popularity in England. It is quite clear now that the soldier is more popular with the present Ministry than the Civilian.

The bone of contention was with regard to the power of the Military Member. Under the present dual system, the position of the Commander-in-Chief is to a certain extent subordinate to that of the Military Member. For, the proposals of the former must run the gauntlet of the latter before they are submitted to the Viceroy. This Lord Kitchener could not brook. So he wrote to the Secretary of State to say that, if the present system was not changed and he made supreme in his Department, he would tender his resignation.

On the other hand, the Viceroy, the Military Member, and other members of the Executive Government, strongly objected to the proposal of Lord Kitchener, inasmuch as, freed from the control of the Military Member, the Commander-in-Chief might launch costly military schemes and ruin the country. Nay, it is believed, that Lord Kitchener had already wanted ten millions sterling, or one-seventh of a year's revenue of India and equivalent to twenty millions in an English Budget, for distributing more troops along a frontier, already at great expense, provided with fortifications and strategic railways, and which frontier may be in future years completely turned by Russian pressure towards the Persian Gulf.

In short, what Lord Kitchener required was to have a carte blanche to increase the Indian army and costly works of defence at his sweet will, and close every loop-hole in the North-Western frontier through which India can possibly be attacked by armed soldiers. Lord Curzon thus earned the gratitude of the Indian people by opposing the proposition of Lord Kitchener.

For a time, it seems, Mr. Brodrick did not know what to do. For he felt the force of the arguments of the Government of India. Indeed, how would it be possible for poor India to meet the bills of Lord Kitchener, which might sometimes amount to fabulous sums if he were left free to do whatever he liked? But the notion apparently in England is that, they can afford to lose a Lord Curzon but not Lord Kitchener. It was Mr. Balfour who in his recent extraordinary speech paved the way for Mr. Brodrick. In that speech he supported the proposals of Lord Kitchener and said that Russia should be checked at any cost, and that the way to do it was to practically accept the army re-organization scheme of the Indian Commander-in-Chief.

Mr. Brodrick was thus enabled to state boldly in his budget speech on Wednesday last that not only was the Army Reorganization scheme of Lord Kitchener sanctioned by the Home Government, but that he would be Commander-in-Chief and Secretary of State for War combined, so far as the direct administration of the Army is concerned. As regards the Military Member, his position is reduced to that of a mere subordinate officer. So Lord Kitchener has scored all along the line. The immediate result of his victory is the resignation of General Elles, the present Military Member.

What action Lord Curzon is likely to take with regard to this affair has not yet transpired. As we said, the fight is between Lord Kitchener and Lord Curzon; and if any body should feel the discomfort keenly it is the latter, and not General Elles. We do not, therefore, see why should General Elles resign. He all along acted only as the minister of Lord Curzon, and thus, in opposing Lord Kitchener he only carried out the orders of his chief, that is all. Needless to say, the victory of Lord Kitchener has created the profoundest sensation in the high official circle at Simla. But, if Lord Curzon has sustained a defeat, he can derive some consolation from the fact that he too has obtained a victory in regard to the question of partition of Bengal, if the information of the "Indian Daily News" be correct.

It is a remarkable fact that, while they are lessening the power of the Commander-in-Chief in England, the tendency in India is to strengthen the position of the head of the military department more and more. So the idea is to establish a Military Government in India, along with the Civil! But the poor, starving India has been pumped dry: where is the money to come from to meet the cost of further military burdens?

Even Sir Henry Fowler admitted, during the budget debate in Parliament last Wednesday, that there was no necessity for an enormous increase in military expenditure, as India, said he, was never less liable to a foreign invasion than now. There was some check upon the indiscriminate waste of money in ill-considered military schemes so long as the Military Member had control over the doings of the Commander-in-Chief. Now that that check has been withdrawn, one can easily conceive how, in order to satisfy the Commander-in-Chief, every useful work will have to be starved; how the Local Governments will have to be further fleeced to supply the needs of the Supreme Government; and how further encroachments will have to be made upon the District and Local Boards by the Local Governments to meet their own cost. Nay, fresh taxation will have to be resorted to in order to quench the increasing thirst for money of the Military Department.

Our only hope is that, it will be impossible for India to honour all the bills of the Military Department. Indeed, after meeting the absolutely necessary expenses for the administration of the country, it will be beyond the power of the Government of India to find all the money that will be required to give effect to the Army re-organization scheme. Famines must occur after every five, sometimes after every three, years; plague will continue to commit havoc. The Government will have to spend some money for these purposes. Roads, railways, and irrigation works must be maintained, and that means also cost. All the educational institutions cannot be done away with, and that will also require some money. Besides, Lord Curzon and

his innumerable subordinates must have their princely salaries and allowances and those who have retired must have their pensions. One can easily see that, in this way, the Government of India, after meeting all these necessary expenses, will have very little left to satisfy the increasing demand of the Military Department. When India arrives at that condition, either there will be a crash, or England must step in and open its purse-strings to save its Indian Empire. How short-sighted is the Ministry which now rules the British Empire!

PARTITION QUESTION  
AND  
KITCHENER CONTROVERSY.

Though the partition of Bengal is a matter of life and death to its people, the Government has been pleased to keep it a profound secret from them. The result is that they are discussing this subject everywhere, in villages and towns, in public streets and private parlours, in a tone of great despondency. We have received several letters and telegrams on the subject. Here is one from a most eminent citizen of Mysore:—

"Great anxiety about the partition question. Please wire correct information."

Here is another from Dacca:—

"People greatly alarmed to read your article on partition. Please send us correct information."

So many "correct" informations, diametrically opposed to each other, have been published in regard to this subject, that we do not venture to add our own to them. The only correct information that we could give to the public was at the time when the whole country was convulsed by the "Pioneer's" paragraph, by announcing that the Allahabad paper's information was unfounded, as no Despatch on the subject had then reached the Secretary of State; and we could do so as we got our information from the India Office direct. We must say, however, that the reply of the Secretary of State to the question of Mr. Herbert Roberts is rather disquieting. Here are the question and the answer:—

"Mr. Herbert Roberts asked 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."

"Mr. Brodrick: The proposals of the Government of India for the reconstruction of the Provinces of Bengal and Assam have been received, and are under consideration. A decision will be communicated to India very shortly."

So a Despatch was subsequently submitted to the Secretary of State, though the Government here gave no hint about it to the anxious public, and it was under Mr. Brodrick's consideration when the mail left England! This does not necessarily mean that the partition scheme has been sanctioned, either wholly or partially. As a matter of fact, the latest information from Simla is that no confirmation of the alleged sanction of the project by the Secretary of State has yet reached the Government of India.

But if we do not venture to furnish any correct information, we can speculate on the subject. For instance, it can be argued that Mr. Brodrick is very likely to sanction the project. Why? We shall try to explain. When there was a difference between the two Indian Excellencies, Lord Curzon and Lord Kitchener, on the military supremacy of the Commander-in-Chief, Mr. Brodrick found himself in a position of exceeding difficulty. He, no doubt, saw that the right thing for him would be to side with Lord Curzon, for his Minute bristled with unassailable arguments; besides, Lord Curzon is considered a sufficiently great man in his country to be worthy of his support.

Indeed, it must have struck Mr. Brodrick that if a Commander-in-Chief like Lord Kitchener were made an autocrat in India in military matters, the basis of the Indian Empire might be undermined, as, in that case, the revenues of India would be practically placed at his disposal. On the other hand, the "most popular" man in England just now is he who can fight well. Lord Kitchener fought well; he is, therefore, an idol of the nation; and who dares touch a hair of his head? By going against Lord Kitchener, Mr. Brodrick also felt he might endanger his own position.

It was the support of Mr. Balfour, however, that enabled Mr. Brodrick to give victory to Lord Kitchener. Indeed, it is the Home Government which decided the question, and Mr. Brodrick simply carried out its mandate. After having settled the question in favour of Lord Kitchener, the Secretary of State naturally feels the absolute necessity of mollifying Lord Curzon. So who knows that he may not try to do it by sanctioning the project of partition? He dared not go against Lord Kitchener as the latter was supported by the Home Government, and therefore sided with him against Lord Curzon. But he does not care a straw for the Bengalees, between whom and the Viceroy, he knows, there is not much love lost; and he may, therefore, proceed with the lightest of hearts to sanction the project of partition.

But then, considering the gravity of the situation created by the overgrowth of Lord Curzon in his fight with Lord Kitchener, an attempt to mollify his Lordship by sacrificing the helpless "black men" of Bengal, would be to put him down for a mean and ordinary man. Surely, he is too high for that. The partition project, if sanctioned, may please the vanity of Lord Curzon; but it is certainly no adequate compensation for his discomfiture in the Kitchener controversy. Fancy too absurdity. To satisfy Lord Curzon for this undeserved defeat by the blood of the Bengalees! If anything can now please him, it is the blood of Lord Kitchener, of course figuratively speaking.

Then again, the country is bound to be thrown into a delirious excitement if the partition scheme is sanctioned. But this is exactly what Lord Curzon wants to avoid. For, he expects to make the tour of his Royal Highnesses in India as pleasant and agreeable as possible. Indeed, his natural desire is to evoke ardent loyal feelings in the breasts of the Indians, so long the Prince of Wales stays here, and to "drown the country by a wave of loyalty," to use an Indian phrase, by presenting the royal personages to the people.

But how will it look if, when his Royal Highness comes here, he is pursued with the cry of "no partition, your Royal Highness," from one end of the country to the other? So it is not likely that Lord Curzon, who is so intelligent and so shrewd, will be mollified at all if Mr. Brodrick sanctions the partition project.

Neither is he likely to launch it and raise a Frankenstein at a time when every one should be kept happy and contented. Lord Curzon would rather shelve his partition scheme than see the success of the Royal tour in this country marred in any way.

As we said last Saturday, it is not Sir Edmund Elles but Lord Curzon who should resign; and, by so doing, His Excellency will carry the sympathy of all right-thinking men with him. One cannot go through the Kitchener controversy without feeling that Lord Curzon has been treated in the shabbiest way possible. Not only are truth and justice on his side, but also true statesmanship. There is no doubt that serious disasters are likely to overtake the Indian Empire by adopting the scheme of Lord Kitchener; but, though this was very convincingly pointed out by Lord Curzon in his admirable Minute, the Viceroy has been ruthlessly thrown overboard and Lord Kitchener allowed to triumph.

We can assure Lord Curzon that, he will carry the whole country with him if he elects to resign. For, that is the only right reply to the unjust treatment accorded to him by an ungrateful Ministry. If he resigns their decision. And why should he reconsider their decision? Is office so sweet? Lord Northbrook, Lord Ripon, and Lord Dufferin never cared for the Viceroyalty of India. They resigned as soon as they were sought to be humiliated. Lord Curzon's sense of self-respect is certainly not less keen than that of any of his predecessors. Why should he then stick to his office?

What, we fear, is the case is that, Lord Curzon is anxious to tender his resignation, but the Ministry will not allow him to do so in view of the approaching visit of the Prince of Wales. But the Ministry did not show him any consideration in the Kitchener controversy! Was ever such a spectacle witnessed? In a dispute between the Viceroy and his subordinate, the former has been insulted in a most heartless manner!

Was ever a Governor-General humiliated for the sake of a subordinate, and that by the Home Government? Was a Viceroy insulted so openly before the world? And this was done to please Lord Kitchener! We humbly think that the only right course for Lord Curzon is to resign, and such a step on his part will elevate him immensely in the estimation of the whole world.

OTHER FEATURES OF THE  
KITCHENER CONTROVERSY.

Those who have carefully gone through the Minutes of Lord Kitchener and Lord Curzon, must have marked that it is not an ordinary fight that was fought between the two foremost officers in India. The very constitution of the Government of India, as it were, was threatened in the dispute. Lord Kitchener has practically never known a master. He has never bowed his head to a mortal man. In India, however, he found two masters, one in the person of the Viceroy, and the other in that of the Military Member. Even the former he was not willing to recognize as his chief though constitutionally superior, and this was known to many; but to submit to the latter, well, that was shocking.

Smarting under this sense of humiliation, wrote his Minute. Born and brought up a soldier his language was rough. He unburdened his heart freely to the Secretary of State. He said that the whole system of the Army organization in India was rotten to the core, and this was due, in his opinion, to the presence of the Military Member who had the privilege of criticising his measures. He therefore proposed that the Military Member should be abolished; that he, as Commander-in-Chief, should be made the only head of the Army, subject only to the control of the Viceroy, and that he should be freely supplied with money to carry out his military projects.

Lord Kitchener very adroitly introduced one element into his Minute which at once secured the victory for him. He depicted the Russian bugbear in such vivid colours that it was bound to take effect. He said that, India had no longer to deal with savage tribesmen on her frontiers. Slowly but surely, he pointed out, the deserts of Central Asia have been crossed by a great power. They are now spanned by railways which can have but one possible significance, and there is every indication that the northern bear is pushing forward its preparations for "the contest in which we shall have to fight for our existence." And he then proved, in his own way that, unless the present system was radically changed, there is to say, the Commander-in-Chief was made the absolute master of the situation, India might slip out of the hands of England.

If anything can move John Bull it is the fear of the approach of Russia towards India. Refer to that, and you are at once embraced as a friend and a statesman by the average Englishman. Of course Lord Kitchener was aware of this fact, and took the fullest advantage of it to influence the Ministry. We know how Mr. Balfour, who was getting unpopular, regained his lost position by simply announcing that, England would never permit Russia to construct a railway in Afghanistan and would declare war the moment the northern power was to make such an attempt. It will be seen from the following extract from the Despatch of the Secretary of State, how Lord Kitchener's reference to Russia had also a profound effect upon Mr. Brodrick, who was, however, only an instrument of the Home Government in this matter:—

"The danger of complication on the north-west frontier has been rendered greater by the completion of an additional strategic railway from Central Asia to the northern boundary of Afghanistan; it is clear that the army when mobilised must be mobilised on a larger scale than has hitherto been anticipated. If nine divisions are to be placed in the field, the business of equipment and provision of transport and supplies will be enormously increased, and any conditions which might hamper the efficiency or cause a duplication of work and delay, or create a conflict of authority as to whether the expenditure deemed necessary by one department and not equally necessary by another should be incurred or not would react most prejudicially on the conduct of the campaign. Circumstances have happily not exposed the Indian army to the practical test of war with a European power, and the system

has escaped criticism from outside. Under these circumstances I would urge on your Excellency's Government the immediate consideration of the question."

It will be seen, however, that, Lord Curzon very successfully met every argument of Lord Kitchener. He pointed out that, the Viceroy was absolutely in need of two military advisers, namely, the Commander-in-Chief and the Military Member; and that the abolition of the latter and the bestowal of absolute powers upon the Commander-in-Chief would mean a disaster the magnitude of which cannot be estimated. He then described the inevitable results of Lord Kitchener's scheme in these words:—

"In paragraph 12 of his Minute Lord Kitchener explains that he would transfer to the Commander-in-Chief the whole of the services (transport, remounts, food, clothing, armaments and munitions of war) now under the Military Member. In paragraphs 27 to 30 he sketches in outline his new scheme of administration. The Military Department has now entirely disappeared. There stands forth as the supreme head of the substituted organisation the Commander-in-Chief and the War member of Council. Every branch of the service and every Military Department of Government will be subordinate to him. Every officer will look to him alone for orders, for prospects, and for promotion. The Advisory Council who are to co-operate with him will be a council not of colleagues or equals, but of subordinates. The Commander-in-Chief will not only be the source of all initiative, but the sole instrument of execution. No curb of any sort will exist upon his authority, except such as is supplied by the check in financial matters of the Financial Department, and the final authority in cases requiring the sanction of the Government of India, and these ostensible safeguards will be of little avail since the Government will be left without the expert assistance and advice which are essential to render them effective."

The following extract from Lord Curzon's Minute will show how strongly he feels on the subject:—

"In the interests of my successors no less than of myself I deprecate a change that would throw upon the Viceroy a responsibility which the head of the Government ought not to be asked to assume. In any case it must immediately aggravate his anxiety and labours. If he were a strong Viceroy he would incur the risk of finding himself in conflict with his Commander-in-Chief. If he were a weak Viceroy he would be the tool of the latter, and military considerations would tend to sway the counsels of the Government and to disperse the revenues of the State."

And His Excellency goes on to say:—

"If this is the condition of affairs in times of peace, I view with even greater alarm the probable consequence in times of war. The Commander-in-Chief has avowedly propounded his plan in order to enable the Government of India to cope with that grave emergency, and he has told us that he would shrink from conducting war without it. The importance of this statement I should be the last to minimize; but if His Excellency regards the prospect of a campaign from a military point of view, equally am I compelled to regard it from the point of view of the Government of India. It is the Government, and its head in particular, even more than the Commander-in-Chief, who would be held responsible for success or for failure, and no deference to military advice could exonerate the remainder of the Government if they were to accept a scheme with their eyes open which they conscientiously believed would break down in the hour of trial. I cannot conceive that any Viceroy would consent to conduct a great campaign against a European foe with the machinery that is offered him by the Commander-in-Chief."

But all these pearls were thrown in vain. They had no effect upon the Secretary of State. Lord Curzon was ruthlessly thrown overboard, and his loyal and faithful Military Member actually sacrificed. This is the universal opinion in India. The result of Mr. Brodrick's action, says the "Pioneer," "is that Lord Curzon has sustained a defeat which there is no minimizing. We doubt if there is any instance since the Government came under the Crown of a Viceroy and his entire Council being defeated by a single member on a question of the first magnitude, with every circumstance that can advertise and emphasise the invidiousness of the defeat. It is not for us to-day to attempt to estimate in detail the consequences that will follow from the issue of this notable encounter, but it may be said at once that all the ground that Lord Curzon has gained by his reconstitution and extension of the Council is of much less consequence than that which he has lost in this collision. It is idle to minimise the situation. The Government had brought up their last reserves against the Commander-in-Chief's proposals. In language of the strongest conviction they have called them subversive, unconstitutional and dangerous. Nevertheless they have been overborne, and from a defeat so decisive it is obvious that grave results must follow. Probably the army will find them very different in the long run from what in the moment of triumph it jubilantly expects."

Lord Curzon and the members of his Government, after having been thus wantonly humiliated, are now asked to help Lord Kitchener in giving effect to his scheme! This is adding insult to injury. But how can they do it without sacrificing their honest conviction and sense of honour? Fancy the position! Lord Curzon and his colleagues not only condemn the scheme of Lord Kitchener, but they declare, in unequivocal language, that they cannot conscientiously help a transaction which, in their opinion, is fraught with the direst mischief possible. And yet, pressure is being put upon them to give effect to proposals which they hate!

May we enquire again, what other course, after this deliberate insult, is left to Lord Curzon than to tender his resignation? Surely his Excellency can not give effect to a scheme which he has so strongly condemned, without compromising himself hopelessly. And as all the changes proposed must be brought into operation by October next, so we do not see how can Lord Curzon avoid this disagreeable position without relieving himself of his present position.

Our motives in advising Lord Curzon to resign may be misunderstood and misinterpreted by foul-hearted people. They may say that our object is to get rid of his Excellency. But it is not necessary to make any effort for this purpose, no, not even to pray to God for it. For his Lordship is bound to leave these shores by the end of March next. It may

further be urged that, as his Lordship is extremely unpopular, the insults offered to him have pleased the people here. Yes, it might have pleased some if he had been insulted by going to injure the country. But the contrary is the case. He has been insulted, because, he stood by the Military Member, a subordinate, who had taken a correct view of the situation. For his bold stand for the Empire; for his endeavours to protect the people from ruinous and unnecessary military expenditure, his Lordship has suffered all this humiliation. That being the case, the insults offered to him are regarded as insults offered to the people themselves.

This account of an alleged assault by a Magistrate is thus furnished by a correspondent from Krishnagur:—

"The Magistrate saw a man sleeping. The sight annoyed or enraged him, why, no body can say. Perhaps he felt aggrieved because the sleeping man did not salaam or show any respect to him. Perhaps he was angry with the whole world on account of the heat. What followed I need not describe in detail. Suffice it to say that the person, who is a Mohur of a respectable local Mooktear, filed a petition of complaint before Mr. Abdul Kadir, Deputy Magistrate, charging the boy-Civilian with the offence of assaulting him. Mr. Kadir examined the complainant on oath and then sent the records to the District Magistrate for the disposal of the matter. The Magistrate dismissed the petition of complaint on the ground that the accused had no intention of assaulting the complainant. The matter stands here at present."

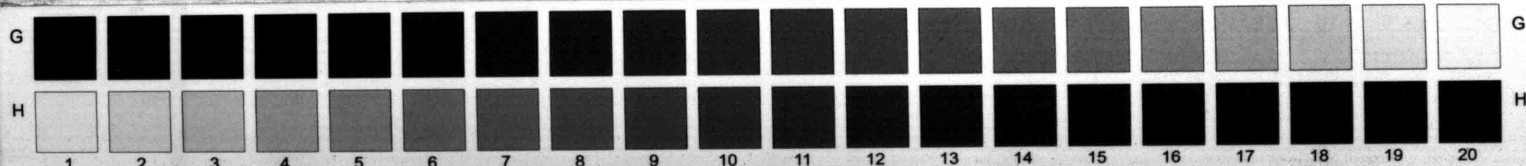
The accused is Mr. Barnicoat, Assistant Magistrate, Krishnagur. The District Magistrate, who tried the case and dismissed it, is well spoken of. He is not only courteous and sympathetic but just-minded. Yet the belief in Krishnagur is that there has been a failure of justice in the case under notice. Sure enough it may be urged with force that the Mohur of a Mooktear would never venture to bring a case of assault against a Civilian Magistrate if he had no good cause for complaint. As for the boy-Magistrate, Mr. Barnicoat, the complaints against him are numerous. He is too young and therefore more fit for kite-flying than any responsible work. It is said of him that his feelings towards the Indians are far from sympathetic and for which no reason can be assigned. It is said that even the sight of an Indian sometimes gives him a shock. A Panwalla has been driven from the Court compound, it is alleged, for this reason. It is further alleged that he can not bear the sight of carriages carrying pleaders and Mooktears to his court. Nay, we are assured he has issued an order on the subject, and there are many other complaints against him of similar nature. He is living with Mr. McBlaine, the District Judge, and this shows he has a friend to restrain him. But we would yet first appeal to the young Magistrate himself to earn the affection of the people by treating them as fellow-beings. We would next appeal to the District Magistrate to look after and control Mr. Barnicoat, whose official superior he is, if the allegations made against him are true. Many or most of these vagaries may be due to the exuberance of his spirits or to his youthful age. But, it should be remembered, as a Magistrate his playfulness may be a source of immense trouble to the people.

It is indeed inexplicable why of all offences the violation of the forest laws should be dealt with so rigorously by the authorities. The severity with which these cases are disposed of in all parts of the country go to prove that the authorities are of one mind in this respect, viz., nothing short of imprisonment of the offenders would satisfy them. We have already shown in these columns several times how rigorously even the most trifling offences under the Forest Act had been disposed of in Khulna, and how even the Government itself was blind as to its own responsibilities in this matter. Our readers are aware that the case is practically the same in Madras also. An Erode correspondent writing to the "Hindu" draws our attention to the following:—

"A hard case was decided yesterday (June 21) by the Tahsildar-Magistrate of Bhavani in the District of Coimbatore. The Forest Ranger charged three persons for having brought from the forest a quantity of bamboos for which it was alleged they had no permits. They are alleged to have brought 1,295 bamboos in two carts driven by the first and second accused (coolie cartmen) and that when asked for the permit, one of the cartmen showed him two permits for 400 each, taken in the name of the third accused who was the servant of a bamboo merchant, who had his bamboo go-down next to the forest thannah. Sometime afterwards a third permit was produced by the third accused who stated that after helping the carts to cross the sand-bed of the river, he lagged behind to quench his thirst. But the Forest Ranger refused to recognize this permit, seized the loaded carts and bulls and kept them in the thannah for the night, but counted the bamboos only next morning. Neither the Ranger nor his witness could say how many bundles of bamboos there were in each of the carts nor how many bamboos each bundle contained. They both stated that they did not keep a record of the counting and did not remember them. The witness would not say even the number of bamboos found in the counting. The accused contended that they had permits to carry 1,200 bamboos and let in evidence to show that the Forest Officer got some 3 or 4 bundles from the go-down, carted into the over-loaded carts in the darkness of the night, and this was let in to explain the excess of 95 bamboos of the value of a few annas. But the accused have been convicted, the coolie cartmen and the merchant's servant in whose name all the permits had been taken, to suffer each five weeks' rigorous imprisonment with an additional fine of fifty rupees. Fancy 15 weeks' total labour for a man, and Rs. 150 are the penalty for the alleged over-carrying of 95 bamboos of the value perhaps of eight annas."

If the people are compelled to hunt after forest produce in spite of the unwarrantable rigors of the forest laws, it is due to their extreme poverty.

The liberals have very little position in England; it is the Tories who generally rule the Empire. And who are the Tories? They are the men of wealth. The lower millions in the Empire complain that they are ruled in the interests of the upper ten





## SCRAPS

Thousands. The members of Parliament are not paid salaries and this prevents many an able Liberal to enter the House. But the lower millions are now coming forward to impart some strength to the Liberal party. Such is the deplorable fact that the Liberals have no penny morning paper in London to represent them, while the Tories have the "Morning Post" the "Standard," and the "Daily Telegraph," all high class journals wealthy enough to purchase all the papers that India possesses. To remove this want a Liberal penny paper is soon to be started. Mr. Franklin Thomasson, son of the late John P. Thomasson, once Liberal member for Bolton, and grandson of Thomas Thomasson, who was one of Cobden's most valued colleagues, has commissioned Mr. William Hill, who has been news editor both of the "Pall Mall Gazette" and the "Westminster Gazette," to produce, at the earliest date consistent with efficiency, a journal of Liberal views which shall possess all the characteristics of a newspaper of the highest class. A company is to be formed with an initial capital of £300,000, and already the title of "Tribune" has been registered. Mr. Thomasson, who is a grand-nephew of John Bright, and grandson of the late Samuel Lucas, once editor of the historic "Morning Star," on which Mr. John Morley began his editorial career, will personally control the policy of the "Tribune." The primary object of the paper will be, in a spirit of reason and free discussion, to co-operate with the forces of Liberalism in widening the area of Liberty, re-distributing radically the economic burdens of empire, and, generally, furthering the principles of Social Justice. If this newspaper tries to redistribute radically the economic burdens of the Empire and furthering the principles of Social Justice it will prove a great friend to India.

SOME of the most representative and independent public men of the different European countries and United States and Canada have joined together to form an international organization of unique character to which they have given the name of "the Potentia organization." Branches have already been established in Paris, New York, London, Berlin and Vienna and an introductory circular issued by its promoters among whom we find such well-known names as Sir Vincent Caillard, M. Jules Claretie of the French Academy, Professors Darwin and Wilhelm Forester, Sir Michael Foster, Comte Goblet d'Alviella, Professor Lombroso, M. Jules Le Jeune and Professor Charles Richet. According to this circular which has reached us by the last mail the object of the society is to establish amongst the nations a mutual relationship and co-operation for the diffusion of accurate information and honest, unbiased opinion concerning international events and movements that affect the welfare and progress and peace of the whole world; and to combat narrow, prejudiced, and often interested views and news that contribute so much to international mistrust and misunderstanding, and that endanger the peace of the world and the progress and prosperity of nations and individuals. The foundation of "the Potentia organization" is based upon a desire for the spread of truth, and of exact knowledge of national and international ideas and actions.

It is proposed to publish throughout the world, through the medium of newspapers and reviews, statements of simple fact and expressions of opinion by the most eminent public men of all nations on all important political, social, philosophical, economic, scientific and artistic questions; to present the absolutely sincere views of the most qualified experts on all current international events, and equally to refute false or biased news and views calculated to spread error and to endanger the peace and progress of the world. In order to accomplish so lofty and useful an undertaking, "the Potentia organization" has been placed under the supervision and control of committees constituted in each country of men representing all shades of opinion, and all spheres of action, united by a common desire to discover and disseminate the truth in a spirit of zeal and honesty. The organization is now commencing operations by the publication of articles from the greatest writers in all countries. There can be no question about the need of such an institution and of all other countries India has much to expect from its efforts in the cause of humanity.

It seems there is a society of "reformers" at Lahore whose object is to hunt Hindu widows and decoy them from the protection of their natural guardians for the purpose of getting them re-married. At least a case has just occurred, proving the existence of such a society, the details of which will be found in a communication reproduced elsewhere from the Lahore "Tribune." It does not matter whether the society of reformers consists of Hindus or Christians; in either case, their action, instead of furthering the cause of their so-called reform will only subvert the very foundation of the Hindu society. Just picture to yourself the terrible situation. Hindu parents or brothers will rather die ten thousand deaths than allow their widowed daughters or sisters to be re-married. This may appear foolish to those who have no objection to marry their own widowed daughters and sisters; all the same, the feeling is there in every Hindu heart. He who tramples down such a sacred sentiment for the purpose of carrying out a so-called reform, is a monster and not a human being. But it is not only on sentimental, but also practical grounds that the re-marriage of Hindu widows by violent means should be strongly deprecated. The members of the family to which the re-married widow belongs practically suffer social death. By following the methods of the so-called reformers of Lahore, the Hindu society may thus be stabbed at its vital point. There is scarcely a Hindu family which has not its widows. If the latter were decoyed and re-married, then the Hindu society will tumble down in no time. The conduct of the Lahore "reformers" cannot thus be too strongly condemned. Judging from the excitement which the incident has naturally caused to the Hindu society at Lahore, we have no doubt that the "reformers" will be long realize the magnitude of the folly they have committed. Needless to say, no Hindu can go through the account of this heart-rending incident without feeling the deepest sympathy for the afflicted parents and pursuing the authors of their miseries.

The dispute between Mr. Fateh Chand, a local zemindar, and the District Judge of Ludhiana has not yet been settled. The petitions made by the former to the Lieutenant-Governor of the province and the Punjab Chief Court praying sanction to prosecute the Judge have all been filed. He has again applied for sanction to sue the Judge under section 219, I. P. C. For ourselves, we fail to understand why the Government is denying an enquiry into the allegations brought by Mr. Fateh Chand against a public officer. Such an enquiry ought to be held both for the interest of the Government as also of the officer against whom imputations were made. The Government ought either to accord the sanction asked for or prosecute the applicant for bringing false and malicious charges against a responsible officer of the Government.

We have received a communication from a reliable source in which the grievances of officers serving in the cash department of the East Indian Railway are stated. We are told that since the department came under the Chief Auditor and Treasurer the hardship of the employees in that department began. Whenever a vacancy occurs it is invariably given to a favourite or relation of the Treasurer. No outsider can expect a day's holiday and they are made to attend office at 9-30 and work till 7 in the evening. But the favourites of the officer in charge can absent themselves even without notice and they are privileged to attend office at 12 a.m. This is not all. We are told that some employees in this department carry on trade with the company's money. We have also received specific instances in which vacancies in the department were filled in by the relatives of officers and thus there is little or no chance for subordinate employees in getting promotion.

A POLICE inquiry of sensational nature is going on at Samastipur (Dist. Durbhanga) regarding an assault case, the accused being no other than the local Subdivisional Officer himself. The facts of the case are alleged to be these: On the 22nd inst., an engine driver of the B. N. W. Ry., by name Davis, was going to bazar to make some purchases. The man met on the way one Behari Lal Pal whom he owed some money. Behari demanded his due from Davis, the result being that an altercation ensued between the parties. It so happened that the Subdivisional Officer was riding along the same road to inspect the Municipal Office. Davis sought his protection; whereupon the Magistrate got down from his horse and is alleged to have severely whipped Behari with his horse-whip. Behari instantly lodged a complaint to that effect before the Collector of Durbhanga by wire through a pleader. The Collector asked the Police for local investigation. Police Inspector Babu Mohesh Chandra Pal has been holding the enquiry.

It seems the apprentices in the Nadia Judge's office have a just grievance if what a correspondent says be true. Among them there are several unsuccessful B. A.'s and during their probationary period they get no remuneration. They are there in the hope that whenever a vacancy will occur they will be provided. But they were sorely disappointed when they found that an outsider from distant Assam was brought in to fill up the post of Sheristadsharip that fell vacant sometime ago. They expected that some one from the district staff would get the appointment and there would be a general promotion, making the last room vacant for an apprenticeship. But no, that was not to be. Nepotism must reign supreme. Next a post in the copying Department was similarly bestowed on another outsider to the exclusion of deserving apprentices. Quite recently a vacancy occurred in the Record Room and it was temporarily filled in by an apprentice; but he was soon asked to make room for the son of a high ministerial officer. Favouritism reigns supreme here in the matter of bestowing appointments and we would beg to draw the attention of the District Judge to it.

The Government of Bengal has now definitely decided to restrict the present system of manufacture and supply of country spirit to the more primitive parts of the Province and to encourage the establishment of large distilleries equipped with modern appliances in order that consumers may be supplied with spirit free from impurities. It is hoped that the waste products of the sugar manufactories will thus be utilised to better advantage, and that the dried flower of the mohua tree, which contains a large proportion of the fermentable sugar and which forms the principal wealth of the aboriginal inhabitants of the province, may be turned to good account in the production of alcohol, the demand for which in connection with technical purposes promises soon to create a new and thriving industry. The province can offer an inexhaustible supply of cheap raw material. Molasses, mahua, cassava, and grain are obtainable in abundance. An industrial demand has not yet sprung up in this country; but at the lowest estimate twenty two lakhs of gallons of London-Proof spirit are consumed in Bengal and the supply of this demand should suffice to give a very fair return on the capital required to establish several large distilleries. Hygienic and economic considerations demand a pure spirit produced at a high strength. The Excise authorities are prepared to favourably consider applications for licenses to establish distilleries suitable for the production of a potable spirit acceptable to the public taste and more wholesome than that now produced by crude native methods. It is not proposed to license more than would suffice to supply the existing demand. Contracts would be given for the exclusive right to supply to a given area. Thus ruinous competition among distillers would be discouraged, whilst the possibility of a combination among them to unduly force up prices would be guarded against. A start has already been made in this direction by supplying Orissa and Midnapore with molasses spirit from the Rosa distillery and contracts have been made with a view to extending the system from next year to the whole of the Burdwan Division and part of Chota Nagpur. There appears to be a dearth of local enterprise in this matter, and the existing distilleries in Madras and the United Provinces will capture the bulk of what promises to be a lucrative business in country spirit, unless local Capitalists begin themselves.

## ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, June 9.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.  
"Justice is truth in action."—Joubert.  
THE INDIAN BUDGET: "AN EARLY DAY."

The unexpected has happened; the discussion in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget is fixed for Wednesday, June 21, the day after the House reassembles after the Whitetide recess. The date fixed happens to fall on the longest day in the year. Is it an omen, one wonders, of a lengthy and spirited debate at Westminster? Let us hope so. There is evidence that more and more interest in matters Indian is being aroused in the House of Commons. New names, as enquirers on Indian questions, appear from time to time on the Order Paper of the House, and it is Mr. Cathcart Wason, "Giant Wason" as the worthy Scotch member, representing a far-north constituency, is dubbed by some of his friends owing to his tallness of stature, who has obtained priority in the ballot for a motion on Indian affairs when the Budget is discussed. Mr. Wason has not hitherto shown any marked interest in Indian questions, but perhaps his success in the ballot will lead to a deepening of his sense of responsibility, as a Member of the House, with regard to the condition of the Indian Empire. One of the most genial of men, and a tower of strength, literally as well as morally, in any action to which he devotes himself, he will be a most able recruit to the small band of members who keep Indian questions alive at Westminster.

The proposal which Mr. Wason intends to submit to the House is revolutionary and wide in its application—revolutionary, I mean, in contrast to stereotyped custom. Here are the exact words:

"Considering the importance of Indian questions and the desire of the Indian people to lay their grievances before Parliament and to ask for improvement in the administration of their country, it is necessary, in the interest alike of India and the United Kingdom, that periodical Parliamentary enquiries into the administration of India be revived, that the salary of the Secretary of State for India be placed upon the British Estimates, and that greater opportunities be given for the Parliamentary discussion of Indian affairs."

It will be interesting to see how these startling proposals are received in the House, especially on the front Government Bench. To discuss the question of periodical enquiry, such as took place before such renewal of the old East India Company's charter, will be brought into prominence a reform strongly advocated by Sir William Wedderburn in the interests of the people of India. But the India Office is not easily moved towards innovations, even when they are revivals of former customs; yet some good may come of the bold suggestion. No Indian reader must be misled by the phrase, "that the salary of the Secretary of State for India be placed on the British Estimates." It does not mean that the Imperial Treasury will be asked to pay the salary; it simply means that opportunities would in this way be afforded for bringing forward Indian matters of importance in the discussions that take place when the huge sums for British Estimates are voted. As it is Indian finance is really beyond the authority of the House of Commons; the Indian Government and the India Council follow their own sweet wills in this respect. But if Indian finance were subjected to the scrutiny and criticism that are brought to bear on the British Estimates—or used to be, until Mr. Balfour's conduct of the House has introduced the guillotine, which chops off discussion at an appointed time and carries the vote. But as regards Indian expenditure, if the proposal were to be adopted, it would no longer be possible to spring Tibet Missions and the like upon the House when it is too late to do anything but protest and consent. It is not to be expected that under the present Government Mr. Cathcart Wason's motion will be carried, but it is well to familiarise the House with a measure of justice that is due to India, and the motion will help forward the cause of progress and reform.

On one point there is cause of gratification, and that is the early day that has been allotted. India in June at Westminster is unheard of to the majority of members now in the House, and no small credit is due to Mr. Herbert Roberts for his efforts to save the Indian debate from being pushed to the far end of the session when every one is anxious to get away to the mountains or the sea. Mr. Roberts has been supported in his efforts by all the Members who sympathise with India, and in granting June 21, the Prime Minister has rendered a slight measure of justice to India. In these days India has to be thankful for small mercies.

It will, no doubt, be of interest to readers of the "Patrika" to know the terms of the other motions which stand on the Order Paper of the House of Commons to be brought forward on June 21, when, in parliamentary parlance, "the House goes into Committee on East India Revenue Accounts." They are as follows:

Mr. Dalziel.—To call attention to the position of the Government of India towards fiscal reform.

Mr. Mancherjee Bhownagree.—To move, That this House regards with disapproval the degrading and harsh measures adopted in respect of His Majesty's Indian subjects in several of the British Colonies, notably in South Africa, considers them to be inconsistent with the reasonable claims of the people of India as subjects of the British Empire to fair treatment, and is of opinion that the Government of India should adopt every means within its power to protect the rights and interests of the people of India in all parts of the British Dominions, and invoke the intervention of the Imperial Government to that end.

Mr. Herbert Roberts.—To call attention to the question of Indian expenditure.

Mr. Joseph Walton.—To call attention to the condition of the Indian people and to the necessity for greater opportunities for Parliamentary discussion of Indian affairs.

Sir Walter Foster.—To call attention to the increasing prevalence of plague in India.

It only remains to be added that if all these important topics are adequately discussed, India will certainly require the longest day of the year, and the debate of 1905 will be memorable in her annals.

## SOME ANSWERS TO INDIAN QUESTIONS.

PLAGUE IN INDIA.  
Although a short week—the House rose for the Whitetide recess yesterday—some important answers have been given to questions relating to India. One of them was in reply to Mr. Field's enquiry as to what steps were being taken by the Government of India to prevent the spread of plague.

Mr. Brodric's reply was a lengthy one. It was in the following terms: "I am aware of the lamentable mortality from plague indicated by the figures quoted by the hon. Member. The Government of India is endeavouring, while necessarily respecting the feelings and prejudices of the people, to assist them by every possible means to help themselves, and to bring within their reach all material means to that end. It is promoting, in the matter of prevention, the more efficient sanitation and cleansing of towns and villages, the destruction of rats and mice, and the means of inoculation. It is enlisting and organising unofficial help by the formation of Health and Charitable Committees, and has defined the duties of Municipalities and other similar bodies in respect of giving intelligence, of providing hospitals and free sites for camps, and of securing homeless wayfarers. On the occasion of any outbreak of plague, it encourages and, through its medical and administrative officers, assists the residents to disinfect their houses and property, to isolate the sick to destroy infected materials, and to evacuate plague-stricken dwellings and sites. It gives compensation for loss of property to the poor, and assist them to rehouse themselves. It maintains laboratories for the preparation of fluid for inoculation, and for the systematic study and diagnosis of the disease; and it has placed at the disposal of an Advisory Committee of the highest authority in this country a grant of money for meeting the expenses of scientific expedition which is now carrying out further plague investigations in India. Mr. Brodric, by the way does not lengthen his answer by referring to the severe criticisms that have been made on the formation and methods of the present scientific expedition; nor does he add that the expense of what is being done in various ways is met by the suffering people themselves."

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.  
Sir Charles Dilke, on Wednesday last, asked the Secretary of State for India at what stations it is proposed to spend the 10 lakhs on extra land for troops, additional to the 22 lakhs for barracks and the 7 lakhs for hutting taken in the Budget in connection with Lord Kitchener's redistribution scheme.

Mr. Brodric replied that the Government of India have recently reported that no details of this expenditure can be furnished, as the programme of redistribution has not yet been finally determined on.

## THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA.

Mr. Buchanan on Wednesday last, asked the Secretary of State whether it was proposed to make any alteration in the constitution of the Viceroy's Council, or to modify in any respect the powers of the Commander-in-Chief, or the Military Member of Council.

The Secretary for India replied in the following terms: "The question of the powers and responsibilities of the Commander-in-Chief in India and of the member of the Governor-General's Council in charge of the Military Department has recently been under the consideration of His Majesty's Government. I am unable to make any statement on the subject at present, but I propose to lay Papers on the Table very shortly."

This reply gives support to the report that has been circulated in the press, this week that the Cabinet has reached a settlement on this question; it is understood that there was a serious difference of opinion with regard to it, but that the decision will be satisfactory to Lord Kitchener.

## EARTHQUAKE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Sir Seymour King, asked the Secretary of State for India last Tuesday whether, in view of the fact that the Home subscriptions to the Viceroy's General Earthquake Fund have not yet reached the sum of £5,000, he will consider the advisability of issuing a special appeal to the British public for further help.

In reply, Mr. Brodric said: "The nature of the appeal to be made was decided on the recommendation of the Governor General, and public attention has been repeatedly called to the fund. I fear that there would be no advantage at this stage in taking further measures. The list of subscriptions remains open, and I trust that additional contributions may be received."

It is disgrace to Great Britain that as yet only so small a sum has been subscribed to the relief of the distress caused by the earthquake. Although the Viceroy declined the offer of the establishment of a Mansion House Fund, which would have banded city men together to help, the response to his own appeal has been far from satisfactory. It remains to be seen whether a more generous response will be made.

## LORD KITCHENER'S PROPOSAL.

Mr. Buchanan asked another question with regard to the Kitchener agitation. He wanted to know whether the Secretary of State for India, before the Indian Budget comes on, would issue to Members of Parliament Papers containing the full proposals of Lord Kitchener as regard army organisation in India, distinguishing those which are still under discussion, also Correspondence that has passed on the subject, between the Government of India and the Secretary of State.

Mr. Brodric's reply was as follows: "I am not in a position to lay upon the Table the Papers asked for by the hon. Member for East Perth. Some of the proposals made by Lord Kitchener are still in an incomplete stage, and the details are not of a character which it would be advantageous to disclose. In the discussion of the financial Statement for 1905-6 in the Council of the Governor-General of India, the Member in charge of the Military Department, said with regard to this: 'It will be understood that in questions affecting mobilisation the military authorities are unwilling to publish more details than is absolutely necessary, and the members of this Council will not, I am sure, press us for information which it is undesirable to give.'"

For the reassembling day Sir Mancherjee has an important question on the Paper regarding the reduction of the royalty paid by the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company; and Mr. Weir one on evictions in Madras.

On 31st May last Munshi Gokul Prasad the president of the Kayastha Panchayat of Allahabad, offered the good will of the "Hindustan Review" with its assets and liabilities to Mr. S. Sinha from the 1st of July next and Mr. Sinha accepted it. With its July issue the "Review" will cease to have any connection with the Panchayat and it will form Mr. Sinha's own property. The proposed magazine, the "New Hindustan Review," will not now appear before the public.

## High Court.—June 27.

## CRIMINAL BENCH.

(Before Justice Pargiter and Woodroffe.)

## THE RUNGPUR STUDENTS' CASE.

## THE CASE TRANSFERRED.

Mr. J. Banerjee appeared in support of a rule obtained on behalf of Sobha Chand Das and three other students on the Magistrate of Rungpur to show cause why the case pending against the petitioners should not be transferred to Bogra or some other district.

On 14th April last Mr. R. S. Finlow complained to Mr. T. Emerson, District Magistrate of Rungpur alleging that as he was driving to the railway station from the Dak Bungalow he was stopped and beaten by some school boys. The Magistrate ordered a police enquiry and the police sent up the petitioners for trial under sections 147 and 148 I. P. C. The Superintendent of the Technical School then went to the District Magistrate to try and persuade him to drop the proceedings and to hand over the boys to the school authorities, but the Magistrate did not consent to that proposal and "expressed a very strong sentiment to the effect that exemplary punishment should be meted out to the petitioners. On 17th April the date fixed for the hearing of the case Mr. Finlow went over to the Bungalow of the District Magistrate and there stayed about 6 hours and had dined with him.

The rule was granted on the grounds that the Magistrate having expressed a very strong sentiment he should not try the case in the interest of justice and that it was expedient for the ends of justice that the case should be transferred to some other district.

Counsel said that there were three allegations against the Magistrate and the Magistrate in his explanation admitted all of them except one. The first allegation was that the Magistrate expressed a very strong sentiment to the effect that exemplary punishment should be meted out to the accused. The Magistrate admitted that the Superintendent of the Technical School went over to him and requested him to drop the criminal case and leave the case to the school authorities. The Magistrate in his explanation said that it was not true that he said that he would give any exemplary punishment. He only informed the Superintendent that the complaint was one of rioting and wounding and for too serious for departmental action and it would be open to Mr. Finlow in court, in case of conviction to ask for a lenient sentence if he wished. Counsel said that though the Magistrate denied it there was the affidavit of a respectable gentleman. Mr. Justice Pargiter remarked that he was not bound to accept the affidavit against the Magistrate.

Counsel next said that the Magistrate, though he said in his explanation that the second allegation to that Mr. Finlow came over to him and stayed at his place for 6 hours was false, in fact admitted all. He said that Mr. Finlow went over to the Magistrate's Bungalow on the 17th April last at tea time to discuss on the work of Agriculture. The Magistrate and Mr. Finlow then both went to the club and after returning to the Bungalow dined together. Counsel said that the Magistrate himself admitted that the complainant saw him and dined with him.

Mr. Justice Pargiter.—The Magistrate says that Mr. Finlow is eager to settle the case, why don't you settle it.

Counsel.—It is not my fault. The Magistrate had himself said that the offence was non-compoundable.

Mr. Justice Woodroffe then delivered the following judgment:—

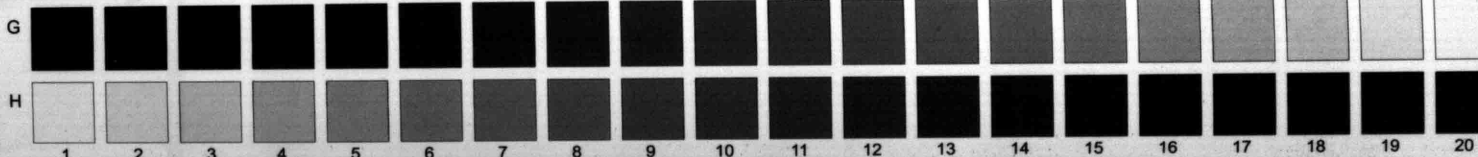
"This case will be transferred to the District Magistrate of Dinajpur. The grounds upon which the application for transfer was made are directed against the Magistrate. Without going into the question, we think it right to say that in ordering this transfer we do not in any sense accept the truth of those charges."

## FORGERY BY A CANDIDATE.

On 26th March last one Bhowani Dyal Sing presented an application for a Sub-Inspectorship of Police to Mr. Harris, District Magistrate of Shahabad. Mr. Harris suspected that two of the certificates on the application were not genuine. The certificates were said to be signed by Mr. R. H. Whitwell, Civil Surgeon of Patna and by Mr. W. R. Bright, Opium Agent, Behar, respectively. There were several mistakes in the certificates. Mr. Harris told Bhowani that he did not think the certificates were genuine and that he would enquire and told him to come again on Tuesday. Mr. Harris sent the application to Col. Whitwell by post with a letter and received it back by post with the remarks signed by Dr. Whitwell and Mr. Bright to the effect that they did not write those certificates. Mr. Harris then prosecuted Bhowani Dyal with the result that he was convicted of forgery by a Deputy Magistrate of Arrah and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 60. This did not seem proper punishment by the Magistrate of Shahabad. Mr. Harris' successor, and he referred the case to the High Court recommending that a sentence of imprisonment should be passed for the ends of justice. A rule was also issued on Bhowani Dyal and the Magistrate to show cause why the sentence of fine of Rs. 60 should not be enhanced or altered to one of imprisonment.

Both the rule and the reference came on for hearing to-day. Mr. Cotton appeared on behalf of Bhowani Dyal and there was also an explanation from the trying, Deputy Magistrate. In his explanation the Deputy Magistrate said:—"It is a case of technical forgery and the accused is not a professional forger. His youth and circumstances of life were also considered by me in awarding the sentence. There was no reason for awarding an exemplary punishment in the case. The accused admitted the facts and appeared to me to be deserving of mercy. To send a young man who has not yet attained the full maturity of manhood would be to ruin him. The father of the accused is a peon and his income is probably about Rs. 10 a month. So the fine represents 6 months' income of the family."

Mr. Cotton submitted that the accused was not a professional forger. His action showed that he was more a fool than a forger. He believed that his application would be accepted by the Magistrate which contained so many mistakes in the certificates. There was no attempt on his part to avoid punishment. He was told by Mr. Harris that he suspected the certificates and asked him to appear before him on a certain date. He could have





easily made himself scarce, but he did nothing of the kind. He appeared before the Magistrate and admitted everything before the trying Magistrate. Counsel asked their lordships to take into consideration all those facts and allow the conviction to stand.

Their Lordships however thought the sentence passed by the Deputy Magistrate on the accused to be inadequate and sentenced him to six months' imprisonment in lieu of the sentence passed on him.

#### A RULE GRANTED.

Babu Atulya Chandra Bose moved on behalf of one Jadub Chandra Guha for a rule calling upon the District Magistrate of Pubna to show cause why the order of the Sessions Judge granting a further enquiry into the complaint lodged by one Durusutulla Meah, before the Deputy Magistrate of Pubna should not be set aside. The facts of the case are briefly these: On the 11th of February last the complainant abovenamed lodged a complaint before the Deputy Magistrate in charge of District Pubna. That the petitioner came to his house accompanied by eight men armed with lathis and seized and forcibly carried him to the petitioner's house where he was kept till he paid the petitioner Rs. 25 to procure his release. On receipt of the complaint the said Deputy Magistrate Mouli Eskindar Ali examined the complainant and after examining him made over the case to Babu Lal Behary Das, Deputy Magistrate, possessing first-class powers for trial. The said Deputy Magistrate examined the complainant and all the witnesses adduced in support of the prosecution and after a careful and elaborate trial discharged the petitioner. Against the said order of discharge the complainant moved the District and Sessions Judge of Pubna who without issuing any notice to the petitioner and in his absence ordered a further enquiry into the matter. Babu Atulya Ch. Bose contended in the first place that the learned Sessions Judge had not assigned solid and substantial reasons within the meaning of the Full Bench decision reported in I.L.R. 15 Cal. for ordering a further enquiry into the complaint of the opposite party, secondly that the Deputy Magistrate who tried the case having after a due and careful enquiry discharged the petitioner, the learned Sessions Judge should not have without any cogent reason directed a further enquiry into the case of the petitioner who had been discharged by a competent Magistrate and thirdly that the said order of the learned Sessions Judge was liable to be set aside as it was passed without any notice to and in the absence of the petitioner.

Their Lordships granted a rule and ordered further proceedings to be meanwhile stayed.

#### ALLEGED PREFERRING A FALSE CHARGE.

Babu Debendra Nath Mullick appeared in support of a rule obtained on behalf of one Romanand Singh upon the District Magistrate of Alipur to show cause why the sanction granted under section 195 Cr. P. C. to prosecute the petitioner should not be set aside on the ground that the order was improper. The petitioner charged one Moula Sheikh under section 352 I. P. C. before the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Barrackpur. The case was tried by an Honorary Magistrate who convicted Moula Sheikh and sentenced him to one month's imprisonment and fine. Moula Sheikh preferred an appeal before the Joint-Magistrate of Alipur who acquitted him. Moula Sheikh then applied to the Sub-divisional Magistrate of Barrackpur for sanction to prosecute the petitioner under section 211 I. P. C., but the application was rejected. He then applied before the Joint-Magistrate of Alipur who issued a notice on the petitioner to show cause why sanction should not be granted. In the meantime the Joint Magistrate was transferred and the District Magistrate who heard the matter, granted sanction.

Learned Vakils said that the District Magistrate ought to have held that the Joint Magistrate erred in entertaining the petition under section 195 Cr. P. C., and that it was only when the complainant could satisfy the Court that the ends of justice required a prosecution and that there was a strong "prima facie" case against the accused that sanction should be granted.

Their Lordships made the rule absolute.

#### ORIGINAL S.I. 3.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sale.)

#### SUIT FOR DAMAGES.

CHARLES PARK-HOUSE BAKER vs. MONI LAL DUTT.

Mr. V. Chakraverty and Mr. B. C. Mitter instructed Messrs Fox and Mondal appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. A. Chowdhury and Mr. Evans Pugh instructed by Messrs Leslie and Hinds appeared for the defendant.

This was a suit brought by the plaintiff for the recovery of Rs. 19500 as damages from the defendant for breach of agreement to let a house in Calcutta, being premises No. 3 Hoomayun Place.

The plaintiff in this case is a photographer and carries on business under the name of Messrs. C. Vandic and Co. He was occupying house No. 19-1 Chowringhee. After having obtained an agreement from the defendant the plaintiff gave notice to quit premises No. 21 Chowringhee. Thereafter the plaintiff could not get the house; consequently he had to remove his business at No. 1 Ripon Street. The removal of the plaintiff's business from No. 19-1 Chowringhee to No. 1 Ripon Street had made the business suffer very much and receipts had fallen off considerably.

The case is proceeding.

A novel point was argued before the Chief Judge, Rangoon, on the 23rd by Mr. Pennell. The point arose out of a criminal case before the District Magistrate of Rangoon. The accused, a Police Inspector, was being tried on charges of wrongful confinement and fabricating false evidence. On the 18th ultimo the charges were framed and last Friday was fixed for the hearing. After the examination of the first witness for the defence Mr. McDonnell, the Assistant Government Advocate, applied to be allowed to reserve the cross-examination of the witness until all the defence witnesses had been examined, on the ground that he wanted to examine all the witnesses on the same day. Mr. Pennell objected on the ground that he had never heard of such procedure in the whole of his eighteen years' experience. The Magistrate considered Mr. McDonnell's application reasonable and gave Mr. Pennell until the 26th June to make application before the Chief Judge to revise the order.

#### Calcutta and Mofussil.

Justice Harrington.—Mr. Justice Harrington, Calcutta High Court, has been granted one month's leave from the 1st August.

Civil Procedure Code.—It is understood that the revision and consolidation of the Civil Procedure Code will engage the attention of the Legislative Department next year.

Legislative Secretary.—Mr. Macpherson, Secretary in the Legislative Department, proceeds on three months' leave in the middle of August, Mr. Cardiff officiating for him.

Plague.—There were five cases and the same number of deaths from plague in the city on Monday, the 26th instant, when the total mortality from all causes was 39 against a quinquennial average of 58.

The Royal Visit.—We understand that the public meeting convened in connection with the Royal visit to Calcutta has been postponed to Friday the 7th July at 5 p.m. owing to prevailing weather conditions.

Board of Revenue.—Mr. J. T. Rank, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is appointed to act as Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. Wheeler. Mr. H. F. Samman, Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, is allowed combined leave for one year.

Alipore District Judgeship.—On Tuesday, Mr. Holmwood, who lately officiated as a Judge of High Court, Bengal took over charge from Mr. R. R. Pope, the officiating District Judge of Alipore. The latter took over the charge of the criminal sessions from Mr. Cox, who is going to join his post as District Judge, Arrah.

Robbery and Unlawful Detention.—The "Jyoti" of Chittagong writes: A "demi monde" while repairing to her house from the Club House was caught hold of by some men, robbed of her ornaments and deported to a remote place whence she managed to escape, return to the town and report the matter to the authorities. A Deputy Magistrate recorded her deposition and issued warrants against the accused, one of whom is now under Police custody.

Disposition of Benches.—The following disposition of the High Court Benches will take effect from Monday, the 3rd July: (a) Presidency Group and Patna Group: Justices Mitra and Casper. (b) Rajshahi Group: Justices Ghose and Geidt. (c) Burdwan Group: Justices Pratt and Pargiter. (d) Criminal Bench: Justices Rampini and Mukerjee. (e) Original Sides: Justices Henderson, Boddily and Woodroffe. (f) Original Side appeals and Privy Council appeals: The Chief Justice and Justices Sale and Harrington.

Educational.—Maulvi Kamaluddin Ahmad M.A., substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collector. Hooghly, is appointed substantively pro tempore to class VIII of the Provincial Educational Service, and to be Superintendent of the Chittagong Madrassah with effect from the 20th July 1905, vice Maulvi Muhammad Yakub, about to retire. Maulvi Mohammed Azimul Huj, M.A. Head Master, Patna City School (class II of the Subordinate Educational Service), is appointed to class VII of the Provincial Educational Service and to be Head Master of the Hooghly Collegiate school.

Alleged Forcible Abduction.—The "Dacca-Prakash" reports that one Nabin Das Bairagi of Gobindpur, Nawabganje, lives with a woman named Bimala, as husband and wife. They have an issue—a female child. Now one Mohan Basi Mondal took fancy to Bimala and tried to induce her repeatedly to run away with him. The woman demurred; but one day during the temporary absence of Nabin from home Mohan Basi and another entered his house and forcibly took away Bimala and her daughter. On his return home Nabin came to know of the matter and he at once rescued Bimala with the help of a Chowkidar. Such is the purport of Bimala's complaint. The case is under trial.

A Darjeeling Sensation.—A correspondent writes from Darjeeling:—A medical man of Calcutta, now on a visit to Darjeeling, was on the 23rd instant placed before Captain Power, an Honorary Magistrate and Justice of the Peace, by the local Police at the instance of the Curator of Lloyd's Botanical Garden, Darjeeling, on a charge of theft. Briefly stated the facts of the case are as follows: the medical man was alleged to have plucked a flower from a small tub in the glasshouse inside the garden. When he was going out the "Malee" found it in his button-hole and took him to his master on suspicion. The Curator sent him over to the Police and instituted this case. The "Malee" could not say that he saw the doctor pluck the flower with his own eyes nor was there any other eye-witness to the fact. Hence the Magistrate dismissed the case.

A Big Civil Suit.—A suit was filed the other day before the third court of the Subordinate Judges of Patna by Babu Chandreswar Prasad Narayan Singh of Chainpur against Rani Sham Krishna and others, bankers of Benares and holders of a mortgage decree of about fifteen lacs of rupees against the Makshudpur Raj estate. The decree was passed during the lifetime of the late Raja Rameswar Prasad Narayan Singh and was executed from time to time during the last three years after the Raja's death against his widow Rani Sundar Kuer but the various objections of the judgment-debtor caused the sale to be adjourned till now. Sometime after the Raja's death Babu Chandreswar Prasad was made a party to the execution proceedings on his application. But as circumstances have changed with the passing of the decree by the District Judge of Patna in the title suit in favor of the Babu against Rani Sundar Kuer, the former has now brought a regular suit to set aside the alienation of the late Raja in favor of the decree-holders on the ground that the Raj properties are impartible and inalienable and applied for an injunction to stay the sale of the mortgaged properties under the decree till the disposal of the suit. A petition was also filed by him before the District Judge to get the case transferred to his file from that of the Sub-Judge. Both these petitions were heard on Friday last when Mr. S. P. Sinha Standing Counsel of the Calcutta High Court, appeared to oppose them on behalf of the decree-holders. Babu Chandreswar Prasad was represented by Mr. Hassan Imam, bar-at-law. The petition for transfer of the case was rejected by the District Judge after both parties were heard. The matter of injunction was eloquently argued at length by Mr. S. P. Sinha as well as by Mr. Hassan Imam. The Sub-Judge passed his order the next day granting an injunction to stay the sale. (Bihar Herald.)

Assault Charge against a European.—Mohi Patra asked Mr. D. H. Kingsford, I.O.S., for a summons for assault against Mr. Charles Brown, of 9, Mango Lane, for an alleged assault. Complainant stated that whilst he was having an altercation with a newspaper vendor accused came out and struck him. His Worship ordered complainant to bring witnesses.

Recall of an Objectionable Order.—Mr. R. R. Pope, the Officiating District and Sessions Judge of Alipore, had recently issued an order prohibiting third-class carriages from entering the Court compound. This restriction had caused great hardship to the public, especially in these days of excessive heat. A representation was made by the members of the Alipore Bar and as the result the District Judge has withdrawn the prohibition.

Retirement of Mr. Badshah.—It is stood that Mr. K. J. Badshah, I. C. S., has decided to retire from the service with effect from 1st July next. It is probable that Mr. Badshah will apply himself to home politics, for which he has always exhibited a strong inclination, and may possibly be found among the Liberal Parliamentary candidates should the General Election be postponed until next year. His many friends will wish him all success in the arduous career to which he aspires.

Railway Earnings.—Indian railway earnings this year had fair to exceed those of last year, which were themselves a record. The returns published for the period from the 1st April to the 10th instant show an excess of some twenty lakhs of rupees over those of the corresponding period last year. The increase is almost entirely due to increased traffic upon the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, which is ahead by sixteen lakhs of rupees, the East Indian, which competes with it, having fallen behind by eleven lakhs. The Great Indian Peninsula is ahead by five lakhs, the Rajputana-Malwa by four lakhs, and the Madras Railway by three lakhs.

Inventions and Designs.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed:—The William Matthew Ducker, manufacturer, of 277, Broadway, New York, improvements in and relating to portable houses; Frank Edmund Wilsland, tea planter, of Lahol P. O., Dibrugarh, Assam, improvements in tea boxes and the like; William Samuel Morley, retired officer of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department, and George Hamilton, mechanic, both of Myrtle Lodge, Lower Lines, Chunar, non-conducting or heat resisting roofing-tiles, slabs, and bricks; John Wills Cloud, engineer, of No. 82, York Street, King's Cross London, improvements in rail joints for railways; Daniel Hall, manufacturer, of the city of Lowell, State of Massachusetts, a cotton gin.

Sir Edmund Elles's Successor.—Nothing has yet transpired at Simla as to the successor of Sir Edmund Elles, or rather the new Member who will have charge of the Department of Military Supply, but our own Special Correspondent in London, as will be seen, reports the appointment of Sir E. Barrow. Though it is true that, according to Mr. Brodriek the appointment need not necessarily go to a military officer, yet as one of his qualifications is defined as "intimate acquaintance with the characteristics of the Native Army," so long as an officer of the British service is Commander-in-Chief, it is obvious that no civilian can possibly be appointed. At the present moment, there are two other new posts to be filled, namely, the Secretary to Government in the Army Department and the Department of Supply respectively. These officers will be Colonels only. Major-General de Brath, the Secretary in the Military Department, now absent on furlough in England, will consequently be dispossessed of his present appointment. (Pioneer.)

Alleged Perjury.—At the High Court on Saturday, before Mr. Justice Harrington, a rule, obtained in a suit for dissolution of partnership etc., came on for hearing. One Monmoth Nath Sircar filed an affidavit in connection with that suit; it contained allegations to the effect that the defendant had caused false entries in the account books to the extent of Rs. 1,200. Monmoth Nath Sircar, it was alleged, had made another affidavit in favour of the defendant also in which he denied that he made any affidavit in favour of the plaintiff. The facts having come to light, several witnesses were examined in Court. Monmoth denied that he signed the affidavit in favour of plaintiff. The plaintiff and another witness deposed that Monmoth had made his signature at the High Court before the Registrar. Monmoth was required to write certain statements, which he made in Court. His Lordship after comparing Monmoth's hand-writing with what he wrote in the statement written in Court, and with the two different affidavits and some account books written in Monmoth's own hand-writing, came to the conclusion that this was a matter which required a proper consideration of the Court, but however, thought that some expert witness in the Bengalee handwriting should be examined in this case to point out the signature and ordered accordingly.

Alleged Cheating.—A Bangalore correspondent writes under date June 21.—The case in which M. L. Ghose and Seal, Bengalis, are charged with cheating two local merchants by advertising themselves as the proprietors of various Companies requiring mofussil agents, and thereby inducing them to part with Rs. 200 each and then failing to keep their part of the contract, advanced one step further to-day before the District Magistrate, Mr. P. L. Moore. A witness from Calcutta, Bidhu Bushan Ghose, formerly a clerk in the employ of the accused, was examined for the prosecution and deposed to the manner in which the accused had been carrying on business in Calcutta. He said they had advertised themselves as the International Trading Company, and the Globe Trading Company in two Madras papers, besides several up-country newspapers, and that in consequence of these advertisements some twelve people, amongst whom were the two complainants in this case, applied to be appointed agents, each of them remitting Rs. 200. There were several other applications for small agencies, the sums remitted varying from Rs. 25 to Rs. 100. All this money the accused utilised in paying off debts, and it was only when the applicants got troublesome that boxes containing a lot of cheap articles were forwarded to the complainants. A box was then produced in Court, purporting to contain goods to the value of Rs. 200, despatched to one of the complainants in this case. It was opened and witness identified the contents as those despatched by the accused. He valued the whole consignment at about Rs. 50. The things consisted of toys, sewing machines, cheap stoves, toy magic lanterns, cheap cameras and cheap watches. A few questions were put to the witness by the accused and the case was then adjourned to Wednesday.

#### ELEGRAMS.

##### REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

##### THE UNREST IN RUSSIA.

London, June 26. A barricade was erected this morning at Warsaw. The strikers are shooting workmen going to work.

Martial Law has been proclaimed at Lodz, and order has been restored. Hitherto 561 victims in the disturbances have been buried. Thirty-four battalions have arrived at Warsaw. The Chief of Police at Czeustochow and seven others were seriously wounded by a bomb.

London, June 26. As a protest against the action of the military at Lodz, the Socialists at Warsaw have proclaimed a general strike to-day.

Many collisions took place between the crowd and the troops in the streets at Warsaw last evening, but the casualties were slight.

The inhabitants of Lodz are panic-stricken, believing that none are safe from the violence of the military. Twelve thousand left Lodz yesterday in trains, which are crowded to the utmost.

London, June 26. The Russian journal "Rus" has been suspended for publishing the petition to the Tsar framed by the Zemstvos Congress.

##### THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

London, June 26. Russia and Japan have informed President Roosevelt that the plenipotentiaries will meet in the United States in the first ten days of August.

London, June 25. The Russian cruiser Terek sank the Ikona on the 5th June, 150 miles north of Hongkong. The crew are safe.—"Englishman."

#### GENERAL.

London, June 23. Mr. Arnold-Forster, in the House of Commons, denied the resignation of Sir Neville Lyttelton.

London, June 23. The Russian Government has issued a circular rebuking the newspapers for construing the Tsar's speech to the Zemstvos as promising the establishment of a National Assembly on a constitutional basis.

The Tsar simply meant a convocation strictly in accordance with the fundamental laws of the Empire.

London, June 23. The Committee of Ways and Means has adopted a resolution authorizing the raising of loans not exceeding twenty millions sterling on account of railways in India. Mr. Brodriek intimated that this was mainly for the purchase of the Bombay-Baroda line.

London, June 24. Yesterday's circular has dashed the high hopes of the Russian Liberals, and induced gloomy forebodings.

London, June 24. Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent says that the outcome of the British representations is that British warships will be despatched to convey orders to the "Dnieper" and "Rion" to cease interfering with shipping and to return immediately.

It is stated at Washington that the peace negotiations are delayed owing to the illness of Count Lamsdorff, but there is no hitch.

The Russian warship "Bayan" has been successfully floated.

London, June 25. The Dnieper has arrived at Jibutl with the Saint Kildas crew on board.

It is believed at Washington that there is not likely to be an armistice before the plenipotentiaries meet in the middle of August.

London, June 25. Reuter at Fez says that although there is no indication that the Morocco decision regarding Borsajids is other than serious it is suggested that the Moroccans may be bluffing hoping to obtain a cessation of the stoppage of arms.

London, June 25. A Royal Commission to enquire into the Army Stores Scandal has been appointed. Mr. Justice Farewell will be chairman, the other members being Sir Laubmann Golds, Sir George White, Sir Francis Mowatt and Mr. Samuel Hope Morley.

London, June 25. It is understood that the German answer to the French note will be presented in a few days, but Prince Radolin will discuss the purport of the reply with M. Rouvier before the arrival of the answer. The impression now prevails that France has no ground for apprehension and a pacific solution is possible.

London, June 25. His Majesty's Cruiser Carnarvon bound to Gibraltar has collided with the German Liner Coblenz. The Carnarvon has taken the passengers on board and towed the Coblenz which is leaking into Ferrol.

London, June 26. M. Berteaux, the Minister of War, speaking at Versailles said, while wishing nothing that could be taken as an allusion to the present position, that thanks to the efforts of France in the last thirty five years, our fighting material is of the best, our equipments complete, and officers can bear comparison with any nation.

##### THE SINKING OF THE IKONA.

London, June 26. Reuter wires from Singapore that the British India steamer Ikona was sunk by the Russian cruiser Terek 150 miles north of Hongkong on the 5th instant. The crew were transferred on the 19th instant to the Dutch steamer Perlak which arrived at Singapore.

London, June 26. The English steamer "Ancono" has collided with and sunk a Danish mercantile training ship near Copenhagen. Twenty-two apprentices were drowned and 57 saved.

London, June 26. Reuter's correspondent at Capetown says that the Native Chief Marengo has defeated a German detachment capturing all its ammunition and supplies. The German losses are reported to be heavy.

London, June 26. The "Times" Peking correspondent says:—Minister Pokotloff reached Urga on the 14th instant, and presented the Dalai Lama with gifts from the Tsar.

London, June 26. The newspapers consider that the Commission on the stores scandal is of noteworthy strength and impartiality.

London, June 26. M. Balli has formed a new Greek Cabinet. The Deloyanis declined to participate.

#### TELEGRAMS.

##### REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

##### GENERAL.

London, June 26. Count Hayashi, members of the Legation, and Sir Neville Nicholson met Prince and Princess Arisugawas at Dover to-day, and the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught welcomed them in London at the station where full military honours were given. Their Royal Highnesses drove direct to Buckingham Palace and took tea with the King and Queen and afterwards drove to York House, where their Majesties returned the visit.

London, June 26. President Roosevelt has ordered the immigration authorities to show the utmost courtesy to Chinese merchants and travellers on pain of dismissal.

London, June 26. In the House of Commons Mr. Brodriek, replying to a question, said he had not received any communication from Sir E. Elles resigning his post.

Mr. Bowles asked whether the Government had received information that Lord Curzon desired or intended to resign.

Mr. Brodriek said there was no foundation for that report.

##### INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

##### THE AMIR'S SUBSIDY IN INDIA.

Allahabad, June 25. The amount of subsidy which the Amir of Kabul can now draw upon is between £400,000 and £500,000 as annual payments of eighteen lakhs have accumulated since October 1901.

##### THE FRONTIER OUTRAGE.

Allahabad, June 25. Regarding the frontier outrage on the 14th instant it appears that two Sowars of Zhob Levy Corps were proceeding to Shanghai from Port Sandeman where they were ambushed by Sherani outlaws nine in number. One Sowar was killed and his carbine taken. The other who got a bullet through his puggree returned fire of his assailants who booted. The Sowar then carried the wounded man half a mile to some water and after the latter died, remained beside the body until a patrol of the Zhob Levy Corps arrived about few hours later.

##### EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND.

Rangoon, June 24.—Further contributions, amounting to Rs. 7,000, have been to-day remitted by the Burma Provincial Committee for the Kanga Valley Earthquake Relief Fund, making a total of Rs. 21,098.

##### BOMBAY PRESIDENCY MAGISTRATE.

Bombay, June 23.—The members of the Bar practising in the local police courts took the opportunity of wishing good-bye to Mr. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, who proceeds Home to-morrow prior to taking up his new appointment of Administrator-General. Mr. Khalil, Barrister-at-Law, on behalf of the barristers practising in the police courts, expressed their sense of gratification at the kindness which was always shown to the profession by his worship and the feelings of regret at their having to sever the connection. Mr. Velinker spoke on behalf of the pleaders, and Mr. Slater, in acknowledging the tribute, said he felt grateful to the Bar for the very kind sentiments they had expressed in such a friendly manner. He said he felt sure that all the gentlemen practising in this court would extend to his successor the same assistance and courtesy they had extended to him.

An extraordinary hoax was played on the City Police the other day, by a person who sent information to them to the effect that a man by name Lingia was dealing in Kolar mine gold and he had kept a quantity with two dancing "girls" in Bangalore. The Inspector not wishing to lose to good an opportunity forthwith set to work and asked the "girls" to produce the gold. After some hesitation and evident reluctance, the "girls" brought two heavy boxes, carefully locked and sealed, saying they were pledged with them my some man for several hundreds of rupees, but protesting that they were not aware that they were stolen property. The jubilant police opened the boxes and found solid bricks of what appeared to be gold, weighing several hundreds of tolas. The "gold" was examined and tested by a number of "Sarafa" and local gold merchants, who curiously enough, declared them to be impure gold. The man Lingia himself said it was simple "brass" and was intended for some brass work, but the appearances were contrary and after a whole day's work a piece was cut off and chemically tested and it was found to be mere "brass"! The police who were completely discomfited, left the case in disgust and we suspect Lingia and the "girls" must have been enjoying a hearty laughter. This is a curious commentary on the Kolar Gold Mining Act being zealously worked by the police.—"Mysore Standard."

##### HEAVY RAIN.

Allahabad, June 27. Heavy rain for the first time this month has extended to North Konkan Coast, Bombay reporting 3.13 inches and Ratnagiri 2.53 inches of rain during the 24 hours ending at 8 a.m. on 26th instant.

##### GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Simla, June 23. HOME DEPARTMENT. The Rev. C. Price, Chaplain of Mhow, has three months' leave.

Major Field, Assistant Judge and Advocate-General, Burma, is posted as Cantonment Magistrate, Ferozepore.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT. Mr. A. E. Rose, Executive Engineer, Burma, to be Superintending Engineer.

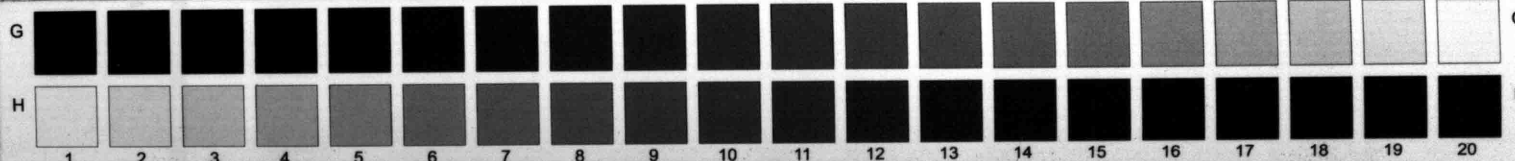
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT. Major Rawlinson, Deputy Commissioner, Jashawar, officiates as Revenue Commissioner, Frontier Province.

RAILWAY BOARD. Major E. W. Walton officiates as Engineer-in-Chief, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, vice Mr. Baxter.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT. Colonel Monro, 1st Seaforth's, to be a Brigade Commander, vice Major-General Penton, vacated.

Conductor Newry, Indo-European Telegraph Department, is transferred to the pension establishment.

The following are permitted to retire:—Colonel T. H. Goldney, with effect from the 9th instant, and Colonel A. R. Porter, with effect from the 18th ultimo. Major Cox resigns his commission in the Beher Light Horse.





Calcutta Gazette, - June 28,

## GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. J. T. Baboneau, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Khulna, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. Ahsanuddin Ahmad.

Mr. H. W. P. Scrope, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Tippera, is appointed to act, as Magistrate and Collector of Dacca.

Mr. A. Mellor, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rampur Hat, Birbhum, is appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of Tippera.

Mr. J. D. Sifton, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is appointed to have charge of the Rampur Hat subdivision of the Birbhum district.

Mr. O. H. Mosely, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bettiah, Champaran, is appointed to have charge of the Gumla subdivision of the Ranchi district.

Mr. W. S. Hopkyns, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Gaya, is appointed to have charge of the Bettiah sub-division of the Champaran district.

Mr. J. Reid, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Gumla, Ranchi, is transferred to the head-quarters station of that district.

Mr. G. Milne, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the 24-Parganas district and is appointed to act until further orders in the second grade of Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collectors on being relieved of his appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Shababad.

The substantive pro tempore Deputy Collector named below are transferred to the head quarters station of the Ranchi district:—Maulvi A. K. Kabiruddin Ahmed Faridpur and Babu Braja Nath Rai, Sandip Noakhali.

Mr. Ahsanuddin Ahmad, Magistrate and Collector, Khulna, is allowed combined leave for six months.

Maulvi Abdul Mozuffar Ahmad, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Contai, Midnapore, is allowed leave for six weeks.

Babu Gati Krishna Neogy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jamalpur, is appointed to have charge of the Tangail sub-division.

Babu Jogneshwar Biswas, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tangail, is appointed to have charge of the Jamalpur sub-division.

Babu Ram Niranjan Prasad, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Hooghly district.

Babu Haripada Ghosh, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Hazaribagh district.

Babu Prapulla Sankar Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Hooghly district.

Maulvi Kamaluddin Ahmad, M.A., sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector, Hooghly, is appointed to be Superintendent of the Chittagong Madrasah.

Maulvi Mohammed Azizul Huq, M.A., Head Master, Patna City School, is appointed to be Head Master of the Hooghly Collegiate school.

Babu Anshay Kumar Sur, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purnea, is allowed leave for one month with effect from the 12th June 1905.

## JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Asvini Kumar Bose, Munsif of Mymensingh, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge of the same district during the absence, on leave of Babu Anund Nath Majumdar.

Babu Sasi Kumar Ghose, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Mymensingh, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sadar station, during the absence, on deputation, of Babu Asvini Kumar Bose.

Babu Jogendra Nath Mitra, Subordinate Judge, 24-Parganas, is appointed to be also an Assistant Sessions Judge in that district.

Babu Karty Chander Mukerjee, Munsif of Bagerhat, in the district of Jessore, is appointed to act as Subordinate Judge, Rangpur, vice Babu Sasi Bhushan Choudhuri appointed to act as Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dacca and Mymensingh.

Babu Phanindra Lal Sen, M.A., B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Jessore to be ordinarily stationed at Bagerhat, during the absence, on deputation of Babu Karty Chander Mukerjee.

## SUBORDINATE CIVIL SERVICE.

Babu Prabodh Chandra Majumdar, sub pro tem Sub Deputy Collector, Chota Nagpur Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Hazaribagh district.

Babu Lalit Mohan Bose, sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector, Tippera, is transferred to the head-quarters station of the Chittagong district.

Babu Basanta Kumar Roy, sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is transferred temporarily to the Contai subdivision of that district.

Babu Jyotish Chandra Maitra, sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector, Orissa Division, is posted to the Khurda subdivision of the Puri district.

Mr. D. Macdonald, sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector, Rajshahi Division, is posted temporarily to the head-quarters station of the Darjeeling district.

Babu Bhuvan Mohan Chatterji, Sub-Deputy Collector, Faridpur, is transferred temporarily to the Madaripur subdivision of that district.

Babu Gopendra Kumar Ghose Chaudhuri, sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector of the Rajshahi Division, is posted to the head-quarters station of the Rangpur district.

Babu Susil Kumar Ghose, sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collector, 24-Parganas, is transferred to the Barrackpore subdivision of that district.

The sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collectors of the Presidency Division, named below, are posted to the head-quarters station of the 24-Parganas district:—Maulvi Abdul Ghaffar and Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee.

The substantive pro tempore Sub-Deputy Collectors named below are transferred to the head-quarters station of the Ranchi district:—Maulvi A. K. Kabiruddin Ahmed, Faridpur, Babu Braja Nath Rai, Sandip, Noakhali.

The sub pro tem Sub-Deputy Collectors named below are posted to the divisions mentioned opposite their names and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—Maulvi Ahmed Ali, Chittagong Division; Maulvi Saleh Ahmad, Dacca Division; Babu Rash Bihari Mukerjee, Presidency Division.

Babu Ganoda Prasad Ghose, Sub-Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for twenty four days, with effect from the 1st July 1905.

The gentlemen named below are appointed sub pro tem to the fifth grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors, and are posted to the divisions mentioned against their names:—

Babu Surendra Nath Datta, B.A., Bhalgaupur Division; and Maulvi Mahomed Saadq, B.A. Patna Division.

The officers named below are promoted to the first grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors with effect from the 1st April 1905:—

Babus Kali Pada Chuckerbutty, Kaylash Chunder Chatterjee, Khudiram Podder, Maulvi Mahammad Gousi, Babus Tara Nath Bose, Komul Narain Ouckerbutty, Bhubun Mohun Gupta, Maulvi Shuffeodeen Ahmed, Babu Rameshwar Prasad, Dewan Krishna Chandra.

## ZULUM OVER A RANI—II.

Allahabad, June 28.

It was on the 8th of June that the Hon'ble Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya in reply to his message learnt from Mr. Way that the marriage was fixed for the 24th of June. He proceeded to Naimital to submit a memorial to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and flashed a message to Babu Rajendra Prasad Sahi on the 17th of June to the effect that His Honor after consulting the Maharaja of Benares had refused to interfere in this matter. It is doubtful if the opinion of the Maharaja of Benares could count for anything in a matter like this. Only the other day in the Tamkuli case in which the uncle of the minor Raja was litigating with him about the right of succession the Maharaja of Benares gave evidence against the present Raja of Tamkuli and his evidence was calculated to belittle the minor Raja.

Again, his opposing the present marriage in the teeth of the Resolution of the Bhumihar Conference at which he presided only the other day places him in an unenviable position as a reformer and patriot. It is a great pity that Sir James Latouche instead of following his own counsel allowed himself to be influenced by the opinion of the Maharaja of Benares. Sir Antony Macdonell had his eccentricities, but he carried a head over his shoulders and knew how to keep down official vagaries.

Unfortunately, Sir James Latouche is a little too good and too soft in his dealings with his subordinates. We are not surprised to hear from various quarters the accounts of misadministration and high-handedness in the district of Gorakhpore. O, for the touch of that vanished hand to keep these officials under proper curb and control.

Considering his vast experience and his knowledge of Indian society we have every reason to believe that Sir James Latouche would never have countenanced the present match which is distasteful alike to the minor Raja and his mother. We are inclined to think that His Honor might have been influenced by the consideration that if the marriage were to drop altogether or even be put off, the Court of Wards should have to pay heavy damages to the Raja of Sheohar. The Court of Wards had no business to arrange this marriage. A suit for damages is not a greater evil than being forced into a distasteful marriage. Pecuniary compensation is an adequate remedy in the latter case, but a marriage once celebrated cannot be undone.

The Lieutenant-Governor having refused to interfere, on the 19th of June a suit was instituted in the court of the Subordinate Judge of Gorakhpur by the Rani of Tamkuli against the Raja of Sheohar and his daughter for an injunction to restrain the marriage. The Collector as representing the Court of Wards was not implicated. Under the peculiar circumstances of the case, the Collector could not be joined in the array of parties. Section 48 of the Court of Wards Act requires that the Collector should be served with a notice of the proposed suit two months prior to the institution thereof. The cause of action having accrued to the plaintiff on the 28th of May 1905 when the "Phaldan" and "Tilik" ceremonies were performed and the date of marriage having been fixed for the 24th of June 1905, if the plaintiff had waited for two months after the service of notice on the Collector, the marriage having taken place in the meantime, the object of her suit would have been frustrated. It is not unlikely that the date of marriage was appointed so early with a view to prevent the Collector being sued. The plaintiff had thus no other alternative than to sue the Raja of Sheohar and his daughter. An application was also presented for the issue of an "interim" injunction restraining the performance of the marriage on the 24th of June. This application was opposed by the Collector through his counsel, Mr. Reid and Mr. Narsingha Prasad, the Government Pleader of Gorakhpore. It was of course pointed out that the Collector was no party to the suit and that these gentlemen had no "locus standi" to oppose the application. Their chief arguments were that the marriage was approved by the Lieutenant-Governor and the Board of Revenue; that even the Maharaja of Benares had approved the match and that his son the Kunwar Sahab was to join the marriage procession; that if the injunction were to issue, it would upset all the arrangements made by the Raja of Sheohar; also that the Collector should have been made a party to the suit. The Subordinate Judge after a patient hearing adjourned the case for a couple of hours and said he would pass orders at 3 p.m. after consulting the District Judge. The result of the consultation was that the case was transferred to the file of the District Judge, who heard the case at great length and reserved the judgment till the next day. In both the Courts the Collector was represented by his counsel. In the course of the argument the District Judge was pleased to remark that his sympathies were with the plaintiff and that if he were the Collector, he would not marry the ward against the wishes of his mother or at any rate not interfere in the matter till the minor had attained his years of discretion.

On the following day, however, the District Judge refused the application for issue of a temporary injunction. As we hope to publish his order in "extenso" we refrain for the present from giving the grounds of refusal.

The application for injunction was supported by an affidavit sworn by Babu Rajendra Prasad Sahi, "patrokar" of the Rani of Tamkuli. For a very long time strained relations have prevailed between Messrs. Way and Judea, and the Rani of Tamkuli. Rajendra Prasad is the trusted servant of the Rani. He had been prosecuted under section 110 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and bound over by the Gorakhpur authorities but the order was set aside by the High Court. He was next committed to sessions on a charge of dacoity, but the present sessions Judge of Gorakhpur let him off. An attempt was made in both the courts of Gorakhpur that the presiding officers might not attach any value to the affidavit on the ground of its having been sworn to by Rajendra Prasad. This the learned sessions Judge stoutly refused to do. Judging from the attitude of the authorities towards Rajendra Prasad, we are inclined to think that his troubles are not over. He was actually threatened by an official in the compound of the Judge's Court and the Rani's men all the time that they were in Gorakhpore were kept under observation and bothered with all sorts of questions, calculated to make them very uncomfortable.

No sooner the application for injunction was refused, than a petition was made for emergent copies of the order and the decree. The copy of the decree had not been prepared and our information is that it has not even yet been framed. An appeal was presented before Mr. Justice Knox on the 23rd of June 1905 accompanied by an application for the issue of a temporary injunction restraining the marriage on the 24th. His Lordship refused to admit the appeal on the ground that it was not accompanied by a copy of the formal order. In fact, the High Court could not absolutely take any notice of the application regarding the temporary injunction.

His Excellency the Viceroy was on the same day approached and requested to interfere. Nothing has been heard from him as yet.

In the meantime grand arrangements are being made for the celebration of the marriage. We would congratulate the wedding guests upon the treats that are in store for them. The fireworks, the ball, the dance and the dinner! But as for the minor Raja, he has been separated from the society of the mother and all access to her has been effectually cut off. If he were allowed to go to his mother he might refuse to join the procession or the Rani might detain him. The Zenana apartment of the Tamkuli palace must have worn the aspect of mourning and the appearance of forced gaiety outside may seem to chime ill with the lamentations of the Dowager Rani within.—"Citizen."

## THE NEW PRESIDENCY JAIL.

Mr. Beachcroft, the special Land Acquisition Judge of Alipore, delivered judgment on Tuesday in the case in which the Government acquired about seven bighas of land with the buildings standing thereon for the quarters of the officials of the New Presidency Jail. The lands formed a fairly compact block bounded on the west by Gopalnagar Road and on the east a public lane ending in the compound wall of the Alipore Magistrate's Court to which it gave access through a door in the wall. Dr. Khetter Mohan Ghose, the claimant in all these cases claimed about Rs. 34,000 for structures and for lands at rates varying from Rs. 300 to Rs. 130 according to the position of the several plots. The Collector awarded Rs. 26,000 for structures and divided the whole property into a number of plots following the arrangements of Municipal premises and awarded different values according to the position of plots. The whole amount of compensation for lands given by the Collector came up to a little over Rs. 20,000. The Judge took the various plots together as a whole so far as possible and awarded Rs. 275 per katta for frontage on Gopalnagar Road to a depth of 90 feet and Rs. 200 per katta for frontage on the lane on the east to a depth of 90 feet and for intermediate lands at Rs. 160 per katta with the result that the collector's award as regards lands was enhanced by about Rs. 5000. As to the structures there were four different valuations made by the experts in both sides. The Public Works Department's Engineers whose valuation was accepted by the collector gave about Rs. 26,000. The expert engineers examined on behalf of the Government in Court allowed Rs. 23,000 and the claimant's two engineers valued the structures at Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 32,000. The learned Judge expressed that under such circumstances a layman, having to decide the correct valuation of structures experienced considerable difficulties and he could only arrive at a more or less general conclusion that one value is more to be depended on than another looking to the surrounding circumstances when there was probably little or no difference in professional qualification. He characterised the claimant's Engineer as a partisan witness and as regards the experts who were examined on behalf of the Government he declared the P. W. D. Engineers who gave the higher figure of Rs. 26,000 as having a natural tendency to give too high rates being always accustomed to the first class work of their P. W. Department, and accepting the valuation of the Engineers who gave the lesser figure of Rs. 23,000 confirmed the Collector's valuation as to various fruit trees, plants and shrubs and for loss of his earnings, the claimant was given Rs. 200. Collector's award was modified according with costs for the claimant proportionate to his success.

The services of Mr. Mant, Deputy Secretary of the Finance Department, have been replaced at the disposal of the Home Department.

Nineteen packages of mono-rail material, imported by the Ceylon Government, have arrived at Colombo. The packages include car bodies, trucks, and rails.

In consequence of an unusually violent explosion of Vesuvius on the 28th ultimo, three streams of lava forced their way through the side of the volcano to the north-west and in an hour had flowed to the bottom of the great cone. The small new cone on that side has begun to collapse.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Rangoon has sanctioned the plan and specification of the new steam buoy vessel for the Rangoon Port Commissioners to be built at a cost of two and a half lakhs of rupees; also the sum of 4.1-3 lakhs for six additional fixed moorings and four heave-up boats.

The Council of Legal Education has under consideration a proposal for the establishment of a regular College of Law in Colombo for the training of law students for their professional careers. There are at present some 200 students preparing for both branches of the legal profession. They are organised into a union, and their studies and examinations are under the direction of the Council of Legal Education, which consists of the Judge of the Supreme Court and some of the senior advocates and proctors. There are many difficulties in the way, however, and the Council is devoting careful consideration to the idea.—"T. O."

## A SCENE IN THE SESSIONS COURT OF FOLLY-LAND

(SPECIAL FOR THE "PATRIKA.")

(SIR RANK ODDITY PRESIDING.)

## Dramatis Personae.

The Judge, The Assessors, The Public Prosecutor, The Counsel for defence, The Witnesses, The Accused, The Peshkar, The Orderlies, and The Spectators.

Time between 11 and 12 A.M.

The Peshkar—Good God, what is the devil of the orderly doing? Sleeping at this hour of the day? Get up, man, you d—d!

The Judge—(starting at the sound) What Peshkar, am I to pass any orders now? You dictate and I write it out. Although I have spent the best part of my probationary period in the Finance and Political Departments yet with your help and advice and those of the Public Prosecutor, both of you being my friend, philosopher and guide. I have been discharging my duties in disposing of cases with the speed of lightning. do you understand? You know, Peshkar, the Twentieth century is pre-eminently the century for Science and not for the old-fashioned methods of the past. I have made my task easy by following the formulae through and through and carrying them to this department of Law, for is not Law a science and do not certain common principles underlie all sciences and do not the said common principles make us all, the votaries of sciences, feel of the same kith and kin?

The Peshkar—(showing signs of impatience) your Honour, it is getting late. The Public Prosecutor is absent and the trial can not go on in his absence. It would be better, were it made to go on without the accused for that would have simplified the procedure and, along with it the trial much and saved time and life to many a hard-working officer like your Honour, who is an incarnation of Justice in this benighted Land of Folly.

The Judge—You don't know the history of Law. We, the Members of the Heavenly Service are fit for anything, can shine wherever situated—on the Bench or at the Bar. I am sorry I have joined the Bench and not the Bar, for the latter would have been highly honoured by my connection and Law—especially that on Evidence would have got in me a stout Expounder of great notoriety, for have I not since my elevation to the Bench tried to reduce the Law of Evidence into a string of questions? And any pleader, or Vakil or Counsel, unable to follow me or answer me by pointing out the sections of the Indian Evidence Act, is put out in no time. Peshkar, I have been only a few months on the Bench and I have reduced your Law into certain Chemical or Mathematical principles. Is not this something very fine after all?

The Peshkar—That is, what it should be, for is not your Honour a Fellow of the Royal Chemical Society—and a great Mathematician, a senior Wrangler to boot? Shakespare has said—"The poet, the philosopher, and the Judge are all of imagination compact."

The Judge—Tut, nonsense! You quote wrongly—"The poet, the philosopher, and the mad man are all of imagination compact."

The Peshkar—Thanks, your Honour.

The Judge—Impertinence, shut up. Now, Peshkar, you speak of my distinguished academic career—that was long ago. Wait a bit! Who is entering my court room from yonder there, Peshkar? I can not see him. He has not put on his turban. I see is he not the Public Prosecutor? Why is he in distress?

The Public Prosecutor—May it please your Honour (the Judge interrupting). It does not please my Honour at all, Public Prosecutor.

The Judge—Tell me, why are you in distress?

Public Prosecutor—Sir, sir, sir,—may it please your Honour—(The Judge again interrupting) Sir, I beg your pardon, I beg your pardon. I beg your pardon.

The Judge—I say, Public Prosecutor you have thrice begged my pardon but please tell me, what is that for?

Public Prosecutor—Sir, sir, your Honour, that is the custom with us, the Natives.

The Judge—Damn you natives. Let them go to Hell. I don't care.

Public Prosecutor—Your Honour much obliged many times, that is like a true incarnation of Indian Justice. I will communicate your Honour's opinion about my case to my compatriots and try to have a statue voted for you or a public Reception and a Tea-party got up in your favour, though at their expense.

The Judge—Public Prosecutor, I owe much to your land, I have gained much experience in Civil and Criminal cases—so much so, that I can easily dispose of the Sub-Judge appeals in 5 minutes—the Munsif appeals in 10 minutes—and the miscellaneous cases in an hour each. Those are very simple matters if they are quickly disposed of and not decided, only to keep clear my file to be shown on inspection by the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court of the Land, who are more for the quantity rather than the quality of the work and I have known it as a fact that the junior member of this service to which I have the honour to belong got the promise of a High Court Judgeship on account of his disposing power and propensity.

The Public Prosecutor—I also corroborate your Honour on that point. I know that the gentleman your Honour speaks of was a Police officer, before he was a Judge and that is the reason why he was an expert disposer of the so-called justice in India and stands the chance of promotion.

The Peshkar—Your Honour, it is getting too late. The Sessions case is a heavy one, the charge being purgery and forgery under the Indian Penal Code.

The Judge—Damn your Indian Penal Code! Have you read the Code Napoleon? It is the monument of wisdom enduring for all ages. According to the French idea of criminal jurisprudence, an accused is under the heavy onus of proving his own innocence and not the prosecution to prove their charge. The presumption of guilt is always against the accused and until he proves his innocence he is done for, that is bound to go to and rot in the jail.

Public Prosecutor—That is simply wonderful. All these principles should be incorporated into our criminal law. Sir, may I propose an amendment to that effect?

The Judge—Public Prosecutor, you are not worth the salt you take from Government (Public Prosecutor nodding in agreement). I am no Legislator nor this court of mine a Legislature. I am simply an

administrator of Law. You are not entitled to the relief you pray for. However, I am known to the Hon'ble Mr. Erle Richards, K. O. the present Law-Member of the Viceroy's Council and I will see the Law is changed as suggested—based as I may propose on what they call chemistry or mathematics—the solid rock of what wrong-headed people call Folly.

Counsel for defence—Sir, it is getting late—too late. Your Honour's discussion has only an academic interest. Let us go on with the trial or let go the accused from the dock.

The Accused—Your Honour, I wish to make a statement.

The Judge—Peshkar, be ready for it. The Peshkar—I also ask your Honour to be ready for taking statement down.

The Accused—Sir, make a short shrift of me. It is better to be killed once rather than be so many times and that by inches. The administration of Justice in India is a farce, a sham or delusion. It is damnation, pure and simple, to stand for trial in the dock.

The Judge—Thou, cheeky fellow do you know what you are charged with? It is "perjury" and forgery and to quote Macaulay, "chicanery."

The Public Prosecutor—Your honor "chicanery" is no offence under the Indian Penal Code. I have explained that in my edition of it. Your Honour, have you looked into that?

The Judge—To open and consult books, Law or otherwise, is no business of an Indian Judge. Those are for other people. The Indian Judge intuites Law from his own fertile brain and hence the Administration of Justice in India is the 8th wonder of the world. Prisoner at the dock, what do you say to the offences with which you are charged?

The Accused—Your honour, I deny the allegations and defy the allegator.

The Judge—(bursting into laughter) what "allegators" in a court of justice? I knew that they had no locus standi in a Law Court but my previous notions get clean shocked by the present discovery being at variance. However, as you are the accused and I the Judge I am bound to take down under the law, your statement in "fo to" and "verbatim" although it is all nonsensical and may not mean anything intelligible. Bring in a witness, I have done with the accused. I will begin and finish the trial in the course of this day, though guilty of holding nocturnal courts, thus setting an example to my subordinate courts, who are greater offenders and have out-Heroded Herod.

The Orderly—(who was sleeping all this time and now awakes therefrom on being struck on his chest by a sudden throw of a bundle of papers by the Judge and the latter enjoys the scene to his hearts fill—cries aloud) "Koi, Gowafo, hazaar hai, koi, hai hazaar."

The Judge—What is this fellow vociferating for? The witness is already "boxed," i.e. allowed to stand in the dock. Who is to begin? Public Prosecutor and Peshkar—both of you advise me as I rely on you for the transaction of the Court-business.

The Public Prosecutor—Your Honour, I am to begin and my friend on the opposite side will cross-examine the witness. That is the proper procedure, I think.

The Judge—You are right, for is it not said in the Bible—"In the beginning, there was chaos and out of it came the cosmos: The Law and the Bible are based on the same foundation of commonsense-truths—so are my forte, "chemistry and mathematics."

The Public Prosecutor—What is—

The Judge—Wait a bit, buss, achha. Let me hear the learned Counsel for defence, Mr. Gawe.

The Counsel for defence—What are the statements which you thought were inditable?

The Judge—Disallowed, under what section of the Indian Evidence Act is it asked?

The Counsel for defence—Your Honour, one can not get all the sections of the Act at his fingers' end to be quoted in response to a call from the Bench. I have read Indian and Foreign Evidence Acts but in none of them are given the lists of questions categorically. The Evidence Act determines the relevancy only. Life is too short for work like this. Moreover, it is impossible to work when one is constantly heckled about sections of the Indian Evidence Act. We are simply the dealers in commonsense. Your Honour—

The Judge—You don't know law, Sir. You must quote the sections under which you frame the questions or I disallow your future questions also as penalty.

Counsel for defence—Under protest, I sit down, your Honour—only I say in reply to you, sir, that there is no section in the Indian Evidence Act which is a witness to state the name of his mother!

The Judge—We are at quits. You have put me in a puzzle as I have done you in another. Is there no solution of them?

Counsel for defence—Your Honour, the solution lies in possessing commonsense. God alone is responsible for man's intelligence and not we, poor mortals.

The Judge—This is slang language, bordering on clear contempt of Court. I let you go off this time because you are an Englishman or I would have drawn up proceeding against you. You should not take advantage of your position, Mr. Gawe?

The Peshkar—Your Honour, it is 5-30 P.M. the case may be adjourned.

The Accused—I pray, Sir, your Honour will be graciously pleased to dispose of me as soon as possible.

The Witness—Your honour, what am I to do? I have been here for the last 5 or 6 hours. May I be permitted to retire?

The Judge—I adjourn the case till 11 a.m. to-morrow. You are all dismissed for the day.

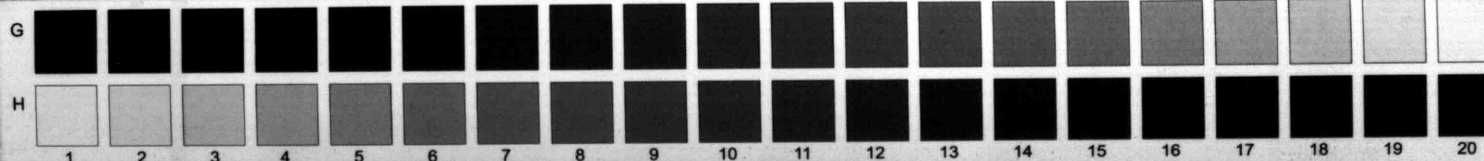
The Assessors—Your Honour, what are we to do now? We await your Honour's pleasure.

The Judge—You too are allowed to depart in peace. You did not do any work. I found you sleeping so long. (His Honour left the court)

The Spectators—We also go our way. Where ignorance is a bliss, it is folly to be wise.

(Curtain drops)

There is one very significant sentence in the Secretary of State's Despatch on Military Administration. This is the reference to the completion of the strategic railways, for which it is said authority will shortly be asked. The Railway Board will evidently have to provide funds for the new lines on the North-West Frontier, and it will be interesting to see what programme is prepared, and the time which it will take to complete it.





## INDIA IN PARLIAMENT

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The more important questions with their answers have already appeared in our last issue. (Ed.)

**Railways in India.**—Sir A. Acland-Hood formally moved that on Monday a committee should be set up to consider the proposals to raise money in the United Kingdom for the purpose of extending the railways in India.

Mr. Macveagh objected on the ground that the motion was not on the paper, and that there were but few members present.

Sir A. Acland-Hood urged the hon. member not to stand in the way of a procedure which was very important to India.

Mr. Macveagh persisted in his objection, and the motion was then put down for June 5.

**The New Indian Loan.**—Mr. Buchanan asked the Secretary of State for India: What is the amount of the new Indian loan, and for what purpose is it being raised?

Mr. Brodrick: I understand that the question refers to the Bill of which notice was recently given. The object of the Bill is to enable money to be borrowed, and stock to be created, for railway purposes. There is no intention of borrowing money in the present year under the authority proposed to be given by the Bill, although it is necessary to secure the early passage of the Bill in view of certain other arrangements.

In accordance with past practice, the amount of borrowing power named in the Bill is sufficient to meet the requirements of the Government of India for some considerable period, and the power will be used only as it is required. The sum named is 20,000,000.

**The Ameer's Title.**—Mr. Vincent Kennedy asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he is aware that the Ameer has been erroneously described as Siraj-ul-millat-wa-ud-din in a parliamentary paper; whether he should have been set out as Siraj-ul-millat-wa-ud-din; whether he is aware that the name Habibullah is a contraction for Habibu Allah; and will the authorities see that this matter is at once put right to avoid further confusion.

Mr. Brodrick: I am informed on high authority that the transliteration of the Ameer's title indicated by the hon. member may be considered more correct, as a matter of scholarship, than that adopted by the Government of India. The same authority informs me that the transliteration of the Ameer's name indicated by the hon. member is less correct than that adopted by the Government of India. It is not proposed to take any action in the matter.

**The Guns Ordered by the Ameer.**—Mr. Churchill asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether his attention has been drawn to the claim of Mr. W. D. Houghton, of the Sanku Wire Mills, Warrington, in respect of consignments of forgings for mountain guns, ordered by the Ameer of Afghanistan, and manufactured by Messrs. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Company, and which have been detained by the Indian Government, although the Indian Government have allowed a German firm to deliver to the Ameer both mountain guns and field pieces; and what were the reasons which induced the Government of India to accord preference to German manufacturers to the detriment of a Lancashire firm.

Mr. Brodrick: I have been in correspondence with the representatives of Mr. Houghton and explained to them the position of the Government of India in the matter of his claims. Owing to a promise to permit the importation of certain German guns having been given to the predecessor of the present Ameer by the Government of India in May 1901 certain Krupp guns were allowed to pass to Kabul in the year 1902; but none have been since transmitted.

**Indians in Natal.**—Mr. Schwann asked the Secretary for the Colonies if he would consider the advisability of making representations to the Government of Natal with a view to the provision of adequate facilities for the industrial and primary education of Indian immigrants in that colony; and whether he had any official information bearing upon the statements in the latest official report by Mr. P. A. Barnett, the superintendent of education, as to the effect of the present neglect in this respect in confining the Indian population to petty industries in discouraging it from acquiring arts and crafts, and in increasing crime.

Mr. Lyttelton: I am not in a position, in the circumstances, to make such representations to the Government of a self-governing colony on a matter within its competence. I notice that the amount set down in the Natal Estimates for Indian education for 1904-1905 is 5,588l., as compared with 4,140l. for the previous year. The subject is one for the consideration of the local Government and for discussion in the local parliament.

**The New Field Guns for India.**—Sir Charles Dilke asked 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 it alluded to in the memorandum of General Sir Edmund Elles.

Mr. Arnold-Forster: The extract from the memorandum to which the honourable baronet appears to refer, is as follows:—“There has been some delay in the provision of the quick-firing guns for field artillery owing to some points regarding the equipment having been still under the consideration of the War Office.” This presumably refers to the delay in placing the first orders with the trade, which was due to the question of royalty on design and in the case of the 18-pounder to the trials with a 20 lb. shell as well.

**The Education of Children on Plantations.**—Mr. Schwann asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether he will ascertain when the further reports from the Government of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Assam, respecting the education of children on plantations, are likely to be submitted; and will he cause statistics to be furnished as to the number of children of a school-going age in Indian plantations, such as the Secretary of State for the Colonies has requested to be supplied annually in Ceylon by the Director of Public Instruction with regard to Indian coolie children on estates in that Colony.

Mr. Brodrick: I have already asked the Government of India to expedite the further reports promised on this subject. A copy of the hon. member's question will be transmitted to that Government in order that they may consider whether the statistics asked for can be obtained.

**NOTICE OF MOTION ETC.**  
Bubonic Plague (India).—Mr. Seymour Ormsby-Gore.—To call attention to the increase of bubonic plague in India; and to move a resolution. (No date.)

Treaty with Afghanistan.—Mr. Skewes-Cox.—To call attention to the terms of the Treaty between His Majesty's Government and the Ameer of Afghanistan; and to move a resolution. (No date.)

The Eviction of Ryots.—Mr. Weir.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: If he will state how many ryots have been evicted in the Madras Presidency in default of payment of land revenue in each of the last five years; and what sum has been realised in each year through the sale of land previously in the occupation of the evicted ryots. (Tuesday, June 20.)

Sale of Salt to Native States.—Mr. Weir.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: If he will state the value of the salt sold annually to each Native State of India, with the population of each such State. (Tuesday, June 20.)

Mr. Weir.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: Having regard to the fact that some of the Native States of India enjoy the right to purchase salt from the Government of India free of duty, whereas other Native States do not enjoy that privilege, will the question of conceding this right to all Native States be considered. (Tuesday, June 20.)

The Hyderabad (Deccan) Company's Royalty.—Sir Mancherjee Bhownagree.—To ask the Secretary of State for India: Whether the Government of the Nizam reduced the royalty payable by the Hyderabad (Deccan) Company last year from four annas to one anna; and whether, in consequence of this reduction, the royalty fell in 1904 to 2,622l., as against 9,727l. recovered in 1903, causing a loss to the Hyderabad State of upwards of a lac of rupees; and, if so, will he state if this reduction in the rate of royalty was effected with the concurrence of the officer of Government of India who advises the Nizam on financial matters, together with the reasons which prompted the reduction in question. (Wednesday, June 21.)

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 Edmund Elles. (Wednesday, June 21.)

The Canton-Kowloon Railway.—Mr. Weir.—To ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs: Seeing that the preliminary contract for the Canton-Kowloon Railway was signed in the spring of 1899, will he state the cause of the delay in proceeding with the construction of the line. (Wednesday, June 21.)

The Canton-Hankow Railway.—Mr. Weir.—To ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs: If he will state what progress has been made with the Canton-Hankow trunk line of railway. (Wednesday, June 21.)

**MR. BRODRICK ON INDIAN TRADE.**

There is a passage in Reuter's report of Mr. Brodrick's speech on the Indian Budget which may have more than an Indian significance. It is curious enough that Mr. Brodrick should so often happen to say things which signify, but on several recent occasions he has either been put up by Mr. Balfour (who certainly has very little to choose between his colleagues) or his native capacity for blundering has prompted him, to say things which have excited comment and promoted discord in the ranks of his party. We deal elsewhere with the situation created by the surrender to Lord Kitchener, but the passage to which we would here invite attention is the following:—“Exports from Britain (to India) were constantly growing, and equalled in 1904 the British exports to Australia, Canada and South Africa combined. The trade of India was such that it was entitled to claim the first place after Britain in all discussions on Imperial trade.” Presuming that “it” stands for India we gather that Mr. Brodrick considers that no Colonial Conference has a right to discuss the fiscal question in the absence of representatives from India. But there is to be a Colonial Conference next year, and the Chamberlainites notoriously look to it to provide them with a mandate in favour of Colonial preference. India will not be represented at this Conference at all, instead of, on the Brodrickian principle, being entitled to a more effective representation than all the Colonies combined. Does this mean that the question of preference is not to be discussed at the Conference of 1906? Because if it does, Mr. Brodrick has Mr. Chamberlain to reckon with.—“Englishman.”

**SWEDEN AGAINST NORWAY.**

Sweden, we are told, has no interest in resorting to coercion in regard to Norway. It is a pity she did not avow this sooner through responsible channels—it had been taken for granted privately—for it is against Swedish coercion that Norway seems to have revolted. At least that is the impression we gather from the “Afterpost” which contains the following article upon the crisis: “The King was already given to understand by the Privy Committee in Stockholm that the exercise of his right, and one can even add, of his constitutional duty, to give the Royal assent to a unanimously desired and purely Norwegian law, would evoke in Sweden a crisis under stress of which the King would have to choose between the two countries. That is to say the Swedish veto, which is none the less effective because not openly avowed, was placed upon the exercise of Norway's right to control her destinies, and Norway's King was compelled to become its interpreter and instrument. Thus King Oscar is at present a prisoner in the Palace of Stockholm. He is bound so fast by Swedish commands and threats that it is impossible for him to come hither, where everything called him to the execution of his exalted constitutional task. That is a picture of a painful and almost tragic character.”

**BOWEL COMPLAINT IN CHILDREN.**

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## ANCIENT TEMPLES.

## THE BUDDHIST RUINS IN JAVA.

If most people were asked to name those countries of the world in which are still to be found splendid architectural remains of bygone civilisations, the names of Egypt, India, Syria, and Mexico would at once be forthcoming; but few would place the island of Java on the list; yet not one of these could show ruins more numerous or more splendid. This may seem an exaggeration, but the same opinion has been universally expressed by the most eminent writers on the subject. As to the date of the rise and fall of a civilisation which has left behind it such splendid memorials authorities are much at variance; but for the most part they are placed between the beginning and the eighth or ninth centuries of our era. Certain it is, however, that at one time the island must have been ruled by a Hindoo or Buddhist people far advanced in the arts of architecture and sculpture.

Among the finest and best preserved of these ruins is the great temple known as the Tjandi Barabudur, situated near the centre of Java in the Sultanate of Djokjakarta. Originally designed probably as a dagaba, or resting place, for a portion of the ashes of Buddha, this building rises in the form of a terraced pyramid, the part at present above ground being about 350 feet square by about 120 feet high. The terraces at present visible are seven in number, the whole being surrounded by a dome thirty feet in height. Each of these terraces is covered on the inner wall formed by the terrace above, and in the lower terraces also on outer walls running round them, by a series of bas-reliefs, which for extent, variety, and artistic merit have probably not their equals in the world. Running in a double tier round the lower galleries and in a single tier round the upper ones, they are estimated to have a total length of over three miles, and represent by a continuous series of pictures not only the birth and life of the Lord Buddha in his final incarnation, but also a large number of the “jataka,” or previous lives, of the Master in the gradually ascending forms of animals and of men in various positions in life, and record his good deeds in each of those lives. Thus we have the story of the Bodhisatva when on earth in the form of a hare, Indra, the Lord of Heaven, in the form of a traveller, weary and hungry, comes down to test the virtues of the various beasts. He receives fish from an otter, a dish of curds from a jackal, and fruit from a monkey, but the poor hare, having nothing else to offer, presents his own body to the hungry traveller and throws himself on to a fire to be roasted. Interrupted now in many places by the work of a thousand years of earthquakes, tropical storms and fanatical Mahomedan destroyers, this wonderful picture story runs up through gallery after gallery to where, in the central dome, entirely closed in and hidden, stood the final image of the Master, free from any ornament, crown, or aureole, the Buddha raised above all earthly desires or passions.

In the whole of the series at present above ground there were originally no fewer than 2,141 complete bas-relief pictures, of which 988 are still in a fair state of preservation. There were, in addition, in niches round the terrace walls, 441 statues of Buddha larger than life, besides smaller ones past counting. The whole of this work is done, not in soft stone, easy to manipulate, but in the hardest and most intractable kinds of lava and trachyte. Alfred Russell Wallace, in his classical work of the Malay Archipelago, remarks, “The amount of human labour and skill expended on the Great Pyramids of Egypt sinks into insignificance when compared with that required to complete this sculptured hill-temple in the interior of Java.” There is, however, one peculiar point in the construction which tends to show that the builders were not as good engineers as they were sculptors and architects. Round the entire base there runs what looks like a broad pavement of cubes of stone laid, but not cemented, together. This broad pavement has been removed in sections, each section being replaced in turn, and underneath was found another terrace, larger than any of those now visible, and having its walls partly, but not entirely, covered with 160 more bas-relief pictures in fine preservation. These were photographed and covered in again. The total mass of squared blocks of stone covering this hidden terrace amounts to 7,000 cubic yards. The conclusion is inevitable that this hidden terrace was meant for the original lower terrace, but that with the building partly completed, and the first set of sculptures still unfinished, the builders found that their foundations were too weak for the huge structure, and were obliged to sacrifice one terrace to strengthen them. Had not this been necessary the building would have stood up even more colossal than it is. The temple of Barabudur is only one among many in Java. At the village of Prambanan, also near Djokjakarta, are the ruins known as “Chandi Sewa,” or the “Thousand Temples,” consisting of an outer parallelogram of 84 small temples, a second of 76, a third of 64, a fourth of 44, and a fifth, or inner one, of 28; in all 286 small temples in five concentric parallelograms. In the centre is a large and beautifully ornamented circular inner temple. Most of the smaller temples are in ruins, but some are still fairly perfect.

At Loro-Jongran, close by, are fourteen small and six large temples, being still represented by finely carved statues. At Gunung Fraw an extensive plateau reached in former times by four flights of stone stairs, each of over a thousand steps, on the North, South, East, and West are remains of nearly four hundred temples and, to quote Wallace again, “the whole country between here and Prambanan, a distance of sixty miles, abounds with ruins, so that fine sculptured images may be seen lying in ditches, or built into the walls of enclosures.” The above buildings are all of a religious character, but others may have been used for lay purposes, such as the so-called “Water Castle” in the city of Djokjakarta itself, where may be seen the remains of high walled enclosures with broad tanks, now overgrown with weeds, but still showing their stone terraces and the stone steps leading to the water, having probably originally formed the pleasure of some Hindoo potentate, or possibly, from their very high walls, of his harour. In other parts are many ruins of forts, palaces, baths and aqueducts, and at Modjo-Agong, over a large stretch of country, every road and pathway shows a foundation of finely laid brickwork the paved streets of some old city of which only traces now remain.

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One thing is noticeable in all this architecture; like the ancient Greeks, the builders knew nothing of the extreme utility of the arch in masonry consequently few roofs remain, but in some places, as at Mendoot, near Barabudur, complete roofs remain, made by horizontal courses of masonry, each overlapping the one below it till they meet at the apex. Of course, the roof for this has to be very high for the breadth spanned, but for small spans the system serves its purpose fairly well. From the above descriptions it will be seen that if some of the energy spent on Pompeii and Egypt could be spent on excavations in Java discoveries of the greatest importance might be made. It is to be hoped that the money will some day be found for this purpose.—“Globe.”

## ALIGARH NEWS.

Aligarh, June 24.—A meeting of the Central Standing Committee of the Mahomedan Educational Conference held last night unanimously elected Muntaz-ul-Mulk, Ma-Shiruddaula Khaliqa, Mohammad Husain Khan of Patiala, as President of the next sittings of the Educational Conference to be held at Aligarh in December. The selection is sure to commend itself to the Mahomedan public owing to the invaluable services of the President-elect both to the College and Conference and his devotion to the interests of his community as right-hand man of Sir Sayed Ahmed. The finances of the College are in a most flourishing condition. The income from grants, tuition fees and other sources for the last year has been Rs. 1,24,047, that is, Rs. 12,625 above that of the preceding year; while donations and subscriptions for buildings, etc., amounted to Rs. 1,23,499, an increase of Rs. 50,000 over the preceding year. The Curzon Hospital Lytton Library and other important buildings have been finished, which completes the right and left wings of the Strachey Hall. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor arrives at Aligarh on the 7th August at 10.30, and will lay the foundation-stone of Nawab Fazal Ali Khan's Boarding-house, for which house the Nawab has given Rs. 28,000. After taking lunch with the Nawab His Honour will leave for Bareilly in the course of the afternoon.

## A COWARDLY ACT.

“X. Y. Z.” writes in the “Hindu”:—“Sir,—On the 19th evening between 7 and 7.30, I was coming with my family from Triplicane to Mount Road. When we were passing the bridge between Messrs. Oakes and the Gymkhana Club, I saw a European gentleman and a lady, coming behind our carriage in a high-wheeled Dogcart. Just as our carriage passed the bridge the Dogcart naturally was passing us fast, but to my great astonishment I saw the lady taking the whip from the gentleman who was driving and gave two blows on the hind portion of my carriage where I was seated and another two blows on the front, and they drove away faster. But I was extremely irritated. With a view to overtake them and demand an explanation or make a complaint to the Police against them, I drove my carriage and overtook them near the old Fort Station. The weather was cloudy, hence very dark. I ran after their carriage asking him (gentleman) to stop with my umbrella in my hand, because it was drizzling and the driver (gentleman) was polite enough to stop the carriage. I, on approaching the Dogcart, caught hold of the hanging whip cord and the reins and asked for an explanation and told him, in plain English that it was ungentlemanly to behave like that, and that it was not becoming of a lady to act that part. But that wonderful lady again thinking that I might hit her with my umbrella, flicked it with my hand. On the gentleman expressing his heart felt regret at his conduct, that evening we parted and the most courteous lady did not even think of returning my umbrella. As I was plunged in the kindly words of the gentleman I forgot all about my plundered umbrella. Here I wish to point out the peculiar nature of the lady more than that of the gentleman, who seemed to care for his honor. As it is very undesirable that such actions should recur and as it is necessary that the two parties Europeans and ‘natives’ in these days should move harmoniously, I request you to give publicity to this and oblige.”

## PROSECUTION OF A VERNACULAR PAPER.

A Tanjore correspondent writes to the “Madras Mail” under date June 21:—Ordered by the Inspector-General of Police to “clean his character in a Court of law, Rao Bahadur V. Prangasa Naidu, Police Inspector of Tanjore city, is prosecuting the editor of a weekly Tamil newspaper published at Tanjore, the Jananukulam for certain articles that it published, the issues containing them being sent to the Inspector-General of Police and the District Magistrate, with the articles marked. Amongst the main allegations against the editor which were contained in the complaint presented yesterday afternoon to the First Class Divisional Magistrate of Tanjore, by the Public Prosecutor, were that accused was habitually making disparaging remarks in his paper against the complainant and frequently advocated his transfer. In the matter of the recent death in the Tanjore City Police Station, accused published special articles making misrepresentations of facts in insinuating that the death of the prisoner might have been to violence whilst in Police custody. When the matter was being enquired into by the District Magistrate, accused sent him his special issues with covering letters in which it was said that the Police Officers and the Subordinate Magistrate had combined together and that they should all be transferred. Eventually, the theory of death by violence was found untenable by the District Magistrate so that he had been writing so long did not come to pass, published in his paper of the 25th February last the defamatory matter which forms the basis of the present charge. The Tamil rendering of the passage is to the effect that the Inspector instigated the proprietor of a certain printing press, to whom the editor owed certain debts, to arrest him on a Civil warrant for which he paid from his pocket emergent batta, the arrest being made on the 22nd February. The complainant resents the imputation and denies that he was ever aware of any decree in favour of the “Jananukulam” Press against the accused and that he ever did anything in the matter of his arrest. The enquiry into the charge is posted to the 28th instant.

## A REFORM TRAGEDY IN LAHORE.

The following letter appeared in the “Tribune” of Lahore in its issue of the 20th instant.

Sir,—A young Khetrani widow of a well-known and respectable family disappeared from her home on the forenoon of Monday before last. She had lost her husband a few months previously; and to keep her occupied and her thoughts away from her sorrow the management of the little household was put in her charge. She was the idol of her parents and had no cause of complaint whatever as to her treatment in the family. Her sudden vanishing at first caused no uneasiness, as it was thought she might have gone out on some domestic errand. But when hour after hour passed and she did not return her people began to be seriously alarmed, and her father made enquiries at every likely place for three or four days but no trace of her was found. The mother of the girl had recovered from a long course of fever only the day before the bolt fell from the blue, and she was utterly prostrated by the shock and her life was in danger. The poor father was in one niche reduced to such a wan shadow of his former self that the stoniest-hearted man could not look at him without shedding tears.

Meanwhile the tongue of scandal was busy, and various rumours and reports were in circulation as to the cause of the girl's going away. The story that had the widest acceptance was that she had been seen talking to a strange-looking woman in patent leather slippers in the morning who was evidently acting as go-between between her and some person or persons unknown, and by her inducement had been prevailed over to leave the protection of her parents for that of some designing scoundrel. The idea that the wretched girl had acted on the impulse of the moment was proved groundless by the fact that she had taken away her few ornaments, which showed that she had been led away in taking the terrible plunge by some unknown party who had acquired an influence over her and managed things skillfully beforehand. It was recollected by the stricken mother as well as several other ladies living in the lane that a mysterious female visitor had several times before been noticed to be whispering to her.

The sorrowing parents and relations, under the circumstances, were convinced that though she was naturally very good and obedient, the girl had been led astray and had gone to the bad. Yet their affection did not allow them to give up all hope of her, and they continued their search. On Friday morning it was discovered by accident that she was staying in the house of one of the members of a Society whose professed object is to get widows married and to help the cause of “social reform” in any other way. The father of the girl, thereupon, with a friend visited one of the leaders of this body (whom we shall call X), and taking off his turban, put it on the latter's feet and implored him in the name of the Merciful Father of All to restore him his daughter and save his honour. He also said that it was the object of the gentlemen of the Society to marry the girl with a view to furthering the cause of reform, he himself was willing to carry out their wishes, provided the young man chosen was of a caste in which Khetries could marry. It should be noted here that during the four days that no clue as to the girl's whereabouts was found, and the most hideous stories with regard to the cause of her disappearance were in circulation and were given credence to by people, her conduct and character being pitilessly assailed, and the father, mother and grown-up brother of the girl were in a state of mental agony to which death would be preferable. “The members of the Society kept quiet and kept the girl so carefully concealed that nobody could know where she was.”

At the request of X the heart-broken father was sent away to carry the tidings of the discovery to the mother—who was brought to the verge of death by the blow—and the aforesaid friend was taken to the residence of the President of the Society. The latter reassured him by telling him that the girl was in good hands and that there need be no anxiety on her score. To the prayer that she might be restored to her own people the answer was that he would think about it and give a decided reply in the evening. At evening when the father with his aforesaid friend was proceeding to the President's house, X with one or two fellow reformers met them purposely on the way and told them to their dismay that the girl would not come as she was afraid of being ill-treated. The friend was taken to the President's place, who told him that personally he had no objection to the restoration of the girl to her lawful guardians provided her parents agreed to her being married, so he might come in the morning to take her away. He (the friend) did so, but was told point-blank that it had been decided not to return the girl as her life would be in danger—she might commit suicide.

After much parleying the friend gave an agreement in writing, as desired, to the effect that he would be answerable for the girl's safety, and to save her face he would keep her in the care of his own wife and not let her be seen by her guardians or relations till matters had cooled down. The President now declared that he himself did not know exactly where the girl was, and if he could he would gladly induce the members of the Society to make her over to her own friends, but he feared they would not listen to him. Pondering over these words, the friend saw the Deputy Commissioner and laid before him the facts, praying for his protection and help (1) as to the girl's whereabouts being made known, (2) for her being put under the protection of some respectable family if she could not, or reasons above stated, come back to her parents, and (3) for preventing her being married out of caste of which there was great fear as the members of the Society did not believe in caste. By this time there was great excitement in the orthodox community in the city, everyone—rich and poor feeling for the unfortunate father. On Sunday a deputation consisting of some 70 leading Hindu gentlemen of the City went to the Deputy Commissioner's bungalow to seek his guidance and protection, but he happened to be away.

It is still unknown to the father of the girl and his friends where the girl exactly is, and not only have their efforts to get her back proved utterly futile up to this, but notwithstanding repeated prayers and importunities not even a chance has been allowed to them to see her.

O Reform! What have not been committed in thy name!

Yours &c.,  
Heart-Broken Hindu.

June 19th.

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## Silchar Notes.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Silchar, June 20.

## POST OFFICE DISTURBANCE.

On the 17th June we had an incident, which though trifling in its origin, took rather a sensational turn. The Post Master of the Silchar Post Office is an Indian and the Assistant Engineer who is in charge of the Public Works in Cachar is a European. The building of the above Post Office having become inadequate for its growing requirements the front verandah was being included in the main hall of that building. Hitherto work was being done outside the building. It now became necessary to dismantle the front wall and to remove some of the iron beams in the hall. About six days ago the Assistant Engineer came to the Post Office and wanted to carry on work inside the building where the Post Office was then located. The Post Master then asked him to make accommodation for his office and intimated that he could not allow his men to work inside the building unless and until he made some arrangements for his office. The Assistant Engineer paid no heed to this legitimate demand of the Post Master but entered into the building with his men when the latter closed the door. The Assistant Engineer then came away with his men. The Post Master reported this to the Deputy Post Master General by wire and the Chief Engineer is reported to have instructed the Assistant Engineer to make temporary arrangements for locating the Post Office. But the Assistant Engineer turned a deaf ear to the instructions of his superior and did not make any temporary shed perhaps thinking that he would be lowered in the estimate of his people if he carried out the demand of the Post Master who was no better than an Indian. So he determined to have his own way and accordingly on the day of occurrence he made his appearance with a number of his work people at the Post Office and ordered the dismantling of the front wall from outside. A breach was then made in the wall. No sooner had they made the breach than they entered into the building through it and put some struts to support the main beam. This left the Post Master no alternative but to close the Post Office to the utter inconvenience of the public as he found it quite unsafe to work in that building. The Deputy Commissioner had been out on inspection tour. The senior Extra Assistant Commissioner who was in charge during his absence was informed of what had happened. The latter accompanied by the District Superintendent of Police went to the Post Office and considered it necessary to guard it at night. Accordingly some constables were told off to keep watch there at night. In the meantime the Post Master sent a wire to the Deputy Commissioner stating the above occurrence, who on receipt of this authorized the Post Master to shift his office to the old Circuit House bungalow. Accordingly the Post Office has been shifted there.

## VACANCIES.

[The] Head Mohoriship—Hulakandi Tahsil carrying a salary of Rs. 48-3 as a month and the Head Clerkship of the Deputy Commissioner's office worth Rs. 90 rising to Rs. 110 per mensem have fallen vacant and the Accountants of the Deputy Commissioner's office with Rs. 60 rising to Rs. 80 will fall vacant from 1st July next.

Sirdar Ahmad Khan, ex-Governor of Kandahar, died at Kabul a few days back. He is brother of Sirdar Mahomed Ismail Khan, Afghan envoy with the Government of India. The ex-Governor was recently summoned to Kabul to render his accounts to the Amir.

With regard to the recent statement as to the new organisation at Army Headquarters it is understood that the Chief of the Staff will be responsible for mobilisation and intelligence. The Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General and Principal Medical Officer will be directly under the Commander-in-Chief as at present, and not under the Chief-of-Staff as stated.

The following is the summary of the weather and crop report of the U. P.—Slight rain has fallen in twenty-three districts and also in the Native State of Rampur where monsoon conditions are reported to be established. More rain is wanted in Garhwal and Mainpuri. The young sugarcane in Bareilly has been slightly damaged by strong west winds. The harvesting of spring crops continues in a few districts. Irrigation of sugarcane and extra crops is progressing. Food and fodder are adequate and prices continue stationary.

The two Head Constables of Robertson's Police, Kolar Gold Fields, who stand committed to the Sessions on a charge of causing hurt to extort a confession, have been suspended by the District Superintendent pending the result of the trial. It would appear that Govindrajuloo lost a gold bangle and suspected a Chetty who was living in the same house with him. The case having been reported to the Police the Chetty was sent for and when he arrived the Constables are reported to have thrashed him with a cane and asked him to say where the bangle was.

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