

THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, JULY 23, 1905.

REASONS FOR PARTITION.

The authors of the partition of Bengal would have acted more wisely if, instead of trying to justify their measure with arguments, they had simply issued a fiat to the following effect: "It is hereby notified that Bengal is divided into two: henceforth its people will be ruled by two Lieutenant-Governors." Such a procedure would have saved them from the unenviable position which they have brought upon themselves by going to convince an intelligent people, on rational grounds, that the measure, instead of doing them any injury, will confer immense benefit upon them. The Government, by adopting this procedure, might have snapped its finger at its critics, and laughed over their confusion in arguing the question with it.

The rulers of the country, however, consider themselves as intelligent men. There is no doubt they are as intelligent as the village school master in the "Deserted Village" who, though vanquished in argument, would argue still. And the villagers naturally wondered that, one small head like that of the school master could contain such a large quantity of distilled wisdom. The partition project is, however, the work of at least three wise heads. Why should they then abstain from arguing the question? And hence they have given "reasons" why Bengal should be dismembered, and how the partition would benefit its people. Now, we have two ways of carrying on an agitation when any unpopular measure is thrust upon the country. One is by giving tangible evidence of the fact that the parties affected by it have, rightly or wrongly, serious objection to it and this can be done by holding numerous protest meetings. The other is to argue the question, and show by facts and figures that the Government project is mischievous and outrageous. In regard to the partition question, as the Government is disturbing an arrangement existing for nearly two hundred years, it is for the Government, and not the people, to explain why it should be so disturbed; and, as we said, it has given reasons, and a good many too, to show why the partition should be effected.

The mischief, however, is that the rulers do not agree in their own reasons. Sir Charles Elliott gave his reasons why Bengal should be weakened to strengthen Assam, but Sir Henry Cotton also showed grounds to prove that Sir Charles Elliott was wrong. The Elgin Government, Sir A. Mackenzie, and others had also their reasons. The difficulty, as we said, is that the authorities do not always agree in their respective reasons, and sometimes they (the reasons) destroy one another. For instance, one authority says that Bengal should be divided, because, it is too heavy for one ruler; another says, no, that is not the real ground for the partition. Here is a strange statement we take from Mr. Risley's letter of December, 1903, to the Government of Bengal:—

"In 1896-97 there was a prolonged discussion as to whether the Chittagong Division should also be transferred to Assam. But though the project seemed at one time likely to take shape, it was eventually set aside for the time on grounds which have now ceased to have effect."

Thus, not only have the rulers advanced different—nay, contradictory, reasons as to why the project should be carried out, but, we were also told by Mr. Risley in 1903 that old reasons had departed with their authors, the old rulers, and new ones were occupying their place with their authors, the new rulers.

Mr. Risley thus abolished some of these reasons because they were barred by limitation; and repealed others, because they were inconvenient, and replaced them by fresh ones. Mr. Risley himself was thrown overboard by Sir Andrew Fraser, and the latter by Lord Curzon. The situation is this. Mr. Risley proposed that Dacca and Mymensingh should be transferred to the Assam Administration, and gave his reasons. Sir Andrew, however, cut his reasons into pieces and suggested that, not only should Dacca and Mymensingh but Faridpur, Backergunji, Pubna, Bogra and Rungpur also be amalgamated with Assam, and the whole placed under a Lieutenant-Governor. It will thus be marked that, we owe the wider scheme to the genius of our good and kind ruler. The Viceroy, in his turn, improved upon the situation by adding Rajshahye Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Malda, and the State of Cooch Behar to the transferred area, and of course gave his reasons. As the Viceroy is the biggest of all, his reasons necessarily are bigger than those of Mr. Risley and Sir Andrew put together and they have ultimately ousted all others.

But though they repealed and abolished reasons and replaced them by new ones; though they shifted their grounds every five or two years; and though they contradicted one another and advanced, one reason in 1892, another in 1896-97, another in 1902-3, and another in 1905; they agreed in the main point, that Bengal should be dismembered. It must be remembered, however, that it is during the administration of Lord Curzon and his Lieutenant, Sir Andrew Fraser, that the real maiming of Bengal has been proposed. The Government of Lord Elgin, no doubt, proposed the transfer of Chittagong to Assam, but it was afterwards dropped.

Coming so far, can any body help repeating the story of "the kettle and the three barristers"? Well, a shop-keeper sued a customer for the recovery of a kettle sold to the latter. Three briefless barristers undertook to defend him gratis. The plea adopted by the leading Counsel was that the kettle had a hole at the bottom and was therefore useless and of

no value, and he dwelt very eloquently and at considerable length upon this important point. When he sat down, up rose the second Counsel. His contention was that the kettle had been returned to the shop-keeper, whole and sound, and he too laid great emphasis on this point. It was now the turn of the third. His point was that his client had not taken the kettle at all. And thus, though they differed in their reasons, they agreed in the main point, namely, that their client was not liable for the payment of the price of the kettle.

By advancing various and contradictory reasons and repeatedly shifting its ground, the Government admits that it has raised its project upon a base of sand. We shall, however, examine all the reasons—the new and the old—those newly brought forward and those repealed or abolished,—one by one, in due course. In the meantime, the leaders of public opinion should be up and doing. They should lose no time in opening their campaign of agitation.

SECOND STAGE OF CURZON-KITCHENER CONTROVERSY.

We need hardly say that Lord Curzon's speech, regarding his dispute with Lord Kitchener, telegraphed to us by our Simla correspondent, and published in our last issue, has cost us some money, but that is not our complaint. Our serious complaint is that we have to read it carefully as also other papers preceding it, and obtain a clear view of the situation. This done, we have to offer our criticism. But why should we undergo all this trouble and expense? For, the Government does not listen to what we say. In this controversy between two such officials as the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief, the natives of the country, though vitally interested, were not consulted; and they were equally ignored when a compromise was sought to be effected. Yet we have to try to explain the situation to our readers.

First of all, it will strike every one that if Lord Curzon can roar like a lion he can also oo like a dove. The people of Bengal, with one voice, prayed to him for withdrawing the partition measure and saving them from a needless cruelty. His reply was his speeches in East Bengal in which he accused them of having got up an artificial agitation to deceive the Government, and he next prepared a thunderbolt in secret for killing or maiming the Bengalee nation. Mr. Brodrick on the other hand, did his very best to insult and humiliate him; and his Lordship, it will be seen, has at last agreed to submit to the situation in a spirit of humility which is more suitable to a passionless Buddhist than a proud Englishman.

Now, what was the bone of contention? It was this. Lord Kitchener by a dash of his pen abolished the dual control that was exercised over military administration in India. Like the Commander-in-Chief, there was also a Military Member of the Government of India, who advised the latter and had the right of criticising the measures of the head of the Army. In this way, the Commander-in-Chief was not allowed to have his own way in carrying out every military project he started and wasting the tax-payer's money at his sweet will. Lord Curzon protested against the revolutionary proposal of Lord Kitchener, and all his colleagues joined in this protest. He argued the question well and pointed out, in the following weighty words, the disastrous results that were bound to follow if Lord Kitchener carried the day:—

"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 involve an immediate aggravation of his anxiety and labour. 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. * * *

"If this is the condition of affairs in times of peace, I view with even greater alarm the probable consequence in time of war. Lord Kitchener's proposal is in reality one not to disestablish an individual or even a department, but to subvert the military authority of the Government of India as a whole, and to substitute for it a military autocracy in the person of the Commander-in-Chief."

So Lord Kitchener's reorganisation of the Army meant "military autocracy in the person of the Commander-in-Chief." This was the deliberate opinion of Lord Curzon himself and all his colleagues. And military autocracy means not only the subversion of the constitution of the present Government of India, but it is almost synonymous with administrative and financial ruin of India. Have the "modifications," suggested by Lord Curzon, and some of which the Home Government have accepted, saved the people and the Government of India from this position of peril? Far from it.

As we suspected the proposed "modifications" of Lord Curzon were practically no modifications at all. They are four in number, and were thus stated by Lord Curzon in his speech:—

"(1) That the Supply Member should be always a soldier and not a civilian. (2) That the Supply Member should be available for consultation by the Governor-General upon all questions, irrespective of whether they referred to the Commander-in-Chief's Department. The Commander-in-Chief is thus not to be the sole adviser of the Government of India as the Secretary of State proposed. (3) That all important military changes should by necessity be submitted for consideration to the Mobilization Committee of which both the Commander-in-Chief and the Supply Member should be members if necessary. (4) That the Government of India should be adequately represented in the new Army Department, the Secretary there to have the rank of a Major-General and to draw out a schedule of all matters which must be submitted by him to the Governor-General in Council."

And the Secretary of State, says the Viceroy, "has accepted all of them."

Let us analyse the above. Lord Curzon does not, in any of his modifications, propose control over the Commander-in-Chief which has been taken away by the new scheme. All that he suggests is that, the Viceroy should not be kept in the dark as regards any military measure that might be undertaken by the head of the Army. So it comes to this. Previously the Viceroy was the master of the situation, but, now, under Lord Kitchener's modification, he is to be reduced to the position of a suitor! Previously the Viceroy, through his Military Member, could know anything he liked, and, with the help of the former, point out the defect in the schemes of the Commander-in-Chief. But, the new Military Member, called the "Supply Member," will not necessarily be the sole adviser of the Viceroy, and thus his Excellency will find himself quite helpless to cope with the Commander-in-Chief.

Lord Curzon proposed that the Supply Member should be "always" a soldier and not a civilian. First of all, is not a civilian very much like a military man? But what does it matter whether the Supply Member is a soldier or a civilian, so long he is not the Viceroy's man? Suppose the Member is a soldier, but a nominee of the Commander-in-Chief. Will not the Viceroy be then a complete tool in the hands of the Military Department, which Lord Curzon is so anxious to avoid?

Lord Curzon says that the Secretary of State has accepted all his modifications. As the modifications, every one of them, are worthless, so it would not have meant anything if Mr. Brodrick had really done so. But, has he? On the other hand, he has agreed only to the two most unimportant of the four modifications. As regards the remaining two, he has practically rejected them. Let us here quote what the Secretary of State said when he was interpellated on the subject the other day. At first his reply was:—

"These recommendations (of Lord Curzon) do not contravene the provisions of Mr. Brodrick's despatch."

When further questioned on the subject, Mr. Brodrick's reply was as follows:—

"London July 17. "Mr. Brodrick further stated that Lord Curzon's recommendations related to four points."

"First that the Military Supply Member should always be a soldier. Government replied that it was prepared to appoint a soldier for the impending vacancy but it was unable to fetter the future discretion of the Crown."

"Secondly, that the Supply Member be always available for consultation with the Viceroy on all military questions in which Government was concerned but no special claim could exist for the Supply Member to be consulted upon the proposals of the Commander-in-Chief or vice versa."

"Thirdly, the Secretary to Government in the Army Department should receive the local rank of Major-General. The Government assented to this."

"Fourthly, important changes in military organisation especially the Native Army should be discussed by a mobilization committee of which the Commander-in-Chief and the Supply Member, be essential members."

First, mark the tone of the replies. When Mr. Brodrick said that the recommendations of Lord Curzon "do not contravene" his despatch, he took care to proclaim to the world that the Viceroy had at last submissively yielded to his dictum. He then gave some details of the way in which he showed his love for Lord Curzon. He declared that, though Lord Curzon had recommended that a soldier should "always" be appointed as the Military Supply Member—why Lord Curzon preferred a soldier to a civilian is not clear—the, Mr. Brodrick has rejected the proposal. Secondly, Lord Curzon proposed that the Supply Member should be "always" available to the Government to advise it on all military questions. Mr. Brodrick says in effect that he cannot accede to this request also. Neither the Government nor the Commander-in-Chief, should, in Mr. Brodrick's opinion, have any special claim upon the Supply Member. Lord Curzon has thus been again thrown over-board completely! Mr. Brodrick has readily accepted the other two modifications of the Viceroy, as they are not of the slightest value, one way or the other.

Let not the real point be concealed in a cloud of words. Was not the Viceroy previously the master of the situation, and has he not been ousted from it by the Commander-in-Chief? Was not the previous method better, because, it provided a controlling authority in the person of the Military Member, who would be wanting now if the Commander-in-Chief were to attempt to become the dictator?

There is another point which we cannot understand. Lord Curzon considered the previous scheme of Lord Kitchener as both unworkable and dangerous, and condemned it as such in the strongest language possible, as his words quoted above will show. The same scheme remains in its entirety; yet he stays here and undertakes to work out a scheme which is "unworkable" and which, if given effect to, will "subvert the military authority of the Government of India" and convert the Commander-in-Chief into a military autocrat. It is not for us to say how can Lord Curzon occupy such an anomalous position—to support in the same breath what he condemned so strongly a few days ago, and agree to carry out what he honestly believed would strike at the very foundation of the British Empire in India.

The most staggering spectacle in the whole thing is the attitude of Mr. Brodrick towards the Viceroy, and vice versa. Mr. Brodrick has treated Lord Curzon throughout with great contempt, and Lord Curzon chose to "kiss the rod" as the "Englishman" has it. The real truth, however, is that Lord Curzon has felt the insults, heaped upon him so wantonly twice over, very keenly. Perhaps he might have borne the situation more calmly if this treatment had been accorded to him by a really superior person; but,

proud as he is and ought to be, the thought is no doubt intolerable to him that, he should suffer this humiliation at the hands of one like Mr. Brodrick, who is not his intellectual equal.

We hope, however, his Lordship will be gracious enough to see that it would be exceedingly unjust if he were to attempt to soothe his feelings by punishing the Bengalees through the partition of their country, for they are absolutely innocent and have no hand whatever in this military controversy.

PARTITION FALLACIES.

HERE is one of the arguments of the Government of India in support of the partition of Bengal:—

"The Governor-General is fully aware of the opposition which these proposals have encountered, and has no desire to undervalue the sentiments upon which it has been based. The ties of mutual association grow up so quickly and become so closely interlaced that territorial redistribution can rarely be accomplished except at the cost of a disruption which is often painful and generally unpopular. On the other hand, when old connections are severed new ones almost immediately take their place, growing with a rapidity that in a very short time is found to invest them with a sanctity scarcely inferior to that of the associations which they have superseded."

His Excellency says that "he has no desire to undervalue the sentiments of the people," and yet he does it! Thus, a debilitated prejudice made him so blind that he did not see that he gave a promise and broke it immediately. As a matter of fact, never were the sentiments of a nation, consisting not of thousands, or tens of thousands, or hundreds of thousands but tens of millions were outraged so wantonly as in the case of the partition of Bengal. Lord Curzon says he is "fully aware of the opposition" which his proposals have encountered. If so why this utter contempt for the protests, which were sent out from millions of throats? His Lordship is fully aware that the Bengalees are not willing to be divided. What then? Use force—the irresistible force of the Government to make the nation swallow the bitter pill that has been prepared for them!

There is no doubt that, the Government forgot all about the gigantic character of the agitation that convulsed Bengal last year when recording its Resolution, for it could not have then trampled down the national sentiment with such a light heart. For six months in 1904 people of this Province could speak of no other subject than the threatened dismemberment of Bengal. The chief centre of the agitation was necessarily the districts of Dacca and Mymensingh; and hundreds of public meetings were held there, not only in towns but in important villages also, which were attended by thousands and tens of thousands of people, representing all classes of interests, and where resolutions were unanimously passed protesting against the introduction of the measure.

Indeed, such a demonstration was unprecedented in the annals of British administration in East Bengal. Fancy, the memorials of the people of Dacca and Mymensingh to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal contained about one lakh of signatures. Lord Curzon himself, when he visited East Bengal, saw the wave of seething discontent which his measure had given rise to. Nor was West Bengal, though not directly affected, silent. At a meeting convened by the Sheriff of Calcutta and held at the Town Hall on the 18th of March 1904 and presided over by Rajah Peary Mohan Mukherjee, the representatives of both East and West Bengal assembled and adopted a joint memorial, in which they entered their emphatic protest against the proposal of dividing Bengal, and proved conclusively that there was absolutely no necessity for adopting the measure and inflicting needless cruelty upon a loyal and law-abiding nation.

The people of Bengal thus made it abundantly clear, to the best of their power, that they did not want a separation. The Government, however, totally ignoring their feelings, is now going to separate them violently, and holds out the consolation that, in due course, they will forget their distress, for, when "old connections are severed new ones almost immediately take their place." It is in this intelligent way that the rulers of this country argue a question! On this principle a wife and a husband may be parted, and if they complain, they may be consoled with the happy prospect of their being soon reconciled with new partners.

There is then this glaring fallacy in their argument. If it is now and then true that, when old connections are severed new ones take their place, it is equally true that, by cutting asunder the old connections, the progress and prosperity of both the separated peoples are for ever marred. No one with a grain of commonsense in him can deny that the people of the Bengalee-speaking districts, would grow, if placed under one Local Government, and, on the other hand, would decline if they were separated, and put under two separate Governments. So, even if the people of the new Province were to form new connections under a new order of things, there is no doubt that, being separated from their old connections, their improvement in every direction—social, moral, educational, political and so forth—will be seriously checked. So the consolation in the formation of new connections and associations means nothing.

When Alsace and Lorraine were cut off from France and sought to be added to Germany, the inhabitants of those districts violently opposed the proposition. It was only brute force that led them to acquiesce in the arrangement. The most remarkable nature of this protest was that the German element in both places was very strong. Germany was the victor, and France lay prostrate at her feet. Yet the German inhabitants of the two districts would not go over to their father-land! Such is the influence which old connections and associations

exercise over the human mind. And Lord Curzon would sever the tie of mutual connections and associations of East and West Bengal by ~~then~~ and bayonet! It was in the seventies that Alsace and Lorraine were made over to Germany. But their inhabitants have not yet forgotten their old associations, and would gladly cast in their lot with France to-morrow if they were permitted to do so.

And why do you break the ties of mutual associations of the last two hundred years? The Government gives two main reasons. One is that Bengal is too big for one Lieutenant-Governor. The reply to this is that, it is a mere assertion and not based upon facts. No one can be a greater authority on this point than Sir Henry Cotton and he denied it in toto. On the other hand, he said, the Lieutenant-Governors of the present day have very few onerous duties to perform, considering that Bengal has been thoroughly pacified and studded with a network of railways, public thoroughfares, and steamer service. Granting, however, that the Lieutenant-Governor is over-worked, why not give him relief by other means, and not by maiming the Bengalee nation?

The other important reason is that, Assam must be improved. But that is no reason that the Bengalee-speaking people should be made to suffer. Assam is lean, and Eastern districts of Bengal are fat. So they must be joined with Assam to maintain equilibrium. But, if Dacca, Mymensingh, Rajshahye etc., will enrich Assam, when added to it, they will impoverish the Presidency and the Burdwan Divisions if detached from them. Why will the Bengalees as a nation agree to it? Why will the Bengalees of the East and the North agree to help Assam at the cost of their kith and kin? Why will not the inhabitants of West Bengal deem it a gross wrong to themselves? So, you see, the whole project is based upon brute force, and not even upon commonsense.

So Assam is to be equalized with the advanced districts of Bengal. By promulgating a certain law Lycurgus also made the whole Spartan nation equal. Is it the intention of the British Government to destroy the inequality of wealth that prevails in the Empire? If that is the wish of the glorious Government under which we live, we welcome the proposal. Let then England which is the richest country in Europe, help India, the poorest in the world. Let then Lord Curzon, who is no doubt a wealthy man, help Sir Andrew Fraser who is said to be poor.

MR. B. IS THE TASK-MASTER OF LORD C.

We said that if we had condemned the speech of Lord Curzon for its tone of abject humility, we were supported in that view by the Anglo-Indian papers generally, nay even by the "Times." Indeed, the London paper saw no disrespect in the speech of his Lordship. On the other hand it expressed its gratification that the matter had been so satisfactorily settled. It was Sir H. Fowler who was the first to raise the alarm that Lord Curzon had insulted Mr. Brodrick by his remarks. And what was the result? Immediately, the leading papers in England followed suit and found fault in the speech. The following paragraph from the "Standard," which is a sober ministerial paper, makes the position serious:—

"There is no doubt that the Viceroy has committed a serious indiscretion by an undignified demonstration. The 'Standard' adds that it should sincerely regret any circumstance leading to his resignation of office which he has held with conspicuous honour and distinction, but none of his friends would desire him to retain the post after finding himself not in accord with a policy which he is expected to carry out, and judging from his speech this is now the case."

This is in a manner giving Lord Curzon his conge,—a parting benediction. He is in short told in the above that he had done mighty well, and it was now time for him to vacate his post, as he has a reputation to maintain. The "Englishman" and the "Indian Daily News" are of opinion that Sir H. Fowler is trying maliciously to create a breach between Lord Curzon and Mr. Brodrick. The "Statesman" on the other hand thinks that, Lord Curzon is consulting neither his reputation nor his dignity in following his present course: that is in attempting to score off Mr. Brodrick by making a retort, instead of taking the only step consistent with the substance and tone of his published view of the question in dispute."

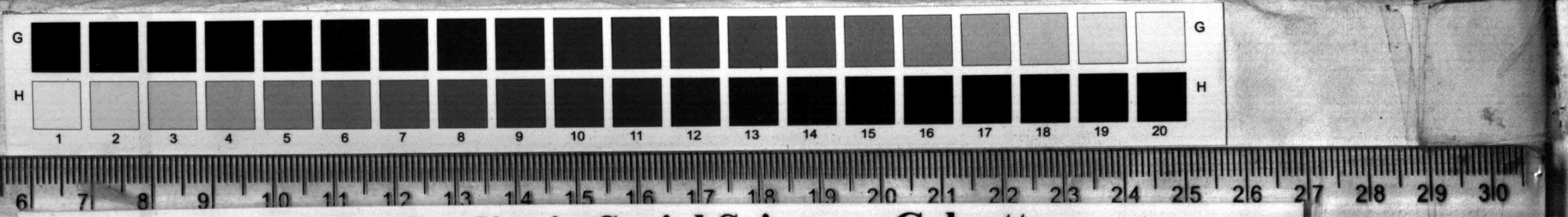
The "Madras Mail" sees "keen satire" in the speech of Lord Curzon. The "Englishman" is of opinion that Lord Curzon has forfeited his chance. He, with his colleagues, ought to have given the Home Government the alternative of either accepting their resignation or their views on the question. Here is the concluding sentence in the speech of Lord Curzon:—

"That Governor-General would in my judgment be untrue to his office who did not regard it as his bounden duty to sustain the prerogative which was conceded to the Government of India so far back as three-quarters of a century ago."

Referring to the above the "Englishman" makes the following remark:—

"What Lord Curzon has done in effect is to relinquish that very prerogative, and hence his speech failed as completely in its appeal to public sentiment as in its attempt to conceal the Viceregal mortification."

What we always contended is that the position of the Viceroy ought to be, as it was before, superior to that of the Secretary of State. As a matter of fact, the Viceroy's were held supreme in matters Indian, before the days of Lord Hamilton and Lord Lansdowne. But step by step Lord Hamilton began to appropriate powers for the Indian Secretary of State, previously enjoyed by the Viceroys. Now-a-days what is a Viceroy but almost a figure-head? "Who are you; why do you weep?" "I am the head of the family,



and I am weeping because my servant beat me for having taken a piece of bread to appease my hunger." Yes, Lord Curzon is the Viceroy, when the partition of Bengal is considered, but he is a mere head clerk when the question affecting the Empire is taken into account.

Lord Lansdowne was considered a capital head clerk in his Viceregal office at Simla. Lord Curzon has made the Viceregal position worse; for the Viceroy is now to be practically a subordinate to the Commander-in-Chief. We do not envy the position of Lord Curzon; he has now scarcely a friend in the world. Even the London "Times" has practically forsaken him. In India his name will endure for ever, but we fear it will not be blessed. We very much doubt if the Bombay "Times" will now care to repudiate the assertion fastened upon him that, Lord Curzon, by returning to India a second time, has wrecked his reputation.

The concluding remarks of the "Englishman" ought to be reproduced in a prominent place. He says:

"So far as India is concerned the main interest of the contest is over. Lord Curzon who might have been her champion, has surrendered, and so long as the Government of which Mr. Brodriek is an ornament remains in power, the issue must be looked upon as decided in favour of militarism and extravagance. What remains to be discussed is merely whether Mr. Brodriek considers that Lord Curzon has or has not made too many wry faces in the act of eating his humble pie. It is probable that the text of the speech will exculpate the Viceroy. He would not have been human if he had not given some slight vent to his feelings, and allowance having been made for this, his submission was complete. Yet, if Mr. Brodriek is ungenerous enough to humiliate him still further, it is difficult to see what remedy remains. Resignation would now wear a very different aspect from that in which it would have been regarded a month ago. For Lord Curzon's sake it can only be hoped that his task-master may be in an amiable humour during the next day or two."

And Mr. Brodriek is the task-master of Lord Curzon—Lord Curzon, the lucky man,—Lord Curzon, "the superior Purzon," "the youngest of Viceroys yet the ablest," the future Prime Minister! Can it be that Lord Curzon is a victim of retributive justice—that all this has come as a punishment for his shabby treatment of the hundreds of millions of helpless human beings, whose destinies were put in his hand by Providence? Why does not his Lordship request his "task-master" privately to treat him with more generosity, and never to humiliate him before the world?

It will be seen that the "Pioneer" also does not attribute the noblest motives to Sir H. Fowler. It says:

"Considering the circumstances, Lord Curzon's speech of Tuesday would seem to have been one of singular restraint and moderation. But when Sir Henry Fowler, whose business it is to criticise, takes exception, Mr. Brodriek, who is never so happy as when he is giving someone away, promptly goes over to his side. "I do not want you only to obey me, you scoundrel, I want you to love me," said the King of Prussia to the grenadier he had been beating; and it is apparently on the same principle that Mr. Brodriek would deal with his Viceroys. But who could have imagined a year ago that Lord Curzon would not only have to be carrying out Mr. Brodriek's wishes in defiance of his own, but would be required to appear as if he enjoyed the submission?"

So Mr. Brodriek would beat the Viceroy and yet expect to be loved by him. And Lord Curzon would similarly beat the Indians and expect them to love him and cultivate loyalty. Verily this is retributive justice! What, we think, His Excellency should have done was to deal out to his own subordinates, and not the poor Bengalees, the treatment that he received at the hands of the Secretary of State, or that would have at least the merit of symmetry of which he is so very fond, and which has led him to partition Bengal.

As we said the other day, the "Indian Daily News" was conducted under radical principles in the beginning. So the morning, the Prince of Wales, now our King-Emperor, came to Calcutta it appeared in black! This it could do with some sense of propriety by taking advantage of the death of a military official. The "Indian Daily News" of course tried to show that the cause of its appearing in mourning was the death of the military officer, and not to express its malice towards the Royal Family. This explanation, however, deceived none, and the "Indian Daily News" was fiercely assailed by all loyal Anglo-Indian, and some of the Indian papers too, for this display of bad taste. The "Indian Daily News" had calculated that his manoeuvre would cause laughter in India, but it did not. On the contrary, it produced a different feeling. Some of the Indian papers, including this journal, appeared in black yesterday, for reasons which need not be mentioned. It is when a distinguished man is carried off to the other world, that the Press is robed in such a costume but this is the first time that Indian journals have appeared in black to express their concentrated abhorrence of a Government measure.

Of course the rulers say that the partition of Bengal would benefit the people. The parties most vitally interested in this question, we mean the Bengalees, on the other hand, are of opinion that the project would destroy their race. When there is such a difference of opinion between the rulers and the ruled, whose voice should prevail? The rulers are only birds of passage who come out here to make their pile. The Bengalees are, however, permanent residents of their country and have thus an abiding interest in it. Common sense therefore requires that the rulers should give way before the protests of the millions in Bengal. It seems, however, that the rulers, now-a-days, have very little to do with common sense. Well the Bengalees need not yet despair; for, the success or the failure of the measure rests upon the nature of the agitation that is organized. As for the Bengalee race being extinguished, there is a difficulty in the way. They are numerically stronger than any other race in In-

dia. In fact, almost every important town in India has a Bengalee colony. You will find such a colony at Benares, at Mathura, at Brindaban, at Allahabad, at Lahore and one even at Quetta. And these Bengalees lead wherever they have settled for good.

At a conference held at the Prasad of Maharajah Sir J. M. Tagore, which was attended by influential representatives from the various districts of Bengal, it was resolved that the Maharajah, as the head of the Indian community, in whom the Government had confidence, should be pleased to wire both to the Viceroy and the Secretary of State, intimating to them the deep and intense feeling which the partition question has caused to all classes of people, and requesting them to be so gracious as to keep the measure in abeyance till the people have been given an opportunity of discussing the wider scheme which was never placed before them for discussion. The Maharajah, it was further resolved, should also request the Viceroy to receive a deputation in this connection at Simla. As the Maharajah himself feels keenly on the subject, and knows very well how the whole Province has been convulsed over this matter, he readily agreed to set up to these resolutions and sent two telegrams, one to the Secretary of State and the other to the Viceroy. The Viceroy has replied stating that he cannot receive the deputation as the Secretary of State has already passed orders; but why should that prevent Lord Curzon from listening to what the people have to say, specially as the new scheme was never discussed before? His Lordship with equal justice might have declined to receive the deputation on the ground that Mr. Brodriek had insulted him. Well, from one point of view the prayer to Lord Curzon ought not to have been made, because all those who advised the course knew very well that his Lordship would treat their request with the same contempt, which was accorded to His Excellency's own request by Mr. Brodriek re the military controversy. Why court insult in this manner?

We should, however, state here that the leading men, who had met to confer, took this step possibly for one reason, namely, to see what was the present attitude of Lord Curzon towards the Indians, after a succession of recent incidents with which his Lordship was intimately connected. One of these incidents was the ardent sympathy which the people of this country showed to Lord Curzon when Lady Curzon was seriously ill. The leading men perhaps wanted to know whether that attitude on their part had softened Lord Curzon a little towards them or not. On the other hand, the Indians, from a supreme sense of duty, were obliged to hold public meetings all over the country to protest against his Lordship's University speech in which he called the people of the East a race of liars. The leaders wanted to know whether that move, on the part of the Indians, was yet remembered by Lord Curzon, or had been forgotten by his Lordship. They further wanted to know what effect this Kitchener-Curzon controversy had produced upon the Viceroy. A wag wrote a para in the news columns of this journal to the effect that Mr. Brodriek, when he sided with Lord Curzon, tried to soothe Lord Curzon by making over the Bengalees completely at his mercy, and Lord Curzon was pacified in this manner. It was thus to ascertain the present attitude of Lord Curzon possibly that the telegram, referred to above, was sent to Lord Curzon. It is quite evident from his reply that, His Excellency is yet in ill-humour on account of the Kitchener-Curzon controversy; but surely the Bengalees had no hand in it.

"OBSERVER" in the columns of the "Englishman" complains that Anglo-Indians now-a-days do not take any interest in the affairs of this country. They make their pile and go home. In days gone by, they were important factors, who had to be consulted whenever any new measure was sought to be introduced by the Government. But now the English community in Calcutta have become so apathetic that they do not even take note of the fact that the High Court is day by day being shorn of its prestige, powers, responsibilities and capacity of protecting oppressed people. This proposed partition is one of the ways of reducing the High Court to the position of a District Court, and the "Englishman" very clearly pointed it out the other day. With what contempt is the High Court looked upon by the Government will be evident from the fact that, the learned Judges were not at all consulted when the dismemberment of Bengal was proposed. Non-official Europeans are vitally interested in the integrity of the High Court; and it is therefore the duty of every one of them to examine the partition question and oppose the measure, now that it has been made perfectly plain that, one of its inevitable results will be the ultimate conversion of the High Court into a Chief Court. The "palladium of liberty" will thus disappear from the Province, and the Europeans and the Indians will be in the same boat as regards protection from Executive oppression.

COLONEL Weddell was in the Thibet expedition, and he found how prejudiced and superstitious the Thibetans were. He could not convince the Thibetan High Priest that the Christians never deviated from the path laid down by their master, Jesus Christ, that is to say, the Christians always loved other nations as brethren. But let us quote the Colonel:— "I told him that the mainspring of Christ's doctrine was 'peace and good will to men,' as was Buddha's; that Christ had said, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' 'Love your enemies,' and that our Christian commandments were of exactly the same number as Buddha's decalogues..... On this he exclaimed bitterly, smarting under the defeat inflicted on his country by our troops. 'The English have no religion at all!' And on my inquiring why he thought so, he replied deliberately and emphatically, 'Because I know it. Because I see it for myself in the faces and actions of your people. They all have hard hearts, and are specially trained to take life and to fight.'..... I assured him that the people of England spend enormous sums of money on religion, and everywhere have built beautiful churches, several hundreds of which are much finer and more costly than any temple in Thibet, and that the commentaries and other books on our religion would fill enormous libraries many times

larger than those of the Tibetan monasteries, and that their priests were real ecclesiastics, preaching to and teaching the people, unlike the Lamas, who never teach the people, but keep all their education within their order, and are therefore not ecclesiastics. Hereupon he answered, with a fine scorn: 'But what is the good of all these buildings and all these books and teachings, if the people do not read them, or, in any case, do not practise their maxims?'"

The author continues:— "As he was so hopelessly biased, I could only reply that I hoped he would judge us more generously when he knew us better." So, you see, this Christian Colonel, who had gone to Thibet with Maxim guns to desolate the country, could not persuade the prejudiced people of that country that the Christians never deviated from the path of duty laid down by Jesus Christ; and that the Christians, who had gone there, were only waiting to present the other cheek when a blow had been given to one. Similarly, Columbus also failed to convince the savages of America that Christians had a beautiful religion when he made their country desolate. So it was the Thibetan High Priest, who was "biased," and the Colonel was free from all bias!

AMERICA is the most enlightened country in the West. Here modern civilization has been given a very fair trial. And what is modern civilization? Wendell Phillips, in a speech made in 1856, said: "The position of woman anywhere is the test of civilization. Tell me the position of woman, and you answer the question of the nation's progress." Similarly when Emerson was asked to define civilization, his answer was: "It is the influence of good women." Napoleon likewise said that the greatest need of France was, "good mothers." The woman is thus regarded as a powerful factor in moulding the civilization in the West. But what is the position of women there? Are they good, bad, or indifferent? No one is better fitted to answer this question than Roosevelt, the present American President. Addressing a "Mothers' Congress" he spoke some old-fashioned-truths which have fallen into abeyance. Mrs. Besant has published a portion of the American President's admirable speech in her paper, "The Central Hindu College Magazine," which is reproduced below, and which will be read with the intensest interest possible in this country, for, though not the "new woman" exactly, but her apology has appeared in this country. In the midst of the success, the wealth, the luxury of American society, Mr. Roosevelt, it will be seen, cries aloud for model wife and model mother. This is what he proclaimed in the paradise of the "new woman," America:—

"The nation is in a bad way if there is no real home, if the family is not of the right kind; if the man is not a good husband and father, if he is brutal or cowardly or selfish, if the woman has lost her sense of duty, if she is sunk in vapid self-indulgence, or has let her nature be twisted so that she prefers a sterile pseudo-intellectuality to that great and beautiful development of character which comes only to those whose lives know the fullness of duty done, of effort made, and self-sacrifice undergone."

"In the last analysis the welfare of the state depends absolutely upon whether or not the average family, the average man and woman, and their children, represent the kind of citizenship fit for the foundation of a great nation, and if we fail to appreciate this, we fail to appreciate the root morality upon which all healthy civilization is based."

"No piled-up wealth, no splendour of material growth, no brilliance of artistic development, will permanently avail any people unless its home life is healthy, unless the average man possesses honesty, courage, commonsense and decency, unless he works hard and is willing at need to fight hard; and unless the average woman is a good wife, a good mother, able and willing to perform the first and greatest duty of womanhood, able and willing to bear, and to bring up as they should be brought up, healthy children, sound in body, mind and character, and numerous enough so that the race shall increase and not decrease."

"There are certain old truths which will be true as long as this world endures, and which no amount of progress can alter. One of these is the truth that the primary duty of the husband is to be the home-maker, the bread-winner for his wife and children, and that the primary duty of woman is to be the helpmate, the housewife, and mother."

"The women should have ample educational advantages, but save in exceptional cases the man must be, and she need not be, and generally ought not to be, trained for a life-long career as the family bread-winner; and therefore, after a certain point the training of the two must normally be different because the duties of the two are normally different. This does not mean inequality of function, but it does mean that normally there must be dissimilarity of function....."

"Of course, there are exceptional men and exceptional women who can do and ought to do much more than this, who can lead and ought to lead great careers of outside usefulness in addition to—not as substitutes for—their home work; but I am not speaking of exceptions. I am speaking of the primary duties, I am speaking of the average citizens, the average men and women who make up the nation....."

"To sum up, the whole matter is simple enough. If either a race or an individual prefers the pleasures of mere effortless ease, of self-indulgence, to the infinitely deeper, the infinitely higher pleasures that come to those who know the toil and the weariness, but also the joy, of hard duty well done, why, that race and that individual must inevitably in the end pay the penalty of leading a life both vapid and ignoble."

"The woman's task is not easy—no task worth doing is easy—but in doing it, and when she has done it, there shall come to her the highest and holiest joy known to mankind; and having done it, she shall have the reward prophesied in scripture; for her husband and her children, yes, and all people who realise that her work lies at the foundation of all national happiness and greatness, shall rise up and call her blessed."

"If it is true that the position of woman is the test of true civilization, then the civilization of the West is a failure—it is an only soulless syren. The ideal wife and mother for which Roosevelt cries aloud is to be found only in India. And, Sister Nivedita, (Miss Noble), has testified to this fact, in her book which has obtained a world-wide celebrity, by her intimate intercourse with the Bengalee ladies for more than half a dozen years. Mrs. Besant has also done the same thing in her numerous lectures....."

We are not aware whether the Saran case, which we noticed the other day in a leading article, and to which reference is made in our Saran correspondent's letter, published elsewhere, has attracted the notice of the Government or not. All that we need add to what we have already said is that, the perpetrator of such an atrocious outrage must be found out and punished; for, if anything rouses the worst passions of the people of this country, it is a dastardly act of this sort. Fancy a woman was brutally dishonoured in a railway carriage by a European in the presence of three others, and the culprit is yet at large! The four women, as the reader is aware, almost immediately after the occurrence, identified one Isaac, a Railway Driver, as the perpetrator of the deed. The Police Sub-Inspector and others deposed that Isaac, when told that he had been charged with the offence by the women, said that he should be excused and the matter dropped. A railway guard also deposed that he had seen Driver Isaac walking on the foot-board of the railway carriage just about the time of the occurrence. Mr. Bonham-Carter, who tried Isaac, however, disbelieved the prosecution evidence, and discharged him.

While commenting on the case we made a mistake to which our correspondent refers. But this is nothing compared with the misleading and unfair nature of the Magistrate's remark on this point. It seems that, in his court, out of the four female witnesses, only one failed to identify the accused, while the remaining three succeeded in picking him out from among a number of other Europeans similarly dressed. The Magistrate, however, prominently mentions in his judgment the female witness who failed to identify, but suppresses the fact that three other witnesses were successful in pointing out the accused. What he should have done was to state that, though one woman failed, three others succeeded. But what he did was to make some capital of the failure of a single witness, and abstain from mentioning the success of three others. This is, as we said, most unfair and misleading on the part of the Magistrate, and we were misled. Thus, the complainant and the three eye-witnesses to the outrage pointed out the accused immediately after the occurrence as the man who had committed the crime. With the exception of one of them, all the rest again identified the accused in the Court. Yet, in the opinion of Mr. Bonham-Carter, the identification was not satisfactorily proved, and Driver Isaac was set free.

This legal advisers of the Government should go through the record of the case carefully and see whether the accused was rightly discharged or not. If he has been wrongly discharged, there ought to be a fresh trial. If he has been rightly discharged, the Government should leave no stone unturned to discover the other man, said to be an ex-railway guard, and put him on his trial. Judging from the letter of our correspondent, no serious attempt has been made in this direction. There is no doubt, one of these two men must have committed the outrage, for, it was conclusively proved that the diabolical deed was the work of a European. As our correspondent justly observes, heaven and earth would have been convulsed if a European female were the victim; but, because a "Native" woman suffered, who cares?

It will be seen that the Home Government has been defeated by three votes on an amendment on the Irish Land question; but will the Ministry resign? We fancy, not; for power is sweet and Mr. Balfour is therefore likely to stick to his post to the last. How delicious the possession of power is has been abundantly shown by Lord Curzon. No previous Viceroy was insulted so publicly by the Secretary of State for India as Lord Curzon has been. But yet he is not resigning though his best friends are urging him to do it. Why should then Mr. Balfour vacate his post when he has no task-master like Mr. Brodriek to threaten him with a rod?

SCRAPIS.

The "Paridarshak" of Sylhet remarks that Mr. Omanney, Extra Assistant Commissioner, is very fond of sentencing people to stripes. He is now posted to the headquarters of the district of Sylhet. The Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner, understands the paper, has asked the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet to enquire and report on the number of people whom Mr. Omanney sentenced to whipping while at Moulvi Bazar. The report will be awaited with extreme anxiety by the public.

The curtain has at last been drawn over the sensational Rungpur Students' Assant Case and that in a manner which will be looked upon with mingled feelings by the public. On the students submitting the following written apology, the case has been withdrawn under instruction from the Divisional Commissioner:—

"Upon the Government Pleader withdrawing the charges against us and giving us assurance on behalf of the Government that under instructions from the Commissioner of Rajshahi no further proceedings will be taken against us and we having been acquitted of the charges against us admit the guilt fully and acknowledge the case indefensible and we have accordingly thrown ourselves on the mercy of the prosecutor and tender publicly our sincere regrets and apology for the outrageous treatment to Mr. Finlow and Mr. Mukherjee. We undertake to pay Rs. 250 as compensation of which Rs. 50 will be paid to the coachman and Mr. Finlow's request, the remaining Rs. 200 will be contributed to the Rungpur Hospital. We express our thanks and gratitude to Messrs. Finlow and Mukherjee for their clemency in accepting the apology. We undertake to assist the Technical School authorities to detect other perpetrators, and as we are companions we shall submit to such punishment as school authorities may inflict on us. We undertake also to withdraw the prosecutions against Mr. Finlow."

ANGLO-INDIAN AND INDO-ENGLISH TOPICS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

London, June 30.

THE MACHINERY OF THE INDIA OFFICE.

There is a certain timeliness in the article which appears in the current number of "Cassell's Saturday Journal" entitled, "A Day at the India Office." It contains nothing more than a plain statement of very palpable facts, but one must remember that those facts are completely unknown to the great majority of the readers of the journal in question and, indeed, to the majority of the British public. However, Mr. Brodriek has during the present week bulked so large in the public view in his official capacity in the tug of war between the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief in India, that it is well some definite knowledge should be put in a popular form as to the machinery of the India Office and the manner in which Indian affairs are dealt with in this country. On two points the article is commendably clear, namely, the ultimate authority of the Secretary of State except in matters of finance, and the fact that the India Office does not cost the British taxpayer one penny. The writer might with profit to the reader have enlarged upon the point as to who does meet the costly annual expenditure which the India Office involves.

THE "PATRIKA" QUOTED IN THE BRITISH PRESS.

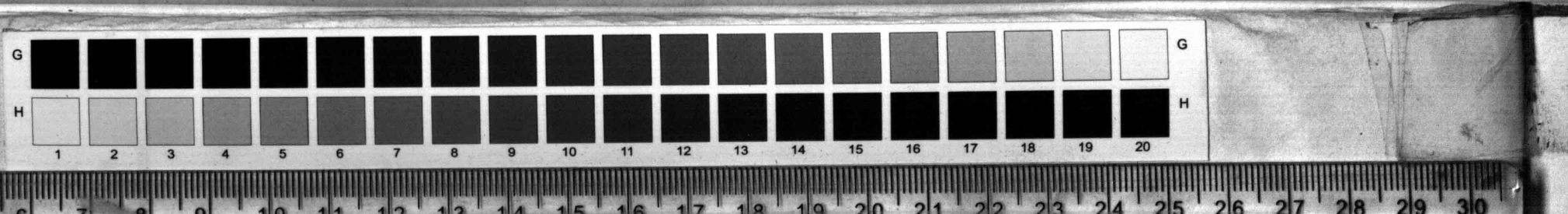
Elsewhere reference is made in this letter to the extraordinary excitement which prevails both in India and in England with regard to Lord Curzon's attitude towards the military crisis, and his rumoured resignation. A telegram, published in yesterday's "Daily Mail" declares that the "Amrita Bazar Patrika", of Calcutta, supports the Viceroy in his opposition to the setting up of a military autocracy in India. This is only what one would expect of the "Patrika." When there is occasion to criticise the action of the Viceroy in any phase of his activity, the "Patrika" does so in scathing terms, but its able editor may be trusted to deal fairly by the Viceroy, and to stand by him when he is acting for the best interests of India. The other quotation from the "Patrika" appeared in the "Echo" of Wednesday last, and reference is made to the strongly expressed wish of the "Patrika" that Sir Henry Fowler should not receive the Indian Secretaryship in the new Liberal Ministry. About sixteen lines from the "Patrika's" article appear in the "Echo." The Editor of the "Echo", it may be observed has deep sympathies with the people of India. As to the new Liberal Indian Secretary, there is a feeling in some circles that either Sir Antony MacDonnell or Sir Henry Cotton should receive the appointment. Those who live will see.

OUR JAPANESE GUESTS.

London has of late received many Royal guests but she has not failed to extend this week a most hearty welcome to the Prince and Princess Arisugawa of Japan. This is the first visit of a scion of the Royal House of Japan since the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese treaty; with rumours of an extension of that treaty very much to the fore, it is in the fitness of things that honour should be paid to our royal visitors from Japan. The weather, with the exception of yesterday, has been most favourable to the success of the outdoor functions that have been arranged. The day after the arrival of the Prince and Princess they were entertained at a fete in the Royal Botanical Gardens, Regent's Park, by the Japan Society. A most distinguished and representative company gathered to meet them, and the gardens afford a most beautiful "locale" for such a function. It seemed to me, on entering the grounds, that Japan had been transferred to England; there were flowers everywhere; Japanese flags mingled with the Union Jack, the graceful summer dresses of the ladies vied with the beauty of the flowers, and the velvet lawns of green grass made a delightful carpet on which to walk. The only regret that was expressed was that both the ladies and gentlemen from the Land of the Chrysanthemum had discarded their picturesque Japanese costumes, and had donned the dress of the West. The Prince and all the Japanese gentlemen present were attired in faultless frock coats and shining top hats; the ladies wore dresses that did credit to the Parisian or London dressmakers. It was only the oriental touch of costume that was wanting. A tent, furnished in the Japanese colours, had been erected for the reception of the Prince and Princess; in it a Japanese artist made lightning sketches amid loud applause. In another tent an exhibition was viewed by several men and one girl of the Ju-jitsu art of wrestling. The apparently easy Japanese method of throwing an opponent evoked considerable enthusiasm, and it is likely that the schools for this teaching, already established in various parts of London, will find many recruits as a result of the exhibition at the garden party. The Prince and Princess appeared most gratified by the cordial reception given to them, and their appearance in the London streets has been quite a triumphal progress. As guests of King Edward, they have been staying at York House, and His Majesty has shown them marked attention. They have been entertained at Buckingham Palace, and have expressed their delight in all that they have seen and done—serving, perhaps, the ubiquitous photographer. The Prince and Princess will doubtless carry away very kindly memories of the hospitality shown to them while in England, and they themselves will have given a delightful respite to the union between the Island Kingdoms of the West and of the East.

The Amir of Kabul has just sent agents to India to purchase saddles, boots, clothing etc., for the Afghan Army.

The revised rules and regulations for departmental examinations to be passed by Assistant Examiners of Public Works Accounts for confirmation and promotion are published in the current issue of the Gazette of India.



Calcutta and Mofussil.

Bank Rate.—The Bank of Bengal on Thursday reduced its rate of interest to 3 per cent.

Whipping A European Lady.—On Friday, Inspector Wise of the Watgunge Thanna charged a young Mahomedan named Abdul Rahim before Moulvi Serajul Haq, Police Magistrate of Alipore, with having insulted a European lady.

Alleged Enticement.—On Friday before Mr. D. Swinhoe second Presidency Magistrate, the case in which a woman named Lakhy stood charged with having enticed away a young married woman named Parbutty, from the lawful custody of her husband and committed criminal breach of trust in respect of some ornaments belonging to the young woman which had been entrusted to the defendant for safe custody, was called on for hearing.

Adventure of a Reformatory Boy.—On Friday, before Mr. D. Swinhoe, Second Presidency Magistrate, a boy Mohadeo Gowla, who had been sent to the Reformatory last year for a charge of picking pocket. Accused was licensed to work at the Empress Cotton Mills in Budge Budge.

Change of Thana Jurisdiction.—The transfer of the undermentioned villages from one thana jurisdiction to another in the district of Jessore, and from that district to the district of Khulna is sanctioned:—From thana Jessore to thana Bhagharpara: Jainagar, Krishnagar and Banigati.

Insulting Conduct.—The Sealdah Honorary Bench, presided over by Mr. K. N. Bose and Maulvi A. Hamid, disposed of a case in which Mrs. E. McCorry, wife of Mr. McCorry, relieving Station Master on the Eastern Bengal State Railway, charged three cooks and a histie, respectively named Abdul, Abdul Aziz, Ismail and Madari, in the employ of Messrs. Ross, Ellis and Gannon, with having on the 2nd April last, between 7 to 10 p. m., used insulting words towards her calculated to provoke a breach of the peace, under Section 504, I.P.C.

Export Trade of Calcutta.—During the first three months of the present financial year (1905-06) the export trade of Calcutta by sea with foreign countries cannot be described as exhibiting any expansive tendencies.

Education Department.—Babu Mani Churn Mohapatra, Sub-Inspector of Schools, Orissa Tributary Mahals (class VI), is allowed furlough for two months in continuation of that already granted to him.

Commercial Class Examination.—The following candidates have passed the final Commercial Class examination held in April last:—Barat Behari Neogi and Mohit Mohan Banerjee.

A Revolver Accident.—Mr. S. Bende of 38-2 Ripon Street took his brother-in-law's revolver which was loaded, in order to clean it. Whilst in the act of doing so, the revolver accidentally went off and the bullet struck on his abdomen.

Ghost Scare.—A correspondent writing to the "Bankura Darpan" from Rajdaha says that a widow of the Bagdi caste has been forced to leave her house with her children owing to disturbances caused therein by supernatural beings.

The Chitpur Road Tragedy.—On Wednesday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, I.C.S., Chief Presidency Magistrate, Makhan Lal Dey was re-arraigned on a charge of wilful murder of two old ladies, Krishna Kamini Dassi and Saudamini Debi, in Beneatola and of theft of Rs. 20,000 in G. C. Notes and silver utensils belonging to the former.

G. P. Cook's Case Transferred.—Babu Jyoti Prosad Sarvadhikari appeared before Justice Rampini and Mukerjee, presiding over the Criminal Bench, in support of a rule obtained on behalf of G. P. Cooke upon the Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum to show cause why the case against the petitioner under section 164 Act VI of 1901 pending in his Court should not be transferred to some other Magistrate outside the District.

Suit Against a Nawab.—At the High Court before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sale, Mr. Leslie applied on behalf of the plaintiff in the suit of G. H. Rankan vs. the Nawab of Dacca for an order to compel the defendant Nawab to file his written statements within twenty-four hours.

A Charge of Theft Against the late Printer of the "Hitabadi".—On Tuesday before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, the case in which Suresh Chander Sanjal charged Aswini Kumar Haldar, late Printer of the "Hitabadi," a vernacular weekly, with the theft of certain manuscript copies of advertisement, was called on for hearing.

P. W. D. Ex. Engineers.—Mr. E. Arundel-Smith, Officiating Superintendent Engineer, South-Western Circle is granted privilege leave for one month, with effect from the 5th July 1905.

Education Department.—Babu Mani Churn Mohapatra, Sub-Inspector of Schools, Orissa Tributary Mahals (class VI), is allowed furlough for two months in continuation of that already granted to him.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR

London, July 16. Reuter at Tokio says that the Russians in North Korea have been gradually driven northward and now hold only two positions, Funen and Moshan, south of Tumen.

London, July 16. Japan is gratified at the appointment of M. De Witte to the Peace Conference. He quits St. Petersburg on Wednesday and proceeds via Cherbourg.

London, July 17. General Linievitch telegraphs that Japanese torpedo boats have entered Olga Bay on the mainland north of Vladivostok.

London, July 17. King Edward has sent a magnificent wreath for the funeral of the victims who were lost in the French submarine "Farfadet" in Lake Biserta which was raised yesterday.

London, July 19. Reuter's correspondent at Tokio says that after a series of defeats the Russians in Sakhalin are making a stand at Mank. The topography of the country prevents further retreat to the north, and the shortness of supplies will probably oblige the Russians soon to surrender.

London, July 19. It is reported at Tokio that a Japanese army has actually landed on the north of Vladivostok.

London, July 20. M. De Witte has left St. Petersburg for Paris en route for Washington. The Minnesota with the Japanese Plenipotentiaries was sighted to-day off the American Coast.

GENERAL

London, July 19. In the Commons Sir Henry Fowler called attention to Lord Curzon's extraordinary speech in Council yesterday.

London, July 19. Sir Henry Fowler called attention to Lord Curzon's severe, if not offensive, criticism in Council of Mr. Brodrick's despatch and asked what Government propose to do in reference to the extraordinary speech.

London, July 19. Sir Henry Fowler's question and Mr. Brodrick's answer caused a sensation in the House. The bearing of Lord Curzon's speech is much discussed in the lobbies.

London, July 19. Mr. Brodrick in reply to a question in the Commons said it does not appear to be necessary to institute any enquiry at the present stage into the Government's acquisition of land in Calcutta.

London, July 20. The Deputy Governor-General of Finland has been wounded by a bomb while leaving the Senate. The man who threw the bomb escaped.

London, July 20. Sir H. Fowler's question and Mr. Brodrick's answer have caused a sensation in the House. The bearing of Lord Curzon's speech is much discussed in the lobbies.

London, July 20. Mr. Lyttleton in the House of Commons, replying to a question, said that the Ceylon Education Commission is expected to make a report at the end of July.

London, July 21. During the House of Commons sitting in Committee of Supply, Mr. Redmond protested against the way the Land Act in Ireland was administered, and moved the reduction of the Land Commission vote.

London, July 21. After Mr. Balfour's remarks the House adjourned, the Opposition when leaving shouting at the top of their voices. Monday is the date fixed for Sir Edward Grey's motion for a vote of censure, declaring that in view of the confusion caused by the conflicting declarations of Mr. Balfour and other Ministers, the House deems it necessary that the electors should have the opportunity of expressing their opinion regarding the preferential taxation of food before the Colonial Conference is held.

London, July 21. The Government was defeated by three votes this morning on an amendment on the Irish Land question.

London, July 21. Mr. Balfour has promised to make a statement on Monday, and declared that he would not carry on unless he could do so with dignity. The Opposition is moving the adjournment of the House to-day.

London, July 21. Cabinet Councils are being held to-day and to-morrow.

In the Commons this morning they rushed through the Scotch Churches' Bill and then adjourned, the lobbies swarming with excited members. There is a marked disposition to regard the defeat seriously.

Mr. Balfour has promised to make a statement on Monday, and declared that he would not carry on unless he could do so with dignity. The Opposition is moving the adjournment of the House to-day.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL.

London, July 20. Reuter's correspondent wires from Tokio that the mystery regarding the British steamer "Oldhamia", supposed to have been sunk by the Baltic ships on the eve of the Tushima battle has been cleared up.

London, July 21. The Government was defeated by three votes this morning on an amendment on the Irish Land question.

London, July 21. The "Daily Telegraph" says that the full text of Lord Curzon's speech only confirms the précis at first received from Simla. The articles say that Lord Curzon's services during a brilliant career, which has not yet reached its zenith, are so great that it is a most distasteful task to criticize even a false step.

London, July 21. The "Morning Leader" does not comment on the speech, but strongly urges the necessity for an effective control of military expenditure. Lord Curzon's Government, it says, cannot be accused of meanness with regard to the same; but if the Commander-in-Chief is given a blank cheque, the prospect of an overtaxed country is gloomy indeed.

The "Daily Mail" says the speech scarcely justifies the report of an attack on the Government.

The "Daily Chronicle" says the full text of the speech does not alter the first opinion formed.

The "Standard" says that the full text of the speech leaves a less unpleasant impression than the summaries, but the whole address is unfortunate and a mistake.

The "Morning Post", the "Daily News" and the "Times" have so far made no comments.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Simla, July 19. A circular letter to all local Governments and administrations has been issued by the Government of India to the effect that in supersession of all previous instructions on the subject, the Government of India have decided that in future all letters sent by Government officers in their official capacity in reply to communications of any kind, received from private individuals or associations, shall be despatched "Service Paid."

COMPLAINT AGAINST A HIGH OFFICIAL.

Simla, July 21. During the last musketry season a complaint for assault and wrongful restraint by Pincappah Modalliar was filed at Moulmein on the 20th instant against Mr. B. Houghton, Commissioner, Tenasserim, with a plea to bind the accused down to keep the peace.

THE KRISHNAGHORE DEFAMATION CASE.

Krishnagore, July 21. To-day the District Judge withdrew the Defamation Case, the accused Babus Jodunath and Harimohan having tendered the following apology:—We deeply regret to have published defamatory statements against Mr. MacBlaine. On enquiry we learn them to be absolutely false. They have no foundation. We withdraw the statements and tender apology unreservedly. We hope the Judge may accept it and pardon us.

400 LAKHS OF RUPEES. GOVERNMENT LOAN.

Simla, June 21. The following announcement of 3 1/2 per cent rupee loan is issued in the Gazette "Extraordinary."—The Governor-General in Council has resolved to borrow four hundred lakhs of rupees for the public service in the following manner: Promissory notes will be issued for the amount. All the conditions which apply to notes of three and half per cent loan of 1900-01 will apply to notes to be now issued. The interest on the notes of that loan is payable half yearly on the 30th day of June and the 31st day of December and the notes are not liable to discharge before the 31st day of December 1920.

A NEW RAILWAY LINE.

Simla, July 21. The Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the construction at the expense of the Baroda Durbar of a line of railway on metre gauge from Manand road via Chansama to Becharji with a branch from Chansama to Harij, a total distance of about 39 miles and also, sanctioned the construction of a railway on the 5 feet 6 inches gauge from Hoogly on the E. I. Ry. to Katwa, a length of 65.20 miles as an integral part of the East Indian Ry. A survey has been sanctioned for a line of railway between the Stations of Lohran and Khanawal on the N. W. Ry. a distance of 55 miles. The survey has been placed under the control of the manager N. W. Ry. and will be known as the Lodhran-Khanawal railway. The Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the construction of a railway on the metre gauge from Mandaram on the South Indian Railway to Rameswaram, a length of 11.88 miles as an integral part of the S. I. Ry.

TELEGRAMS.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

Allahabad, July 19. It is intended to keep regular troops in Samana beyond Kohat as the position is considered to be too important to be held by Militia or Police.

THE NEW RUSSIAN MINISTER VISITED DALAI LAMA.

Allahabad, July 19. M. Pokoifoff, the new Russian Minister to China, visited Dalai Lama at Urga the other day and handed over to him two packages of presents from the Czar. The visit is declared in St. Petersburg to have been purely formal.

RELATIONS WITH BHUTAN.

Allahabad, July 19. The Government of India are now controlling relations with Bhutan, Mr. Claude White having been lately appointed Political Officer in charge of all matters concerning Sikkim, Bhutan, Chumbi Valley and the trade route into Tibet.

HAZARAS RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN.

Allahabad, July 19. The Amir is holding out strong inducements to the Hazaras to return to Afghanistan. Numbers are returning, their vanity being excited by one month's subsistence and presents of cloths.

ELECTRIC INSTALLATION IN KASHMERE.

Allahabad, July 19. The Kashmir Durbar, it is understood, have accepted Major Joly de Lotbiniere's scheme for developing electric power in the valley. Necessary funds for installation.

THE ROYAL VISIT. LEVEE IN CALCUTTA.

Allahabad, July 20. H's Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will, it is understood, hold a levee during his stay in Calcutta.

THE RAILWAY BOARD. RETURN TO SIMLA.

Allahabad, July 20. The members of the Railway Board will return to Simla from their first moonsoon tour early next month, so as to be at headquarters of the Government while the Railway Conference Association is holding its meeting there.

PROFESSOR OMARI'S TOUR. RESULT OF ENQUIRY.

Allahabad, July 20. The results of Professor Omari's examination of the area affected by the earthquake will be placed at the disposal of the Government of India. He returns to Japan shortly.

KABUL NEWS. CONTRADICTIONS.

Allahabad, July 20. From the letters which have been received from Kabul and also men of Colonel Sardar Mohamad Ismail Khan, the Afghan Envoy, just returned from thence, say that Sardar Ahmad Khan, ex-Governor of Kandahar, whose death was announced in the "Pioneer" was hale and hearty so late as 5th instant. It is also contradicted that Sardar Mohamed Aman Khan, Governor, Pushti Road, has been recalled to Kabul by his Majesty the King of Afghanistan.

A MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

Simla, July 20. The body of a European, believed to be Lieut. Garsia, Durham, Light Infantry has been found in the Sind river at Gandarbal and sent to Srinagar for identification and interment.

GAZETTE OF INDIA.

Simla, July 21. The services of Lt. Cameron I. M. S. is temporarily placed at the disposal of the Madras Government for appointment in the jail department.

The services of Mr. W. B. Gordon are lent to Cape Colony.

Mr. J. C. Gaskin is granted eight months' leave.

Major Irvine I. M. S. is granted six months' leave.

Babu Chandra Bhusan Sen officiates as Supernumerary chief superintendent.

Mr. F. G. Adams, Inspector of mines is granted an extension of leave for three months.

Mr. Francis, Deputy Examiner, Eastern Bengal State Railway is granted two months' leave.

THE PUNJAB LEGISLATURE.

Lahore, July 21. Two new bills will be introduced at a meeting of the Punjab Legislative Council to be held at Barnes' Court, Simla, on the 29th instant. The first, as already announced, is the Punjab Land Preservation Act Amendment Bill; the second is a Bill to amend certain provisions of the Punjab Tenancy Act of 1887. Mr. Gordon Walker will introduce both Bills.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION OF PETITION.

Simla, July 21. In connection with the rules for submission of petitions to the Government of India, it has been decided that the words "local Government" include a local administration, the Commander-in-Chief in India and a Lieut.-General commanding the forces and also except as regards petitioners under rule 11 (7) whose salary was more than Rs. 30 a month, the head of a department directly under the Government of India.

INDIAN POST OFFICES.

Simla, July 21. During half year ending 31st March the numbers of letters, postcards, newspapers and packets etc. delivered at all post offices in India rose from 32315000 to 35579800 for the year 1904-05. The total stood at 67890800 against 63193050 in the previous year thus showing a clear of increase over 7 per cent.

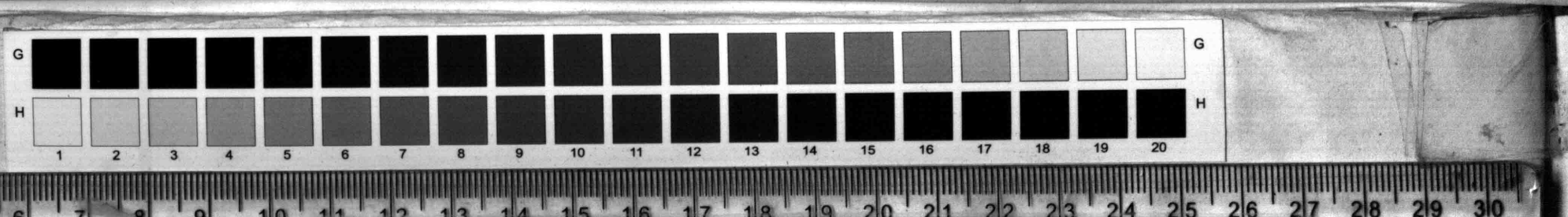
ACCESSORIES FOR THE AFGHAN ARMY.

Allahabad, July 21. The Amir of Kabul has just sent an agent to India to purchase saddles, boots, clothing etc for the Afghan Army.

PLAGUE IN PESHAWAR.

Allahabad, July 21. With regard to recent reports of plague in Central Asia, traders from Bokhara, who have arrived at Peshawar, state that the disease has not appeared in that city as some doubt seems to exist on the subject.

POSITION IN SAMANA.





The Simplex Typewriters

Mark a new era in these writing machines. They do practically the same work as the most expensive machines...

A REVOLUTION IN INDIGENOUS PRODUCTS

Highest Award Gold Medal.

Indian Perfumery. Bela, Malati, Safalica, Champaka, Jeshme, Boquet, Lily of the Valley are all extracts from Indian flowers...

SANTAN RAKSHAK.

It is the most useful Linctum for females in the events of pregnancy. It relieves the sympathetic vomiting and nausea...

Grand Money Prizes. Rs. 5000 will be given away on the 30th September 1905...

25 YEARS' STANDING ACIDITY PILL

That well-known and infallible remedy curer ACIDITY, RACIDALLY AND MAGICALLY all kinds of DYSPEPSIA and INDIGESTION...

THE MAHAT ASRAM

HINDOO GENTS' BOARDING AND LODGING, 9, Cornwallis St., Calcutta.

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

For it cures Gonorrhoea, Gleet and kindred Genito-Urinary diseases that so long defied the skill. It is a deadly enemy of Gonococci, the Gonorrhoea-bacillus. Has not hitherto been known to fall in any cases however complicated...

PRICE 2 OZ. PHIAL Rs. 2-8 EACH, 1 OZ. PHIAL Re. 1-12 EACH.

EBONY, OR The Indian Hairdye.

The most durable hairdye ever discovered, sure to give satisfaction to all grey-haired men.

R. LAUGIN & CO., CHEMISTS, 148, ROWRAZAR STREET, SEALDAH CALCUTTA

Bharat Vaisajyanilaya.

No. 159-1-2, CORNWALLIS STREET, SHAMBHAR, CALCUTTA. SUPERINTENDING PHYSICIAN! Kaviraj Keshab Lal Roy.

SWARNA BANGA.

This is an infallible remedy for all sorts of Gonorrhoea, Diabetes, Albuminuria and other diseases of this nature.

BRIHAT MASH TOILA.

This is one of the best medicated oil for which the Ayurvedic Sastra is famous.



MARVELLOUSLY CHEAP

Consignments of Selected patterns of Rolled Gold frame &c. newly received. To secure a suitable pair, please apply for a price list containing particulars on sight to Messrs. MULICK & Co., Opticians, 37 Swallow Lane, Calcutta.

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MEYORES

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Price of MEYORES ONE Rupee only per phial Postage for up to 3 phials five annas only.

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Homoeopathic Establishment, 4, DALHOUSIE SUAGR EAST, CALCUTTA. WE GUARANTEE TO SUPPLY.

USEFUL BOOKS.

MODERN LETTER-WRITER (SEVENTH EDITION) Containing 635 letters. Useful to every position of life for daily use.

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HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES—EACH DRAM 5 AND 6 PICE.

Cholera and Family box with 12, 24, 30, 48, 60 and 104 phials of medicines, a guide and a drop conductor Rs. 2, 3, 3-10, 5-3, 6-4 and 11-3 respectively.

PLANTS THAT EAT FLESH.

AND PEOPLE WHO EAT ANTS AND BUTTERFLIES. Scattered over the world are some six hundred species of trees and plants that are assassins of the worst possible breed.

Carnivorous plants are mostly to be found in hot climates, and in tropical America they are to be found in large numbers.

The interior of the stalks are lined with brushes of hair, fine and as sharp as needles, and an insect that alights on a leaf is pretty sure to fall into the trap set for it.

Numerous minute cells at the bottom of the cavity digest the captured insect. If you look in marshy places in the Ingleton district you will come across the butterwort—one of Britain's flesh-eating plants.

When a fly alights on a leaf it adheres to the hair, and when nicely caught the whole leaf folds up into a ball about its victim.

The toothwort also catches ground insects with its leaves. On each leaf are several sinuous chambers lined with dome-shaped cells which contain "jelly" arms.

Under-water insects are very inquisitive, so the bladderwort lays a beautiful trap for them.

The honey-ant is eaten by the people of Mexico and the white colonists alike. This particular ant has a small head and short legs, with a body as big as a bean, which is of a yellow colour and swollen with honey.

In a nest of ordinary ants there are, perhaps, three or four hundred honey ants, and they hang on to the roof of the cells while the others feed them.

The aborigines of Australia live almost entirely on a butterfly known as the bugong. The flies appear in batches on rocks, and the natives kill them by lighting wood fires below.

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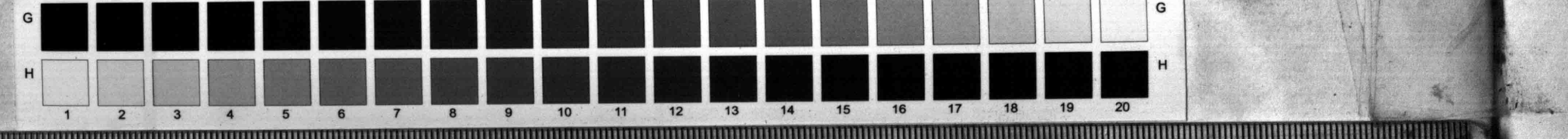
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The Partition of Bengal,

GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Simla, July 19.

The Gazette "Extraordinary" contains a long resolution on the Bengal Partition scheme.

EFFECT OF THE SCHEME.

The effect of the proposals thus agreed upon and now about to be introduced will be as follows:—A new province will be created with the status of a Lieutenant-Governorship consisting of the Chittagong, Dacca and Rajshahi Divisions of Bengal, the district of Malda, the State of Hill Tipperah and the present Chief Commissioner of Assam.

PUBLIC OPPOSITION.

The Governor-General in Council is fully aware of the opposition which these proposals have encountered and has no desire to undervalue the sentiments upon which it has been based.

Two changes only have been decided upon in the territories bordering upon Bengal and the Central Provinces. It was proposed by the Lieutenant Governor and accepted by the Chief Commissioner that the five native states of Jashpur, Sarguja, Udaipur, Kora and Chhang Bhekhar, at present attached to the division of Chhota Nagpur and forming a solid block of territory with a Hindi speaking population on the west of the districts of Palamanu and Ranchi should be handed over to Bengal.

THE NEW PROVINCE. These proposals are however of minor importance compared with the principal changes to which the Secretary of State has given his sanctions and which involve the creation of a new administration of Bengal together with the territories at present administered by the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

THE RESULT. The result is the creation of a new province founded upon that which is the secret of all good administration, namely the close contact in so far as this is possible in areas of great size of

the governors with the governed. The welfare of the people will be more vigilantly safeguarded and larger opportunities will open up before the educated classes when they are the nucleus of a powerful and self-contained administration exclusively devoted to their interests, than when they have been either the appendage of an overgrown and overworked province or the constituents of a relatively backward and arrested organisation.

PREAMBLE TO THE RESOLUTION.

Following is the preamble to the resolution on the Bengal Partition scheme:— In December 1903 the Government of India in letters to several of the Local Governments which were published in the official Gazette announced their desire to consider the redistribution of certain of the territories of the Eastern and North Eastern provinces of India, notably of Bengal and Assam.

THE CENTRAL PROVINCES. These proposals are however of minor importance compared with the principal changes to which the Secretary of State has given his sanctions and which involve the creation of a new administration of Bengal together with the territories at present administered by the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

THE RESULT. The result is the creation of a new province founded upon that which is the secret of all good administration, namely the close contact in so far as this is possible in areas of great size of

areas that could most advantageously be assigned to the new provinces and to an examination of the safeguards that were required to secure the legitimate interests of their inhabitants. A scheme was submitted by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the amalgamation with Assam of the Chittagong and Dacca divisions and the districts of Fanna, Bogra and Rangpur. This proposal did not seem to the Government of India to be proportionate to the scope of the important administration which it was now contemplated to create.

WHAT MR. SPEAKER HAS TO DO.

AN INTIMATE VIEW OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

It is only once or twice in a generation that the office of Mr. Speaker, the Chairman of the House of Commons, changes hands and unusual attention is attracted towards it.

But the duties of Mr. Speaker are much more multifarious than this. He is to a large extent responsible for the arrangement of the daily business of the House. He is consulted by both the leader of the Government and the leader of the Opposition when their plans are in the making, and numerous confidential communications pass through him, it being part of his task to help to make the Parliamentary machine work smoothly.

This feature of his duty apart, he has many curious obligations to perform. If the Commons were to impeach a person it would be the duty of Mr. Speaker as their mouthpiece to demand judgment on behalf of the House. It is he who issues all warrants to execute the orders of the House for the arrest and commitment of offenders.

The Speaker has also a considerable position to fill socially, whether he is supposed that way or not. Every Session he must hold various political dinners and receptions, and his task in connection with them is often a difficult and delicate one.

Taking all these things into consideration, those people who have held that the Speaker is overpaid at £5,000 a year, with a palace at Westminster thrown in, may probably moderate their views. In the earliest times the Speaker used to receive £5 a day as salary, and after the Restoration the Speakers received £1,000 as equipment money on their appointment and £5 on every private Bill that was introduced into the House.

Mr. Speaker, however, still retains many curious perquisites and privileges which even some experienced members of Parliament are unacquainted with. Thus, he has not only his own private secretary, his own chaplain, and his own train-bearer, but there is a lawyer in the land who enjoys the unique distinction and title of Speaker's counsel, whose duty it is to assist the Chairman of the Commons to unravel any knotty legal points that may come before him in the course of his task.

DISTURBANCE IN A TEA GARDEN.

Seven coolies of the Barbaruah Tea Estate now under the management of a young Mr. Rose were hauled up before Major Cole last week for being members of an unlawful assembly, at the instance of the Manager. The complainant's story was that sometime between 10 and 11 on the morning of Thursday before last, he had occasion to take one of the accused by name Dhanda to task for neglect of duty.

AN ARTIFICIAL SEAL.

In seeking for a reservoir for the supply of Egypt during the dry season, it is not to be wondered at that the reconstruction of the ancient Lake of Moeris should have been carefully considered. As however, in the bed of the lake is a fertile province, with a cultivable area of 400,000 acres and a value of £80,000,000, its construction on its original site is stated by "Engineering" to be out of the question; but there exists a smaller depression in the Libyan hills immediately to the south, to which no such objections apply.

The Government of Madras have requested the Madras Corporation to make special arrangements for the construction of a separate municipal laboratory for conducting the analysis of foods and drugs under the City Municipal Act, and have directed in the meantime that the Chemical Examiner to the Government should undertake in special cases such analysis.

Baron Nathaniel Von Rothschild was singularly superstitious. About twenty years ago a palmist told him that he would live so long as the new palace which he was erecting at that time, and to which he intended to transfer his priceless art collections, remained uncompleted. The architects and builders since then have had a good time, and the Vienna population finally became quite accustomed to see the palatial but unfinished building in the fashionable district of Vienna.

A good tale is told against himself by Sir Algernon West. While he was private secretary to Mr. Forster, he received for his chief an uninteresting-looking letter, which he did not trouble to hand on. It was a scrawling two pages discussing the condition of affairs in Ireland, and was signed "W. Ebor," while tucked away in the corner was the word "York." Sir Algernon dashed off a note saying that the matter would receive attention, and never hoping that the letter would reach its destination, addressed it to "W. Ebor, Esq., York." By the next post there came back an indignant letter informing him that it showed gross ignorance for one in the position of a private secretary not to know the usual signature of the Archbishop of York!

Supreme Legislative Council,

SITTING AT SIMLA.

Simla, July 18.

INDIAN ARTICLES OF WAR.

At this morning's meeting of the Council, the bill to amend the Indian Articles of War was passed without discussion.

THE COINAGE ACT.

The Hon'ble Mr. Baker introduced a bill to amend the Coinage Act. He said:— I beg to move for leave to introduce a bill to amend and consolidate the Act relating to the coinage. The present Coinage Act was originally passed in 1870. Some of its provisions such as that which relates to the coinage of gold mohurs and other gold coins are obsolete and some others are not altogether appropriate to the conditions of the present time. It is proposed to make the necessary amendments in respect of these matters in the present bill.

The third substantive alteration in the law which it is proposed to make relates to the treatment of light weight silver coins. The present law on the subject is contained in sections 16 and 17 of the Act of 1870 these provide that when a genuine coin which has lost more than 2 per cent in weight by reasonable wear is tendered to a Government officer empowered under the Act, he shall cut or break it and shall pay for it at the rate of one rupee per tola. When the Act of 1870 was passed the mints were open to the free coinage of silver and a rupee of full weight was always necessarily worth exactly the same as the silver contained in it. If therefore a person presented short weight rupees the loss he suffered by cutting or breaking was exactly proportionate to the shortage in weight and it was not inequitable that he should suffer this loss but when the mints were closed and the rupees became a taken coin the value of the silver contained in it became widely different from and less than its face value. If therefore the provisions of the present Act were strictly applied the result would be to mulct the tenderer of short weight rupees not only of the proportion of value due to the shortage but also of the whole difference between the bullion value and the face value of the coin.

A LETTER FROM JAPAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Arrah, July 17.

One of our friends Babu Jagannath Sahai of this town, who recently left for the happy life of Japan, sends us a pretty long note, an extract from which, we trust, will be read with interest by your numerous readers. He makes the following observations which would repay perusal:—

"We are altogether 20 students in two messes here. Besides these, there are 20 Nepalese. The common medium of conversation is Hindustani, for this is the language in which the Nepalese, the Punjabis, the N. W. P. men, the Beharees, the Bengalees and the Maharrattas can express themselves. It seems that the Bengalee element will preponderate. What a backward province ours is! In spite of scholarships young men are not coming forward. What a darkness there prevails! The blindness of our moneyed men, their confinement to their own country, the misuse of capital, the drain of money from our country and want of practical education would continue to keep the country in a humiliated state. Every young man should make it a point to raise as much subscriptions as possible from his district and induce young men, well educated in science and mathematics, to go to foreign countries, —not only to Japan but to Germany, America and other places for study. The city affords a peculiar charm. This Europeanised capital is worth seeing. The ports of Japan abound with Indian merchants.

"We had all along been followed by the Russian fleet and fortunately for us, our ship which was carrying some war-contraband did not fall into their hands. The 2nd batch of students had to stay about 20 days in Singapore through fear of being pursued. But the Japanese have destroyed the Russian Armada in a two-days' fight. Rozhdostvensky is in Hospital being kindly treated. Togo has wired to his countrymen that almost the entire force of the enemy has been destroyed. There is rejoicing in the city. On the 2nd June the performance and gathering at Hibiya Park were exciting and interesting. The articles should be addressed to Shimabashi, the chief station in Tokyo."

