

THE 'PIONEER'S' VIEW.

customary etiquette in the conveyance of orders to officers holding military commands attracted all eyes to what was passing, Lord Curzon then and there virtually offered him the Supply Membership. But the meekest Secretary of State was not likely to stand this, and Mr. Brodrick declined to confirm the recommendation. Lord Curzon seemingly has become so used to having his nominations accepted that he appears to have been taken entirely by surprise. Realising at last the false position he had come to occupy, he seems to have judged that his only way out was to bear down opposition by force. He was therefore obliged to make a point of the unique qualifications of General Barrow, and to insist that the choice of any other officer would not be giving his Government a chance. In vain: Mr. Brodrick, rather Mr. Balfour—for the whole tone of the correspondence shows that the case has now passed into the ablest hands—has no intention of surrendering the position of advantage. Patiently he shows that he cannot resign under compulsion the unquestioned rights of the Crown, as would be the case if he were to accept the Viceroy's recommendations enforced by threats of resignation. As the rupture becomes inevitable, the voice of the Minister becomes more suave and more polite. "Must you be going; can you not remain with us?" he says in accents that almost reach the ring of sincerity, and then at the moment that the departing Satrap is on the step, the door so to speak is swiftly bolted: the instant announcement of a successfully well arranged in advance, being evidently intended to keep it closed against any chances of a change of mind. It is a great sudden fall; there has been nothing like this in the India of the Crown. Lord Wellesley was overthrown by the Directors, but at the end of years of long drawn out discord and circumstances which gave him a large discretion as to the time and manner of his retirement. This incident reminds one rather of the fall of Wolsey or of Strafford than of the occurrences of our own hundred years. The English papers in the clumsy and ill-informed comments seem to have missed altogether the points of the situation. But though wrong they are perhaps in a sense right. A few years hence the incident of the Supply Membership will have grown small and it will be recognised that Lord Curzon's overthrow was the result of a great duel with his Commander-in-Chief. It will be recognised, too, probably

"Upon which side the right lies in this singular controversy does not admit of a moment's hesitation. The Secretary of State has, of course, as complete a discretion as to the appointments to the Governor-General's Council as he has to those of his own Council in the India Office, nor is the exercise of this right in the smallest degree obsolete or conventional. The intention of the statute is perfectly clear, that the Members of the Governor-General's Council should be his colleagues, not his secretaries, which implies that they should be chosen by an external authority. Nor has this principle ever fallen out of sight in practice. The Legal Member is practically always selected at Home for obvious reasons. In the case of the Financial Membership, it has depended on circumstances but if things are going uneasily in India and the Secretary of State has an English candidate in his eye, he appoints him without further ado and without further question from any quarter. In the case of the purely Indian appointments, it is only natural that he should attach great weight to the Viceroy's recommendations, as he will have generally little personal knowledge of the candidates: but he is not in the least bound by them. In 1864, as we have been lately reminded, the Secretary of State disregarded Sir John Lawrence's strong recommendation of Sir William Muir for the Home Membership and bestowed the appointment on Sir George Yule. No one has ever heard that Sir John Lawrence for a moment considered that as an occasion for resigning. As regards the Military Membership itself, in 1886 we believe it to be correct to say that Lord Randolph Churchill appointed the late General Hughes to succeed General Wilson without reference to Lord Dufferin; and it seems clear that the appointment of Sir H. Brackenbury, a soldier of the British service, must have come about in the same way. The practice has no doubt varied according to the temperaments of different Secretaries of State. With a Secretary like Sir Charles Wood a strong recommendation from India would have merely been a temptation to make some different appointment. But up to the present moment no Viceroy has ever questioned the Secretary of State's liberty of choice or thought its exercise a cause for offence. Why then should Lord Curzon have chosen this hopelessly disadvantageous ground for the duel? The answer emerges palpably enough from the papers, though the high contending parties politely make no reference to the reason in their exchanges. Lord Curzon, it will be seen, emphasises with extraordinary energy the unique qualifications of General Barrow. Now Sir Edmund Barrow is an officer as modest as he is capable, and he must have been amazed to learn that he was the sole person in the service considered capable of looking after an office consisting of three officers and 16 clerks and involving a couple of hours' work a day. It is a new thing, moreover, to find Lord Curzon attaching such overwhelming importance to the abilities of those under him. But the truth is that His Excellency was committed to Sir Edmund Barrow because he had himself appointed him. Summoning him up from Peshawar in a very unusual way, which by its disregard of the

Most Excellent, Manager N. W. Ry. Co-op. Stores, Lahore, India, says: "Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is without question the best medicine made for the relief and cure of diarrhoea, dysentery and all bowel complaints. This assertion I can make from actual experience in my own home." For sale by all chemists and Storekeepers keeper Ref. 2.

A CRITICISM AND AN APPEAL

One effect of Lord Curzon's resignation will be that the scheme for the Partition of Bengal will be dropped like a hot potato. Indeed, it may be looked upon as already dead. The scheme was Lord Curzon's of his own making. The Home Cabinet did not understand what it was all about, and as for the "Paragon" himself, he confessed he was in blank ignorance on the whole subject as was evidenced by his reply to Mr. Herbert Roberts during the closing days of Parliament, and in a still more startling manner in the recent telegrams to Lord Curzon, where, treating the Viceroy as a spoiled and petulant school boy, he virtually said "Look here my good fellow, you must not think you can have your own sweet will in everything. You must confess we have been very good to you. We have petted you on the back and given in to you times without number. And even in one of your latest fads, although I don't understand anything about the d—d thing at all, I have given you your own way in what you call a scheme for the Partition of Bengal." With so little wisdom is the British Empire governed.

One of the main reasons given for proposed partition of Bengal was that had grown too big for one man to govern. And under the present plan of appointing Lieutenant-Governors this is undoubtedly the case. One great weakness in the present system is that the man chosen for Lieutenant-Governor is generally a worn-out man when he comes to fill the post. After serving for a generation and more in India he rests and pension he generally requires with a seat at the India Council at Home if he can get it, rather than to be forked into the rulership of a great province. An exception to the rule may now and then turn up in a generation where strong physical powers and well-equipped capacity for rulership are combined. Sir Charles Elphinstone may be given as an instance in point. But the great majority are physically played out, and are civil servants; it may be men of high character, and of good and honest intentions, but heredit of mental energy, whose sole object is to get through routine duties in creditable a way as his predecessor. It is pouring in a little oil here and there to the crazy, wheezing wheels of the old bearing wagon of Government (?) going hand it over by and by to his successor in life good order and condition.

The same imperial policy which provides that the Viceroy and the Governors of Madras and Bombay should be fresh from home; men of rank and of proved character and ability in the work of administration; gentlemen of England well versed also in the social side of political life, should also be the policy adopted for Bengal. Then a real life Governor in the very prime of his manhood, such as I have described, and surrounded by an able Council, could govern Bengal as it now is and make the electric nerves of his government penetrate and be felt with power into the remotest parts of an undivided province. What more foolish or more productive of waste than the present system which compels a Lieutenant-Governor to go on tour and visit in a most cursory fashion over so many places during the year? He runs ashore here and there, shakes hands with the officials, pays a flying visit to the court and the hospital, lays some foundation stone or other, receives an address, gives a speech which he afterwards kicks himself for having made, then runs on board again to breakfast while his boat conveys him to another station to repeat the same farce. What has he learned about the inner life and working of the stations visited? Almost next to nothing. He would be much better employed at the seat of Government.

By the present affete system also it is impossible, unless in the case of an exceptionally strong man, for an L.-G. to keep a tight grip of the reins on his subordinate officers and to mete out wholesome discipline to those who require that tender mercy extended to them. In numbers of cases the official offenders have aforesaid been personal friends, chums, or have been associated together in the same district with the L.-G. And when their conduct has to be "suitably noticed," the feeling not un-

We have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in our family for years for all bowel troubles, and it always gives the best of satisfaction. We never could find anything to take its place.—D. S. Booth, editor and proprietor of the 'Tehoe,' Alice, Texas, U. S. A. For sale by All chemists and Storekeepers price 25c.

I have expressed my strong belief that the Partition Scheme is dead, but lest there may be any remnant of life left, let it get a finishing stroke. Let a great public meeting be called for the purpose of forming a Bengal Provincial and Municipal League, strongly representative of all classes in the community, Indian and European alike, for the purpose of promoting good government both in the province and in the municipalities of Bengal. The League can be incorporated for permanent work with a strong executive vigilant committee capable of watching over the trend of public affairs and of taking suitable action as occasion arises. The first and foremost action would be to ask the Government of India to suspend everything in connection with the Partition movement until the question has been thrashed out in the Imperial Parliament. And in the meantime the executive committee could take ways and means, in a very authoritative manner, of letting Parliament know the exact state of feeling throughout the whole of Bengal in reference to the Partition movement and the desires of the people for a more thoroughly equipped administration of the undivided Province under a capable Governor and a well-appointed Council.

More ephemeral meetings and the passing of resolutions are of no use whatever, unless backed up by patient and persistent work. And hence the necessity for a permanent living organisation after the manner of the League I have referred to. The National Municipal League in the United States has done splendid work since its inauguration in 1894. I have its constitution before me. For my present purpose I only quote the first of its three objects, viz.:—"To multiply the numbers, harmonise the methods and combine the forces of all who realise that it is only by united action and organisation that good citizens can secure the adoption of good laws and the preservation of trained ability and proved integrity for Municipal positions, or prevent the success of incompetent candidates for public office."

0 Norton

On the 19th Mr. Eardley Norton, instructed by Messrs. King and Joselyn, made an application before Mr. Justice Boddam, for bail on behalf of Mr. Lee, a Planter, of Travancore, who had been committed to take his trial at the current Sessions of the Madras High Court on a charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The case for the prosecution was that the accused had beaten a coolie named Jacob on the 26th June last and that the coolie had died from the effects of the beating on the 12th July last. Mr. John Adam, Crown Prosecutor, who was served with notice of the application, appeared for the Crown. Mr. Norton read the evidence recorded in the lower Court, chiefly the medical testimony given by Mr. Ephraim, the Apothecary who attended on the accused from the 8th to the 11th July, and by Mr. D'Lemos, the Apothecary who held the post mortem. Counsel pointed out that though Mr. Ephraim, the Apothecary attached to the Estate, personally attended on the deceased when he was ill, the deceased never made any complaint to him of having been beaten by anybody at all. The only thing that took place was that the Apothecary saw a wound on the little finger of the deceased's right hand and when asked how he got it he replied that Mr. Lee had struck him with a slashwhip. This Apothecary attributed the cause of death to pneumonia and denied that either the deceased or any of the estate coolies had ever made any suggestion as to violence having been used. The Apothecary who held the post mortem, on the other hand, attributed the cause of death to pneumonia and rupture of the lungs due to external blows. Counsel went into detail into the various wounds alleged to have been discovered at the post mortem and pointed out that there was no reason to suppose that the wounds on the chest could have been caused by violence only. The only direct testimony was that of the 2nd and 4th witnesses for the prosecution, who do not say a word about the kicking. The 4th witness subsequently withdrew every statement he had made, stating, that he made those statements under Police tuition. Even if true, the direct testimony of these witnesses was merely that they heard Jacob's cries and saw only a small wound on his little finger. Taking the whole of the evidence against the accused to be true, Counsel pointed out that the only charge for which he could be tried at present was a charge of causing grievous hurt, which charge was bailable. The Crown Prosecutor said he had no special instructions in the matter. Counsel pointed out that the Committing Magistrate stated that he actually disbelieved the evidence of the Apothecary employed on the Estate and if Mr. D'Lemos' evidence was true, the former's must be absolutely untrue. Mr. D'Lemos' evidence was to the effect that the wounds must have been caused before death. It could hardly be assumed that the whole of the detailed account given by Mr. D'Lemos of the injuries was a complete concoction. Mr. Norton, interrupting, replied that it was not his case that it was a concoction. They were wounds of a special character and might be accounted for by other causes than violence. His Lordship said that the accused must be prepared to furnish substantial bail. Mr. Norton replied that accused was prepared to do so and that Mr. Creig, of the Bank of Madras, and Mr. Fraser, of Messrs. Gordon Woodroffe and Co., would stand surety. His Lordship then directed the release of the accused on bail till the 28th instant on executing a bond for Rs. 10,000 and furnishing two sureties for Rs. 5,000 each to the satisfaction of the Clerk of the Crown.

The abnormal frosts which ushered in the year 1905 in Northern India have been blamed for many troubles. The latest grievance is that they have reduced the total area under sugar from 2,470,000 acres (the quinquennial average) to 2,032,000 acres. The Punjab reports an area of 204,600 acres against 350,000 acres last year, a decrease of 37 per cent. The Frontier Province reports a fall from 25,900 to 24,800 acres.

The Town Hall was literally packed to suffocation on Friday evening to hear Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore on the above subject. There were many Indian Barristers in their natural costume besides other England-returned gentlemen. On the dias there were some Brahma ladies and the leaders of the Calcutta Bengalee society. Babu Harendra Nath Dutt took the chair.

Babu Harendra Nath Dutt took the chair. Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore, though not quite well, read his paper excellently and was heard even from the farthest corner. He said that the seed now sown by the partition agitation would germinate, for it was God-send. The people had been demanding political rights from the Government in the belief that all men had equal rights. The rulers of India, however, thought that Asiatics had no right. The speaker urged upon his hearers to take into their serious consideration the ill-treatment accorded to Asia by Europe. Not content with depriving the Indians of their independence, Englishmen had destroyed the arts and industries of the country. The Indians knew the art of ship-building, but they had now forgot it. Before the English came to this country the Indians were a martial race, but thanks to the Arms Act the emancipation of the people is complete. The Bengales were called a race of cowards but were not Englishmen mere cowards in emancipating a martial race? These and many other acts of our rulers led the people to suspect every action of the Government. It was indeed a wonder that the people still begged small mercies from the rulers. They had not one King. The whole English nation was their master. So there was no hope in begging. The people were under a delusion that they were incapable of doing anything. They had now come to realize that the Englishmen were not going to give them any privilege. The present feeling was due to that knowledge. He hoped that that feeling would be lasting. The resolution of the Swadeshi movement ought to be made permanent. He hoped that the people would not grudge in shunning luxury. Individual effort should be made for the good of the nation. Unfortunately this was wanted now. To make the movement permanent there should be unity amongst the people and therein lay true patriotism. To make this unity real they should work together for the good of the country. They should elect Hindus and Mahomedans as their leaders whose voice would be supreme in all matters. He cited the examples of Armenians who without any help from Government, were able to make their own courts, to improve agriculture, manufacture, commerce, arts and industries of the country. Could not the Indians follow the example of the Armenians, who were not a free nation? No institution or power granted by Government could thrive. Let that be not obtained by begging. Let it be won by themselves. Power given by Government was a secret danger to the nation. Let them revive their old Panchayet system not in the manner Government was going to create. Let them establish associations in all parts of the province for the improvement of education, industry, commerce and arts. Those associations would one day unite and form a real power in the country.

Babu Hirendra Nath Dutt then made a few remarks. He described John Bull, with a heart as hard as rock and with a block for a head. The only weak part in John Bull was that he had sensitive pocket nerve. When this sensitive part was touched John Bull was at once made to dance. Now that this weak part was touched it was, hoped John Bull would come to its senses.

The proceedings began and terminated with two patriotic songs composed by Babu Robindra Nath Tagore.

It is rumoured that Mr. A. E. Staley, Chief Justice of Mysore, has tendered his resignation, and goes home in October.

It is understood that the Secretary of State has declined to approve of the proposal to remove the Punjab summer head-quarters to Dalhousie.

The first forecast of the til crop of the United Provinces for 1935 states that rain set in early in July and during the first fortnight the falls were sufficient for immediate requirements in almost all districts. After the middle of the month sufficient rain was received in Benares, Gorakhpur and Oudh, but in the rest of the provinces including Bundelkhand, where more than three-fourths of the total area of "til" in the province is grown, the falls have been very slight and sowings have not been completed. The crop where sown is reported to have germinated well, but the prospects are quite uncertain.

Mr. Edward Rodrigues, pensioned Customs Superintendent, and at present Manager in the office of a Malabar export firm, was charged a couple of days ago before Mr. Noyce, Assistant Magistrate, with smuggling a bottle of country liquor from Native Cochín to British territory. Accused who was ably defended by Mr. Oyittil Krishna B.A., B.L., flatly denied the charge. On the principal prosecution witnesses was the Assistant Inspector of Ponnani Circle, who set a sorry figure in the witness-box, and hopelessly contradicted himself. The prosecution evidence broke down completely, and the Magistrate acquitted the accused.

The Vypeen grave case under Section 42 of the District Municipalities Act, in which it is alleged that the Sexton and the bodyguard reopened a grave and exhumed the body of a girl, Maria, and buried the body in the Vypeen cemetery, was heard before Mr. A. J. Pitter's son there this morning for further hearing. Before our "Second Class Magistrate" Mr. M. A. Thiagaraja Iyer, on the 15th and 17th instant. On the latter date the Magistrate visited the cemetery and after a short time the grave in question proceeded by taking further evidence, when 5 witnesses were examined. The case for the prosecution was closed and the Magistrate framed two charges against the 2nd accused, the bodyguard, while the other accused, the Sexton, was discharged, as, from the evidence produced, the Magistrate found nothing by which the Sexton could be held guilty. The case stands adjourned to next Friday the 20th instant when the second accused is to appear in his defence. —"Malabar Herald."

Cal. Form 101 (Rev. 1-1-73)

The Government of India having declined to sanction the extension of the Elephants Reservation Act (India) to the Madras Presidency, the Board of Revenue have, in view to prevent the unnecessary cruelty to elephants in the operations adopted for their catching, called on the Conservator of Forests Southern Circle, and the Collectors of South Canara, Malabar, Coimbatore and the Nilgiris, to report what measures they would recommend to prevent any unnecessary cruelty. On a consideration of the reports received from the Officers concerned, Government have passed the following order:—"As pointed out by these officers, it is not possible to take any special action in the matter so long as no rules can be issued under any legislative enactment to control the capture of elephants on private lands. All that can be done is to explain to private landowners the measures to be adopted for the safe capture of elephants and to induce them amicably to work in this direction, the Forest Department lending them the use of their game elephants and advising them freely in the matter whenever possible. If this is found ineffective to secure the object aimed at, Collectors should report the fact to the Board in order that the Government of India may be moved to reconsider their decision."

Mr. Gas, Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, observed in his report, "It is essential that the owners of land should keep us informed of the opening of pits, as they are dangerous to human beings and domestic animals. Quite lately we lost one good bullock, and not long before a European Ranger just escaped falling into a pit. This information is, however, a matter of amicable agreement, and I hope they would be quite willing to give it, if they are not harassed and interfered with." In reference to this portion of Mr. Gas's letter, the Government think that information regarding pits which are dangerous to the public should be given to the local Magistrate.

The Rangoon Chamber of Commerce has decided not to address Lord Curzon by wire in connection with his resignation. It is believed this decision is due to His Excellency not having done very much for Burma during his administration.

PNEUMONIA.

"Some time ago my daughter caught a severe cold. She complained of pains in her chest and had a bad cough. I gave her Chamberlain's Cough Remedy according to directions and in two days she was well and able to go to school. I have used this remedy in my family for the past seven years and have never known it to fail," says James Pridergast, merchant, Annato, Hay Jamaica, West India Islands. For sale by all chemists. Wholesale Price 1/4. 2/6.

THE
Amrita Bazar Patrika.

CALCUTTA, AUGUST 1905.

LORD CURZON, SIR A. FRASER AND
PARTITION.

The entire correspondence between Mr. Brodriek and Lord Curzon, which led to the resignation of the latter, was published by us the other day in an extraordinary issue, upwards of two thousand copies of which were sold in a few hours. A perusal of the documents will show why His Lordship resigned, and why he took this step at a most inopportune moment. As we pointed out in our last issue the Viceroy had actually tendered his resignation in June, but Mr. Brodriek denied it boldly in the House of Commons. At that time he resigned on public grounds, that is to say, because of his uncertainty of opinion on the scheme, submitted by Lord Kitchener and accepted by the Home Government, would, if introduced, establish a military autocracy and result in the ruin of India. If he had then stuck to his determination, he would have carried at least the European section of the Indian society with him, and perhaps found a place in history for supporting a right principle, but he was then persuaded to withdraw his resignation. He has resigned again; but this time not for the Empire, nor for a principle but on personal grounds. His Lordship now resigns, because, his nominee for the post of the "Supply Member," General Barrow, has been "rejected," to quote his own word. So previously he resigned for a noble cause and immediately withdrew his resignation; but now he resigns because his personal vanity has been hurt.

It would have been of course more agreeable to us if Lord Curzon had resigned owing to a difference between him and Mr. Brodriek over the partition question. There was every chance for such a collision. Firstly, Mr. Brodriek had promised to lay further papers before the House, but Lord Curzon would rush partition through and finish every thing in October, if possible. The Secretary of State had good cause to resent such an attitude, for, if the partition scheme were launched before the re-assembling of Parliament, Mr. Brodriek might be accused as a promise-breaker. Secondly, a serious legal difficulty was to be got over, and Mr. Brodriek might naturally object to the carrying out of an important measure which might afterwards be declared illegal, and, therefore, null and void.

But, it seems, Mr. Brodriek did not take this step to serve a personal end. He knew that nothing would please Lord Curzon more than the blood of the Bengalees. When Lord Curzon, therefore, earnestly begged him to sanction the partition project, Mr. Brodriek no doubt acceded to the request, but, at the same time, made His Lordship feel that thereby he had conferred an everlasting obligation upon him. And Mr. Brodriek was able to remind Lord Curzon of this obligation when he complained of having received unjust treatment at his hands! Who will after this deny that Mr. Brodriek is a more clever diplomat than Lord Curzon? Or is it possible that Mr. Brodriek is only a latibul in the hand of Mr. Balfour to break the heads of those who are disagreeable to him?

But it does not matter whether the resignation of Lord Curzon is due to partition or to the scheme of the re-organization of the Army. It is enough that Lord Curzon is removed from the scene. For if Lord Curzon disappears, the only reason why the project of partition should be given effect to disappears also.

Of course we have yet Sir A. Fraser amongst us. But His Honour's condition reminds us of that of Wolsey, the great minister of Henry VIII. Why is Sir Andrew for partition? Because his Chief, now nobody to him, was for it. Perhaps no Lieutenant-Governor surrendered himself up so completely to his Chief as Sir Andrew did to Lord Curzon. In a public speech, delivered by him at St. Andrew's Dinner, he said that not only was Lord Curzon "an exceptionally able man" but his Chief characteristics were "his intense regard for righteousness and his great consideration for the opinions and advice of others." Holding such an opinion of Lord Curzon, there is no wonder that his late Chief's conviction was his own, and that he followed him like a shadow.

Sir G. Campbell and Lord Northbrook could not agree. Sir William Grey opposed the educational scheme of Lord Mayo (Stacy brothers). But Sir A. Fraser dithered everything that Lord Curzon said or did. Nay, he went a step further than Lord Curzon. Lord Curzon did not mix with the leading men of Bengal and could not thus know their views on partition directly. But Sir Andrew conversed with hundreds of men of education and property, and every one of them, whose opinion was worth having, opposed the division of Bengal. Yet he not only supported the measure against universal protests, but was also the author of the enlarged scheme which is hundred times more mischievous than the original one.

If, instead of following Lord Curzon, His Honour had only followed his own instincts, which are all pro-Indian, how happy would the Bengalees have been! He was trained by his excellent father, who called himself not a Scotchman but an Indian. When Sir A. Fraser was appointed ruler of Bengal, there was joy in the land. But he forsook the people, seventy millions of whom God had placed in his care, and stuck to his Chief. This Chief now leaves him alone.

And why was the partition scheme proposed? Who did it? It was proposed by Lord Curzon. And why did Mr. Brodriek sanction it? The fact has come out at last that he did it simply to please Lord Curzon and serve a purpose of his own. For does not Mr. Brodriek charge Lord Curzon with ingratitude? Says the former (Mr. Brodriek) to the latter (Lord Curzon) in effect: "You ingrate, did I not accept two of your nominees when it was I who had the power of nominating them? And what is more, did not I even sanction your Partition scheme which was launched for punishing the Bengalees."

So the fact has come to light at last as to why Mr. Brodriek sanctioned the Partition scheme. He did it not to serve the Empire, but to serve himself and to oblige Lord Curzon who has just resigned in a huff. And why did Lord Curzon not divide Bengal? Every body is this time aware that the plan of over-

burdened" Lieutenant-Governor is a myth. If Sir Andrew Fraser really complained that the administration of Bengal was too heavy for him, surely the proper course for Lord Curzon was to appoint a more energetic and capable man than Sir Andrew, and not to trample down the feelings and sentiments of a whole nation. Well, it is now quite evident that the partition of Bengal was undertaken only to put down the Bengalees who were thorns in the side of Lord Curzon's Government. What a feeling this attitude of the authors of the partition project displays! Is this the way the three hundred millions in India are to be governed? Lord Curzon is angry, and, therefore, the fifty millions of Bengalees must be sacrificed to appease him!

"THE FORMIDABLE JOB."

The "PIONEER" is persistent in its assertion that the Government of India is determined to give effect to partition without waiting for the adjourned Parliamentary debate. This is what it says in its issue of Aug. 23:—

"Now that it has been settled that nothing was meant by the Secretary of State's admission that Parliament was entitled to further information before the partition of Bengal was proceeded with, the Government of India and the local Administrations concerned will be resuming work on the formidable job at full pressure."

But who has settled it? Who has settled that Mr. Brodriek gave a false promise to Mr. Roberts, Sir Henry Fowler and others? The only party who can settle the question is Mr. Brodriek. Has he written to the "Pioneer"? Not likely. Has he written to Lord Curzon saying that he never meant to lay further papers before the House? We fancy not; for, then the Government of India would have at once published such a valuable piece of information; and secondly, considering the love which Mr. Brodriek bears to Lord Curzon, he cannot be expected to put himself in the position of a promise-breaker for the sake of his opponent. We may, therefore, take it that the object of the inspired passage, quoted above, is to damp the spirits of those who are carrying on the agitation against partition; for, it is hard to conceive that the Government of India, now that it has no head, is yet determined to have partition at any cost by defying Parliament.

Needless to say that the Government will take a very serious step if, in the face of the distinct promise made by the Secretary of State to the House, it yet launches the scheme of partition before the re-assembling of Parliament in February next. For, neither the Opposition nor Mr. Brodriek is likely to tolerate such disobedience on the part of the India Government. There is then the question of legal difficulty, of which hereafter. Again, fancy the nature of the task which will devolve upon the Government. The "Pioneer" calls it "formidable"; but it is more than that,—it seems beyond human power to complete all necessary arrangements for creating a new Province and a new Government in the course of two or three months. We shall try to give the reader an idea of the utter confusion that is bound to ensue if the matter is rushed through with railway speed.

How long does it take for a joint family, composed of two or three co-sharers, to separate their properties? It requires years before petty details relating to various matters could be satisfactorily adjusted. This is the case with a private party; but the affairs of a Government, which has to deal with dozens of departments, scores of establishments, and hundreds of officers are certainly much more complicated than those of the former.

Hitherto there was one homogeneous Government, with one Secretariat, one Revenue Board; one executive department composed of Divisional Commissioners and District Magistrates; one department of Police; one department of Jails; one department of Education; one department of Land Records and Agriculture; one department of Registration; one department of Customs; one department of Excise and so forth. All these are to be halved. New officers are to be appointed and old officers to be divided into two sets, one for the new, and the other for the old, Province. And what is most difficult is that, hitherto there was one financial account for one undivided Province under one Government; this account is to be separated into two in such a way as to leave no room for complaint on the part of the old or the new Government.

In the Board of Revenue and the Secretariat, indeed, in almost every branch of the administration of the Bengal Government, there are lots of valuable papers, belonging to private parties and the Government, deposited in their archives. They have to be transferred from Calcutta to Dacca, from Nagpur to Calcutta, or from Assam to Dacca or Chittagong; for, the interests of the three Provinces, namely, Bengal, Assam and the Central Provinces are involved in the partition project. Even gods themselves cannot guarantee that many of these valuable documents will not be lost or stolen or tampered with during their transit from one place to another. It was an authority like Sir Patrick Playfair who told us last year in a private conversation that, when Sybil and Cachar were cut off from Bengal and annexed to Assam, many people were ruined, because they lost valuable documents which were under the custody of the Government and which had to be transmitted from the Secretariat of Bengal to that of Assam.

Here are certain features of this "formidable job." It is quite evident that Lord Curzon thought that the partition of Bengal would be as plain sailing as the creation of the North-Western Province was. We all know how the Government of India, when it first conceived the idea of founding a similar province in the North-East, paid no heed whatever to the difficulties—financial, administrative, economical etc.—that it would have to overcome in this connection. It is only after securing the sanction of the Secretary of State to his project of partitioning Bengal that Lord Curzon directed his attention to these matters.

Now, it was a very simple thing to create a Province in the North-West. Some frontier districts were cut off from the Punjab and they were grouped together into a Province and placed under the same officers who had already been in charge of them. Then the new administrative machinery that had to be created was very small. A Chief

Commissioner and his staff were all that were required and temporary employment for four years was offered to the Punjab officers that chose to remain west of the Indus, reversion to the older Province being left open to them.

But the conditions are very different with regard to the new Province. Not only is the Province a very big one, but a large number of new officers, as able and experienced as those who are in charge of Bengal, will be needed to administer its affairs. From where are they to be secured? Surely, they will not be rained down from heaven. Here are a few more difficulties. The districts that are to be joined together into one homogeneous whole are at present under two separate Administrations. The Civil staff in Assam and in the Bengal territory concerned has to be re-arranged; a separate cadre for future recruitment has to be formed; the combined area has to be parcelled out into Divisions, Districts, and Sub-Divisions both for magisterial and judicial work; a number of departments have to be called into existence; and the new Lieutenant-Governor has to be given the full Secretariat Staff without which he would be helpless. Then, there must be many conflicting interests to be reconciled; many claims to promotion to be weighed; and other matters of like nature are to be settled.

The financial is of course the most difficult of all questions. The initial and the permanent cost will be enormous. New buildings, some of them palatial ones, must be erected at Dacca, Chittagong and Shillong, both for accommodating offices and officers. At least two crores of Rupees will be required for this purpose alone. And then, unless the Government of India has secured an Aladdin's lamp, it will take years before these hundreds of buildings can be completed. Where will the officers reside on the offices he located if the partition scheme is launched even after six months? The permanent cost will be at least two crores per annum. What arrangements have been made to pump out this huge sum from the people of the new Province regularly every year?

Something like giddiness must overtake every one when he contemplates the nature of the work which the Government will have to go through, if it is really bent upon dismembering Bengal in a hurry. It can accomplish this feat only by turning the entire machinery of the Government upside down and bringing irreparable confusion in every branch of administration. Unless the Government has gone mad, it will not venture to undertake such a task, though such an insane attempt would have been possibly made if Lord Curzon was yet the ruler of the country. But His Lordship is on his exit, and there is none belonging to the Government of India, excepting Mr. Risley, who is, however, only a subordinate, who can take the place of the late Viceroy or who has any heart in this work. It is, therefore, reasonable to suppose that, in spite of the inspired paragraph of the "Pioneer," neither the Supreme nor the Local Government will care to proceed with the work of partition. However, that is no reason that the promoters of the anti-partition movement should show any signs of languor. On the other hand, they should work with greater vigour now that the author of their misery is on his way out for good.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, HIGH
COURT, AND COMMERCIAL PROS-
PECT OF CALCUTTA.

The European merchants of Calcutta are not only intelligent but shrewd men of business who thoroughly understand their own interests. Is it not therefore surprising that they are so indifferent as regards the partition of Bengal? It cannot of course be expected that the question will move them as powerfully as it has moved the people of Bengal, for the element of sentiment is wanting in their case; but, is there any doubt that, on some very substantial points, they will be as great sufferers as the Bengalees if the partition project is given effect to? Oh for a Clarke at this juncture! If Mr. Clarke, the late Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, were alive at this time, we think, he would not have rested till the entire body of non-official Europeans had seen the great danger which threatens them in connection with this measure.

If the Calcutta High Court is a necessity to the children of the soil, it is a greater necessity to the Europeans residing in this country. They cannot thus afford to see the position of this palladium of liberty lowered in any way. But is there any doubt that the existing High Court is bound to lose its prestige and status, if Bengal is divided into two? If there was any, that has been removed by the reply of the Government to the representation of the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber wanted a guarantee to the effect that the jurisdiction of the High Court would not be withdrawn from the proposed new Province. The Government says in reply that, not only is it unable to give such a guarantee, but that its successors, for aught it knows to the contrary, may meddle with the High Court! After such plain declaration, for which the Government deserves thanks, how can the Chamber keep quiet over the matter.

A curious notion, it seems, has overtaken some of the prominent members of the Chamber. It is to the effect that there is a great difference between the "status" of the High Court and its "area of jurisdiction." "The two seem to be totally distinct matters which need not necessarily have anything to do with one another," says an exponent of this view in the "Englishman," over the signature of "C." The notion, in short, is that, so long as the High Court has a charter of its own, it does not matter whether its jurisdiction is narrowed or extended. In other words, as the Calcutta High Court will not be deprived of its charter, its status will not suffer in the slightest degree if its jurisdiction is reduced after the partition of Bengal.

The notion, however, is the real fact, for, the difference between the "status" and the "area of jurisdiction" is very intimate. We shall presently see our meaning. Now which High Court is a superior status—a High Court of fifteen Judges or a High Court of half the number? Like Calcutta, Allahabad has also a chartered High Court of its own. Which of the two is superior—the Calcutta or the Allahabad? There cannot be two opinions on the subject. And why is the status of the Calcutta Court higher than that of the Allahabad? Because, the former consists of seventeen, and the latter only half a dozen Judges.

Knotty legal questions are oftentimes settled by a Full Bench. In the Calcutta High Court seventeen learned Judges will put

their events. At a decision. At a large number of Judges as seventeen? Why is it as grand an institution as the High Court of England itself? Because the area of its jurisdiction is very large. It extends from Calcutta to Assam on one side, and to the remotest corner of Behar on the other. But if Bengal is halved, the High Court's jurisdiction will be halved also. And if its jurisdiction is halved, that is to say, if we have now seventeen Judges, we shall then have eight or nine. In other words, its status will be levelled down to that of Allahabad, which has six or seven Judges only. The "status" and the "area of jurisdiction" far from being "totally distinct" as the correspondent of the "Englishman" has it, are thus very closely connected with each other.

We fancy, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce are not prepared to have the status of their own High Court reduced to that of the Allahabad. But how can they prevent it, if the partition is not stopped? The bar will then necessarily deteriorate, and its independence will be gone. The pay of the Chief Justice will also be reduced, and only a third-rate man will agree to accept the now much-coveted Chairmanship of the first judicial tribunal in the land. And who knows that, in due course, the High Court will be deprived of its charter and replaced by a chief court? This must be the inevitable result of the partition of Bengal. Bengal, reduced to nearly half its size, cannot, with any show of justice, claim the privilege of possessing a High Court of seventeen Judges which, as an undivided Province, it enjoys now. Is it possible that the non-official Europeans do not see this simple thing? If they do, how are they sleeping over the partition matter?

As regards the commercial aspect of the question, is it possible that the merchants of Calcutta do not see what will strike even a child that the partition of Bengal means the partition of Calcutta itself? It is to East Bengal and Assam that the commercial community of the city owes much of their prosperity. But will not their prosperity be at least halved when the new Province will have Chittagong for its port? It is mainly Chittagong that has added to the prosperity of the merchants of Calcutta. But Calcutta will see very little of these articles when the new Province will have its own entrance and exit to the sea. And if the commerce of the imperial city suffers, the occupation of half of the coolies, carters, boatmen &c will be gone.

The position is this. The distance to Calcutta from Dacca by the shortest route is something like 250 miles against the 142 miles only to Chittagong. There is break of bulk entailing two transshipments, between Calcutta and Dacca; there is no such break of bulk between Dacca and Chittagong under the proposed conditions. The transport of jute to Chittagong should thus cost just three-fifths of what it would cost to transport to Calcutta. This difference in distance and rate will necessarily affect all other commodities, such as salt, kerosine oil, piece goods, &c which represent imports; and jute, tea, mustard seed, hides &c which are the exports. Not only the question of rate but that of time also is a most important factor. At present goods sent by the quickest route between Calcutta and Dacca occupy a whole week in transit, while under the new conditions goods between Chittagong and Dacca will reach their destination in the course of one day only. The advantage is, to say the least, so startling in its significance that it is a wonder that there is absolutely no flutter among the commercial community in Calcutta.

When will the non-official Europeans in Calcutta realize the gravity of the situation and shake off their lethargy? With the declining prosperity of the commercial community will disappear gradually the prosperity of almost all classes of people in Calcutta. If jute, tea, rice find their way to the port of Chittagong, what will be the fate of the port of Calcutta? And will not the income of the Port Commissioners then be halved? Similarly, will not the income of the Corporation be reduced by half? And the Calcutta Improvement Scheme will certainly have to be shelved if jute and tea cannot be taxed by the Corporation. The result of the partition is an unmitigated mischief all along the line.

We are thankful to "Max" for his crushing article in "Capital." Will he take the place of the late Mr. Clarke and rouse the non-official European community in Bengal to do their duty? There is no doubt that, if the prospect of the Bengalees is bad, no less bad is the prospect of the non-official Europeans, if the partition of Bengal is effected. For, with the status of the High Court lowered or gone, and the commercial prosperity of Calcutta winding away, the prospect of the non-official European community must be very dismal indeed.

HUMAN nature is everywhere the same. Now that Lord Curzon has resigned the entire English press, including even the London "Daily News," is sympathising with him. The "Times" true to its character, discuss the matter in its usual way, apportioning its praise and blame in the nicest manner possible, to the parties concerned. It praises Lord Curzon and blames Mr. Brodriek. It makes the scales even, it next praises Mr. Brodriek and blames Lord Curzon. And thus the public are left to draw their own conclusion as to which side is in the right and which is in the wrong. The other day the "Times" called Lord Curzon "the greatest of the King's representatives"; and when this greatest of the King's representatives was brought down on his knees by the action of Messrs. Balfour and Brodriek, it characterised the attitude of the latter as "right and wise," and accused its fallen hero of being so blundering as to withdraw his first resignation. The "Times" is thus a wise and safe

It was no ordinary humiliation which Mr. Brodriek inflicted upon Lord Curzon when he asked the latter to consult Lord Kitchener as to what officer should be appointed as Supply Member. He said in his despatch that he would on no account appoint General Barrow as such; but might consider the claims of one who is recommended both by the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief, the latter being not only a subordinate of Lord Curzon but a very independent subordinate, certainly a bitter and successful opponent. The fact is that Mr. Brodriek suspected that Lord Curzon's object was to discredit the scheme by putting it in charge of an unsympathetic officer. We fear Mr. Brodriek had some reason to entertain such a suspicion. It is not likely that the views of the great London journal should ever be supported by an Indian paper like the "Patrika." But, in this matter, we agree with the "Times" in thinking that though Englishmen here and in England are expressing sympathy for Lord Curzon in this controversy, it was he that was in the wrong, and Mr. Brodriek who was in the right.

From the correspondence between the two, we shall try to explain how we come to entertain this view. Lord Curzon gave Mr. Brodriek to understand that he had nominated General Barrow to fill the place of the Supply Member; that he was going to England; and that Mr. Brodriek would be so good as to send for him and have a talk with him, and that the nomination of General Barrow had the approval of Lord Kitchener. It seems the privilege of nominating for the place rested with the Secretary of State; and considering the strained relations between him and the Viceroy, the latter acted judiciously in curtailing humiliation by making a nomination which he had no right to make. But, it seems, Mr. Brodriek was generous enough to overlook the liberty that Lord Curzon had taken in this matter and actually granted an interview to General Barrow as he was requested to do by the Viceroy. But what did he learn by this interview? This interview led him to suspect the motives of Lord Curzon! Mr. Brodriek came to suspect, from his conversation with General Barrow that the latter was not an admirer of the scheme which he and Lord Kitchener had adopted, and the Viceroy had opposed. But though an opponent, the General was nominated by Lord Curzon. Mr. Brodriek was thus justified in thinking that the object of His Lordship was to discredit the scheme, and, finally, to the assertion of Lord Curzon that the nomination of General Barrow had been approved of by Lord Kitchener was not exactly correct.

How Mr. Brodriek came to entertain this notion we do not know, perhaps he came to do so from his conversation with General Barrow. So he telegraphed to Lord Curzon to say that General Barrow was not quite willing to take the place to which the Viceroy had nominated him; for he was desirous of holding a post, where he would have an opportunity of doing active service. He further requested the Viceroy that he should consult Lord Kitchener whether he had any objection to General Barrow. So here was more humiliation which Lord Curzon brought upon himself by his faulty manoeuvre. Mr. Brodriek thus told Lord Curzon plainly that he would never take his man, but he might take him if his nomination is approved by Lord Kitchener! And what did subsequent events prove? They prove that Lord Curzon was not quite correct when he said that the nomination of General Barrow had the approval of Lord Kitchener, and Lord Curzon had to admit it. Is it possible that while Mr. Brodriek kept up the correspondence with the Viceroy he also held a secret correspondence with Lord Kitchener, and the latter informed him that General Barrow was not his man nor a sympathiser of the scheme?

Here is an incident to show that the Bengalees are far from being implacable foes of Lord Curzon, though he has done them the greatest injury which a ruler can do to the millions entrusted to his care. When the resignation of the Viceroy was made known, a hurried meeting was called where a number of leading men were present. The subject for discussion was whether the great event, namely, the resignation of Lord Curzon, should be celebrated by an all-India rejoicing or not. The young men were for illuminating the town at once; but the opinions of the elders prevailed. They said that it would not be proper and Hindu-like to show such jubilation over a fallen viceroy. By adopting such a course, it was further contended, the Bengalees might also lose the sympathy of their friends among Englishmen. This advice preponderated, and the resignation of Lord Curzon might have been followed by the illuminations of the capital city and other towns of India.

Like the people of British India, the rulers of the Indian States have also suffered unmitigated injury at the hands of Lord Curzon. The manner in which Holker and Panna were driven from their thrones reminds one of the days of Dalhousie. At Jeypur Lord Curzon solemnly promised that, as long as he was at the head of the Government, he would not allow a



A MURDER CASE.

EXECUTION DEFERRED.

The Ghazipur correspondent of the "Pioneer" writes under date August 17:—One Roshan and his wife Umi were sentenced by the Sessions Judge to suffer the extreme penalty of the law, for the murder of a girl aged about 12 years, for the sake of her ornaments, valued at about Rs. 120. The facts which led up to the conviction are briefly these:—

The girl Sarswati, according to her wont, visited Musammam Umi on the 27th April to receive instruction in reading and writing Hindi. Not having returned in the evening her uncle went to Roshan's house in search, and was informed by Roshan and his wife Umi that the girl was not there, but had left for her home. The uncle, after searching about in the village, revisited Roshan's house in company with some of his neighbours, and having received the same intelligence as on the former occasion, he asked two chowkidars to take Roshan and his wife to the thana since he suspected them of having done away with his niece. Hearing this instruction given to the chowkidars, Umi asked not to be handed over to the police, promising to find the missing girl if the people accompanied her: a search party went with her, while the uncle of the girl, with several others, kept watch over Roshan at his house. Musammam Umi led the search party to two different villages, and having failed in her promise, she was taken to the thana. Roshan throughout the night was seen going in and out of the house at short intervals. In the morning when the Sub-Inspector was observed near the village, along with Umi, Roshan suddenly shouted out, "Some one has killed Sarswati, and hid the corpse under the blouse in my house."

The corpse was later on taken out in a state of nudity, bereft of all ornaments, and the skull was so dreadfully battered that fragments of it were strewn on the floor.

On the 30th April Umi made a statement to the effect that according to agreement previously arrived at she and one Musammam Laksheshari had held the girl by the legs, and her husband had battered the head with a gandasa. On the same day Roshan made a statement denying all knowledge but expressing the opinion that probably his wicked wife committed the crime. Before the committing Magistrate the woman said her former statement was correct with the exception that she and Laksheshari had held the legs, Roshan, adhered to his former statement. On the foregoing facts coupled with the fact that the prisoner Umi had made over all the blood-stained jewellery of the unfortunate girl to the investigating police officer, the assessors found Roshan and his wife guilty of murder, and the learned Sessions Judge agreeing with them pronounced the sentence of death, which in due course was confirmed by the Hon'ble High Court, and the 11th instant was fixed for the execution.

On the 10th the woman made a statement to Surgeon-Colonel Emerson, the Superintendent of the Jail, entirely exonerating her husband, and fixing the crime on herself and Laksheshari, adding that her statement of 30th April was made on the assurance by the police that husband and wife could not be convicted for one offence. Colonel Emerson brought this to the notice of the Magistrate, who communicated it to the Sessions Judge. The learned Judge wired to the High Court, soliciting instruction. The Hon'ble Court directed postponement of execution and submission of a report to Government. This has been done, and reply is now awaited with no little anxiety, as it is difficult to anticipate the conclusion that will be arrived at, this being the first instance of this nature.

TANGAIL NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

ALLEGED ASSAULT BY A EUROPEAN.

One Kedar Nath Das of Elashin, Police Station Tangail, has brought a case of assault under Secs. 352, 504 and 500 I. P. C. against Mr. Harloc, Agent I. G. and R. T. N. Coy. Ltd. (Head Office) Elashin. Kedar Nath has filed a petition to the Sub-divisional Officer of Tangail on the 16th of August last. The following is a true copy of the same:—

"On the day of occurrence a calf, aged only three months, entered the enclosures of Mr. Harloc. The Sahib set his dogs numbering three or four at the calf. The poor thing was surrounded by the dogs, and was bitten. Witnesses Jogendra Bhowmick and Deyendra Bose called me aloud, when went closer, and asked a 'Methur' in the employ of the said Sahib, to call the dogs aside and protect my calf. The Sahib in full rage came out of the enclosures, spoke ill name of me in the term of 'Damm, Suar' etc, and caught hold of my right arm, and severely wrung it and dealt a few blows, and kicked me. These have caused me severe mental anguish, and have been source of disgrace to me. I pray that your worship will do me justice."

The complainant's muktear insisted upon the issue of summons on the accused but strange to say the Sub-divisional Officer instead of issuing any summons asked one Mr. Bolts of the same place to enquire and report in the following words:—

"To Mr. H. Bolts for enquiry and report by the 1st proximo, and, if possible, and will please try to settle the matter amicably."

(Sd.) J. Biswas.

Be it noted here that the Sub-Divisional officer is very prompt in issuing summons upon respectable Indians. Need I say why he departed from his usual practice in the present case?

THE STUDENTS AND THE PARTITION.

I am glad, the student community, have come forward to assert their position in the society. They have sedulously taken to purchasing country-made articles in their use, unmindful of the cost. It is indeed a sign of the times that the position of the country, has been realized by one and all. Even the shop-keepers now-a-days read your paper with an attention which will be better imagined than described.

The details of the Army reform scheme are now before the Secretary of State, and no news of his acceptance has yet reached Simla. Mr. W. S. Mayer I.C.S., is spoken of as likely to be Secretary for Army Finance.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

Vice-Chairman.—The Lieutenant-Governor sanctions the grant by the Corporation of Calcutta to Babu Nilambara Mukerjee, M.A., B.L., their Vice-Chairman, of privilege leave for 45 days from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Hospital Assistants.—The undermentioned Civil Hospital Assistants passed the Medical examination on the 7th August 1905:—Jadu Gopal Chattopadhyay, Gaibanda sub-division and dispensary, Rangpur, and Hari Charan Chattopadhyay, Second Demonstrator of Anatomy, Campbell Medical School.

Alleged Electricity Theft Case.—On Thursday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. H. M. Minek, was re-arraigned on a charge of theft of electricity at No. 9 Middleton Street. The Court in a lengthy judgment dismissed the case and ordered the acquittal of the defendant.

Adelphi Hotel.—At the High Court, on Tuesday, before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen an attorney applied for a vesting order in the suit of J. Bridge vs. T. H. Maddan. The attorney said that the plaintiff had purchased the Adelphi Hotel and that he had annexed the office copies of the account sale showing the purchase. His Lordship granted the application.

Hony. Magistrates.—Mr. Alexander Hale and Babu Moti Lal Chatterjee are re-appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Sadar Independent Bench in the district of Howrah. Babu Hira Lal Ghosh is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Rajpur in the district of the 24-Parganas. The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Mr. D. O. B. Moore of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Kendrapara Independent Bench in the district of Cuttack.

Assault in Court.—After the case, Mr. J. M. Chater vs. Bachoo Gomez and others, a report whereof appeared in our last issue, was transferred to the Bench by the Chief Presidency Magistrate to the parties went out to the verandah of the court. While there Bachoo Gomez assaulted a witness of Mr. J. M. Chater Sergeant Viner arrested Gomez under the orders of Court Inspector Mr. Abdur Rahim and placed him before the Chief Presidency Magistrate on charges of disorderly conduct and assaulting a man within the court precincts. Accused was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 25, in default 14 days imprisonment.

P. W. Department.—The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to make the following promotions and reversions in the Engineer Establishment with effect from the 5th July 1905:—Babu Modhusudan Sen Gupta, Executive Engineer, 3rd grade, temporary rank to be Executive Engineer, 3rd grade. Mr. G. T. Huntingford, to be Assistant Engineer, 1st grade. The following promotions are made in the Upper Subordinate Establishment with effect from the dates specified:—Babu Doorga Charan Chuckerbutty, Sub-Engineer, 2nd grade to be Sub-Engineer, 1st grade, Mouli Golan Rahman, Supervisor, 1st grade, to be Sub-Engineer, 3rd grade. Babu Hari Das Bhaduri, Supervisor, 2nd grade, to be Supervisor, 1st grade. Babu Kedar Nath Mazumdar, to be Supervisor, 2nd grade.

The Benares Exhibition.—The Executive Committee of the Fifth Indian Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition of the Indian National Congress have, after careful consideration of the replies received from a large number of leading men in the country, resolved to hold the First Indian Industrial Conference this year in the Christmas week on a day to be decided later. This Conference will deal with such economic and industrial questions as concern the material welfare of the masses, to which special and detailed attention cannot obviously be given by the National Congress. One special feature of the Conference will be that it will invite the co-operation of all who desire the material prosperity of India irrespective of their political opinions. The arrangements of the Conference have been entrusted to a Sub-Committee with Mr. C. Y. Chintamani as Secretary of the Conference. The work of the Sub-Committee will be subject to the general approval of the Exhibition Committee.

A Tried Tiger Shot.—A correspondent writes to the "Weekly Chronicle":—Depredations of tiger are a constant source of panic in the neighbourhood of Ganganagar and Dorenkhal tea gardens in Cadich. It is often that the cattle are removed from their sheds and killed outright. Last year Babu Kali Sadya Chakravarty of Monierkhal did a great deal to avert the situation by killing so many as five beasts, but for want of public support he has now practically given it up as a thankless task. The other day one of his own cows was killed where upon Babu Kali Sadya made his way into the jungle in search of the master-stripe, but failing to meet any, he left the carcass of a cow mixed up with poison. The experiment proved so successful that next day he found the dead body of a huge tiger measuring 8½ cubits lying close to the dead body of the cow. The pluck and courage of Babu Kali Sadya Chakravarty cannot be too highly commended and is deserving of public patronage.

The suit against an Inspector of Police.—A Habiganj correspondent writes to the "Weekly Chronicle":—This case has created a great deal of sensation in this Sub-Division. The plaintiff has claimed Rs. 500 as principal and Rs. 271 and odd annas as interest, in all Rs. 771 and odd. The defendant Babu P. C. Chowdhury in his defence alleges that the case is maliciously false. In certain Police case Muchitandi Police submitted report in favor of the plaintiff, but he a Inspector sent them up for trial and they were convicted. Latterly on account of disturbance in the Habiganj Bazar about possession of a piece of land and about Lal Das Choudhury and other Babu Govind special constables and subjects were made alleged that out of this ground to drill has been instituted after the judge this case this station. The defendant transfer from any bond or receipt for the alleged loan. Babu officers to prove his subordinate alleges to have given the defence. The plaintiff in G. Currency notes, numbers Rs. 500 to the notes, numbers

length be reduced. Fifthly use coarse clothes; wear Pajamas or Jungias, nay, gunny bags if necessary. In days gone by many a village had but one chudder and every man only two pairs of Dhuties per annum. As regards the first question, if the boycott is relaxed for the sake of those who have large stocks of Manchester cloths, then the movement may go to the wall altogether. And then again, if the people need Dhuties which the leaders fail to supply, there is no help for it; the needy must wait till clothes are woven. In the meantime, we trust no one will purchase new clothes during the Pooja. Let them wear old clothes till they are torn and become unserviceable. Not only will the market by this method be filled with country-made articles in due course, but the sale of Manchester piece-goods will be stopped. We shall however deal with the matter again and again. And then we have to say much about salt imported from abroad. If salt is to be boycotted it ought to be done in a natural way and not by inflammatory handbills like those we noticed recently. Let it be distinctly understood that the promoters of the Swadeshi movement have nothing to do with any of the inflammatory handbills which were recently circulated by some irresponsible parties.

We are sorry to hear that Lord Curzon is very ill and Doctors think that he requires long rest. What a pity that His Lordship should break his health not to do good but to unmitigated injury to the people of India who did him no harm but paid him a lakh a month as salary. In the meantime it is amusing to see how Mr. Brodriek is shedding a flood of crocodile's tears over Lord Curzon's misfortune. Having humiliated and then compelled him to resign, Mr. Brodriek is now expressing his high appreciation of his services as Viceroy. This is called "the presenting a pair of shoes after killing a cow."

We are informed that Mr. MacBlaine, District Judge of Krishnagpur did not come to court on Saturday last. He had given no notice of his intended absence. The result was, the parties and their pleaders had to keep waiting up to 5 P. M. and even at that moment, no information was sent to them by the Judge. The matter should draw the attention of the Hon'ble Mr. Chief Justice.

MOULVI BAZUL KARIM, the third Presidency Magistrate, having taken leave for one year, Babu R. A. N. Sing, Police Magistrate of Sealdah, has been appointed in his place. Mr. Sing has already created a name for himself for his energy, ability and courtesy; so we need hardly say that his selection has been an excellent one.

SCRAPS

The rainfall during the week was heavy in North Bengal and Bihar, moderate to light in South-West Bengal and Chota Nagpur but scanty in Orissa. The heavy fall caused floods and some damage to standing crops in a few districts of Bihar. Transplantation of early rice is still going on. Harvesting of winter rice and jute continues. Cattle-disease is reported from eight districts. Fodder and water are sufficient. Price of rice has risen in five districts and fallen in ten.

We are glad to learn that Kumar Rajendra Lal Mukerjee Bahadur, son of Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee Bahadur O.S.I. of Uttarparah, is taking active interest in the Swadeshi movement. He is, we are told, personally meeting the shop-keepers and their customers and urging eloquently on both the parties the necessity of indenting and using make. The Kumar's scope of action is now country-made goods instead of those of foreign limited in his own residence, but we hope it will ere long extend beyond its precincts. The Kumar deserves the thanks of the public.

We understand that an order has been promulgated by the District Superintendent of Police, Burdwan, of course with the best of motives prohibiting loud music such as may be caused by the beating of drums, cymbals etc. after 10 p.m. in public places at Burdwan; and it is said that the Police have been carrying out this order with a zeal worthy of a better cause. A few prosecutions and punishments under the said order have filled with alarm the Hindu community of Burdwan. One Debendra Nath Mandal applied for a pass to enjoy music on the occasion of a certain Puja at his house. The pass was granted with a strict injunction not to indulge in it after 10 p.m. But as Debendra Nath's ill-luck would have it he was unable to finish the Puja and so to discontinue the music within the time prescribed; and the result was that he along with six others, were hauled up by the police before the court for the offence of breaking the provisions of the pass. They were placed on their trial before Mouli Abdul Huque, Deputy Magistrate, who convicted the accused Debendra, Mondul and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 20. The other accused were acquitted and discharged for want of sufficient evidence against them. We fail to understand why the latter were sent up at all when the pass did not include their names. One Jagannath Nyak was before this, also fined Rs. 10 for the same offence. Mr. J. V. Ryan, the present District Superintendent of Police, is known to be a sympathetic officer of great competence. We doubt not that if some leading men of the town take upon themselves to convince him that the said order is hurtful to the feelings of the Hindus, he will surely withdraw it.

Kitchener's Army Reform Scheme the Government of India in the Home Department will issue in due course a resolution on the conversion of Army Head Quarters into the Army Department with a Chief of Staff, an Adjutant General and a Quartermaster General's divisions, etc. as well as upon the reconstitution of the Department into the Department of Supply. An Army Order will be subsequently issued showing the redistribution of duties among the officers of the Army Department.

With regard to the Government scheme for amending the Presidency Banks Act, the minor proposals in the draft Bill are likely to be carried out during the Calcutta Session. A further reference to the Secretary of State on more important points has, however, been found to be necessary; and it seems doubtful whether legislation in respect of these will be possible next cold weather, if indeed it is undertaken at all. The matter is being very thoroughly thrashed out now that the views of the local Administration as well as those of the banking and commercial communities, have been obtained.

read how Lord Curzon, might have last year, and the same Ministry, after having temporarily given him his conge, appointed his successor immediately, lest His Lordship changed his mind and expressed a desire to remain! But the "Pioneer" has forgotten to say things in which the public are more vitally interested, namely, how Lord Curzon, by his acts and utterances, has convulsed the whole of India, which was comparatively quiet when he came here, and how it is not good policy on the part of our rulers to do anything calculated to rouse the worst passions of the gentle and unaggressive people of this land. That the Allahabad paper is opposed to the policy of creating deep discontent in this country is made manifest by its earnest attempt to cut short the agitation against partition as soon as possible. The ability, which the "Pioneer" has in producing brilliant articles, is thus no blessing to the Indians. His ability is like the beauty of a woman who has no heart. He could easily utilize his talent for the good of the three hundred millions who are helpless and placed under the despotic rule of his countrymen. What a pity, instead of doing it, he should often fail in his duty to the vast myriads whose destinies are in the hands of English rulers. We think the English papers in India can do greater good to its people than even the rulers, sent out here to improve their condition.

MAX we enquire, under what principle does the "Pioneer" support the partition scheme of Lord Curzon? It has been now made clear that no body has any heart in the affair; and if the Secretary of State supported it, he did it, not to serve British interests but to please his talented, though unruly, vain and whimsical subordinate. This is the way "Max" in "Capital" analyses what Mr. Brodriek said to Lord Curzon about this partition:—

"The Home Cabinet did not understand what it was all about, and as for the 'Paragon' himself he confessed he was in blank ignorance on the whole subject as was evidenced by his reply to Mr. Herbert Roberts during the closing days of Parliament, and in a still more startling manner in the recent telegrams to Lord Curzon, where, treating the Viceroy as a spoiled and petulant schoolboy, he virtually said 'Look here, my good fellow, you must not think you can have your own sweet will in everything. You must confess we have been very good to you. We have patted you on the back and given in to you times without number. And even in one of your latest fads, although I don't understand anything about the d—d thing at all, I have given you your own way in what you call a scheme for the Partition of Bengal.'"

WHEN the resignation of Lord Curzon was announced, what the "Pioneer" did was to assert over and over again that this incident would in no way affect the progress of the partition scheme; on the other hand, it would be carried on vigorously. What could be his motive for taking such an attitude? Was it not to damp the spirit of the Bengalees and stop agitation? And why should the partition scheme be now carried on vigorously, when there is now none in India, except perhaps one, who cares a fig for this wretched bantling of Lord Curzon? And this exception is Mr. Risley. As for His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, he has done much for Lord Curzon. He had hundreds of sincere friends among the leading men of this country. He has now none, except a few who are insincere and who show their devotion to him only to serve themselves. His Honour has no longer any need to please Lord Curzon, and hurt his own people. The actual situation apparently is this. There is now none in the Government of India to rescind the orders previously passed by it to hurry through the measure, and thus Mr. Commissioner Lyon, who was on his way to Assam before Lord Curzon's resignation, has now reached Shillong. On the other hand, we see Mr. Trevelyan declaring that the partition scheme is dead. "Max" also says the same thing in "Capital." We have great faith in the good intention and powers of organization of "Max" and Mr. Trevelyan. Will they try in earnest to bring about the proposed League, referred to in "Max's" magnificent article, reproduced elsewhere?

At the great meeting in Calcutta, convened the other day, by the Landholders' Association, where about two lakhs and half were subscribed for a weaving mill and where some fifty or sixty leading Marwari merchants were present, the latter asked what were they to do with the lakhs worth of foreign goods that had already been imported by them? They promised, never again to indent England-made articles, but they wanted permission to dispose of the goods that had already been ordered for. On the other hand, those who are taking the lead in this movement are being besieged by people to supply them with country-made clothes. "There is no stock in the bazar" they say, "what are we to do?" And the leaders have no means of meeting the demand which is day by day getting more and more acute. Our distinguished friend Mr. Wacha writes to us from Bombay under date 22nd Aug:—

"As regards Dhuties, Bombay mills made 100 million yards last year, and Ahmedabad about 19 millions, Nagpur made 7 millions, in all, 126 millions or so. But this was for ordinary consumption mostly for India and a fractional part for trade abroad. In short the mills are not in a position to supply the needs of the country."

Besides the above, the Bombay mill-owners may trade on the patriotism of Bengal and increase the price of their goods. Here are then several problems which need solution. What are the merchants to do with the foreign goods already imported by them? How are the leaders to meet the increasing demand? To take the second for consideration first. The leaders must set up mills as speedily as possible. Secondly, they must utilize improved hand-looms and employ the lakhs of weavers who are now starving for want of work. Thirdly, the people must for the present be satisfied with fewer pairs of Dhuties than before. Fourthly our Dhuties usually are ten cubits long; let their

It may be remembered that the Maharajah of Kashmir was restored to partial powers, after his deposition, when Mr. Bradlaugh raised a debate about his case in Parliament. That is to say, a Council, composed of the nominees of the British Government was fastened upon His Highness; and he could do nothing without their sanction. The Maharajah is going to be relieved of this Council and invested with full powers. In return the Maharajah has agreed to revoke the standing order of the Durbar whereby Europeans were debarred from colonising in Kashmir. The restoration of full powers to the Maharajah thus means nothing if Europeans are permitted to settle in Kashmir. Kashmir will no doubt have yet a Maharajah of its own, but it will gradually pass into the hands of the European settlers, and the country will become European to all intents and purposes. It is to accomplish this object that Lord Curzon was to have gone to Kashmir. But, his resignation has upset this and every other arrangement. So there is no knowing whether His Lordship will have the privilege of doing this wrong to that hapless State, or it will be done by his successor. In the meantime, the people of Kashmir should do their duty at this juncture. They are much more interested in the integrity of the State than even its ruler. They should, therefore, organize a movement against the contemplated colonization of their State by Europeans. The Maharajah has no right to agree to any arrangement which is hurtful to the interests of the State, against the wishes of his people. Now that Lord Curzon has resigned, they may yet avert the impending calamity by making a proper representation to his successor and Parliament.

Our New York correspondent writes under date July 11:—

"I am glad to say that the Indians in New York and neighbourhood are forming an Indian Social Association for mutual assistance and as a centre to which Indians coming to New York can have their letters sent and meet in friendship. The Indians taking part in it comprise a Mussalman, a Parsi and Hindus. You will probably be officially informed of it by publication."

"My principal object, however, in writing is to say that you ought to get the 'Parting Night Review' for May and read Sir John Gorst's article, especially the last two pages. It is the most scathing indictment of the apathy of the English people as a whole. I have ever read, and shows how utterly worthless they are politically. When, as Sir J. G. points out, a people have the political power to vote the remedies for their own wrongs, and don't, and won't use it, their case is hopeless. I can understand now why he resigned from the Board of Education. But the lesson goes further and I say that it is the worst kind of a delusion for the Indian people to think that they can gain their rights by appealing to a people so cross that they won't even take the trouble to vote for their own rights, and allow such a leader as Gorst could be to be forced to retire because of their apathy and ignorance and violent jingoism. As I think I have said before, the only advantage I see in the delegation that is going to England is to learn what a broken reed India is leaning on when it has to lean on the British people for its liberties and redress of its wrongs. I think that is the lesson it will take back from England. I think Mr. Dadabhai knows this to be the case, but of course it is good policy to try everything in the way of peaceful and constitutional ways before giving up. I rejoice at the defeat of the attempt of that traitor Delcasse and his Anglo-Jew fellow conspirators to embroil France and Germany. My French correspondents deal with Delcasse without gloves and that business of the English and French fleets is all trash. The French people really mistrust England more than ever. The Germans have learnt their lesson and I am fully prepared to see the Egyptian and Abyssinian questions taken up after the Morocco affair is settled."

"As to this country, it is saturated with corruption from top to bottom. It is only by passive resistance that Indians can regenerate themselves. It is useless for them to go to England to seek help from the British public; for they are either slaves like ourselves or too engrossed with their own affairs."

The "Pioneer" has a brilliant article on the resignation of Lord Curzon, which is reproduced elsewhere with some portions omitted. It has one great fundamental defect. It is no doubt a masterly analysis of His Lordship's character as a man, showing some of his virtues and foibles, his strength and weakness in vivid colours, but it does not deal with the great problem how his administration has affected the interests of the three hundred millions of India. Or

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Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

TELEGRAMS.

REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

London, Aug. 24.

The Conference has adjourned till Saturday, M. De Witte being desirous to refer to St. Petersburg the Japanese compromise asking Russia to repurchase the half of Sakhalin for twelve hundred million yen.

London, Aug. 24.

Seemingly the negotiations at Portsmouth are no longer in the hands of the delegates and the issue rests with the Tsar who yesterday had a "three hours" conference with the American Ambassador.

According to a despatch from Portsmouth an authoritative Russian statement says that the proposal to purchase the northern part of Sakhalin, although in a new form, is identical with the proposal already rejected and merely amounts to the insistence of war costs under the name of purchase money.

Count Lamsdorff has authorised Reuter's correspondent at St. Petersburg to declare that Russia will pay no direct or indirect contribution, and make no cession of territory. Russia cannot pay an indemnity in whatever name, and peace is not assured unless Japan withdraws the demand for war costs.

London, Aug. 22.

A telegram from Portsmouth says that the Conference is postponed until to-morrow. The non-completion of protocols is assigned as the reason. It is believed, however, that the real reason of the postponement of the conference is that M. Witte is awaiting final instructions from St. Petersburg.

A representative from President Roosevelt conferred with M. Witte and Baron Rosen to-day.

London, Aug. 23.

A "Morning Post" telegram from Portsmouth says that a treaty of peace will signal shortly which provides for Russia paying Japan a sum, which is not large, for the keep of the prisoners and wounded; and ceding the southern half of Sakhalin; Japan abandoning her claim to the interned warships, and the limitation of Russia's naval power in the Far East.

A "Times" despatch from Portsmouth quotes a high Japanese authority as saying that last evening it was more than possible that the Plenipotentiaries had come to terms on the subject of the indemnity and Sakhalin, and also that it is undoubted that the Japanese want peace and are trying to make peace easy for Russia.

A telegram from Portsmouth says that well informed circles consider that the final rupture to-day is impossible.

It is known that President Roosevelt's proposal consists of Russia repurchasing all or part of Sakhalin for a sum, and if the belligerents disagree it is to be determined hereafter. This together with the Chinese payment for the cession of railway and the Russian payment for the maintenance of prisoners, would be equal to Japan's total war costs.

London, Aug. 25.

The "Morning Post" correspondent at Portsmouth reiterates his confidence in peace, and asserts that Russia is willing to pay fifty millions sterling.

The "Times" correspondent at New York says that Americans regard Japan's demands as fair and if the Tsar decides on the continuance of war Americans will make him absolutely responsible for the further loss of lives.

UNREST IN RUSSIA.

MARTIAL LAW AND OUTRAGES.

London, Aug. 25.

The bridge over the Vistula Railway has been blown up near Radom.

Martial law has been proclaimed throughout the Government of Warsaw.

Fresh agrarian disturbances have broken out in Southern Russia.

The peasants are driven to despair, owing to a bad harvest and the prospect of famine, and have begun to attack landowners' estates.

GENERAL.

London, Aug. 22.

Symptoms of general indignation in Russia at the meagre character of the constitutional concessions are widespread and the dissatisfaction is aggravated by the unsatisfactory economic condition of the country.

Extraordinary scenes were witnessed yesterday, when the Mayor proclaimed the Tsar's Manifesto. The crowd greeted it with an uproar and sang the "Marseillaise". Fierce speeches were made expressing contempt of the Manifesto. The Municipality passed a resolution accepting the Constitution merely as a preliminary, and demanding freedom of speech in the press and at the meetings.

London, Aug. 23.

The Conference met to-day. Nothing is yet disclosed.

London, Aug. 24.

The Municipality of St. Petersburg have passed a resolution similar to that passed by the Moscow Municipality, formally thanking the Tsar, but demanding freedom of speech at meetings and in the press.

The Russian internal loan is hitherto a failure only seven million roubles being taken up.

London, Aug. 24.

Mr. Brodrick, speaking at Godalming last night, said that he observed the strictest accuracy in answering questions in Parliament on the subject of Lord Curzon's resignation. When he was appointed to the India Office he had no wish more earnest than to further Lord Curzon's work, whose termination he deeply regretted. The Secretary for India was, he said, the mouthpiece of the Cabinet in more important questions, like the recent discussions. He was unanimously supported in the Indian Army Reform, not only by the Cabinet and Council for India, but by a strong Committee appointed for the purpose. He paid a high tribute to Lord Curzon's services, and earnestly desired his speedy restoration to health. He felt sure that Lord Minto would renew the great memory of an ancestor and discharge the duties connected with the Prince of Wales' tour in India with similar success to the Canadian trip.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL.

London,

Mr. Brodrick, speaking at Godalming, said that the ascription of the despatch to Lord Curzon and himself to pergonism was an absurdity.

Lord Minto, who has been into a representative of the "Mirror" appointment to the Indian Viceroy that it completely surprised him by the interviewer that one Canadian papers had declared not big enough for the post replied that it was Lord Minto told the interviewer lighted with the prospect India. "I. D. News."

Lord Minto expects to leave for India in October.

The Tsar has accepted M. Bulyguin, Minister of Finance, will probably be succeeded by a member of the Kieff.

Four attempts were made to enter the English Channel yesterday by an Australian lady, but she was arrested.

Lord Minto is the guest of Lord Godalming at present.

A British steamer collided with a Japanese transport Kinjomaru from the front in the inland sea. The transport sank in three minutes and one on board were rescued.

The French Government has decided upon a military demonstration in the French-Algerian subject, in a prisoner to Fez, is immediately. The "Times" in a leader says other successful litigants, Japan she is entitled to costs and there is why she should forego them. Japan with confidence to the judgment of on the attitude of herself to Russia, out the negotiations; we know judgment of Britain would be.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

INDIA GAZETTE.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

Simla, Aug. 25.

The services of Capt. M. N. Coudhuri, I.M.S., are permanently placed at the disposal of the Madras Government.

The services of Mr. H. O. Gordon, District Superintendent of Police, Assam, are placed at the disposal of the Bengal Government.

The services of Major Atkinson, R.E., Principal, Roorkee College, who is now attending Catham course, are temporarily placed at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief.

PARTITION PREPARATIONS IN ASSAM.

Silchar, Aug. 25.

It was at least a temporary consolation to learn that the partition of Bengal was to be held in abeyance till Parliament reopens in February next, but measures are being adopted by the Assam Administration tending to disperse the illusion. Temporary quarters are being provided at Shillong for new offices, so that the work of the partition may begin without delay. The Public Works subordinates in Assam are under orders of being in readiness to proceed to Dacca on receipt of telegraphic orders. A deputation should wait upon the State Secretary to issue orders on the Indian authorities to stay proceedings till the decision of the Parliament next winter.

THE P. W. D.

IMPORTANT CHANGES.

Simla, Aug. 25.

The following Public Works Resolution is published:—The Government of India have for some time past realised that the small increase in the pay of 2nd and 3rd class of Superintending Engineers, sanctioned in P.W.D. resolution of 1st March, 1900, did not possess the element of finality, and that further substantial improvement in the pay of administrative grades of the P.W.D. was urgently demanded in order first to maintain that high standard of efficiency which is absolutely essential in a service controlling a vast system of state works; and secondly, to check the tendency to premature retirement so as to retain for the full term of an Indian career officers of the highest professional attainments whose ripe experience is of the utmost value to the administration. With these objects in view the Government of India have obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State to the following arrangements:—

(a) The grade of 3rd class Chief Engineer is abolished and the scale of pay will be Rs. 2,750 and Rs. 2,500 for 1st and 2nd class of Chief Engineers respectively. The distribution between the two classes will be equal in the excess of one failing in the lower class.

(b) The pay of Superintending Engineers will be 1st class Rs. 2,000, 2nd Rs. 1,750 and 3rd Rs. 1,500. The distribution between the three classes will be equal and excess of one falling in 2nd class and the excess of two in 2nd and 3rd class.

(c) Local allowances of Rs. 250 and Rs. 150 a month will be attached to the posts of Secretary to Local Administrations. The former amounts will be drawn in addition to pay of rank by a Chief Engineer, who is also a Secretary to a Local Government and the latter by a Superintending Engineer, when the Secretary to a minor administration.

(d) The pay of the Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department is to be raised from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 3,500 a month. All changes to date from the 1st August, 1905, and all the officers holding the rank, either permanent or temporary, in the old third class of Chief Engineer are now abolished, will from that date, rank as Chief Engineer, 2nd class, permanent or temporary as the case may be.

THE BURMESE ABDUCTION.

Rangoon, Aug. 25.

A Magistrate has discharged Maung B. Hla, the Burmese clerk who was recently arrested and admitted to bail by the Chief Court in connection with the abduction of the daughter of Maung Ohn Ghine, C.I.E., who has not been found.

Suit Against a Raja.—At the High Court before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen, an Attorney applied for the admission of a plaint on behalf of Chuni Lal against Raja Padmanand Sing Bahadur for the recovery of Rs. 8,000 and add due on a promissory note. His Lordship granted the application.

Shot Himself.—On Friday morning, Dr. Alfido, 30 years old, was working in his Laboratory at 11 Olive Row. His bearer was engaged in doing works in an adjoining room. Suddenly the bearer heard a report of a gun and promptly repaired to the room of his master. He found the doctor lying dead in a pool of blood and a revolver lying beside him. The Coroner was informed and an inquest will be held in due course.

A Woman in Trouble.—On Thursday before Babu Ram Anugraha Narain Sing, Police Magistrate, Sealdah, the police prosecuted a woman named Hari Dassi for receiving and retaining stolen property to wit Rs. 500. The facts as alleged are these:—A man named Suren had kept a mistress in the house of Hari Dassi. Suren, it is alleged, robbed his master and bolted away. The prosecution further alleged that Suren had given the sum of Rs. 500 to Hari Dassi. Mr. Khoda Bux, barrister-at-law, instructed by Babu Ambuz Kumar Chatterjee appeared for the defence and denied the allegation in toto. The case was adjourned.

An Accountant Arrested.—Babu Aghor Nath Chowdhury, Sudder Inspector of Police, Alipore, received certain information that one Debendro Nath Ghose, late Accountant in the employ of the Ghosseri Jute Mill, Howrah District, after having misappropriated about Rs. 10,000 belonging to the said mill, some four years ago concealed himself in a certain house at Bhowanipore and successfully avoided detection in spite of a vigorous search by the Police. The Inspector started on Thursday morning with a posse of constables, and arrested him in the act of escaping (disguised) from the house. Accused will be placed before the Howrah Magistrate's Court for trial.

After Ten Years.—One Benoda Persad Roy Chowdhury, late a cashier in the employ of Messrs. Ralli Brothers, some ten years ago misappropriated money to the extent of Rs. 80,000 belonging to the said firm and absconded without any clue. Babu Aghor Nath Chowdhury, Sudder Inspector of Police, Alipore, getting certain information that Benoda Persad has been concealing himself in a certain house in the garb of a sanyasi at Bhowanipore in order to avoid detection, started with a large number of policemen early Thursday morning, surrounded the house and arrested him. The accused will in due course be tried in the Calcutta Police Court.

Defamation.—On Friday, Mouli Serajul Hug, Police Magistrate of Alipore, tried a case in which one Golap Sooner, a goldsmith of Kidderpore was charged with defaming the character of one Parbati Dassi, the widow of a respectable goldsmith of the same locality by stating in public that she was leading an immoral life with one Redhoy Poddar which lowered her in the estimation of her relations and fellow brethren. Babu Ashutosh Sen appeared for the prosecution and Babu Benod Beharai Sanyal for the defence who offered no evidence and contended that the charge was false and malicious one. The Court found the accused guilty and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 51, in default to undergo two months simple imprisonment and also ordered Rs. 30 to be paid to the complainant as compensation.

Fighting in the Street.—One Mr. Young got into a tramcar and refused to pay fare for his bike. He alighted near Kalighat and an Inspector of the Tramways Company caught hold of him and demanded the fare for his bike. He did not pay and assaulted the Inspector. The Police thereupon arrested the "Shahab" and took him to the thana. The Tramways Inspector followed them and he too was made a defendant. The other day Mr. Young was placed in his trial before Mr. D. Swinhoe, second Presidency Magistrate, and was fined Rs. 3. On Friday the Inspector was placed before the Magistrate and the Constable and other witnesses deposed to the fact that the Inspector did nothing beyond demanding fare from the "Shahab" for his bike. Mr. Moses appeared for the defence. The Court on the evidence before it, dismissed the case and acquitted the defendant.

Prof. Omari at Gaya.—Our Gya correspondent writes:—Prof. Omari, the famous Japanese Seismologist, after visiting the places where the late severe earthquakes had done a great havoc, came to Gya to pay a visit to the historic shrine of Bodhi Gya. Babu Ambica Prosad of Gya, who is at present prosecuting his studies in Japan had given him introduction letters to some gentlemen of this place. They were telegraphed from the north-west by the Professor about his intention to come to Gya. They had been to the railway station to receive him. He put up in the new Dak Bungalow and went to Bodhi Gya to visit the shrine. Some of the leading gentlemen of the place went to see him and congratulated him on the success of Japan against Russia. He thanked them very much. The Professor was then requested to accept an evening party but he declined with thanks on the ground that he was already engaged for 5 days in Calcutta and that he had little time to accede to their requests.

Application Against A "Gunda".—On Friday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose, Vakili, on behalf of a man named Mohesh Chander Banerjee made an application against a man named Ram Prosad Takoor, under the following circumstances. Complaint is in charge of a house in Shib Takoor's Lane. There lived 30 families. Ram Prosad was also a tenant in the house. He often quarrelled with the tenants and brought "gundas" to fight with them. Complainant obtained an order from the Small Cause Court for the ejectment of the defendant. Having come to know this he fell at the feet of the complainant and asked forgiveness saying he would thenceforward behave himself well. A few days passed and nothing happened. Again the defendant began to trouble the tenants. He gave a cut to one Bhajon Lal on his forehead and posted some "gundas" at his door. The learned Vakili asked the Court to do something which would give protection to the tenants. The Court ordered the police to ask the defendant to leave the house.

Surrender.—On Thursday, before Mr. D. H. Kingsford, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. J. N. Banerjee instructed by Babu Jotindra Mohun Ghose, Vakili, surrendered one Keshu Soori against whom a warrant had been issued for his arrest. It is said that the man had assaulted his mistress Benodini, while she was in her family way. The woman died in hospital. The other day, the Coroner held an inquest on the body of the deceased and the verdict was to the effect that death had been due to Pyemia. The Court ordered the man to be enlarged on bail of Rs. 300 to appear on the 6th proximo when the case against him will be heard.

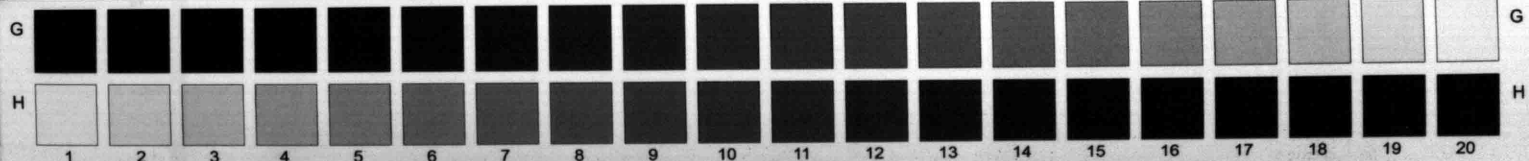
End of a Woman's Trouble.—On Thursday, before Mr. D. Swinhoe, Second Presidency Magistrate, the police prosecuted a young woman, Lakhi, who appeared in the dock with an infant in her arms, for committing criminal breach of trust in respect of some gold and silver ornaments entrusted to her, as alleged, by one Parbutty. Sometime ago, there was a case against Lakhi and another man for having enticed away Parbutty for immoral purpose. While Parbutty lived with them, it was alleged that she entrusted the ornaments with Lakhi for safe custody. The enticement case was dismissed. Lakhi was then prosecuted by the police at the instance of Parbutty, for criminal breach of trust. Babu K. Mookerjee appeared for the defence. The Court on the evidence before it, dismissed the case and ordered the discharge of the defendant.

Suit against a Municipality.—Mr. Holmwood, District and Sessions Judge, Alipore, delivered judgment in an appeal preferred by one Sital Chander Mookerjee against the Chairman of the North Dum-Dum Municipality. The facts of the case are these that the appellant alleged that the respondent Municipality illegally issued a distress warrant for attaching the movables of the appellant who claimed damages for the illegal issue of the distress warrant stating that he has been lowered in the estimation of the public and suffered a loss of reputation. The lower Court dismissed the suit and hence the appeal. Babu Atul Chunder Gangooly appeared for the Municipality and contended that the judgment of the lower court was right as the plaintiff failed to prove service of notice under sec. 363 of the Municipal Act. The Judge accordingly dismissed the appeal with costs.

Outraging Female Modesty.—Two Cabulies Sobach Khan and Akmath Khan of Singhore were charged under sec. 354 I.P.C. for outraging the modesty of a Hindu widow aged about 24. The story for the prosecution is that they cracked jokes with her and made improper proposals to her which she indignantly refused. Some days after when she was sweeping her Roak at 3-30 p. m. on the day of occurrence the aforesaid Cabulies entered her house and demanded liquidation of debt. She denied having borrowed any money from them. Thereupon the ruffians fell upon her. She screamed out for help; help came and the accused seeing no other alternative made good their escape. Babu Hari Bhushan De, Deputy Magistrate of Serampore, before whom the accused were hauled up and tried with the above offence gave them 6 months' rigorous imprisonment each under sec. 354 I.P.C. An appeal against this decision, before the Sessions Judge of Hooghly, Mr. G. K. Deb, is pending.

Big Jewel Robbery.—Yet another mystery presents itself for the Calcutta Police to solve. On Thursday a large jewel robbery was perpetrated by some acute burglars. The place chosen for their machinations was the house of Babu Rechat Dass Poddar, a well-known jeweller of Banstollah Street. In one of the rooms there was locked up in trunks some rings set with emeralds, diamonds, rubies and sapphires, besides several notes of Rs. 100 each and some loose cash to the extent of Rs. 400, in all amounting to Rs. 2,000 worth of articles. This room was closed by the occupants, who went to their respective chambers for the night. In the meanwhile the culprits, it is suspected, came across the terrace of an unoccupied house near by, wrenched off the iron railing, and having forced back the staple of the door, succeeded in making an entry. They then rifled the contents of the boxes and made off with the loot. Next morning when the door was opened the theft was discovered. The Police, both detective and ordinary, are taking part in the investigation, and various persons are suspected, one being a Kahar, who occupied the next house to the empty one mentioned, as he had been absent since that morning from his house; but whether his arrest will prove his connection with the crime time alone will decide. The Police have also informed all the local and suburban thanas as well as the poddars of the city, while payment of the notes has been stopped at the Currency Office.

The Ranchi Model College Scheme.—We have received the following press communication:—The Lieutenant-Governor met the members of the Executive Committee of the Ranchi Model College Scheme at Belvedere last Monday. After the business of the meeting was over, His Honour thanked the Committee for their cordial co-operation, and congratulated them on the large measure of success that had attended their efforts as evidenced by the circumstance that the Honorary Secretary's subscription list shows that over three lakhs of rupees have already been promised. These subscriptions would be entirely devoted to hostels (unless otherwise earmarked) as proposed from the first. Sir Andrew Fraser noticed with satisfaction that much had been done to dispel the altogether erroneous idea that the College will be within the reach of the rich only. The fees are to be reasonable, and besides this, some of the personal subscriptions are to be devoted to the foundation of scholarships to enable the sons of the less well-to-do to take advantage of the high class of education which the College is intended to provide. His Honour believed that it might be regarded as a good connecting Ranchi with the Bengal Railway at Purulia and so rendering the former station easily accessible; and proceeding on this assumption in regard to other schemes as the removal of Sibpur Engineering College and Lunatic Asylum to the neighbourhood of Ranchi, and the substitution of Police for the troops there. In conclusion the Lieutenant-Governor reminded the Committee that "pari passu" with the promotion of the Ranchi College Scheme, steps were being taken to improve the existing Colleges at the Presidency and at Patna and Dacca; and His Honour trusted that no question of rivalry between these institutions would be allowed to disturb the public mind. They all had their work to do. They would all be well equipped to do that work, and they should cordially co-operate to advance the cause of higher education.



SIKHA-SHAHI RULE IN KANGRA.

We have, says the "Tribune," in our opening "Notes" referred to a regime of high-handedness started in Kangra district as a result of the reconstruction of the District administration at Nurpur by the deputation of raw and inexperienced officers. As a typical example of the trouble experienced by provision dealers and other shopkeepers at Nurpur, owing to the order that they should stay by turns at the Dak Bungalow when a European comes—whether he may buy anything or not—our Special Correspondent sends the following statement of Hakim Halwai:

Acute alarm and anxiety is said to prevail in the town which has become the temporary headquarters of the Kangra District. The Deputy Commissioner mentioned in the statement is Mr. Calvert, the Revenue Officer Mr. Forbes, and the Assistant Commissioner Mr. Addison.

Statement.

The statement of Hakim Brahman, son of Bhoda, of Nurpur, seller of milk and its products, shop near Ghas Mandi, Nurpur, District Kangra.—Dated 17th August, 1905.

That on the 2nd of August, it was the turn of us two brothers who keep a joint shop to supply at Dak Bungalow which is about 2 miles from the bazar, and situated on a high acclivity. The Halwais and other shopkeepers have to make the supply by turns, and to carry all the utensils, etc., themselves, on their shoulders.

On the said morning before 6 a.m. Multani Tahsil Chhapra, came and informed me (Hakim), that it was our turn, and Chowdhari had ordered us to attend. Accordingly I went, leaving Bhagat behind to look after the shop, taking with me curds, our Gungar taking the milk to the spot a little while after. One Khansama, who was a stranger, took 31 seers of milk and paid 3 annas for it. (The bazar rate is 16 seers the rupee but at Dak Bungalow we have to sell as 18 seers, after carrying the milk there with so much trouble). The Khansama of the Dak Bungalow, named Moulvi Bakhsh, took two seers of curds, and boiled it in his own vessel. When cream had formed on the milk, the Khansama again came, and had more than half a seer of milk again (i.e. worth 2 pice) in a tumbler. A few minutes later he returned and said that he had tasted the milk and found it to be stale, i.e. remaining from the last night's supply. He threatened to put the milk before the Tahsildar as it was bad milk, and not fit for the use of Europeans. He ordered me (Hakim) to take back the milk. He also asked me to take back the two seers of milk he had boiled in his own vessel. I said that I could not take back the milk because it had been tasted by a Mussalman and had been in the vessel of a Mussalman. The Khansama thereupon took away this milk, as well as had two annas worth more which was in a separate pitcher (maggi). He paid for it, but not for the quantity he had first taken, though I had asked for payment.

I stopped there all day without having any food, because no shopkeeper is allowed to come away for even half an hour. Only those who can manage to get food who have a partner, and can come home to the city, leaving a man behind.

I asked the Khansama to pay me the two and a half annas for the milk he had first taken three or four times, but he said that he won't pay and that I must take back the milk. At 5 p.m., I had a sweeper (choora) customer who, I thought, could take the milk and pay me, and I would suffer no loss. I went to the Khansama at his quarters for payment and asked him to return the milk or pay the pice. He replied that now he had used up the milk, and could not return it and would neither pay for it. It was dusk by now, and my brother Bhagat had just come to help me carry back the things. I complained to him that I had not only been fasting all day, but had lost also two annas and a half. I, however, was willing to silently bear it, but my younger brother said that we must complain. We saw at this time 3 Sahibs returning from a walk, they were the Commissioner (meaning Deputy Commissioner), the Mal (Revenue Officer), and "Ashtant" (Assistant Commissioner). We both brothers presented ourselves before them, and with joined hands related to the Sahibs our loss. The Commissioner (Deputy Commissioner) sent for the Khansama (Moulvi Bakhsh) and ordered him to pay. He said that the milk was bad (smoked) and therefore not fit for use, so he had not paid for it. The Sahib then ordered us to go, saying "Jao." We came back towards our shop, intending to carry our things home. On the way near the kitchen, we saw Moulvi Bakhsh Khansama and several other Khansamas standing and a sweeper sweeping. I gumbled in passing that I had starved all day as well as lost 2½ annas. A Khansama named Shaker thereupon called me the foulest names, abusing mother, sister, etc., I remonstrated, when Shaker shouted that the "halwai" meaning myself should be beaten with "Jharos" (broom sticks) by sweepers, by the order of Sahib and struck me and my brother several blows on the face. He (Shaker) also the sweeper (whose name is Malang) came, who threw his heavy and stinking broom at me and my brother, striking both of us. Believing that we were being maltreated by the Sahib's order, and frightened out of our wits (being poor Brahman halwais) we fled, the Khansama and Malang sweeper closely pursuing us. We were crying loudly for help and only a few yards away the Sahibs were sitting at table in the Verandah. Neither they nor any one else interfered. We ran just in front of the Sahibs; we frenziedly appealing to them to save us crying:—"Huzoor the Khansama and sweeper are beating us, 'Dohai'!" No Sahib stirred. The pursuers did not follow beyond the compound, but we kept running. Not far from here is the Forest Bungalow where I know the Police Sahib (D. S. of Police) was staying. We both brothers rushed crying and panting before him and complained to him. He directed us to report to the Thana. I and my brother are poor men, and live hand to mouth on the day's earnings. We cannot afford to shut shop and run after the police for days. So we are praying for Heaven's protection. Will not the Sirkar listen to our crying?

NO NEED OF A DOCTOR.

Pains in the stomach and attacks of colic come on suddenly and are so extremely painful that immediate relief must be obtained. There is no necessity of sending for a doctor in such cases if a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is at hand. No doctor can prescribe a better medicine. For sale by

All chemists and Storekeepers price Re. 1

MARINE COURTS OF ENQUIRY.

THE FORTH-PATKOI COLLISION.

The following is the report of the Marine Court of Enquiry, on the above:—

The evidence shows that on the 9th instant a collision occurred opposite Prinsep's Ghat and near the line of moorings on the Calcutta side, between the steamer Forth proceeding down the river in charge of the Assistant Harbour Master, Mr. W. O. Cullion, in tow of the tug Rescue and the fire engine Hughli, and the flat Patkoi proceeding up river in tow of the tug Dumbarton, in charge of Mr. S. Nelson. The Forth struck the Patkoi with her starboard bow about midships on the starboard side and ripped off her roof, causing material damage.

The evidence upon some points, and particularly upon the question of the blasts blown by the several vessels to indicate their course, is somewhat discrepant, but there is no doubt whatever regarding the main facts of the case.

The course and position of the Forth with her tug and the Dumbarton flotilla are shown in the annexed diagrams. Mr. Cullion was coming down in mid-stream until he saw the Dumbarton flotilla, which at that time was coming out from burning ghat on the Howrah side and heading across the river with a view of turning and coming up on the Calcutta or starboard side of the channel. On nearing the flotilla, Mr. Cullion starboarded his helm and went in to the port or Calcutta side and came down near to and parallel with the fixed moorings. Mr. Cullion's object was to get to his anchorage just below Prinsep's Ghat. The Dumbarton flotilla on reaching the Calcutta side headed up river, and each vessel persisting in her course, the collision occurred.

We are of opinion that the accident was caused by Mr. Cullion's neglect of Article 25, which lays down that when it is safe and practicable the course is to be on the starboard side of a narrow channel. Mr. Cullion should therefore have been on the Howrah side of the channel, since there was no obstruction upon that side and that course was safe and practicable.

Even supposing that Mr. Nelson's course should have been determined by the latter portion of Rule 67 of the Port Rules, which lays down that cargo boats or flats shall keep to the west of the line of swinging moorings, that fact would not absolve Mr. Cullion from the necessity of keeping to the proper side of the channel.

But it appears that in fact Rule 67 has become a dead letter. Reading Rules 66 and 67 together it is apparent that the intention was that flats should only move when in charge of a steamer, and that when so moved (and if not proceeding to or from vessels at fixed moorings) they should keep to the west of the line of swinging moorings, i.e. that they should proceed along the Howrah shore. It is apparent that the rule is impracticable, that masters are ignorant of it, and that it is never observed. Under these circumstances we do not think that any blame can be attached to Mr. Nelson, and we also think that the latter part of Rule 67 might well be expunged.

We think that the Act does not contemplate the framing of a charge against a Harbour Master, and that in the circumstances of the case all that it is necessary for us to do is to record our opinion that Mr. Cullion committed an error of judgment, and to submit our report for the orders of the Local Government.—D. H. Kingsford, President; J. B. Beard and A. Brame, Members. The 29th June, 1905.

THE DAMBUL BOILER EXPLOSION.

With regard to the above case the Marine Court of Enquiry has reported as follows:—

The accused Abdul Aziz having been duly charged and supplied with a copy of the charge and to report and proceedings, and directed to submit a list of his witnesses if any, to-day appeared before the Court, and stated that he did not desire to call any witnesses. His defence is apparent from what he has stated in his evidence.

Both assessors consider the charge to be proved. We are of the same opinion, and hold that the accident was undoubtedly due to the inattention and carelessness of the accused engine-driver Abdul Aziz in not keeping a proper supply of water in the boiler.

We are also of opinion that the donkey engines and the injector were in good working order, and that the only defect was in the feed-piped feed-water, which defect was not material to this accident.

We are of opinion from the evidence given by Abdul Aziz at our preliminary enquiry that he does not fully understand the working of the engines, and we do not think that he is a proper person to be in charge of a steamer carrying passengers, especially considering that this steamer was running on an expired certificate.

We consider that the certificate of Abdul Aziz should be cancelled.—D. H. Kingsford; James Allen, Chief Engineer-steamers City of Corinth; John Pervanich, Superintending Engineer, Asiatic Steam Navigation Company, Limited.

The 29th June, 1905.

An epidemic of typhoid is now raging in Calcutta, and during the last month, there have been over 100 fatal cases. The Municipality has at length recognised the gravity of the situation and has appointed a special staff to trace out and report cases and to give poor patients any help that may be possible.

A correspondent writes to the "Malabar Mail":—"When Mr. Knapp was on circuit in Wynad lately, some complaints were brought to his notice, alleging very serious charges of misconduct, including rape against Mr. Noronho Hospital Assistant. The charges relate to the recent time when the accused was on plague duty at the Muthanga camp. Mr. Knapp ordered Mr. Lever, the Divisional Officer, to an investigation and submit a report."

LET IT BE KNOWN.

The widest possible publicity should be given to the fact that summer diarrhoea in children and cholera infantum can always be cured by the judicious use of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It never fails. For sale by

All Chemists and Storekeepers price Re. 1

Corporation of Calcutta.

SPECIAL MEETING.

A special meeting of the Corporation of Calcutta was held on Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Council Chamber Municipal Office. Owing to indisposition the acting chairman the Hon. Mr. C. G. H. Allen was unable to attend and Mr. Apar was voted to the chair. There were about 22 commissioners present.

CALCUTTA IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

The only important item was to consider the letter from the Government of Bengal with enclosures, dated 26th July last, on the subject of the Calcutta Improvement scheme.

Mr. Apar (the chairman) then moved that the letter of government and the proposals for the Calcutta Improvement scheme be referred to a special committee of 9 members (including the Chairman) for report.

In doing so he said that some complaints had been made that the letter was not duly circulated but he was informed by the Secretary that the letter of the government had been circulated on two previous occasions. He said that it was a very important matter and he thought that it was necessary in the interests of the public, the whole subject should be elaborately dealt with. The government had held out hopes that all representations should be considered. The scheme was based on misconceptions and some of the suggestions were not wise. The comparison made therein of the population between London and Calcutta was not a true one. The commissioners had agreed that it was necessary that the Improvement scheme would be carried out. The only thing wanted was the fund. The Building Commission though practically an official body, two of its non-official members being Babus Kalinath Mitter and Nalin Behari Sircar, came to the conclusion that the corporation could not go on with its administration and spare their funds to carry on improvements. The commissioners however had been able to effect much improvement, and what was wanted was little help from the government. Although the Government was repeatedly approached for help by the Corporation no help was given by it. The government spoke of the enormous growth of Municipal revenue of Calcutta. He admitted that it was true that the revenue of the Corporation was increasing and would continue to increase till 1906-7. There was no virtue or magic in it. The percentage of rates was the same. Previously the properties were undervalued and they were now correctly putting in the valuation. They were putting the assessment to the full value and the assessment would be complete in 1906-1907. After that period the revenues would be stationary. He would rather think that the revenues would decrease.

Mr. Apar continuing said that there were other aspects as to whether there would be any improvement owing to the measure of partition now before the Government. It was a very important matter for them to consider. Looking at the material point of view as a citizen of Calcutta, he felt constrained to say that they were facing a very larger scheme than they ought to have. There would be considerable difference in the population of Calcutta. There were many zemindars who would go away.

PARTITION MEASURE AND THE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

Mr. Apar continuing said that there were other aspects as to whether there would be any improvement owing to the measure of partition now before the Government. It was a very important matter for them to consider. Looking at the material point of view as a citizen of Calcutta, he felt constrained to say that they were facing a very larger scheme than they ought to have. There would be considerable difference in the population of Calcutta. There were many zemindars who would go away.

Mr. Tremearne.—I think Mr. Chairman it relates to the partition matter and we have no business here with it. The partition scheme has really ended.

Continuing he said that the trade in jute, tea and rice would be materially affected. The partition scheme is really ended here.

Mr. Apar then stated the manner in which the money would be raised and said that the Government wanted that the bulk of the money would be raised by the people. Khan Bahadur Moulvi Badruddin Hyder seconded the motion:—

Rai Bahadur Sitanath Roy said that the Improvement Scheme was formulated on the idea that Calcutta would be the capital city of the whole Bengal. Now that the partition had been sanctioned, now that the 14 districts which yielded jute, rice and tea had been taken away, the importance of the city would be diminished. Now that a new port would be opened at Chittagong and would be placed under a separate Government and most of the jute, tea and rice would be diverted from Calcutta to Chittagong, there would be much deterioration in the trade. In this view of the matter he thought it better that the capital expenditure should be reduced from the original sanction to 4 crores and there would not be any necessity for all those taxation.

Babu Amulyadhone Addy began by thanking the Government for having accepted some of their suggestions, but he was sorry that the Government did not accept the Basti Improvement scheme as part of the Improvement Scheme. He thought that the Government should come forward with a substantial grant. The present grant of 50 lakhs was quite inadequate.

The speaker was then going into details when Mr. Apar said that as they were going into committee they need not go into detail. Babu Kali Churn Palit said that he understood that the feelings of some of the members were opposed to any discussion in connection to that matter. True it was that the matter would be discussed in the Special Committee and in that view he wanted to make only certain general observations. This matter had come before them at a moment when the minds of the people were agitated—were full of the partition question. The Indian papers had not been able yet to scrutinize the scheme for they were too busy with the partition measure. The Government proposal was that the Corporation would be called upon to pay 24 lakhs 64 thousand rupees at the end of 1908. The Government had proposed that the members for administering the Trust should be nominated by it. But the greater portion of the burden was put upon the rate-payers of Calcutta. The Government wanted that the Corporation should bear the burden, but reserved for itself the power of nominating the members of the Trust. He asked was it fair, was it equitable? The Government had come forward with a grant of 50 lakhs. He asked was it substantial help? Was it not fair to ask the Government, which had every hand over the city, for substantial help? The Corporation had the management of the city for the last 30 years. The congestion of the city existed before the creation of the Corporation. They were improving the city in their own way. Calcutta was an imperial city and the Government should come forward

with the full share of the expenditure required in the scheme.

Mr. Tremearne.—Where would the Government get the money?

Babu Kalichurn.—The Government of India has enough money in its hand.

The speaker then referred to the various proposed taxes that would be imposed in Calcutta to carry out the Improvement Scheme.

The motion of Mr. Apar was then put and carried.

The following gentlemen were then elected to form the Special Committee: The Hon. Mr. C. G. H. Allen, the Hon. Mr. Nalin Behari Sircar, Mr. Dumayne, Khan Bahadur Moulvi Badruddin Hyder, Mr. Shirley Tremearne, Rai Bahadur Sitanath Roy, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Apar and Biju Jadunath Sen.

THE L.-G. AT JESSORE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Jessore, Aug. 21.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, accompanied by his Private Secretary, Aid-de-Camp and the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, reached the Jessore Station at 2-30 a.m. on Thursday, the 17th August by the Khulna mail train. In the morning all the leading official and non-official gentlemen of the District mustered at the station platform which was decorated for the occasion to give a fitting reception to His Honour. At 6-30 he landed on the platform and was received by the Chairman of the Municipality and the District Magistrate. The official and non-official gentlemen stood in two different rows along His Honour's way to the carriage and pair. Each of them was introduced and His Honour shook hands with all.

The L.-G. at first rode to the Municipal Office, where he saw the present Municipal filter. Then he visited the Jail, the Charitable Dispensary, the Collectorate buildings, the Church, the Civil Courts and the Zillah School. The Collectorate was closed for two days in honour of his visit. His Honour promised a grant of Rs. 16,000 for the construction of a Hindu Boarding house and improvement in the Zilla School building.

The L.-G. reached the circuit house at 9-30 a.m. Where he took his tiffin as guest of Mr. Jeffries, the Additional Judge.

At 5 p.m. His Honour rode to the house of the Collector where a Durbar and a garden party was held. At the Durbar an address of welcome was read by Roy Jadu Nath Mazumdar Bahadur.

His Honour replied to the following effect:—

I am very much satisfied with the hearty reception that you have accorded to me. My object of visiting this place is to see with my own eyes the things that are often represented to me, and to discuss with the leading men of the place about the grievances of the people. I have held long interviews with them and I am convinced that this district is very unhealthy and no further evidence is necessary for that purpose. I am also convinced that this unhealthiness can be removed. I shall now deal with the subjects mentioned in your address, one after another.

I. The Bhairab and Muchikhalhi reclamations.—I shall come again and see for myself. In the meantime I shall consult with the Chief Engineer. When the matter will come up for my formal sanction I shall give my best consideration to it. After all, I can assure you that something definite must be done during my time. As regards dredging the channels I say that it will soon be taken in hand.

II. Water-supply of the District:—I cannot relax the circular of 1904 because the people are poor. The wealthy residents and the absentee landlords must come up to the help of the poor, for they also have their duties and responsibilities.

III. The Water Works:—I suppose that your estimate of 1 lac is rather an over-estimate. I can promise a reasonable and considerable grant from the Government. It is a necessary and not at all an extravagant scheme. I thank the Narail Babus for their liberal donation and I hope that other Zemindars will follow their example.

IV. Drains of the Town:—The present drains are good but you want a scientific scheme on modern principles. I shall send the Chief Engineer to form schemes without charging any fees from you. The Government may help you in this matter.

V. The Town Hall and Public Library:—It is not necessary in view of the fact that there are dire necessities in this district which will require considerable help from Government. I cannot help you in this.

VI. Railways:—I had no time to consult the Railway authorities, so I cannot speak anything on this point.

In conclusion I say that men like Roy Bahadur and Naldanga Raja will do much for the improvement of the district.

His Honour was treated with some refreshment, and then he drove to the Railway Station and left Jessore at 6-30 p.m., by the evening train.

JOKE WITH A DEAD SCORPION.

The judgment of Mr. D. N. Nanavati, City Magistrate Ahmedabad, in the Ellis Bridge Toll case is a piece of queer reasoning pressed into service by a Judicial officer who was either prejudiced or had not the necessary courage to look the facts in the face and accept them as they appeared as certain European officers were concerned. In this case the Naka karkoons and peons at the Ellis Bridge Toll Bar were charged with using criminal force and intentionally insulting two European Military officers, viz. Captain Cox and Lieut. Mackrell, in that they ran after and forcibly stopped the carriage of the latter on the pretext of levying the toll-fees. The motive with which the accused were alleged to have acted in this manner was according to the complainants' suggestion apparently accepted by the judge himself, simply to "please the crowd."

The judge argues that the complainants were respectable European officers and they could not be supposed to be anxious to avoid the payment of the toll-fees. And if the judge is right the further conclusion would be that the accused had not even the slightest provocation for their conduct. On the other hand it has come in evidence that the complainants had to pass and re-pass the Toll-bar very often during that week. On the day in question they had no cash with them, but when asked for the toll-fees they threw at the accused a packet containing a dead scorpion. These facts are admitted by the accused who only modify them by saying that their throwing the dead scorpion at the complainants was a mere joke and was also accepted at the time as a joke by the accused. Now from all these facts any one would easily come to the following conclusion: As the complainants had to pass and re-pass the toll-bar many times in one week they have disliked the idea of paying the toll-fees so many times. At any rate they might have felt it troublesome to stop at the toll-bar on each occasion for putting their hands in the pocket and paying up the exact coin for the toll-fees. The complainants being admitted by the Magistrate in his judgment, fond of playing practical jokes upon one another, might have on the day in question decided to make the toll-bar men victims of their joke; and therefore when in reply to a demand for the toll-fees the complainants threw at them the dead scorpion, pretending that there was a coin in the packet, the accused must have felt irritated and insulted, might have run after the Sahibs' carriage to demand the toll-fees. If, therefore, any one had a grievance in this affair it was the toll-bar men; and it was the complainants who should have been prosecuted. The Magistrate, however, argues in a perverse manner and convicts the accused. The judge rises to the climax of perverseness when, instead of sympathising with the accused, he extolls the self-restraint on the part of the European officers and says that had they not kept their temper, a serious breach of peace would have been committed. But we fail to see why? We for one rather note the self-restraint practised by the toll-bar men. And if being pelted with dead scorpions ought to be taken as a joke, we should like to know why the mere stopping one's carriage by toll-men in the discharge of their duty should not be accepted in a more submissive manner than even a joke?—"Maharatta."

A EUCALYPTUS OIL FACTORY

IN THE NILGIRIS.

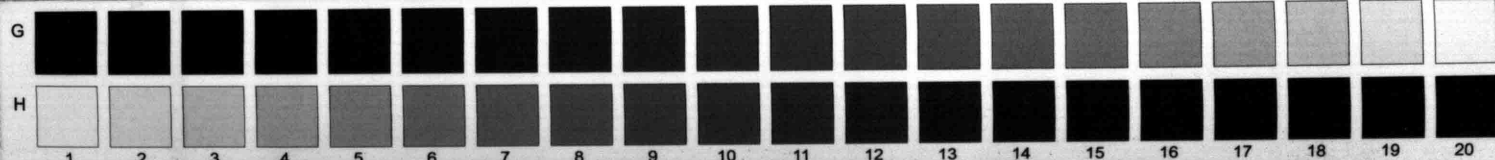
Mr. K. G. Menon, Cochin Forest Department, contributes the following information to the July number of the "Indian Forester":—

This industry is carried on on a very small scale at Coonoor at the "Carolina" premises by Mr. Thomas Brown, the owner of the place. At present the industry is rather of the nature of an experiment than a lucrative business. The apparatus in use is comparatively simple, consisting of a still and condenser. The still is put up in a katcha building of small dimension. The still consists of a big copper vessel of about 6 ft. in height and 3 ft. in diameter and is covered by a disc penetrated at its centre by a pipe which carries the vaporous oil to the condenser. The condenser is a copper vessel of about equal dimensions to the still and contains a coiled copper tube which is continuous with the pipe and also a vertical pipe. The condenser is filled to the brim with cold water by means of a feeder pipe the heated water from the condenser being carried away through a tap. A jar receives the oil condensed in a tube. The still is filled with well-matured leaves and water poured in to fill up the interstices. The vaporous oil carried by the referred to tube gets condensed in its course through the condenser and trickles down into the bottle. About two head-loads of leaves go to fill one charge of the still, and it takes usually about eight hours to extract all the oil of one charge. The resulting oil is, with advantage, re-distilled to drive away any aqueous vapour and pyroligneous acid present in it.

Since Mr. Brown uses his own firewood it is not possible to fix the expense incurred by him on that score. It may, however, be stated that as since about 20 c. ft. of firewood are consumed to extract the whole oil from one charge, fuel to the value of Rs. 1-4-0 is usually burnt away. One charge of the still gives 27 oz. of oil. Besides the expenditure on fuel a sum of Rs. 1-8-0 per charge of the still is entailed for supervision and rent of premises utilised for the purpose. Hence the total charge per fill of the still is Rs. 2-12-0, giving thereby 27 oz. of oil. Owing to the extreme cheapness of Australian oil which in Madras and Bombay sells at Rs. 1 per bottle of 12 oz., the oil of Mr. Brown's factory does not command a ready sale, so much so that he had, at the time I visited his factory, about 1,000 bottles ready for the market. The selling price fixed by Mr. Brown is Rs. 27 per dozen bottles of 12 oz.

The Hon. Mr. F. Member for Commerce and Industries visited at Simla, having rejoined the Headquarters on days in Calcutta.

Paris, August 15, which vouches for morning the following: the recent meeting was recollected that morning following on the Hohenzollern went on board where for three hours reigns covered alone it been noticed at the tin pad used by the Tsar place in his study. After version, the Russian whal Birleff, the whom he chattered sing the Minivitch, be In the comp



ASSAULT ON A CONSTABLE.

Mussorie, Aug. 21.

Mr. R. H. Niblett, First Class Magistrate, delivered the following judgment in the assault case which has aroused much local interest:—In this case Mr. E. O. O'Sullivan, a Sub-Assistant Superintendent of Survey, is charged under Section 332 Penal Code, with having voluntarily caused hurt to constable Nanak Chand in consequence of an act done in the lawful discharge of his duty as a public servant. Mr. O'Sullivan admits having struck the constable and pleads provocation. The evidence before me shows that accused and Mr. Morton, another Sub-Assistant Superintendent of Survey, were drawn in rickshaws to the Criterion. The rickshaws stood abreast before the building known as the Criterion and the Band Stand shed, and the occupants went into the Criterion. After a short time seeing that the traffic was being obstructed, Constable Nanak Chand, who was on duty, had the rickshaws removed to the railings near the benches opposite the bazaar shops. On coming out of the Criterion on the accused, Mr. O'Sullivan either walked up to or called the constable and asked him, Mr. O'Sullivan himself states, what he meant by removing his rickshaw. Any ordinary reasonable being would have known that it is a policeman's duty to keep a busy road free from obstruction, and the accused's question was plainly meant to provoke the constable; yet in Mr. O'Sullivan's own words the constable's reply, merely was "It's the order that rickshaws should be removed to that part of the road." There was no provocation whatever in this and I do not see in what other words the constable could give a reply. At this point Mr. O'Sullivan's admission differs from the evidence before us. He says that he called the constable forward and pointing to a vacant rickshaw near the Criterion, asked the constable if the order did not extend to that rickshaw, and the constable replied that it was no business of his. Even if this were true, the insolent reply was voluntarily provoked, and does not mitigate the offence. But the evidence of Mr. Morton who may be considered to be favourably disposed towards the accused, shows that Mr. O'Sullivan struck the constable immediately after he answered that his orders were to remove vacant rickshaws, and before the accused asked him if the order extended to his rickshaws only. The constable's reply to the second question, as the evidence shows, was that the rickshaw pointed out was not on the road, and the witnesses say that it was near the corner of the Library, and that a gentleman was standing near it. But even if the constable had failed to remove another rickshaw standing on the road, I do not see how it justified the accused in striking him.

This was the first attack on the constable. When the accused had taken his seat in the rickshaw the constable said: "You have beaten me without cause—is there any one here who will call the Devanji?" (meaning the head constable of the out post.) On this Mr. O'Sullivan got down from his rickshaw and again struck the constable knocking off his pugni. Mr. O'Sullivan admits striking the constable on both occasions. The evidence shows there was absolutely no provocation, and the attack was most cowardly. I convict Mr. O'Sullivan under Section 332 Penal Code and fine him Rs. 100 out of which Rs. 10 will be paid to the constable under Section 545 Penal Code. In default of payment of fine, two months simple imprisonment. "Englishman."

The immediate effect of the drought in the districts of the Southern Punjab and Rajputana will be a fodder-famine, while at the same time the young crops that were sown when rain fell in July will wither. These conditions have already declared themselves, reports the "Pioneer," in parts of this particular area, and cattle in Western Rajputana are on the move towards pasturage grounds in Sind. The shortage of fodder is always a serious matter, for it is a necessity not easy to make good, and plough cattle are the most valuable asset of the cultivator. As to food-supplies for the people there is an abundance of grain in the Punjab as a whole. The exports of wheat to Europe may be affected, but there are no marked signs of this so far as current contracts have to be fulfilled. The enormous area under irrigation will again yield splendid crops, particularly as all the rivers are running high owing to the heavy winter and spring snow-fall in the Western Himalayas. There is thus no shortage of canal water, and the cultivators are taking full advantage of the supplies offered to them.

MUZAFFERPUR NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Muzafferpur, Aug. 20.

THE DURBHANGA RAJ CASE.
The Durbhanga Raj case came up before the District Judge yesterday when the following issues were framed. Dr. Ras Behary Ghose appeared on behalf of the Maharaja, while Mr. P. Kennedy and others appeared for the Maharanes. The case is now fixed for the 9th September.

ISSUES.

1. Is the suit multifarious? Is there a misjoinder of plaintiff and cause of action?
2. Are the plaintiffs entitled to an order upon the defendant to provide proper residence and pay maintenance and other allowances to the plaintiffs pending the decision of the suit and if so, what should the nature of the order be?

3. Was the late Maharaja Sir Lakshmeshwar Singh separate in estate from the defendant at the time of his death?
4. What is the kulachar or family custom by which the devolution of the Raj Zemindari Milkiat Sarkar Tirhut is regulated and did the defendant upon the death of the said Maharaja Sir Lakshmeshwar Singh become entitled to succeed with such kulachar?

5. Was the defendant adopted by the late Maharaja at Kartaputra?
6. Were any, and if any, which of the properties in parts 1, 2, 3, 4, of schedule II to the plaint acquired by the ancestors of the Maharaja and if so were they self acquired property?

7. (a) What movable and immovable properties were acquired by the late Maharaja? What were his savings?
(b) Were such properties or savings respectively dealt with or treated by the late Maharaja as appertaining to or held with the Raj property?

(c) How were such properties or savings respectively or any portion thereof regarded for the purposes of devolutions thereof and the right of succession thereto upon the death of the late Maharaja?

8. Do the money referred to in schedule IV to the plaint or any, and if any, which of them represent assets which belong to the plaintiffs?

9. Did not the plaintiffs with full knowledge of their right and of the rights of the defendant receive any annual maintenance allowance from the defendant as the rightful owner and possessor of the estate properties and effects appertaining thereto and are they stopped from disputing the Defendants title?

10. Are the plaintiffs under the Hindu law prevailing in Mithila entitled to the movable properties absolutely as confided by them in paragraph 6 of the plaints? Which of the properties in suit are such movable?

11. Are the plaintiffs' claim in respect of any, and if any, of what part of the properties mentioned in the plaint barred by limitation?

12. Is the defendant bound to render account to the plaintiffs of his dealings with the properties in suits?

13. Are the plaintiffs entitled to mesne profits and if so how much?

14. To what relief are the plaintiffs entitled if any?

INDIGO AND ITS PRESENT CONDITION.
The introduction of synthetic indigo, some eight years ago, sounded the death knell of the natural produce and one of the most lucrative industries of Behar, is soon going to be a thing of the past. Indigo which was selling at Rs. 300 a maund, cannot now secure one-fourth of its former price. Seldom now a season passes which does not record the closing up of one or more of these factories and what was at one time a humming place of business now wears a desolate and forsaken appearance. At the top of this misfortune of low price came a series of bad seasons, and this proved the last straw to break the camel's back. Planters, though at a great loss to themselves, persevered, for sometimes in the cultivation of indigo in hopes of a return of the good old days, but they are now fast taking to sugar and other country crops to make the two ends meet.

In many of the factories, they have settled a large portion of their Zeraib lands with the rayats. Sugar has taken the place of indigo in many of the factories and already there has sprung up a flourishing sugar-cane manufacturing at Ottur under the name of "India Development Co. Nearly a crore has been invested in this work. But the introduction of sugar will not prove a universal salvation. Factories which are centrally situated and have got facilities for irrigation as well as an easy communication with the refineries, can grow sugar-cane with profit. News is current that tramway lines will be laid on all the principal roads to carry the cane from different factories to the seat of manufacture. The introduction of Java-Natal Indigo, which is solely due to Mr. Coventry, the Director of Agricultural Research Farm at Pusa, seems to have given a new lease of life to this fast decaying industry. This particular variety gives three cuttings in a season, but the pity is that the supply of seed of this indigo is not up to the entire demand of the planters. Some of the factories have adopted the old khunsi system of growing indigo. It means that the seed is supplied to the rayats, willing to cultivate indigo in their own lands and these are paid by weight for the plants delivered at the vats. Experiments with this are going on in some of the factories, but whether this will pay, the future will decide.

AN ARTIST'S EXPERIENCES.
"Certainly the most interesting experience of my life." It was in these words that Mr. Seppings-Wright, the well-known artist, summed up his experiences during the past year in the Far East. I had heard, writes a representative of the "Morning Post," that Mr. Seppings-Wright had returned to England after accomplishing the impossible—spending several months with Admiral Togo and the fleet which has won imperishable renown for the Japanese Navy, and I wanted to know how the impossible had been accomplished, and what were the impressions which Mr. Seppings-Wright had gathered during his unique experience.

Very good naturally Mr. Seppings-Wright consented to gratify my curiosity. "It is quite true," he said in reply to a question, "that I was the only civilian foreigner who was permitted to accompany the Japanese fleet. Indeed, I was one of the five foreigners who were allowed to enjoy that privilege, and the other four were all British naval attaches. The Japanese Government declined to allow the naval officers of any other nation to accompany the fleet. Our naval attaches were changed from time to time, and very valuable lessons they must have learnt."

ACCOMPLISHING THE IMPOSSIBLE.
"Do you mind," I asked, "telling me how you alone of the great army of artists and newspaper correspondents who went out to Japan in the hope of following the naval operations succeeded in accomplishing your purpose?"

"Well," was the reply, "I had made up my mind that I was going on board that fleet, but I found that none of the papers would send me out. They had made inquiries, used all the influence they could command, and the conclusion was that the thing could not be done. I went to Baron de Reuter, who was kindness itself, but said it was impossible. I knew that if the Baron failed the thing could not be done on the ordinary lines. Then a new idea occurred to me. I went to see Lord Armstrong, explained the situation to him, enlisted his powerful and finally obtained permission from the Japanese Government to accompany Admiral Togo as the special representative of the great shipping and ordnance firm of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co., which has built so many warships for the Japanese Navy."

"It was, then, not as an artist, but as an expert in gunnery, that you were allowed the unique privilege of following Togo's operations?"

"That is so, and, of course, I have reported on the special technical matters with which I was concerned in the proper quarter. But these are matters on which I cannot say anything for publication—which, indeed, would have little interest for the general public."

"Can you say generally what your impression was as to the state of efficiency of the Japanese Navy in the matters you refer to?"

TWO POINTS.
"On that point every body may draw their own conclusions from the results of the fighting. I only want to say two things—first, that the Japanese have not left the European inventor much room for improvements in the mechanism of naval guns, and, second, that it will not be long before the Japanese build all their own warships and furnish the whole of their armament in their own country."

"Of course, the Japanese knew perfectly well who you were—that you were an artist and a war correspondent?"

"Oh, yes; there was no disguise of any kind. I was, of course, not permitted to hold any communication with the outside world which did not pass through the censor's hands. But to that reasonable stipulation I could make no objection. I played the game, and I want to say this—that from first to last I never received anything but the most perfect courtesy, the most unbounded hospitality, and the most generous help from every man I came into contact with—from the Admiral downwards."

"You saw a good deal of Admiral Togo himself?"

"I did. I first saw him when he came on board the 'Manushu Maru,' the ship on which the Japanese Government sent a large party of Japanese notabilities and correspondents of foreign newspapers to witness the fall of Port Arthur. As it turned out we were some months too soon for that event and had to return to Japan after a trip, pleasant enough and instructive enough, but robbed of what was to have been its growing excitement."

TOGO THE IMPERTURBABLE.
"But when you joined Togo's fleet you saw more of the famous Admiral?"

"I did. I was for seven months with the fleet, and frequently saw the Admiral on his flagship. The Japanese are artists to his finger tips. I was constantly sketching and painting, and the Admiral took great interest in my work. I painted his portrait, and I

made several sketches for his album—indeed, after a short time, he was good enough to say that if I wished to see him at any time I had merely to intimate the wish."

"And the man himself, what is your impression of him?"

"I can tell you what I know of him. The thing that strikes you most about him is his imperturbability. He is the most imperturbable man I have ever seen. This Japanese Nelson has none of the nervous excitability of his English proto-type. Were the 'Mikasa' going down beneath him, you cannot imagine him moving a muscle or for an instant losing his perfect self-possession. He is a silent man, and loves to be alone with his little Japanese pipe. He was elected for his high command, as every other man in the Japanese Army and Navy was selected, solely for his fitness for the post."

"You did not remain on the same vessel all the seven months you were with the fleet?"

"Oh dear no! I was constantly transferred from one vessel to another, and saw every type of ship in action, from the battleship to the torpedo-boat. I had many exciting experiences, but the most dangerous work I ever shared in was on board the 'Dainan Maru,' a mine ship and auxiliary cruiser, on which I remained for two months. During the whole of that time we were sweeping for mines between Dally and Port Arthur. When I left the 'Dainan Maru' the commanding officer presented me with a Samurai sword and I was received into a clan. No greater honour could have been done me, and I am very proud of the distinction. Henceforward the donor of that sword and I are brothers. In handing the sword to me he declared that the spirits of his ancestors would watch over me."

Mr. Carnduff has relieved Mr. Macpherson as officiating Legislative Secretary to the Government of India.

The report of the Simla Allowance Committee will be ready towards the close of this month.

Colonel W. G. Kings, Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, has been appointed to act as Inspector-General of Hospitals in Burma for eight months.

There is no improvement yet regarding the prospects of rain in the area of drought. It is possible that the Royal visit to India may be affected by the serious outlook in the provinces where the rainfall has been deficient. A decision cannot, however, be come to before two or three weeks hence, by which time the monsoon will be closing and an accurate estimate of the agricultural position will be possible.

We learn that in connection with the trial of Gunner Messenger, R. G. A., before the City Magistrate, for trespass and posting up obscene placards, that two officers—Capt. Leggett and Lieut. Fitzgerald, of his battery, deposed on Monday as to the exemplary good character borne by the accused, who it appears, has 13 years' service, a medical certificate was also put in to the effect that Messenger was suffering from insomnia. Mr. Sands, however, reserved his judgment for the next day (Tuesday) when he convicted the accused and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 300. The Magistrate remarked that the offence was a most heinous one, accused having recklessly attacked the characters of innocent women, whom he did not know, and deserved imprisonment but taking into consideration accused's previous good character, his service of 13 years, and the fact that he would lose his employment on the N. W. Railway he would fine him—"Karachi Chronicle."

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