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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 6th May 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th April writes :—

SANJIVANI,
April 27th, 1905.

India and Australia.

A large number of Australians have settled at Mitaina on the banks of the Irrawady in Burma and are engaged in collecting gold-dust there. And yet the same Australians look upon Indians as foreigners, and do not allow them to enter their country. If our Government had sought our welfare, then the Australians should certainly never have dared to treat us ill as they do.

2. In noticing the settlement of some Australians in Burma in quest of gold, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th

BHARAT MITRA,
April 29th, 1905.

Australians and India.

April observes that had our rulers been the real rulers of this country, they would not have allowed such people to enter this country, as the latter do not allow the Indians to enter theirs.

3. It may be, writes the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April, that the report of a recent withdrawal of some of the

HITAVADI.
April 28th, 1905.

The Lhasa convention.

conditions of the Lhasa convention relating to the establishment of trade marts in Tibet is false, as the Government of India says. But the authorities have got such a bad habit of concealing facts that many people are still unable to free their minds completely from suspicion in the matter. When Reuter wired that an arrangement was being made to occupy the Chumbi Valley for 75 years, the Secretary of State for India denied it. But some time after it transpired that Colonel Younghusband had actually made such an arrangement, and was only forced to change it by censures from the authorities in England. Who knows, therefore, that in the present instance also an attempt is not being made to conceal the real state of things? Has not the long stay of the Chinese High Commissioner in Calcutta brought about any change in the terms of the Lhasa convention? The Tibet Mission and the Lhasa convention have led to many a fun, and many more may still be expected from them. That the sending of the Tibet Mission was an act of great indiscretion on the part of Lord Curzon is patent, however hard the authorities may try to conceal the fact. The authorities had carefully concealed the terms of Colonel Younghusband's treaty from the Indians, but the *Times* of London trumpeted them to the world. Lord Curzon perhaps thought that the empire would be in serious danger if the terms of the treaty were made known to the Indians. The result of the consultations with the Chinese High Commissioner also will, most probably, be published by the *Times* as correspondence from Peking or Kamschatka. What will the authorities do in that case?

4. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says that although the murder of the Chinese Amban with all his com-

BHARAT MITRA,
April 29th, 1905.

The suspicious death of the Chinese Amban in Tibet.

panions at Tibet has been confirmed by news received from Peking, the Government of India has as yet no knowledge of it. It remains to be seen what mystery underlies the incident.

5. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April says that if the agreement made by the Kabul Mission with the present

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

The Kabul Mission.

Amir were only what was stated by the Marquis of Bath in the House of Lords, Lord Curzon would not have tried so much to keep it a secret.

6. In contradicting Reuter's telegram of the 23rd March last announcing

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS HABLUL MATEEN,
May 1st, 1905.

Reuter's telegram and the Asiatic question.

a rising of the Persian Musalmans against the Russian merchants of Askabad, the *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 1st May has the following :—

This telegram has proved so effective that it has agitated the whole of Europe. Almost all the leading papers of England, including the *Morning Post*, have published it, painting the alleged incident in various colours. Reuter's correspondent had, at the instance of the European Ambassadors at Peking, sent similar false telegrams before which led all the European Powers to declare war against China.

The fact is that the rapid advance of Japan in civilization is alarming the European statesmen lest their supremacy in Asia is not to last long. They are

therefore trying their utmost to preserve it by putting various obstacles in the path of its progress. It is a well-known fact that the only country on the path of progress next to Japan is Persia. It has come to know the secret of progress. That is why the Europeans will next turn their eye to that country, and why they are trying their best to keep it preoccupied and back from improvement. The secret of this policy is to impress on the minds of the people of Europe that every defeat of the Russians is rousing the Asiatics, and specially the Musalmans, against Christianity, and to bring back to their minds the recollections of the Crusades. Should this policy succeed, the result may well be imagined.

ROZNA-MA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABUL MATEEN,
May 1st, 1905.

7. The same paper deplores the depreciation of the Persian currency which is causing a heavy loss to the Persian merchants. The Persian merchants who come over to India with Persian coin have to sell it at the bullion rate. The Persian Consul ought to give his attention to this matter.

ROZNA-MA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABUL MATEEN.

8. The same paper says that M. Delcassé, Foreign Minister of France, when revoking his resignation insisted that the Government should follow him in the matter of foreign politics, and that it should not violate the law of neutrality during the present war in the Far East. The Chamber of Deputies assured him that these conditions would be accepted.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

RANGPUR
DIKPRAKAS,
April 13th, 1905.

9. The *Rangpur Dikprakas* [Rangpur] of the 13th April draws attention to the depredations committed by wild boars in certain parts of that district. Reference is made to the case of an up-country coolie who was attacked by one of these animals recently near Kalomati, and who is now undergoing treatment at Kailarranjan dispensary. A brood of the young of these animals is also said to have quartered themselves in a portion of the fields of the Kumar Bahadur of Kakina, where they are causing damage to the crops.

HITAVARTA,
April 24th, 1905.

10. A correspondent of the *Hitavarta* [Muradnagar] of the 24th April says that in a criminal case under sections 323 and 24 of the Indian Penal Code in which one Kailas Chandra Namas was the complainant and Purnachandra Namas the defendant, Babu Kasi Kanta Chander, Sub-Inspector of the Muradnagar thana, submitted a report after making an enquiry. When the case was called on for hearing in the Court of Mr. K. N. Mukerji, Deputy Magistrate, the Sub-Inspector perceived that his own report would seriously go against him. The case being partially gone into was adjourned on the 8th April last. Kasi Babu took this opportunity of effecting a compromise between the parties. Finding some difficulty in doing this, he returned Rs. 40 to the complainant through the defendant, which the complainant had been compelled to pay in the shape of a reward to the *syce* of the Sub-Inspector and deposited with one Purna Chandra Chakraberti Kaviraj. The Sub-Inspector also made over the wife of the complainant to him, and thus after great efforts succeeded in inducing the complainant's mukhtar to file a compromise. The complainant himself was a witness in the case and has personal knowledge of all the circumstances.

PRATIJNA,
April 26th, 1905.

11. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 26th April draws attention to the prevalence of gambling in Barakar and adjoining places, as also to the waylaying of and assaults on coolies. Reference is also made to a case of theft in a local police thana, where two steel trunks full of shawls and like valuable clothing were stolen.

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA,
April 28th, 1905.

12. Referring to the case in which Erfan Gafuruddin and some other respectable inhabitants of the Bhelu village under the Rangpur police-station were charged with dacoity, but which was afterwards dismissed by Babu Banka Behari Baksi, Deputy Magistrate, the *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 28th April says that Babu Pyari Pal, the Sub-Inspector of the Rangpur

been to give the latter the power of reporting to the High Court against the former. Under the present system of the union of judicial and executive functions, it is simply dangerous to place, even if indirectly, judicial officers under executive officers, for in that case the former will not dare displease the latter. Everyone remembers how the Chapra case was about to be hushed up by Mr. (now Sir James) Bourdillon, the then Commissioner of the Division.

24. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 28th April says that recently a European named Captain Hodgson was charged in the Calcutta Police Court with having driven a bicycle on a path in the Eden Gardens on which riding on bicycles is prohibited. The Captain did not appear in Court, but admitted the offence in a letter and was fined Rs. 5. Will such proceeding be accepted in the case of natives?

Appearance by letter in the Calcutta Police Court.

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA,
April 28th, 1905.

25. The same paper says that Government is pulling down the houses of poor people and driving them away by acquiring a small piece of land for a model agricultural farm in Rangpur. Mr. Abdul Malek, who is a protégé of Government, is not very willing to grant proper compensation to the poor sufferers. In some cases he has granted only a quarter of the real price. The sufferings of the poor during the rains are indescribable. Has Mr. Malek been commissioned to deprive poor people of their just dues? Government might easily have avoided giving trouble to the poor cultivators by acquiring uncultivated as well as cultivated land near the Rangpur town.

Mr. Abdul Malek, Deputy Collector, Rangpur.

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA.

26. Contrasting the sentence passed in the case in which a European railway guard named Hewlett charged one Habdar Khan with having beaten him at the Budge-Budge station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway with that passed in the case in which a European soldier stood charged with having assaulted and wounded a Musalman cook of his mess, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says that while the native offender in the first case, who had only returned the assault which the guard had first made on him, was sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment, the white offender in the second case, who had had no just cause of provocation like the above, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment only. We do not wish, says the writer, to make any remark on these cases; we rest content with only citing them.

A native and a European offender.

BASUMATI,
April 29th, 1905.

27. Referring to the alleged rude behaviour of Mr. Rogers, Deputy Commissioner of Gauhati, as stated in the *Citizen* newspaper, towards a respectable accused person, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says that, considering the serious character of the charge, the authorities should take due notice of the allegation and remove all misconceptions by publishing the true facts of the incident. The public are anxiously awaiting the result of the petition which the accused is said to have submitted to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

The alleged conduct of Mr. Rogers, Deputy Commissioner, Gauhati.

BANGAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

28. In noticing the case published in another paper, in which it is alleged that one Ram Kumar Gope of Mymensingh having brought a civil suit against the Secretary of State for India for the recovery of Rs. 600 as compensation, was dragged to the local police-station and forced to sign a blank paper, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April wonders that such anarchy still prevails in the British raj, and hopes that the District Magistrate will make a sifting enquiry into the matter.

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

The Ram Kumar Gope case.

(c)—Jails.

29. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 28th April speaks of the hard life led by the native inmates of the Indian jails. As regards food, work and everything they fare very ill. This is a blot on the British rule in India.

The condition of native prisoners in India.

SAMAY,
April 28th, 1905.

police-station, arrested these respectable people and hauled them up for trial simply because they had assisted in the search of some articles stolen from the house of a widow named Chandmai. There is nothing which the police cannot do. It is a wonder that Banka Babu, the Deputy Magistrate, did not give permission for Babu Pyari Pal's prosecution for having brought a charge of dacoity against innocent persons.

13. The same paper requests the Magistrate of Rangpur to enquire personally into the case of murder in a brothel at Nawabganj. No Sub-Inspector of Police will be able to trace it. Delay will ruin the whole case.

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA.
April 28th, 1905.

14. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 28th April says that the police often uses various arts for drawing confessions from people under arrest. They are sometimes led to believe that if they confess they will be discharged from mercy or by being made King's evidence. At other times they are threatened that if they do not confess before the Magistrate they will be taken back to the thana and tortured.

SAMAY,
April 28th, 1905.

15. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 28th April reports on the authority of its Kushtia correspondent that, acting under the lead of the plaintiffs in the local cow-killing case (referred to in paragraph 36 of the Report on Native Papers for the week ending the

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
April 28th 1905.

A case of alleged creation of ill-feeling between Hindus and Mussalmans.

8th April), viz., Gopal Chandra Mozumdar, Guru Krishto Behara, Chaukidar Tusta Nihara, etc., a number of local low-class Hindus performed a number of representations in caricature on *Chait Sankranti* day last, with a view to offend the religious susceptibilities of their Musalman brethren. Maulvies, Munshis, Fir-Paygambers were on this occasion represented in various ways by way of insult to Mecca, Medina and Rasool Karim. The local Hindus are said to be offending their Musalman fellow-subjects in various ways. The attention of the District Magistrate of Nadia is called to these allegations.

16. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April writes:—

The appointment of village panchayets.

We have said more than once that much care and discrimination are necessary in the selection of the best men for appointment as panchayets. It is a well-known fact that those who are honest and well-intentioned will not easily go forward to stand as candidates for these appointments. On the contrary, those who are power-loving and anxious to lord it over their fellowmen will be over-anxious for these appointments. One of our mufassal correspondents says that many wicked persons are already thinking how, if once they can contrive to become a panchayet, they may be able to secure a decent income and at the same time exercise great power and influence over mufassal people. Another correspondent says that it is only the rich and the influential persons, as, for example, the zamindars and their *amla*, most of whom are unscrupulous, who will in most cases become panchayets. Even if an educated and conscientious man were appointed he would have very little independence, as he would not have the courage to go against the wishes of rich and influential people where such exist. In any case, therefore, the new system of panchayets is fraught with great mischief for the villagers. President panchayets have been given powers under sections 65, 127 and 128 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. With what formidable powers have they been armed! What protection is there to the villager against the abuse of these powers? Is there any guarantee that the President will not make arbitrary use of his powers? Not only has the President been empowered to arrest any person he pleases and to disperse what he considers to be unlawful assemblies, but it is proposed also to allow him to try petty cases. Surely a very grave situation has been created and the peaceful villager now finds himself confronted by thousands of possible calamities—calamities to which he had hitherto been a stranger.

BANGAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

We shall offer a suggestion. Let the authorities draw up a detailed list of the duties of each class of men—the chaukidars, dafadars, the panchayets and the Presidents,—and let simple Bengali translations of these be circulated among villagers for their information.

It is a most fatal policy to allow the President to sit singly to try cases according to his whims. The authorities will ere long find themselves compelled

to change this arrangement and make the five panchayets sit together for the purpose.

Dacca Prakas,
April 30th, 1905.

17. A correspondent writing to the *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 30th April makes the following allegation in connexion with the selection of a Secretary for the panchayets

A complaint.

of the Mahamudpur union in the Nawabganj thana in Dacca. In the meeting which was held on the 9th December last at the house of Sita Nath Chowdhury, a local magnate, Kali Kumar Biswas of Harischandi was the person selected for this post. But when, on the 22nd April last, the *sanad* of appointment was received it was found that the *sanad* was in favour of Iswar Chandra Poddar and not of Kali Kumar Biswas. Since then the President of this union (Babu Peary Mohan Mukerjee) has made a search, but has not been able to trace this Iswar Chandra.

Hitavarta,
April 30th, 1905.

Mr. Bignell, Police Commissioner, Calcutta.

18. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April wishes immediate recovery of Mr. Bignell from his illness. The mischief arising from drinking and gambling had considerably decreased during his term of office and he made no race distinctions in the distribution of appointments and promotions.

Daily Hitavadi,
May 1st, 1905.

19. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May learns from a Lahore

Police oppression in Lahore.

newspaper that on the occasion of the recent municipal election in Lahore town, the voters were severely beaten and oppressed by the police, and it was only when a number of Musalman voters shewed the spirit of resistance that the oppression ceased. The writer says that the Musalman voters acted quite legally in vigorously protesting against the action of the police. Is it the object of the Government that the police should oppress people so long as they are not driven to resistance?

Nihar,
May 2nd, 1905.

20. The *Nihar* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May reports on the authority of a

Gambling in a *mela* in Midnapore.

correspondent the prevalence of gambling in the *mela* which is now being held at Ajanbari in the jurisdiction of the Khajuri thana.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

Pratijna,
April 26th, 1905.

21. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 26th April alleges that Mr. B. T.

Allegations against a Deputy Magistrate.

Chatterton, Deputy Magistrate of Kurigram in Rangpur, is a whimsical man who has opened a "poor-box" which is proving a source of trouble to many a person.

Sri Sri Vishnu
Priya-o-Ananda
Bazar Patrika,
April 27th, 1905.

22. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the

Mr. Carlyle's Circular.

27th April, in noticing the recent circular on the subordination of District Judges to the Divisional Commissioners, expresses pleasure at the fact that Government has admitted the existence of such evils as the incivility of certain Magistrates towards native visitors and subordinates and the practice of certain other Magistrates of habitually borrowing horses, carriages and the like from private persons resident within their jurisdiction. But at the same time it expresses a doubt as to the efficacy of the proposed control in such cases. For instance, innumerable as have been the complaints made against Mr. Carey, both in the public press and in petitions to the Lieutenant-Governor, what has been the result of all these up to now?

With reference to the opinion expressed in this circular that the Commissioners should not interfere with the Judges' work, it is pointed out that though there may be no direct interference with their work, cases might arise where Magistrates and District Judges would disagree about some question, with consequent ill-feeling, and such cases will call for the Commissioner's interference, who will then assert his authority over both Judge and Magistrate. And what the consequence in such a case will be, is a matter to ponder over.

Hitavadi,
April 28th, 1905.

23. Referring to the arrangement made by the Government to place

Placing of District Judges under Divisional Commissioners.

District Judges under Divisional Commissioners in certain respects, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April says that a better arrangement would have

(d)—Education.

SOM PRAKAS,
April 17th, 1905.

30. The *Som Prakas* [Calcutta] of the 17th April writes :—

A suggestion.

The Presidency and Sanskrit Colleges and the attached schools remain closed for two weeks on account of the University examinations each year. The students during this recess go about wasting their time, to the great dissatisfaction of their guardians who are compelled to pay fees as usual. An arrangement might be made to distribute these examinations between all the various schools in the city. This would do away with the necessity of interrupting the regular work of these colleges and schools in particular for such a long space of time.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 24th, 1905.

31. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 24th April writes :—

A rumoured change in the University Examination Regulations.

We are informed that it has been practically settled in course of the revision of the University Examination Regulations that there are to be three or four text-books for the History course in the Entrance Examination, of which students are to select one, and that answers to questions in History must be given in the examinee's own language if they are to be accepted by the examiners. But it may be inquired if the language of the teachers or the "Guide-" makers which is sure to be made use of by the examinees under this arrangement would be purer than the language of the text-books. The examinees got up by rote under the old system and they will do so also under the new.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
April 28th, 1905

32. The *Education Gazette* [Chinsura] of the 28th April writes :—

The desirability of combining religious with secular instruction in Indian colleges.

Religious education cannot nowadays be combined with secular Western education in the Government schools. Hence it is found that the tendencies of lads educated in the English schools are just the reverse of those which are most prominent in lads educated in the Hindu ideals, namely, reverence, self-control and the like. It is therefore desirable that the Hindu ideals should again be as much as possible incorporated into the English education which is imparted in India. The Central Hindu College at Benares and the M. A. D. College at Aligarh are proceeding on these lines. And in the boarding-houses for Hindus which will rise up around the proposed Ranchi College, let not Government be afraid to imitate the Benares Central Hindu College and build a temple dedicated to Saraswati, with proper arrangements for her worship. Similarly, a handsome *masjid* should be built in connection with the Moslem boarding. Mrs. Annie Besant has shown great wisdom in choosing Saraswati in preference to the other gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon.

BANGAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

33. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April publishes a satirical

The proposed partition of the Bengali language.

poem by a correspondent, in which the writer takes Mr. K. G. Gupta to task for the support he gave to the proposed division of the Bengali language into four different dialects. It is also mentioned that the "mischievous" proposal had its origin in Lord Curzon. Humorous examples are given of the spoken dialects of East Bengal, of which Mr. Gupta is a native, as well as of Sylhet, Tippera, Chittagong, Barisal, Birbhum, Rangpur, Cooch Behar, and Bhutan Duar, pointing out what confusion would result if the proposed division were effected. The last two lines are as follow :—

Break up and destroy and cast to the dogs,—
Such is always the fate of goods owned by no man.

BANGAVASI.

34. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April is glad that the well-

The appointment of a renowned Pandit as a Professor.

known Pandit, Haris Chandra Tarkaratna, of the Mulajore Sanskrit College, has been appointed Professor of the Navadwip Government Smriti *Chatuspathi* in the place of the late Pandit Rajanikanta Vidyaratna. The appointment has given satisfaction to all.

BANGAVASI.

35. Referring to the Government encouragement to the cause of female

Government encouragement to female education in the Punjab.

education in the Punjab, the same paper observes that the criticisms of different sections of the community on the action of Government supply food for serious reflection. One section sees in this nothing but the mockery

of watering the branches of a tree which has already been severed at the roots; for while the education of boys, which is of vital importance, is being restricted under various pretences, the education of girls is receiving increased attention. Another ingenious critic naïvely remarks that Government, conscious that the passage of a current cannot be stopped, is doing wisely by attempting to divert it into a different channel. If the girls are educated instead of the boys, conferences, congresses and political speeches will cease to trouble the Government, an additional advantage being a much greater demand for English-made articles of luxury among the educated native girls.

36. Referring to the favourable attitude of the Government of the Punjab towards female education, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May observes that it is not within the compass of an ordinary intellect to find out the reason for this sudden sympathy of the Government for the education of girls in place of that of the boys.

HINDI
BANGAVASI,
May 1st, 1905.

37. Referring to the fact that the term of the existing Central Text-Book Committee is about to expire and that a new Committee is about to be appointed, the *Basu nati* [Calcutta] of the 29th April writes as follows:—

BASUMATI,
April 29th, 1905.

The existing Committee was not appointed in accordance with the rules which were framed by the Government. In contravention of the Government rules, there were many members in it who were either themselves authors of school-books or had near relations who were such or had direct concern with some printing press. A little enquiry by the Government will prove our statement. We refer to this only to warn the Government that such a thing may not happen again. Another thing to which we wish to invite the Government's attention is the necessity of equalising the number of experts in the different branches of study. There is no such equality in the existing Committee, and the consequence has been that not unoften books on Science or Mathematics were probably sent for examination to an expert in History.

The arrangement by which the Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division, is appointed Secretary to the Committee is also objectionable. First, the Inspector of Schools of the biggest Division in Bengal must have too much work to do as Inspector to have much spare time for any other work. His duties as Secretary of the Text-Book Committee must therefore be discharged perfunctorily. Secondly, as Inspector he is the official superior of a large number of teachers who are authors of school-books and, naturally, may have bias against or in favour of particular teachers. Thirdly, the present Inspector has some near relations who are authors of school-books. Considering all these facts, it is desirable in the public interest that the Secretary of the Text-Book Committee should be an outsider.

It is also to be hoped that the new Committee will not, like the existing one, contain a majority of official members. The less the number of such members the more independent will be the judgments of the Committee.

38. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 30th April, writing about the Hindu boarding-house attached to the Training School at Dacca, makes the allegation that a disproportionate amount of the space available in this boarding-house (about half) is taken up by the quarters of the Head Master of the school in question and his family. It is further alleged that the monthly grant of Rs. 125 which Government makes in aid of this boarding cannot be said to be quite spent in the interests of the students, since quite a large number of these are found to be putting up with the discomforts of the life of an ordinary mess in the town. It is suggested that if there be any difficulty about the accommodation of *anacharaniya* castes in this hostel, it might be got over easily by quartering the *anacharaniya* and the *acharaniya* castes in different parts of the building.

DACCA PRAKAS,
April 30th, 1905.

39. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May gives the present total number, as shewn in official reports, of young men receiving higher education in Indian colleges to be 19,000. But in 1893-94 this number was 14,500. This means that during eleven years the number of students receiving higher

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 3rd, 1905.

education increased at the average rate of only 450 a year. But even this slow progress was too much for the authorities, and the Universities Act was passed with a view to make higher education still more difficult of attainment. What can be a greater shame to the civilized English than this?

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 3rd, 1905.

40. The same paper says that it is feared that a Civilian will be appointed as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, on the retirement of Mr. Pedler. Judging from precedent, such an appointment, though highly unjustifiable, is not altogether improbable. It is not at all desirable that the highest post in the Education Department of the Province should be lost to the officers of the department.

DAILY HITAVADI.

The insufficiency of Medical Colleges in India.

41. The same paper observes that it is inexplicable why there should not have been established a Medical College in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and the Central Provinces which comprise an area of about two lakhs of square miles with a population of about 6½ crores. That this should have been the case during the long administration of Lord Curzon, who professes to be a friend of higher education, is indeed remarkable. The number of students receiving higher medical training in the Indian Medical Colleges in 1893-94 was 850, and in 1905 this number has risen to 1,600. The unhealthiness of India during His Excellency's régime has been at least equal to that prevailing at any other time. Nevertheless, not a single new Medical College has been established.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

HITAVARTI,
April 24th, 1905.

42. The *Hitavarta* [Muradnagar] of the 24th April says that unless the prospects of native doctors and compounders attached to mufassal charitable dispensaries managed by the District Boards can be improved, no useful work can be expected to be done by these institutions. The writer suggests that the native doctors should have three grades, viz., Rs. 35, Rs. 50 and Rs. 60 and compounders should also have three grades, viz., Rs. 12, Rs. 15 and Rs. 20. The attention of the Civil Surgeon of Tippera and the District Board authorities is drawn to the matter.

MEDINI BANDHAY,
April 26th, 1905.

43. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 26th April complains that village Debalpur near Khargpur is being reduced to the same condition as the Dhappa fields in the suburbs of Calcutta, its vicinity being used as the receptacle for all the sweepings from Khargpur. The local inhabitants are suffering great inconvenience in consequence.

SANJIVANI,
April 27th, 1905.

44. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th April reports that severe scarcity of water is likely to be felt this year in the villages of Maju, Ghurul, Santoshbati, etc., on both banks of the Kana stream in Maju in Howrah. The local water-supply is dependant, in the absence of large tanks, only on this stream which, however, is rapidly silting up and is already almost dry.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
April 27th, 1905.

45. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 27th April says:—
The water-scarcity question. The Mysore Government has recently sanctioned a large grant in aid of village sanitation in that State and the British Government might with advantage imitate the Mysore Administration in this respect. It is no inconsiderable misfortune that, subjects as we are of the Emperor, we still continue deprived of blessings enjoyed by the subjects of ordinary Rajas. In this terribly hot weather cries of distress for want of water have begun to be heard on all sides. Who will hear these cries? Who cares to know that it is want of drinking-water alone which causes epidemics of cholera, decimating the population of any number of villages?

BASUMATI,
April 29th, 1905.

46. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th April has the following:—
It is easy to prove that it is not beyond Government's means to remove the water-scarcity in Bengal. Bengal possesses a revenue of more

than 30 crores of rupees, but out of this, not even 6 crores are given to her for her expenses and more than 25 crores are appropriated for other purposes. It is not, therefore, fair or just to say that want of money is the obstacle that stands in the way of the removal of the water-scarcity of the province. A statement like that in any other country, nay in any other part of the British Empire itself, would have subjected the authorities to a good deal of harassment. If Bengal had even been fortunate enough to get for water-supply what is given annually to the other provinces of India, she would have been able to give herself some consolation for the future. But why is not the same thing being done in Bengal or Bihar that is being done in Guzerat, the Deccan, the Central Provinces and Madras? The Secretary of State sanctioned 55 lakhs of rupees for the Mandalay Canal alone even in the newly acquired territory of Burma. It is only Bengal which never tastes such munificence at the hands of the authorities, and there is reason for this.

The land revenue system of Bengal is a permanent arrangement and it is a zamindari system. In Guzerat, the Deccan, the Central Provinces, Madras and Burma, on the other hand, Government itself is the zamindar and any improvement effected on land or water brings its fruit to Government in the shape of increased revenue. In fact, wherever there is no permanent settlement of the land revenue, improvement in water-supply brings profit to the Government. In provinces like Bengal or Bihar, however, on account of their permanent settlement and the zamindari system, Government can make no profit out of any other source of water-supply except canals. A few years ago, the Government of Bengal had, therefore, proposed a water-cess, but could not succeed at the time. What could not be effected at the first attempt may not remain uneffected at a later attempt. But a water-cess will cause the greatest *zulm* on the zamindar community and, as a consequence, will also harass the raiyats beyond endurance. So long, however, as the cess is not imposed, the water-scarcity in Bengal will not be removed and the zamindars will be blamed by the Government at every step.

47. The following are extracts from an article in the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April on the question of the proposed Borough Councils for Calcutta:—

The question of Borough Councils for Calcutta.

DAILY HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1905.

If the Government had spoken out frankly what was in its mind, the amount of public suspense would have been less. But at the present time it seems to have become a fixed bad habit with the Government to keep the public in the dark about any and every one of its measures. We might refer for illustration to the attitude of Government towards the public regarding the proposal for the partition of Bengal and the Calcutta improvement scheme.

Many among the public suspect that the Lieutenant-Governor and his pet subordinate, Mr. Greer, have already between them decided in their minds the particular manner in which these proposed Councils are to be constituted and the powers with which they are to be entrusted. And it is needless to say that the action of Government in the present case only adds strength to this suspicion. An official majority (composed of Messrs. Greer, Allen, Duke and Asutosh Mukerjee) is retained in the composition of the Commission. How can we say that we shall not in the present case also witness a farce similar to that enacted in the case of the Universities Commission and of the Police Commission?

His Honour and Mr. Greer have both expressed satisfaction at the existing system of District offices, but the public are unable to understand the grounds for such satisfaction. They feel that their condition remains just what it was before the establishment of the District offices.

We notice that His Honour has expressed the opinion that the scheme to be framed by the Committee "should, if possible, be so arranged that it may involve a minimum of interference with existing arrangements." We consider this expression of opinion highly objectionable. Under the present Municipal Act, the administration of the city of Calcutta itself is causing dissatisfaction among the public and a change in that law is being loudly called for. If, therefore, the present Act is extended to the suburbs and Howrah as well, no object will be gained thereby except an increase in the authority of the Chairman. The inconveniences to the public will remain just where they are and might even be increased.

At present there is only one Civilian Chairman in Calcutta. The new system will perhaps bring in four other Civilians in a similar capacity for the Borough Councils. It will only be adding a new chapter to the farce of Local Self-Government.

We are in favour of reform. We are strongly convinced of the desirability of bringing the suburban Municipalities into line with the metropolitan Municipality, and thereby effecting urgently needed sanitary improvements in those parts.

We have seen the working of both the old and the new municipal law. What will be gained by the mere extension of the jurisdiction of an Act which is not giving satisfaction even in its present restricted area of application?

We do not wish to see a farce enacted in the name of reform. Let provision be made for having unofficial Chairmen for these Borough Councils and for the admission into them of elected representatives of the suburban Municipalities.

HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1905.

48. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April says:—

The proposed Borough Councils in Calcutta. Many people are expressing regret at the fact that the Committee which has been appointed to work out the details of a scheme of decentralisation of the Calcutta Municipality does not contain any representative of the rate-payers of the town. Impartial judgment can, of course, be expected from such men as Mr. Bertram and Babu Nalin Behari Sarkar, but it would have been a matter of great satisfaction if the rate-payers could send a representative or two to the Committee.

The Lieutenant-Governor has said that, at first the outside Municipalities need not, for convenience' sake, be brought under Councils. But, in our opinion, no delay should be made in the matter simply because "the revenues of the Councils will have to be completely separated from those of the Corporation." The projected improvements of Calcutta make it necessary that the health of its suburbs should be improved by bringing them under the Councils. The matter should not be left half-done. If the authorities can convince the public that the change will be for their good, they will not oppose it. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor is requested to consider the matter carefully.

BASUMATI,
April 29th, 1905.

49. Referring to the proposed decentralisation of the Calcutta municipal administration after the pattern of the London Municipality, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says:—

Surely Calcutta will not have a Council for every ward nor will it have permanent aldermen. What is good in the London Municipality will not be adopted in Calcutta.

BANGAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

50. Referring to the proposed division of the Calcutta Municipality into separate Borough Councils, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says that those who have some knowledge of what these Borough Councils are likely to be, hold out no hope of redress of what are justly considered as grievances by the inhabitants of Calcutta. If this view is correct, where is the necessity of devising this new engine of oppression? Or, is it the fact that Government must do something new?

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

51. After giving a summary of the Resolution of the Government of Bengal on the proposed Borough system for Calcutta, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April asks the Select Committee to deal with the matter in a very careful spirit, as it will depend upon them whether or not the surrounding villages of Calcutta shall be converted into habitable places. The Committee should not interfere with the remnant of independence in self-government. The Committee should devise a plan by which both the European and the native rate-payers may be equally benefited.

DAILY HITAVADI,
April 29th, 1905.

52. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April notices the incompetence of the Health Department of the Calcutta Municipality as displayed in its permitting sweetmeat shops to expose their goods without cover to the dust of the streets, and also in its not having listened to an appeal to

the consignee's claim on the strength of the risk-note held." No proper enquiry appears to have been made, nor did the Railway Police do anything. Will the Government be pleased to take notice of the incident?

(h)—General.

67. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 25th April says that the pressure of work at the Noakhali post office is so great that even two more additional clerks would hardly be able to cope with it. It is surprising therefore that the Postal authorities are indifferent to the matter.

SUHRID,
April 25th, 1905.

68. The *Nava Yug* [Calcutta] of the 27th April writes:—

NAVA YUG,
April 27th, 1905.

A postal complaint. Recently a local dealer in clocks and watches, acting under instructions from a clerk in the Mymensingh post office, despatched to his address a clock per V. P. post. The clerk paid for and accepted the parcel, and then wrote a letter to the Presidency Postmaster, the purport of which was that the clock that he had received was not the kind of thing he had asked for, and prayed therefore that the money-order which he had sent as the price of the clock in question might not be delivered to the addressee dealers. The Presidency Postmaster accordingly informed the dealers of the contents of this letter, who thereupon wrote to the clerk that the clock which had been sent to him was a more valuable one than that he had asked for. The clerk has not since thought fit to send any reply to this representation of the dealers, but is using the clock all the same. At the same time the Presidency Postmaster refuses to deliver the money sent by money-order to the dealers. It is understood that the dealers intend setting the law in motion in regard to this case.

69. In connexion with the system of hourly postal deliveries introduced into Calcutta by Mr. Owen, the same paper complains that the letter-boxes are not regularly opened hour by hour according to rule, nor consequently are letters delivered to addressees in proper time. Reference is made to the following specific illustration. A post-card was recently posted in the Ahiritola post office letter-box at 1-15 P.M. This post office is under the jurisdiction of the Beadon Square post office. This card was actually delivered to the addressee at 5 P.M., and the most curious part of it all was that though it passed through the Beadon Square post office prior to its passing through the Simla post office (the latter being the actual delivery office), it was found that the stamp of the Beadon Square office was 3-30 P.M., that is, half an hour later than the stamp of the Simla office, which was 3 P.M.

NAVA YUG.

70. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 27th April writes:—

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
April 27th, 1905.

A postal suggestion. When a sender sends notes, ornaments or similar valuables through registered post, the post office does not accept full responsibility for their safe transmission. But the post office may be held accountable in the case of insured registered envelopes. But at present there is no rule by virtue of which the Postmaster may personally inspect the goods insured in order to get an idea of their value. The absence of such a rule defrauds the post office in two ways—(1) often the value of the insured article is stated at a larger figure than the actuals, in which case, if the article is lost, the post office has to pay more than the proper compensation; (2) in other cases, in order to pay as small an insurance fee as possible, the value of the article is understated.

It is desirable therefore that there should be a rule to enable the Postmaster in such cases to see the things to be insured for himself, when the price is stated by the sender.

71. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 29th April says that one-pice postal stamps should be sufficient for receipts from post offices for letters, parcels, book-posts and newspapers posted therein. It is hoped the Postal authorities will make this concession to the public.

RATNAKAR,
April 29th, 1905.

remove the nuisance caused by the existence of the hide-godowns in Fouzdari Balakhana in the Colootola quarter of the town.

53. In reference to the notice of the Calcutta Municipality offering rewards for the destruction of rats, the *Hindi Bangarasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May says that

The rat-killing notice.

after some time the Calcutta Municipality will come to see that in spite of all this killing of rats there is no decrease in the number of plague cases and no annihilation of the rats.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
May 1st, 1905.

54. Referring to the appointment of Mr. Payne as the Officiating Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May says that on many previous occasions the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality had officiated for the Chairman. It is, therefore, inconceivable why the Lieutenant-Governor has on this occasion appointed a young Civilian like Mr. Payne to officiate in the post.

The Officiating Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 1st, 1905.

55. The *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 29th April draws attention to the inconvenience which is felt by passengers, specially females in embarking on the ferry-boats at ebb-tide in the three ferry-ghats at Khulna.

A complaint in connection with ferries in Khulna.

KHULNAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

56. The same paper complains that the lessees of cattle-pounds generally house their cattle in what place suits their convenience, and keep them on half rations. The animals

Cattle-pounds.

live exposed to the sun, wind and rain. The authorities must be ignorant of this state of things, otherwise their hearts would have melted at the sight of all this misery!

KHULNAVASI.

57. The *Banga Darpan* [Chinsura] of the 29th April says that there is a class of people in this country who feel extremely sorry when the authorities tell them and their fellow-countrymen that the time has not yet come

Local self-government in Chinsura.

BANGA DARPAN,
April 29th, 1905.

when they can be given the privilege of local self-government. They quite forget that centuries of subjection to foreign rule have made them quite incapable of wielding the powers of rulers and of following the dictates of duty. Take, for instance, the case of the Chinsura Municipality. It is a local body whose Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Commissioners are all natives. Yet, at this time, when plague is raging, the conservancy of the town is as bad as it can well be. There is absolutely no sign of supervision over the work of the paid underlings. But look at the ceaseless activity and the indefatigable energy displayed by a European in the discharge of his duty. This gentleman is no other than Dr. Crawford, Civil Surgeon of Hooghly. The ceaseless but quiet running about on his bike of this fearless and amiable officer, who knows no rest in attending to plague patients, has attracted the hearts of both men and women, of both young and old. What is it to the Doctor if we die? It won't matter to him more than it matters to men when worms and insects die. But he, who has an ear for the voice of duty, knows not the difference of colour or creed.

58. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May writes that owing to decomposed water, which accumulates during the rains, not finding an outlet, cholera and malaria have almost depopulated

Malaria and cholera in the Dacca district.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 3rd, 1905.

Bhadiakhola, Brahmandi, Manuchi and ten or twelve other adjacent villages in the Dacca district.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

59. The *Suhrid* [Noakhali] of the 25th April makes the following complaints against the booking-clerk of the Noakhali railway station:— (1) When issuing tickets he

A railway complaint.

SUHRID,
April 25th, 1905.

frequently leaves the booking-office, leaving the intending passengers anxiously waiting for him. Many passengers therefore find it impossible to avail themselves of the train for which they have purchased tickets. (2) Many passengers are allowed to travel without tickets on payment of some money to the ticket-collector. (3) If a passenger through mistake pays more than is necessary to purchase a ticket, the excess is not promptly returned. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

SWADES HITAIISHI,
April 26th, 1905.

60. The *Swades Hitaishi* [Rangpur] of the 26th April complains of the inconvenience of the present arrangement whereby the up Darjeeling mail on the Eastern Bengal State Railway does not take in passengers at those stations after Damukdia where it halts *en route*. Reference is also made to the hardship suffered by third-class passengers in being compelled to pay inter-class fare even though third-class carriages are available on this train.

A railway complaint.

RATNAKAR,
April 29th, 1905.

61. A correspondent of the *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 29th April says that the recent changes in the timing of the trains on the East Indian Railway have caused great inconvenience to Loop Line passengers. The following instances will prove this:—

A railway complaint.

(1) No. 17 Loop passenger train leaves Burdwan shortly before the arrival of No. 2 Punjab mail and No. 6 Express trains at the station. Loop Line passengers coming by the latter trains have therefore to wait for No. 13 train till 10 A.M.

(2) No. 13 Loop mixed train leaves the Khana Junction station five minutes before the arrival of No. 24 local train. In fact, the Loop mail in the evening is the first available train on the Loop Line for passengers coming by No. 24, No. 12, No. 16 and No. 4 trains.

(3) No. 14 mixed train arrives at Khana Junction at 16 hours 19 minutes—11 minutes after the departure of No. 11 passenger train from the station. Up passengers coming by the former train have therefore to wait till 5-30 P.M. before they get a train.

RATNAKAR.

62. The same paper says that the inconveniences of third-class railway passengers in India will be removed only if Government can compel Railway Companies to follow its advice. Their request will be of no avail.

Inconveniences of third-class railway passengers.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 1st, 1905.

63. Writing in the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May, Babu Braja Nath Dhar, No. 416, Canal West Road, Ultadingi, Calcutta, says that on the 27th March

A railway complaint.

last he sent a basket of fruits to the Latu station on the Assam-Bengal Railway for a friend of his. But when that gentleman opened the parcel in his house he found that the greater part of the fruits had been stolen. The Station-Master, on being asked about the matter, said that he knew nothing of it. Such thefts on the railway are frequent. Will not the authorities enquire into the matter?

BANKURA DARPAN,
May 1st, 1905.

64. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st May says that the number of passenger trains on the Midnapore-Jheria

The Midnapore-Jheria Railway.

Railway, which is two at present, one up and one down, should be increased to four. Under the present arrangement of trains on the line, the recent abolition of the night passenger train on the East Indian Railway has caused great inconvenience to passengers from the 24 Parganas. Hooghly and Burdwan districts to Bankura. The stations on the line, roofed with corrugated iron, are most ugly and uncomfortable. The station platforms are very low. There are no separate waiting-rooms for females at the stations, and at many of them there is no arrangements for supplying drinking-water to passengers. The line is not fenced. Return tickets are not issued for inter-class passengers.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 2nd, 1905.

65. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May complains that the booking-clerk of the Teesta

A railway complaint.

railway station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway is seldom seen in the booking-office at the time when No. 71 up mixed train arrives there, and consequently passengers often find it impossible to proceed by the train. The attention of the Railway authorities is drawn to the matter.

DAILY HITAVADI.

66. A correspondent of the same paper complains that out of ten boxes of ghee booked from Darbhanga to Rampur Hat on the 2nd February last, four boxes were, according to the Officiating Traffic Superintendent of Sahebgunge, "stolen at Mokameh Ghat." The name of the consignee was Babu Madhusudan Mandal. The Traffic Superintendent says he "reprobated

Theft of goods on the East Indian Railway.

DAILY HITAVADI,
April 29th, 1905.

72. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April notices the following complaints against the Helan post office near Khanakul in the Arambagh subdivision of Hooghly:—

- (1) Letters, etc., are delivered by the peon only on two days of the week, i.e., Fridays and Tuesdays.
- (2) The letters, etc., are often not delivered to the individual addressees at all, but left in a shop or *pathsala* in a central position, there to be inquired for and taken delivery of by the addressee personally.
- (3) The Postmaster does not keep his office open except for two hours after 2 P.M. when the mail arrives. He is also often in the habit of leaving his post and visiting his native village for two or three days at a stretch.

BANGAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

73. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April complains of inconvenience to the public owing to there being only one peon in the newly established post office at Bartollahat in the 24-Parganas. The attention of the Postal authorities is also drawn to the importance of the extension of money-order and registration facilities to the above post office.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 1st, 1905.

74. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May says that since the last rainy season the mail from Calcutta to Sahajadpur, Purjana, Sthal, Salap and other villages in the Pabna district is unusually delayed, the delay sometimes extending to even four or five days. Repeated applications to the Postal authorities in the matter have proved ineffectual. It is rumoured that the number of postal runners in the area in question has been reduced and hence the delay in carrying the mail.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 2nd, 1905.

75. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May complains of great inconvenience to the public owing to the want of a peon in the newly established post office at Serandi in the Birbhum district.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 3rd, 1905.

76. A correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May complains that for eight years the public have suffered great inconvenience owing to there being no peon in the Susuni post office in the Burdwan district. It is to be hoped that steps will be taken early to remove this inconvenience.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 25th, 1905.

77. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 25th April says that if Government desires to see its grant of 20 lakhs of rupees for agricultural improvements in the country turned to good purpose, it should devote the money towards giving practical training to agriculturists in such subjects as manuring, ploughing, etc. There are many students of the Cirencester College in the service of the Government. They should be employed to do the needful in the matter. There are many experimental farms in the country, but the cultivators derive no benefit from them. There is, for example, such a farm at Burdwan, but we, says the writer, do not know of any benefit which it has done to the agriculturists in the district. The Superintendent of the farm writes a report on its working every year, but that is published not in the local papers but in the *Calcutta Gazette*. If we, says the writer, can get a copy of the report we can try to circulate it in the mufassal and induce cultivators to go to the farm and see its working. What agricultural improvement can be expected unless the practical work of the farms is shown to agriculturists?

SAMAY,
April 28th, 1905.

78. It is said, writes the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 28th April, that Government is trying to resuscitate and improve the Indian arts and industries. But whenever one turns one's eyes to the actual work done by the Government one is led to doubt this. For instance, when the proposal was first made to establish an agricultural institute at Pusa, people thought that Government really intended to teach them higher methods of agriculture. But they had to give up this idea when they saw the institute placed under the

guidance and direction of a few Europeans who are altogether inexperienced in Indian agriculture.

79. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April writes:—

DAILY HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1905.

The Home charges. Our very heart's blood has dried up at the perusal of the accounts about the Indian Home charges for 1904-05, which have been recently published by the India Office. It appears from these accounts that during the past year, the Secretary of State spent 36 crores 55 lakhs on behalf of the people of India. This sum is of course obtained from the Indian treasury. And what have Indians got from England in exchange for these 36½ crores in 1904-05? It will be said that we profit by good government in lieu of these Home charges. We ask, in what respects have our peace and comforts increased during Lord Curzon's administration? The proposed partition of Bengal, the proposed splitting up of the Bengali language, the Universities Act, the scheme of police reform, the increase in the military charges, the Official Secrets Act, the restriction of Local Self-Government,—all these have only added to our anxiety and harassment. And in addition to all this we are to pay 36½ crores instead of 25 crores as before.

80. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April says that the tailor against whom Mr. Shout, the Deputy Magistrate of

HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1905.

The Shout case at Hooghly. Hooghly, had a warrant issued a second time has been led by fear to sign a contract in which he has stipulated to do work for Mr. Shout for one year. Thus Mr. Shout's purpose having been gained he refrained from producing in Court his evidence against the tailor, and consequently the case against the latter was dismissed. Will the Lieutenant-Governor consider whether Mr. Shout was right in thus forcing the tailor to make a contract of service with him?

81. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 28th April writes:—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
April 28th, 1905.

Commissions for Imperial Cadets. Lord Curzon has given us a real cause of pleasure by permitting four Cadets of ruling families to obtain commissions in the Army. His Excellency has by these appointments earned the special thanks of the Indian public.

82. It appears, says the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April, that the

HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1

Lord Kitchener. rumour of a friction between Lord Kitchener and Sir Edmond Elles, the Military Member of the Government of India, is not altogether unfounded. It is not at all desirable that the Commander-in-Chief's power should be uncontrolled. However able he may be, Lord Kitchener has not much Indian experience. It is, therefore, the duty of the Government of India to see that his actions suit the conditions of the country. The *Standard*, the *Daily Express*, and other newspapers in England are urging the authorities to satisfy Lord Kitchener. But what cause can His Excellency have for dissatisfaction? Nobody has ever been heard to say that the present military system in India is unworkable.

83. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April has the following regarding

HITAVARTA,
April 30 h, 1905.

Lord Kitchener's resignation the message from the correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* about the alleged resignation of Lord Kitchener:—

We wonder why this news should have been published by a London paper when there are so many sycophant Anglo-Indian papers in this country. The Government of India having supported the Military Member, the tug of war is now between Lord Kitchener and Lord Curzon. Both are full of energy and both have influential friends in England. We therefore await the result of this Kitchener Curzon duel.

The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 30th April has also noticed the above matter.

BHARAT MITRA,
April 30th, 1905.

84. Referring to the reply of the Secretary of State for India to an

HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1905.

The Universities Validation Act in Parliament. interpellation in Parliament about the Universities Validation Act, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April says that everyone knew that he would not like to interfere with Lord Curzon's work. Had His Excellency entertained the fear of being censured by the authorities in England, would he have dared to disregard unanimous public protest in India more than once?

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

The question on the Universities Validation Act in Parliament.

85. Referring to the Secretary of State's reply to the question of a Member of Parliament regarding the Universities Validation Act, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April observes that if Lord Curzon had any fear of a reprimand from the authorities in England, he would not have dared to disregard so often the protests from the people of this country.

BASUMATI,
April 29th, 1905.

Earthquake relief.

86. The rumour, says the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th April, that the attention of the authorities is being almost wholly directed to the relief of the European sufferers from the recent earthquake in the Kangra Valley and that the wants of the native sufferers are being left unattended to, has greatly agitated our minds. If the rumour is true, it is a matter of great disgrace to the Government. Will the distinction between white men and black men be observed even in times of calamity?

BANGAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

Alleged official attempt at interference with the Calcutta Town Hall protest meeting.

87. Referring to the statement contained in the letter of the London correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* that the strongest official pressure was put upon the promoters of the late Town Hall protest meeting in Calcutta to induce them to stop the meeting, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says that most persons expect that there will be an authoritative contradiction of the above.

K. HULNAVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

Reclamation of the Sunderbuns.

88. Referring to the grant of 1½ lakhs for the reclamation of the Sunderbuns sanctioned in the current Budget, the *Khulnavasi* [Khulna] of the 29th April draws attention to the following hardships of life under existing conditions in the Sunderbuns clearings:—(1) Scarcity of drinking-water, (2) prevalence of cholera and dysentery caused by drinking salt-water and breathing sea-air charged with saline matter, and (3) fear of tigers and wild animals. It is suggested that the grant referred to above should be utilised in removing these particular hardships.

DAILY HITAVADI,
April 29th, 1905.

Alleged cases of the keeping open of Government offices during gazetted holidays.

89. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April notices a complaint that the Registrar of the Judicial and General Departments of the Bengal Secretariat and the authorities of the Correspondence Branch of the office of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts compelled their clerks to attend their respective offices during the late Good Friday holidays.

BAN AVASI,
April 29th, 1905.

The proposed taxation of the Puri pilgrims for the improvement of the Puri town.

90. Referring to the proposal of improving the sanitary condition of the Puri town and of levying a cess upon the Puri pilgrims to meet the necessary expenditure, as contained in the Bengal Administration Report for 1903-04, the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says that to tax the pilgrims for this purpose is open to very serious objection. The proposal has been condemned by the whole country, and it is a wonder that the authorities have not yet abandoned it. It is to be hoped that Government will yet consider the matter before finally deciding upon it.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
May 1st, 1905.

The proposed improvement of the Puri town.

91. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May has the following:—
From the Administration Report of Bengal for 1903-04 it appears that the cost of the proposed improvement of the Puri town is to be met by levying a tax upon pilgrims, although the authorities are fully aware of the opposition offered by the people of India when the tax was first proposed to be levied. Government must have heard of the resolution of the Sanyasis' Association assembled at Benares, but the authorities have not yet given up the idea of a further attempt in that direction. It is to be hoped that the officials will give up the idea. The people have not understood the object of the cleansing of the sacred tanks in Puri.

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

The moral tone of the Native Press.

92. Commenting upon the Government's remarks on the moral tone of the Native Press, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April observes as follows:—

We mean to deal with the question of the merits and demerits of the Native Press in a separate issue. We ask the Lieutenant-

Governor of Bengal to say, if His Honour is annoyed at the publicity given in the Native Press to the high-handed doings of his subordinate officers, why does he not at once punish such officers? What measures has His Honour taken to reform Mr. Carey, against whom the Native Press has written so often?

93. Referring to the question of the separation of Bihar from Bengal, the same paper says that the impression of the Biharis that the people of Bengal are in favour of such a separation is totally wrong. The people of Bengal do not want to have Bihar separated from Bengal. It is to be hoped that Lord Curzon will not separate Bihar from Bengal against the wishes of its people.

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

III.—LEGISLATION.

94. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 27th April writes:—

The Assam Labour Laws. There is a ruling Providence in the universe, and no man who commits sin may escape the consequences of his act. The tea-planters are now reaping the bitter fruit of the sin which they committed along with Government in having such a law as the coolie law passed.

There is quite a large number of tea-gardens in the four districts in which Mr. Fuller proposes that the existing law should continue in force. Until the Act is abolished from these districts also, the coolie's apprehensions will not be fully quieted and he will still continue to avoid Assam. The suggestion therefore is that the coolie law be entirely done away with.

95. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th April has learnt that Mr. Fuller, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, has now come round and has modified his opinion regarding the present Assam Emigration Act. This change is due first to the fact that coolies are no longer willing to go to Assam in spite of the large amount which the planters spend annually for recruiting by means of the numerous agencies employed for the purpose. The coolies have now come to know how the *arkatis* take them to certain ruin by offering them various inducements which turn out to be false. Secondly, it is due to the power of arrest without a warrant given to the planters by the present law. Mr. Fuller is therefore of opinion that this power of arrest should be withdrawn, except from the planters of some specified districts.

The paper is against any exceptions and recommends the repeal of the Act altogether. The systems of *begar* and coolie-recruiting are the two blots on British Administration, and the sooner they are done away with the better.

96. Referring to the remarks contained in the General Administration Report for 1903-04 regarding the relations between the zamindars and their tenants and the necessity for an amendment of the Tenancy Act, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April says that the way in which the said Act is proposed to be amended is not likely to effect the object of the Lieutenant-Governor. It is feared that such a measure may give rise to further disputes between the zamindars and their tenants. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce has done well in publishing its own views on the subject. It is to be hoped that Sir Andrew Fraser will proceed cautiously in this matter.

SANJIVANI,
April 27th, 1905.

BHARAT MITRA,
April 29th 1905.

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

97. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th April, in noticing the departure of Colonel Jennings, the Resident at Jodhpur, on leave, remarks that he has left the State, but after ruining Maharaj Arjan Singh.

98. Referring to the resolution of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation to make a present of the value of Rs. 20,000 to the Prince and Princess of Wales on the occasion of their Royal Highnesses' visit to India, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May says that the King's order in the matter is going to be evaded by putting a perverted interpretation on it. The example

BHARAT MITRA,
April 29th, 1905.

DAILY HITAVADI,
May 1st, 1905.

of the Calcutta Municipality is being followed in many places. When such is the eagerness of the representatives of Local Self-Government in the country to give presents to their Royal Highnesses, would the native princes, who are merely puppets in the hands of Lord Curzon, remain inactive? When these princes subscribed, with smiling faces, large sums of money for the Victoria Memorial Hall, the Delhi Darbar, the Imperial Service Troops, etc., immediately after a great famine in India, it is inconceivable that they will not show an earnest desire to give presents to their Royal Highnesses. Specially when India is said to have unusually prospered during Lord Curzon's regime, why should not the gifts be more magnificent than those on a similar occasion before? When the present King came to India as Prince of Wales it was ruled that the value of presents given to him should in no case exceed Rs. 30,000. But presents worth four and-a-half lakhs of rupees were given and accepted. It cannot therefore be said that if presents are given on the coming occasion, they will not be accepted.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

PALLIVASI,
April 19th, 1905.

99. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 19th April writes:—

Relations between the rulers
and the ruled in India.

The people of India have always been loyal and accustomed to look on their King as a divine personage. But English education has opened their minds to newer ideas. The English people have made their King a part of themselves. In England the subjects possess almost concurrent authority with the King in matters of government. And the same King, Edward VII, rules both over the powerful British population and the helpless Indian population. It is therefore that the Indians desire a part at best of the peace and comforts enjoyed by the English. But such a desire, however natural, is founded on a mistake. The English, whatever they may do in their own country, are in our country all equally to be respected and are all equally members of the ruling race. It is madness for us to aspire to equality with the English. But the strong wine of English education has poured its dose of the "fellow-subject" idea into the minds of the Indian public, intoxicating them and setting up a current of feeling which it is difficult to resist. If Sanskrit education is again revived throughout the country, then perhaps ten years hence Lord Curzon may come back and see that the Indian people know no other way of approaching their rulers except by salutes and prayers of welcome.

SOMAPRAKAS,
April 24th, 1905.

100. The *Somaprakas* [Calcutta] of the 24th April has the following:—

The condition of the country,
past and present.

What are our wants? Why are our speakers so busy in telling people that they are worse off than before? Do they not see that many wilds have been turned into prosperous towns? Formerly there were only a few rich men who could afford to have carriages drawn by horses, the majority being content with carts drawn by cattle. But now everybody rides carriages drawn by horses. We now find that even women of the poorer classes wear valuable ornaments, while in former times women generally were content with a few silver ornaments. These instances prove that the wealth of the country has now increased enormously. Few were the educated men that were met with in the country in those days. But now their number has greatly multiplied.

PRATIJA,
April 26th, 1905.

101. Referring to the recent refusal of the Government of India to transmit to the India Office the resolutions adopted at the late Town Hall protest meeting, the *Pratijsa*

[Calcutta] of the 26th April writes:—

Our advice to all Indians now is, that if they are really so very eager for their own happiness and their own livelihood, let them first combine and devote themselves to the service of their mother-country. Let them not hesitate to boycott things of English make, even if by so doing they are compelled to clothe themselves with the bark and feed themselves on the leaves of trees. Let them take an oath to abjure drinking and fix their attention firmly on the improvement of the national industries.

102. Referring to the recent expressions of sympathy wired by the Japanese War Minister for the losses sustained by India and Japan. India during the late earth-quake, the *Sanjivani*

SANJIVANI,
April 27th, 1905.

[Calcutta] of the 27th April writes:—

What a thrill of pleasure and hope does this friendship between Japan and India send through our hearts!

103. The same paper, in noticing the recent suggestion of Lord Meath to hold an Empire celebration on the 24th May next, writes:—

SANJIVANI.

Lord Meath should know that Indians cannot join such a celebration with their full hearts. The English do not permit the Indians to believe that they are citizens of the British Empire. Whenever an Indian goes to a British colony he is treated by the local colonists as an animal of a lower species. In their native country, too, the Indian cannot escape constant harassment. Will the English ever admit the Indians to the rights of British subjects? The Anglo-Indians are keeping the Indians from their birthrights. We only wish to be able to declare that we are citizens of the British Empire.

104. The same paper writes:—

SANJIVANI.

The late Provincial Conference at Mymensingh.

The proceedings in connexion with the late Provincial Conference at Mymensingh passed off successfully. The majority of the Mymensingh zamindars plucked up courage and joined in these proceedings. Seven peasants also spoke with success in the meetings of this Conference. They have shown that the congresses and conferences are not affairs got up by mere "Babus." The Musalman community of Mymensingh, too, joined hands, and out of a total of 400 volunteers, no less than 150 were Musalmans. One-third of the total number of speakers at the Conference again were Musalmans. This goes to prove that the Conference is not the work of the Hindu section of the public in particular. Further, the vakils and mukhtars on this occasion would not quarrel about precedence, they being the charioteers of the Conference chariot. Even the Government Pleader boldly joined the Conference. A teacher of the Netrokona School asked for leave of absence of the School Committee to attend the Conference. One of this Committee was a Munsif, and if the teacher had not expressly stated his object in asking for leave, no difficulty would have been made about it. But he preferred boldly to say that it was to attend the Conference that he wanted leave, and as leave was not granted, he resigned his appointment. Such was the spirit which animated the Mymensingh public.

105. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 28th April has the following:—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
April 28th, 1905.

Thoughts on the present discontents.

The echoes of struggles for independence from surrounding countries are penetrating into the ears of the entire Indian public and creating in their minds a feeling of stir and discontent in these the opening years of the twentieth century. Everybody from the politician to the peasant labours under a feeling of vague want and is actively giving loud vent to his complaints. Every official from the village chaukidar to the Deputy Magistrate, and from the District Magistrate to the Lieutenant-Governor, seems to have incurred the displeasure of the public. From the school-boy to the highly educated University graduate everybody has one thought—the attainment of one thing—which will remove all his discontent and suffering. The public at large are in a state of discontent. On fields and under the shade of trees are often assembled groups, where subjects are discussed, which how few ever think of seriously investigating.

We, with our education, are enmeshing the masses in coils of words and thereby creating discontent where contentment had hitherto been the universal rule. A universal discontent prevails now from one end of India to the other. At the present moment, with the schools closed for the summer vacation, the school-boys have returned to their homes and each is trying to sow the seed of discontent in his native village.

The history of the whole world teaches that the progress and welfare of a country always depends on the contentment of its inhabitants and on the existence of sympathy between the different sections of its population. In this country, however, we do not witness any exhibition of sympathy with any effort for the public good, nor any attempts to open out new paths of advancement. All efforts here seem concentrated on speech-making. The one aim

in life of everybody here is to criticise Government. Our one aim is to find fault with any scheme which the Viceroy has perhaps devised after deep thought for the public good. Have we ever paused to think that our future welfare is dependent on ourselves, that our liberty depends on the state of our own society, that the improvement of the commerce of the country lies with ourselves? We only wish to be free, we would only speak at random, abuse Government and do away with section 124 of the Indian Penal Code. This is the burden of our cries, and this is the cause of the present discontents.

HITAVADI,
April 28th, 1905.

106. Referring to the Lahore protest meeting under the presidentship of Rai Sahab Muralidhar, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 28th April says that Lord Curzon's conduct has roused the spirit of protest all over the country. However antagonistic the conduct of the Government may be, this unanimous protest on the part of the people will never be ineffectual.

BHARAT MITRA,
April 29th, 1905.

107. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th April notices the protest meeting at Lahore on the 21st April, which, the paper says, was a success, and asks if it has touched the heart of Lord Curzon.

BANGA DARPAN,
April 29th, 1905.

108. Referring to Lord Curzon's refusal to forward the resolutions of the Calcutta protest meeting to the Secretary of State, the *Banga Darpan* [Chinsura] of the 29th April writes as follows:—

Now, how would you behave towards the man who looks down upon you and upon all the Eastern nations, and not only upon the present members of such nations, but also upon their forefathers to the twenty-fourth generation, and, instead of keeping his feelings to himself, does not feel the least hesitation in openly giving expression to them? He is the representative of the Sovereign, and as such his orders must be obeyed by you, for his orders are the orders of the Sovereign and it is your duty to carry out your Sovereign's orders. But in matters where there is no such obligation, are you prepared to show that you resent the discourtesy? May we hope that after this you will not yourselves add to your indignity by following the Viceroy and his Secretaries like shadows in levees, in meaningless ceremonies of paying respect or with the object of title-hunting? Silent protest is the best way of showing your feelings in the present case, and is most natural where your feelings have been most deeply wounded.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
May 1st, 1905.

109. Referring to the meeting convened by a Musalman Barrister of Bombay to protest against the meetings held to condemn Lord Curzon's Convocation speech, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st May says that when the law to abolish slavery was framed in England for the first time, one slave was found to object to the passing of that law.

BHARAT MITRA,
April 29th, 1905.

110. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 29th April has the following:—
When the Prince of Wales, now King Edward VII, came to visit India thirty years ago, a notification was issued to the effect that no presents should be given him by the princes of India exceeding two thousand pounds in value. A similar notification forbidding the giving of any presents by them to the Prince of Wales has been issued on the present occasion also. We have already seen the result of the previous notification when His Majesty carried away presents exceeding 75 lakhs in value in exchange for those whose value was about 6 lakhs.

We have yet to see how the order issued now will be observed.

RATNAKAR,
April 29th, 1905.

111. The *Ratnakar* [Asansol] of the 29th April says:—
So long we used to hear only of white men killing black men. But nowadays we sometimes hear of an Indian beating or even killing a white man. This is a good sign. Unduly indulged by white judicial officers, the European roughs in this country have become so much oppressive that unless the Indians take the law into their own hands they cannot save their honour, lives and properties from the hands of those ruffians.

BASUMATI,
April 29th, 1905.

112. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 29th April says:—
The writers in the socialist newspapers in England, such as the *Justice*, etc., are trying to

draw the inhabitants of India also into their ranks. The authorities in England are, therefore, getting angry. This is alarming to us. We should turn a deaf ear to the ravings of the socialists. Uncontrolled and wild ambition only leads men to perdition.

113. Referring to the refusal of the Magistrate of Berhampur to allow a number of inhabitants of Khagra to hold *Sankirtan* in the streets from Gorabazar to Ukilpara at 11 P.M., the same paper writes as follows:—

Duties of Indians in case of interference with religious worship.

We shall follow the ordinances of our religion, but only with the permission of the *gora* (white man) of Gorabazar; and if we do not obtain the permission we shall in a body sit down to draw up a complaint to the Lieutenant-Governor, and make a row in the newspapers! Does our duty then end with a mere expression of our anger with the Magistrate? What else can we do, it will be said, but cry if we do not get sympathy from a Magistrate who is an alien in race, religion and language, and who knows nothing of our religion, rites and practices? This is our love of God, our earnestness and our attachment to religion! The name for which the devout Prahlad was thrown under the feet of an elephant, into the sea and into the fire, and was forced to drink poison, but which he, in spite of such cruel persecution, did not forsake—that honeyed name of Hari (God), we, the faithless fools of the *kali yuga* (iron age), refrain from taking for the fiery looks of a Magistrate, for fear lest we should be subjected to criminal prosecution! Are we a fit people to make *Harisankirtan* (to sing the praise of God)?

BASUMATI.

114. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April, in a long article headed "Truthfulness of Government officials," has the following:—

HITAVARTA,
April 30th, 1905.

Anglo-Indian truthfulness.

In his Convocation speech Lord Curzon boasted of the truthfulness of his countrymen. But we see the doings of the Anglo-Indian officers denote quite the contrary. The English people might be telling the truth in their dealings with other people, but in their dealings with the Indians it is but seldom that truth escapes their lips. What a love of truthfulness has been shown by the official class in observing the terms of Her late Majesty's Proclamation of 1857, in the disposal of the famine fund, and in its dealings with the permanently-settled estates. European truthfulness is well-known to the Indians, and Lord Curzon, the Korean traveller, would have done well in not boasting of it.

The Road cess, the Public Works cess and the chaukidari tax have been levied against the terms of the Permanent Settlement. Their truthfulness did not end here. When levying these cesses distinct pledges as to their disposal were given, but they have been broken. How can we call those that are thus trampling the truth under foot as men belonging to ignorant and low classes of the English people, because we know that they are educated and have respectable connections. When the question of giving higher appointments to the Indians was raised, Lord Curzon replied that the natives of this country were wanting in the mental calibre necessary to discharge the duties of such appointments, but unfortunately the high-class English people appointed by the Governor-General in Council show their meanness and disregard for truth in dealing with us. During the last thirty years, the people of Bengal have paid 12 crores of rupees as road-cess. If this sum had been spent in removing the local needs of the people according to the promise of the Secretary of State, we would not be hearing of the complaints of the people against malaria and scarcity of drinking-water in the mufassal.

115. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 30th April writes:—

The Assam Provincial Conference.

The sittings of the Assam Provincial Conference at Dibrugarh on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th April last passed off successfully. The local theatre was suitably decorated and chosen as the place of meeting. Over a thousand people representing the culture and wealth of Assam took part in this Conference and the Raja of Gauripur presided.

DACCA PRAKAS,
April 30th, 1905.

116. The *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 1st May notices that the Persian community of Bombay have started a Chamber of Commerce under the presidentship of the Persian Consul-General.

The Persian Chamber of Commerce at Bombay.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL MATEEN,
May 1st, 1905.

HITAVARTA.
April 30th, 1905.

117. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 30th April says that there are two sets of people who give the Indians much trouble, one being the interlopers, that is, the planting community, and the other, the European soldiers. At present the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association are practically the rulers of this country. Even a haughty Governor like Lord Curzon has to bend his head low before them. Anarchical India was a windfall to the traders and, therefore, it is the traders who rule over it.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
April 19th, 1905.

118. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 19th April thanks Government for the annual grant of twelve and-a-half lakhs of rupees to the District Boards of Bengal, which will now be in a position to effect improvements in various ways.

SAMVAD VAHIKA,
April 20th, 1905.

119. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 20th April states that heavy rain fell in Balasore last week and that the sky is still cloudy.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

120. The same paper says that cholera prevails in village Chhanna in the Basta thana in the Balasore district.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

121. A correspondent of the same paper says that on the 9th instant a meeting of educated Brahmins was held at Ramchandra tol house in Balasore under the presidency of Babu Baidyanath Misra with the object of establishing a Brahman Samiti in that town. The Samiti will have for its object the improvement of the condition of the Brahmins in Balasore. Considering that the Brahman Samiti of Puri has, according to the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 22nd instant, done very useful work, it is clear that the Brahmins of Orissa are alive to their present wants and are paving the way to their progress, thereby setting examples to other denominations of the Hindu community.

GARJATBASINI,
April 22nd, 1905.

122. The *Kharial* correspondent of the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 22nd April says that small-pox is raging virulently in that place.

GARJATBASINI,

The mango crop in Kharial.

123. The same correspondent says that the mango crop in that State is hopeful.

GARJATBASINI.

124. The same paper states that the *Ubha Jatra* in honour of goddess Hingula in village Gopal Prosad in the Talcher State was attended by only 20,000 men and women

and that many people were prevented from joining the fair by the circulation of the false rumour, which had its origin in Cuttack, that attempts were being made by secret agents to seize men, women and children to offer them as sacrifices before some god or goddess.

STAR OF UTKAL,
April 22nd, 1905.

125. The *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 22nd April states that the very fact that Lord Curzon has provided only 8 millions of rupees for the education of 280 millions of Indians and 15 millions of rupees for the maintenance of their police, suggests either that the

Indians, according to His Excellency, need the police more than education, or that His Excellency thinks that education does not improve their morale in any way.

STAR OF UTKAL.

126. The same paper looks upon the grant of 25 per cent. of their incomes to all District Boards by the Government of Lord Curzon as undoubtedly the most important contribution to the development of local self-government which has been made since Lord Ripon enlarged the powers and duties of the District and Local Boards.

STAR OF UTKAL.

127. The same paper draws the attention of Government to the deplorable condition of the caves of Khandagiri and Udaygiri in the Puri district, and hopes that as they are in no way inferior to the caves of Ajanta and Elephanta, Government will take steps to prevent them from falling into ruins.

128. The Rautrapur correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 22nd April again brings the state of Similighai to the notice of the authorities, and states that unless an embankment is constructed there, the residents of the neighbouring villages will incur heavy loss.

UTKALDIPKA,
April 22nd, 1905.

129. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that several houses have been burnt down in that town within a short period, and that they are attributed to incendiarism. The well-to-do residents of that town are therefore compelled to entertain their own watches, as the chaukidars do not attend to their patrol duties properly.

UTKALDIPKA.

130. The same correspondent writes that so many men bring plague with them from Calcutta and die in the Jajpur subdivision that the medical officers of that subdivision find it difficult to attend to every patient properly.

UTKALDIPKA.

The plague at Jajpur.

131. The same correspondent says that the temperature in that place is fast rising.

UTKALDIPKA.

132. The same correspondent regrets to state that the deputation of the Munsif of Jajpur to Cuttack town once a month causes considerable inconvenience to a large number of men in that town. Many suffer losses in various ways.

UTKALDIPKA.

The Munsif of Jajpur.

133. The same paper approves of the proposal to hold a Conference of the people of Khallicote and Athgarh at Rambha on the 29th and 30th instant to consider questions relating to improvements in the existing state of the arts, agriculture, education and sanitation of that State. The subject of social reform will also form a part of the programme. The Maharaja of Mayurbhanj will preside over the meeting.

UTKALDIPKA.

134. Referring to a torture case in Nilgiri in which the Raja of that State is said to be implicated, the same paper, while reserving its comments till the publication of all the details, suggests that such things should not have been possible in a State presided over by a Dewan who is a pensioned officer of Government.

UTKALDIPKA.

ASSAM PAPERS.

135. The *Silchar* [Cachar] of the 30th April writes:—

Mr. Fuller and Judicial appointments in Assam.

Captain Herbert has been appointed Judge of Upper Assam. Assam is a non-regulation province and even the spectacle of an army Captain being a Judge looks well there. There is a dearth of qualified judicial officers in the province, so anybody and everybody is armed with judicial powers. There is no counting the number of incompetent judicial officers who have been armed with first-class powers. Mr. Fuller is an obstinate man, who has no respect for laws and rules and who often acts against his own orders. He has become almost a self-willed Czar, who does anything he chooses.

SILCHAR,
April 30th, 1905.

136. The same paper writes:—

The cases of two mukhtars in Cachar.

In the Hailakandi subdivision of Cachar, there is a mukhtar named Banamali Dhur, who, in addition to practising his profession, conducts a loan business. On this account Mr. Cammiade wrote to the High Court to cancel his *sanad* as a mukhtar. The case is still pending.

SILCHAR.

But what notice are the authorities going to take of the case of mukhtar Ram Narain Das? Ram Narain formerly ran a business as a contractor in addition to his profession as a mukhtar. The High Court interfered and Ram Narain has now transferred the contractor's business nominally to his brother, but actually he still manages it. He is openly letting out at interest the money of the High School.

137. The same paper writes:—

A complaint about a cattle-pound.

Great good has resulted from the innovation introduced recently by the Assam Government of

SILCHAR.

keeping the pounds under its direct control and putting *gurus* of *pathsalas* and branch Sub-Postmasters in charge of them. We notice therefore with regret that although there is a pound close to the branch post office at Salchaptra, the management of this pound has not been placed in the hands of Golak Babu, the Postmaster, but in the hands of a man who gets nine rupees, which is to include the upkeep of a cowherd. But is nine rupees adequate in such a case? The cattle are sure to be half-fed.

BIDHUBHUSHAN MUKERJEA,

Offg. Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 6th May 1905.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 6th May 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

593. The *Bengalee* reviews the relations between Russia and Japan from the time of the China-Japanese war and compares the Russian seizure of Manchuria and the rapid encroachments upon Korea with the gradual absorption of Burma by England. The Russian failure, however, is ascribed to Russia underestimating the strength of her opponent.

BENGALÉE,
25th April 1905.

594. The *Bengalee* writes that speculation is rife as to whether the assassination of the Chinese Amban and his entire escort has any political significance, and what steps China is going to take to avenge the murder of her representative. At any rate one thing is clear, namely, that the deceased Amban owes his death to the prominent part he played in inducing the Tibetans to sign the British Convention. It is now clear, says the journal, in what an actively hostile light they regard the hateful treaty, and it would not be surprising if at this juncture the Dalai Lama himself appeared in Lhasa.

BENGALÉE,
27th April 1905.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

595. A correspondent writes to the *Indian Mirror* complaining of the apathy displayed by the district police in the Jayrampur burglary. Owing to the Inspector in charge of the subdivision exercising no supervision over his subordinates, no endeavours are being made to trace the offenders, who might yet be apprehended and the stolen property recovered, if the local police were compelled to exert themselves.

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th April 1905.

(d)—Education.

596. The appointment of a third-rate graduate to the newly-created post of Inspector of Schools in Assam is, says the *Bengalee*, a jobbery of the most flagrant kind, and the inspired explanation of the *Pioneer* does not present the case in a less unfavourable light. In his determination to punish those whom he looked upon as Sir Henry Cotton's "men," Mr. Fuller overlooked the claims of some of the most brilliant graduates who had the additional recommendation of being in Government service. As regards "administrative ability," Professor Brahmachari of the Cotton College possessed it in a remarkable degree, for he had more than once officiated as Principal of the first College in the Province.

BENGALÉE,
21st April 1905.

597. The very common fact that the use of text-books in all forms of elementary teaching has been practically condemned by educationists appears, says *New India*, to have been completely ignored by the experts who formulated the new scheme of rural education for Bengal. Object lessons are the best means of imparting elementary education, and the *gurus* in the *pathsalas* should be trained in these more modern methods by means of text-books which should be prepared by experts first in English and then translated into the vernacular.

NEW INDIA,
22nd April 1905.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

598. The annual exodus of people from Calcutta on the outbreak of plague, small-pox, and cholera, affords ample proof, says the *Indian Mirror*, of the popular belief that the town is getting more insanitary. The earth, air, and water have been contaminated and vitiated in consequence of overcrowding. The sewers originally intended to convey surface and subsoil water have now been connected with privies. This causes the accumulation of noxious gases, which owing to the absence of proper ventilation, pass back into the houses. Simple shafts should be made and the materials of the gases deodorised or oxidised by means of charcoal, carbide of iron or combustion. The attention of the municipal authorities

INDIAN MIRROR,
21st April 1905.

and the Government is drawn to this matter, which demands serious attention. Foul matter escapes at leaky places, and sewer gas enters filtered-water pipes which run alongside and remain dry at certain places during non-pumping hours. Drinking water is thus contaminated by sewer gas as well as by the 30 years' accumulation of dirt which is in the mains.

BENGALKE,
21st April 1905.

599. The *Bengalee* condemns the perfunctory manner in which some Municipal Sanitary Inspectors perform their duties, together with the conduct of the present Municipal Magistrate who is in the habit of fining unoffending people. Its gives particulars of a case in which the owner of No. 16, Suri Lane, was notified to replace the pan of the connected privy, as it was very old and dirty and there was no unfiltered-water connection. The Municipal Water-Works Department testified to the fact that the premises were already connected with unfiltered water and the tenant, a European gentleman, expressed his satisfaction with the flushing arrangements of the privy. In addition to these facts, a new Sanitary Inspector examined and found everything in working order, but considered that it would soon be bad. In spite of all this evidence the Magistrate fined the party Rs. 5.

INDIAN MIRROR,
22nd April 1905.

The Calcutta Municipal Decentralisation Scheme.

600. The Government Resolution on the proposed municipal decentralisation scheme does not inspire the *Indian Mirror* with much hope as to the future of municipal government in Calcutta. The journal finds it merely an enlargement of the district scheme blended with all the evils and terrors of the present discredited Municipal Act. The officials will preponderate over the non-officials, and the latter will be reduced to mere cyphers. The Commissioners have not been allowed to discuss the details of the scheme, and its publication after being cut and dried will be of no practical use.

INDIAN MIRROR,
22nd April 1905.

Scarcity of filtered water in Ward No. IV.

601. A correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* complains of the want of sufficient filtered water in Ward No. IV and points to the fact that medical men ascribe the increase in the number of deaths from cholera to the consumption of unfiltered water by poor people generally.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th April 1905.

602. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* reproduces a letter from a correspondent seriously complaining of the scarcity in the supply of filtered water in Bechu Chatterjee's Street, Ward

No. IV. For the last three months the unfortunate rate-payers have been suffering in this way, and although the quarterly taxes have just been extorted from them, there appears to be no improvement whatsoever. The writer begs Mr. Greer to give the matter his serious attention. What a difference, remarks the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, between the European and the Native quarter of the town, thanks to the Mackenzie Act!

BENGALKE,
25th April 1905.

A complaint from the Municipal Office.

603. The *Bengalee* notices that the clerks employed in the Municipal Office have been deprived of gazetted holidays since the advent of Mr. Gainsford, the present Secretary. During the last *Sarasvati Puja* holidays the Secretary's Department was kept open to expedite work, so as to enable Mr. Gainsford to attend the Lucknow Races. The last *Muharrum* and Easter vacations were also denied the poor clerks.

BENGALKE,
27th April 1905.

604. The *Bengalee* writes that enhanced municipal taxation inevitably follows a revision of assessment, no matter in what condition the property assessed may be. The

usual pleas, viz., the increased value of land and the dearness of building materials, are advanced on the occasion of each revision, regardless of the fact that the cost of materials is not nearly so high as it was in 1897, the year of the earthquake. This, in the opinion of the journal, is absolute oppression, more particularly as the maximum of taxation has long ago been reached.

INDIAN MIRROR,
27th April 1905.

The Borough system of Municipal Administration.

605. A correspondent writing to the *Indian Mirror* in connection with the proposed establishment of Borough Councils in Calcutta, draws the attention of His Excellency the Viceroy and the Bengal Government to the utter exclusion of the landed aristocracy from the present Corporation. While they are called upon to carry out all manner of improvements, etc., they

are not permitted to have a voice in municipal affairs which closely affect them. In conclusion, the writer suggests that if the Government were to take the landlords into their confidence instead of vituperative orators and titled pedagogues, the interests of the people would be better served.

606. To the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* there seems nothing objectionable in the proposal to introduce the Borough system of municipal administration into Calcutta, as the system has proved a real boon in London, and there is no reason why it should not also prove beneficial in this city if it is properly worked. In London the Borough Councils are controlled by the representatives of the rate-payers, but will this be the case here, or will they be presided over by Government officials? This is a most important consideration which deeply affects the entire question.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th April 1905.

607. The *Bengalee* complains of the hide godown nuisance in Colutolla Street, which is one of the most crowded, if not the most crowded, thoroughfare in the Northern Division of the town. The people of the locality are compelled to keep their windows closed day and night to shut out the dreadful stench, and they have submitted petition after petition to the Chairman of the Corporation in vain. Some time ago a scheme was prepared by the Health Officer for the removal of the hide godowns to a place near Tangra, but it has apparently been allowed to fall through to suit the convenience of the powerful body of Anglo-Indian hide merchants.

BENGALÉE,
28th April 1905.

(h)—General.

608. The *Behar News* writes that after being accustomed to read in newspapers about the conduct of European officials, it is quite a relief to find in Mr. Bentinck such a kind and sympathetic officer and a European of such noble character, whose very presence hallows the atmosphere in which he lives and moves.

BEHAR NEWS,
19th April 1905.

609. The *Bengalee* considers that in the absence of valid reasons, the Government of India have neither the option nor the right to withhold from the Secretary of State the resolutions of the protest meeting forwarded by Dr. Rash Behari Ghose. Such action affords conclusive evidence of the Russianisation of the Administration. Since Lord Curzon was the subject of the resolutions, he should have had the sense to have forwarded them in ordinary fairness, and his action amounts to a confession of defeat, as he withholds from his superior officer the deliberate verdict of the people unreservedly condemning his administration.

BENGALÉE,
21st April 1905.

610. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* draws the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to the conduct of Mr. Hallifax, whose refusal to permit the Hindus of Berhampur to sing *Harinam* in the streets of Gorabazar and Vakilpara on the ground that it was noisy, has hurt their religious susceptibilities."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
24th April 1905.

611. The *Bengalee* severely criticises the Magistrate of Murshidabad for rejecting the petition of the Hindu community of Gorabazar who prayed to be allowed to sing hymns in the streets from candle-light to 11 P.M. The journal reminds this officer that his decision has seriously interfered with religion, and it calls upon the Commissioner to cancel this preposterous order.

BENGALÉE,
26th April 1905.

612. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* advises a persistent agitation for the withdrawal of the circular subordinating District Judges to Divisional Commissioners, as it threatens to ruin the administration of Bengal. Responsible officers may be consulted for the purposes of efficient administration, but they should consist of Judges selected to represent the judicial, some Members of Council, at least one of whom should be non-official, to represent the legislative questions, and one representative leader of the non-official community to correct purely official views.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
24th April 1905.

BENGALUR,
28th April 1905.

613. The *Bengalee* writes that the recent circular issued by the Government of Bengal bringing District and Sessions Judges under the "disciplinary control" of Commissioners is the thin end of the wedge to destroy the independence of the judiciary. That the High Court should have acquiesced in this arrangement is perfectly astounding, and nothing that this highest tribunal in the land has done or omitted to do in recent times, could have lowered it more in the estimation of the people than such want on abdication of authority. It now remains to be seen whether the District Judges themselves will enter a vigorous and united protest against the circular or not.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th April 1905.

614. Referring to the part of this circular which lays down the relations which must exist in future between Commissioners and their Subordinate Magistrates, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is constrained to observe that the harmonious relations which have been set up with years of toil and labour will be seriously disturbed. The very existence of such a circular will in nine cases out of ten make the head of a Division believe that it is his duty to rule the District Magistrate with a rod of iron and constant friction must inevitably result. This, then, is likely to be the nett result of the circular so far as the executive are concerned, and why the Lieutenant-Governor, who claims to be already overwhelmed with work, has placed himself in a position to be easily drawn into social squabbles, is quite puzzling.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
26th April 1905.

615. Commenting on Sir Andrew Fraser's denunciation of the Bengali Press, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* states that His Honour came with a deep-rooted prejudice against the Press, as one Bengali paper just after his appointment as Lieutenant-Governor had accused him of "having most unfriendly feelings towards the Bengalis." Dissatisfaction at the Viceroy's selection, however, extended to the Anglo-Indian Press, which opposed his appointment in virulent language. The members of the Bengal Civil Service also expressed their disgust at having him for their Chief. He soon fell foul of the Press by supporting the Official Secrets Act, but no evidence was forthcoming that any of his demi-official papers had really been published.

In finding fault with the Indian Press, Sir Andrew Fraser fails to justify his own protection of Magistrates whose vagaries are numerous and grave.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
27th April 1905.

616. The *Hindoo Patriot* regards the criticism against the nomination system as somewhat overdrawn and unfair, inasmuch as it has been unreservedly condemned without being given a fair trial. It should be remembered that the chief object of the Government in introducing such a system was to make the service representative of every class and at the same time to preserve the interests of higher education, otherwise University qualifications would not have been made a *sine qua non*. The competitive system was by no means infallible, and it would be too much to insist that a first-class scholar must make a satisfactory Government officer. Nomination largely dependent on educational fitness may succeed better than competition and deserves an honest trial.

BENGALUR,
28th April 1905.

617. The *Bengalee* wonders whether the Judicial Secretary is aware that his clerks were made to attend office during the Easter holidays by their over-zealous Registrar. What was the urgent work for the disposal of which the unfortunate clerks in this Department were made to forego their legitimate holidays? It seems that Registrars in Government offices are never so happy as when they are grinding their subordinates, and it behoves the authorities to issue a circular preventing this abuse of petty power by a class of officers who draw the salary of a Joint Magistrate for merely acting the post-office.

III.—LEGISLATION.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
29th April 1905.

618. A correspondent writing to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* vehemently protests against the proposed Jute Bill and urges all concerned to carry on a sustained agitation until the measure is suitably modified. It is customary for traders in country jute to advance large sums of money to the *Beparis* who merely grow the fibre,

but if the latter are harassed by such measures of Government they will abstain from growing jute at all, which would totally cripple the industry and ruin the traders. This must assuredly be the case if the proposed Jute Bill is passed into law, and it therefore behoves every merchant to resist this mischievous measure.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

619. In reviewing the presidential address at the Bengal Provincial Conference, the *Bengalee* disagrees with the statement of the Hon'ble Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu that Sir Andrew Fraser was helpless in the matter of the abolition of the competitive test for recruitment to the public service. His Honour could well have protested against the innovation, but he has apparently been always ready to allow himself to be made a tool of by his official superior, the Viceroy.

BENGALIAN,
23rd April 1905.

The journal supports the President's opinion that political agitation should be continued, as wholesome and beneficial effects produced in different directions show that the labour has not been altogether fruitless.

620. Commenting on the Hon'ble Mr. Bhupendra Nath Basu's presidential address at the Mymensingh Conference, the

INDIAN MIRROR,
25th April 1905.

Ibid. *Indian Mirror* agrees generally with his remarks, but finds many disappointing features, such as the cursory mention of malaria and sanitation, industrial and agriculture reform, technical education, etc. The omission of the subject of agriculture is more glaring, since a large number of cultivators had been asked to attend the meetings. It is also regretted that no attention was given to ethical training, which is the strongest point in the educational system of Japan.

621. The *Bengalee* describes the last Mymensingh Conference as the greatest Conference ever held, for thousands gathered together and intelligently recounted their grievances and earnestly sought to stay the hand of reaction which would partition their province, split up their language, restrict local self-government, etc. It was no sectional opinion that found expression at this memorable Conference, but the unanimous verdict of the entire province; and no one has done more to unite the zamindar and the raiyat, the Muhammadan and the Hindu in such firm and compact opposition to his reactionary policy as Lord Curzon himself.

BENGALIAN
27th April 1905.

622. Commenting on an article which appeared in the *Indian Daily News* on "The Self-Government of the Philippines," the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* agrees with the writer that the English people will find their ideas about the government of India proceeding on a wrong basis. The nett result of British rule in India is, says the *Patrika*, poverty, plague, cholera, malaria, famine, the disappearance of the higher classes, and the gradual emasculation of the people. The Government officials are responsible for this, and they should be replaced by men like the writer of the article referred to above, or the people should unanimously demand self-government under British guidance.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
25th April 1905.

The journal draws a comparison between the Filipinos and the Indians and points out that the American Government are in reality endeavouring to help the people to attain self-government, and although they have just begun, three out of the seven Judges in the Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice, are Filipinos. More Filipinos than Americans have also been registered as eligible for appointments in the Philippines.

623. The *Indian Mirror* refers favourably to the presidential address at the Muhammadan Educational Conference and agrees with the speaker that good education and moral training are the remedies to improve the backward condition of the community. It commends the suggestion to the Hindus, to whom it is equally applicable, and regrets that no allusion to this subject was made at the Provincial Conference in Mymensingh.

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th April 1905.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENL.
OF POLICE, L. P.
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 29th April 1905.

F. C. DALY,
Asst. to the Insp.-Genl. of Police, L. P.

B. S. Presl—31956—78—10-5-1905—C. W.

