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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 11th March 1905.

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ASSAM PAPERS.

Nil.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Aryavarta* [Ranchi] of the 25th February has the following:—

Afghan affairs.

The statesmen of England wish to keep the Amir of Kabul under their thumb, but they do not know that he has not confined himself to his harem like the Indian Rajas. His Highness has travelled through many countries. As far as the news from Kabul has reached us, the Amir has given the following reply to the Mission:—My subjects are not yet civilized enough to appreciate the benefit of railway and telegraph made by foreigners. If the Government of India, however, were to give me land in Baluchistan for a railway from Kabul down to the Arabian Sea, I shall make my people understand its benefits.

This reply of the Amir has startled everyone. Some say that it has been suggested to the Amir by the Russians. It is also rumoured that the Amir is carrying on secret correspondence with Russia, and that many Russian troops have arrived at the Afghan frontier. From the Amir's reply it appears that he does not care a bit for the British Government. Mr. Dane has been at Kabul for these three months. Let us see when he returns to India.

ARYAVARTA,
Feb., 25th, 1905.

2. Referring to the Secretary of State's statement that the cost of the Tibet expedition will fall on India alone, the same paper does not see in what way India has gained by the expedition. The back of poor India is now about to break.

ARYAVARTA.

3. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] on the 4th March has the following:—

Lord Curzon's share in the Tibetan settlement.

The Secretary of State for India, in reply to the questions of Mr. McNeill, said that when Lord Curzon was in England on leave he did not interfere in any way with the affairs of India, but as his knowledge in the Tibetan and other affairs was great, the British Government thought it well to consult him in settling questions about Tibet and had the benefit of his experience, etc. The answer means that Lord Curzon did not interfere in the matter of his own accord, but that he was invited to do so by the British Government.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 4th, 1905.

4. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 5th March has the following:—

The question of the cost of the Tibet Mission.

What can we lose or gain by England's making treaties or creating new foes in other countries? If India is invaded by Russia or Afghanistan, it is England which will lose India, and the loss will be of the English people. If, again, England creates friendship with those countries, or in order to prevent India's invasion by her foes, undertakes war or makes peace with some other countries, it will solely be the English people who will benefit by it. It is doubtful if the English will allow us to have the scanty meals of vegetable and *suthu* (powder of parched grain) we now eat. Justice requires that the whole cost of the expedition should be borne by England. But because we are not allowed any voice in these matters, justice has not been done in this case. Of course, this is also an example of devotion to truthfulness preached by Lord Curzon.

HITAVARTA,
March 5th, 1905.

5. From the statement of the Foreign Minister of France regarding the rumour about the transfer of Chandernagore to the British Government, says the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March, it appears that the rumour has no foundation in fact. It is good news, and the inhabitants of the place must now be at their ease.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 6th, 1905.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

6. A correspondent of the *Santi* [Madaripur] of the 27th February reports the following case. One Narendra Kumar Singha

SANTI,
Feb. 27th, 1905.

A case of cow-killing. is a Christian inhabitant of village Batbari, near Kotalipara. This village of Batbari is so situated that, except the Musalman village of Sitaikund to its south, there is no other village adjoining it on the east or the west. On the morning of the 4th February last, Narendra missed one of his cows from its shed. Search revealed the dead body of the cow lying in a field near his house, with the skin peeled off the whole of its body except at the head and the tail. The police were informed, but up to the time of writing they had not put in an appearance.

SANDHYA,
March 6th, 1905.

7. A correspondent of the *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 6th March complains that for some time past a terrible secret slaughtering of cows for their skins has been going on in

Cow-killing in Hooghly.

Somnagar, Amarpur, Jagalgarh and about a dozen other villages under thana Krishnanagar in district Hooghly. The work is done with such secrecy that no detection is possible. The miscreants suddenly pounce on a cow, drag it off to the nearest thicket, and there kill it and strip it clean of its skin and then escape. The outrages are committed at the most unexpected times and places. There is therefore a general panic among the villagers for the safety of their cattle. One case is reported where a poor man of the *bagdi* caste in village Nevura missed his cow. Search revealed the body of the cow with its head severed and its skin peeled off, lying on the side of Sholapurkur a tank situated in the midst of a forest. Occurrences like these have become daily events. In this particular village the majority of the inhabitants are poor cultivators, to whom the cow is of prime necessity. Even those who can afford only one meal a day are compelled to keep a cow. The majority are so poor that if they lose one cow their savings of a whole year will not suffice to replace the loss.

CHARU MIHIR,
Feb 28th, 1905.

8. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 28th February complains that for some years past, North Tangail (the Kalihati and Gopalpur thanas) and South Jamalpur have

Crime in North Tangail.

become veritable homes of lawlessness. Since the beginning of 1904 till the present, no less than a dozen dacoities have been reported from these parts. Crimes of a pettier description are absolutely innumerable. Recently, it is said, Government has appointed a number of special officers to cope with this increase of crime. It has been repeatedly pointed out that the Jamuna river and the Serajganj town are the favourite rendezvous of these dacoits. The leaders of the gang are the disciples of Mahar Khan. A floating police-station on the Jamuna has become an urgent necessity. The officers and men attached to this station should be provided with fast steam-launches, whereby they may patrol the whole river from Goalundo to Chilmari.

BIRBHUM VARTA,
March 4th, 1905.

9. Writing on the subject of chaukidari reform, the *Birbhum Varta* [Birbhum] of the 4th March says that under the

Chaukidari reform.

present system the panchayets in many cases do not pay their full salaries to the chaukidars under them, although they compel these chaukidars to sign receipts for the full amount. Care should be taken that under the new scheme, the collecting panchayet does not become addicted to similar illegal practices.

Next, as regards the rate of assessment, it is pointed out that the present law requires the inhabitants of each union to be divided into three classes, and one uniform rate for all the *mauzas* of that union, to be fixed for each of these three classes. But in practice, it is found that different rates for each of the different classes prevail in the different *mauzas*, so that the rate for the second class of one *mauza* may sometimes be found to be greater than the rate for the first class of another *mauza* in the same union. Care should be taken that such discrepancies do not occur under the reformed scheme.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

ULUBERIA DARPAN,
Feb. 27th, 1905.

10. Commenting on the recent assault case against Mr. Carey, Collector of Hooghly, the *Uluberia Darpan* [Uluberia] of the 27th February writes:—

Whippings from Europeans have now become almost part of the natural destiny of the Bengali. How many similar cases of oppression have appeared in public print! The European offenders in most cases go unscathed. Whipping is a comparatively light thing. How many unfortunate natives have even met their deaths at the hands of Europeans! We have silently borne all this, and we understand that we shall have to bear this. We are a sort of Negro slaves. Our lives and honour are valued very lightly. But the rulers also suffer from this state of things. It is the principal duty of the rulers to keep their subjects contented. The English are famous for their sense of justice. British justice is a commodity valued all over the world. Let us see what the result turns out to be in the present case.

11. The *Krishnanagar* [Krishnagar] of the 3rd March writes:—KRISHNANAGAR,
March 3rd, 1905.A case in the Munsif's Court
at Chuadanga in Nadia.

A female named Kamini Sundari Chowdhury got a decree against one Dhonai Mandal in the Court of the Munsif at Chuadanga, and on the 28th August 1903 proceeded under this decree to put up to auction three cows belonging to the judgment-debtor. As the value of the cows was found to amount to more than Rs. 20, the auction in the mufassal was stopped, and the peon in charge placed the cows in the custody of the Court Nazir. It appears from the explanation of this Nazir (named K. L. A.) that a peon named Hosain Ali Biswas had bought three cows under attachment and that the decree-holder had paid a rupee as wages of the man who came in charge of the animals. Immediately after the necessary entries in the books had been made in connection with this affair, the cowherd in charge of the animals came and informed the Nazir that the cows in question had been snatched away from the herd with which they were grazing. At about 12 o'clock the same day, the decree-holder applied to the Munsif for an inquiry into the facts of her case, for the rescue of the animals, and for the search and punishment of the offenders. The Munsif returned the decree-holder's application on the ground that it was insufficient, and he ordered the decree-holder to state the names of the persons against whom she was to proceed. She was also to state if she wanted sanction for criminal prosecution against these persons. The decree-holder replied by pointing out that the animals had been stolen from the custody of the Court, and that consequently no criminal prosecution would be undertaken on her testimony alone. The Munsif, however, refused to do anything. He did not call for any explanation from either the Nazir or the peon. The decree-holder now appealed to the District Judge, who, on the 12th February 1904, issued orders asking the Munsif to make an inquiry. The Munsif on receipt of this order, without making any inquiry, stated that "the cattle were not removed from lawful custody." The decree-holder applied for a retrial, which was granted. In the meantime, a new man had become Munsif. He held the first trial, and found as a result of it that no cows had been placed in custody of the Court. The peon swore that he had placed the animals under the Court cowherd, but the Nazir had not seen him do so. The Munsif held that the evidence was not sufficient to warrant any definite conclusion. The decree-holder was told that she might, if she wished, apply for damages against the Nazir or the peon or against any third party. This *futwa* she obtained on the 11th February 1905. It thus appears that though the decree-holder in the present case had spent the money value of a dozen cows, she has not succeeded in realising anything of her three cows. The Court found that the cows had been duly attached and placed under a cowherd recognised by the Court, but that she could obtain no benefit of the decree. She must try other means of redress. We state the facts of the case in the hope that they will attract the notice of the District Judge, who will devise some means of relief for the decree-holder, who is now too exhausted to be able to afford to continue the litigation any further.

(d)—Education.

12. Referring to the Viceroy's Convocation speech, the *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 1st March remarks:—BARISAL HITAIISHI,
March 1st, 1905.

The Viceroy's Convocation speech.

India was the very home of truth before it came in touch with the polluting contact of the West. If there has been change from that condition of things, then it is this class of officials who are responsible for it.

May we never quietly digest this insult. If we do, that will be the best possible proof of our want of manliness.

13. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes:—SANJIVANI,
March 2nd, 1905.

The Viceroy's Convocation speech.

The *Times of India* is a daily paper published at Bombay, which is both written and read by Europeans, and whose general policy it is to extol the English and to decry the Indians. The editor of the paper got a C. I. E. at the late Delhi Darbar, and it is the editor of this paper who has written about Lord Curzon's Convocation speech that it would have been well for Lord Curzon's reputation if His Excellency had not come back to India a second time. We heartily agree

with the wish that His Excellency should not have returned to India. His Excellency's speech has alienated even his friends. Look, for example, at what the *Indian Daily News* of Calcutta said of him. There can be no doubt that Lord Curzon was guilty of a serious wrong in calumniating the Indians. And he has not yet expressed any repentance for this act of his. It is no light thing that the man who represents our Emperor should try to fasten a charge of general untruthful habits on the entire Indian race. The native public have deeply felt the affront, and they are resolved on speedily entering a strong protest against it.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 4th, 1905.

14. In comparing Lord Curzon's Convocation speech with the one delivered by Lord Kitchener in the Calcutta Madrasa, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says:—

What a difference between the speech of Lord Kitchener and that of Lord Curzon! Lord Kitchener said that the English people owed an ancient debt to the East which can never be paid in full, but they shall try to pay it in part. Expressions like these alone should come from a true hero and an august person like the Commander-in-Chief of India. But alas! should such expressions as Indians are liars and cheats have fallen from the Viceroy? Will not Lord Curzon take a lesson from Lord Kitchener as to how one should speak in sweet language? What a nice example of a great and a small experience!

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 5th, 1905.

15. Referring to the Viceroy's Convocation speech, a correspondent of the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th March writes:—

The Viceroy's Convocation speech. What is the reply to this abuse? If the keen invective of the Viceroy has really stung us to the quick, if we really feel his insinuations to be unjust, cannot we provide the remedy ourselves, instead of appealing to the Home Government for His Excellency's recall? Let a meeting be called, not to protest against His Excellency's statement, but to express the opinion that His Excellency's conduct was not gentlemanly, and to show that the public have come to form this opinion almost universally. Let the leading men of the province unite at this meeting to record publicly a resolution that the Convocation speech, though it came from the lips of a Viceroy, was a highly blameable performance. The resolution should further request His Excellency either to withdraw his statements, or to say that his words bore an interpretation different from that which has been put on them by the ordinary public. If His Excellency refuses to adopt any of these suggestions, then let those among the leaders who do not care to submit tamely to these inane preachings of the Viceroy resolve never again so much as to tread the floor of another Convocation Hall which is presided over by Lord Curzon. If this is done, then alone can we understand that a spirit of manliness is at last arising among our race. The present occasion is a great crisis in our life as a nation. Let us see whether we can come successfully out of the crisis.

CHARU MIHIR,
Feb. 28th, 1905.

16. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 28th February writes:—

Rural schools in Bengal.

Bengal is principally an agricultural country. Whatever, therefore, tends to the advancement of the agricultural population of the province cannot but be highly welcome. But we do not know how far the particular proposals which Government has laid before the public for the education of the agricultural population of Bengal are really calculated to answer their purpose.

Agriculture in Bengal is not a profession confined to a particular caste. The lower strata of the Hindu and Musalman communities who are without any education, and who have to live by the labour of their hands, take to agriculture as their means of livelihood. There is therefore not a single village in Bengal where the population consists exclusively of agriculturists. Such being the case, if the only school in a village be an agricultural school, there is a risk that the education of the sons of the other classes of the village community may suffer. Primary education in Bengal is still in its infancy, the majority of the smaller villages in the province being still unprovided with any schools at all. A scheme of agricultural schools for such villages would benefit only a particular section of the community. What is wanted therefore is a system of ordinary primary schools, in every village in the country, which may be used by all the sections of the community alike.

Another point is, supposing that the agricultural schools are established, as proposed, what is the guarantee that they will be made universal use of by those for whom they are meant? The liberal doctrines of equality which we associate with English civilisation have penetrated even the masses of the population, and inspired high ambitions in their minds. Where is the probability, then, that the sons of the agriculturists will consent to undergo a course of simple agricultural training in preference to a more general system of instruction, which might in time fit them for the highest walks of life? What is the condition of things in this respect in other civilised countries? Nowhere surely is the education of the agriculturist confined within the limits of a knowledge of the best methods of ploughing and sowing. And many of the greatest men of every country have risen from the ranks of this community. We do not think therefore that Government is well advised in thus attempting to narrow the field of education of the Bengal agriculturist. Intelligence and sense are not the monopolies of the higher ranks of society; they may exist even in the lower sections of the community. But the Government plan of education will place serious difficulties in the way of any manifestation of such superior intelligence and sense in a Bengali agriculturist. Education should always be liberal. One sided education never yet did any good to any community of civilised beings.

17. The *Jyoti* [Chittgong] of the 2nd March says:—

Text-books for rural schools in

JYOTI,
March 2nd, 1905.

The proposal that lower primary vernacular text-books in Bengal should be translations from English is an insult to the intellect of this country. And the proposal that such text-books should be written in four dialects is simply preposterous. If this proposal is carried, the object of education will be frustrated in the country. Primary education has advanced with much longer strides in Bengal than in any other part of India. This shows that the form of written Bengali at present in vogue in the country commands the approval of all its inhabitants and is such as awakens a desire of learning it in their minds. Have the inhabitants of any village or of any district complained that they do not understand the present vernacular book language of Bengal? Who says that village boys do not understand it? Even Uriyas and Biharis understand pure Bengali.

The object of primary education should be to teach pure language, because provincialism once learnt is not easily shaken off. What will the boys, who have received lower primary education in provincial dialects, do when they begin to read middle and higher standards?

18. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes:—

Text-books for rural schools in Bengal.

SANJIV NI,
March 2nd, 1905.

The language of all Bengal was gradually coming to be uniform. But Government, as represented by Mr. Pedler, intends that four different languages shall prevail in Bengal. If their wish is realised, then in time the language of the lower classes of East Bengal will come to be unintelligible to the lower classes of West Bengal. If this diversity of language springs up, Bengalis of West Bengal will then cease to regard Bengalis of East Bengal as Bengalis. Let the public realise, while there is yet time, what terrible ruin to the Bengali race Government is meditating, and protest against it. Time was when Bengali was the official language in Assam and Orissa, but Government has changed that, so that now the people of those two provinces have come to look upon Bengalis as foreigners. The total ruin of the race will have been encompassed when East, West, South and North Bengal will have come to be unintelligible to each other.

19. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March writes:—

Text-books for rural schools in Bengal.

SOLTAN,
March 3rd, 1905.

The suggestion of Government is that the text-books for the proposed rural schools in Bengal should be prepared in the different dialects which prevail in the province. This plan is one which has both its merits and demerits. It is further intended that the original works should be prepared in England, and their translations locally made into the provincial dialects. This is a suggestion which is open to great objection. It would have been better to avoid all this, and to have the books written in simple current literary Bengali. The language of Musalman and Hindu shows slight

diversities. As the majority of the cultivating classes are Moslems, Government should pay special attention to the convenience of these Musalman turists.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 3rd, 1905.

20. Referring to the proposed scheme to have the text-books for the rural primary schools in Bengal written in the various different provincial dialects, the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March writes:—

The ultimate result of the adoption of this scheme will be that the inhabitants of one district will become unable to understand the language and the thoughts of the inhabitants of any other district. At present the man from Calcutta can easily make himself understood by the man from Chittagong. Grievances felt by the people of one district can be understood by the people of all other districts, and a united representation from the whole province is possible to Government nowadays. A religious or social question which comes up for settlement in the Musalman community can now be discussed in common even with the distant Musalmans from Burma, owing to similarity of language. All this will cease to be practicable if diversity of language is encouraged. Then, again, trade will be seriously hampered if differences of language between district and district are allowed to grow up. The Musalman community in the mufassal is yet generally unpenetrated with the light of education, and pamphlets and books inculcating the precepts of the Islamic religion are now prepared in Bengali by the more advanced section of the community for the enlightenment of their more ignorant brethren. These books can now be read all over the province. Then, again, Islamic preachers who preach in Bengali can now preach all over Bengal. But under the new scheme all this will cease to be practicable. It thus appears that diversity of language is distinctly injurious to the interests of the Musalman community. It is time, therefore, for the mufassal Musalman community to bestir themselves and enter a strong protest against the proposal.

At the sitting of the Aligarh Musalman Conference which was held in Calcutta, in December 1899, Maulvie Syed Nawab Ali Chowdhury made certain proposals in regard to the question of the reform of lower primary instruction in Bengal. It now appears that the Government Resolution on this question is fully in accord with the Syed's proposals, except in this one point of the recognition of provincial dialects. But this single deviation is of such a serious nature that it has shattered all our hopes of any good coming from the scheme of reform. Another noticeable point is the omission of any scheme for imparting instruction in agriculture to the lads in these rural schools. In our opinion, unless the lads are taught this subject in their earlier years, they would feel a disinclination to setting their hands to such laborious work in later life.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 7th, 1905.

21. Referring to the proposal to introduce in rural primary schools text-books written in provincial dialects, the *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 7th March writes as follows:—

It is a matter of no small wonder and regret that such an unprecedented and mischievous proposal should have been made during the time of a learned Viceroy like Lord Curzon. Can those who have made it, on the plea of making education easy for the cultivators' sons, point to a single civilised country where text-books for schools are written in provincial dialects? If the scheme proposed in Bengal had any chance of yielding beneficial results, would not the educationists of the West, who are advocates of mass education, have long since adopted it in their own countries?

The Committee's report itself admits that the existing system of primary education has yielded the best results in Bengal, as evidenced by the rapidly increasing number of primary schools and pupils. Could such results have been expected, if the literary Bengali, in which the text-books are now written, had been difficult of acquisition by the masses or had not met with their acceptance? There was a time when books used to be composed in different parts of Bengal in local dialects. Instances of this practice are found in old manuscript copies of Krittivas's *Ramayan* and Kasidas's *Mahabharat*. But now the whole of Bengal reads with ease the *Ramayan* and the *Mahabharat* printed at Burtala in Calcutta in the literary Bengali of West Bengal. In fact, there

is a marked tendency all over the Province, not excluding even Bihar and Orissa, to unify its language. If, therefore, this literary Bengali is now banished from the primary schools, the object aimed at in Lord Curzon's partition proposal will be effected without the least effort. Lord Curzon wanted to divide the Bengalis into two. But, if the new scheme comes into force, it will not be long before the Bengalis are split up into a hundred sections, not one of which will understand the language of the other. Will this be conducive to the welfare of the Bengalis as a race?

The authorities might say that the scheme they have proposed is intended only for the sons of cultivators. But the answer to this is: (1) that even the sons of cultivators should not be deprived of the benefit of acquiring a knowledge of literary Bengali, if the connection between the upper and lower classes of the society is not to be completely severed, and if the little education the sons of cultivators receive is to be of any benefit to them in after-life; and (2) that not a single village in Bengal being solely inhabited by cultivating labourers, for whose benefit alone the new system of education is intended, it will be necessary to have in every village at least two lower primary schools conducted on two different lines—one for the sons of cultivators and the other for the boys of middle classes; but such a thing will be quite impossible considering the funds at the disposal of the Government.

The new text-books, again, will not be written by experienced native authors, but will be mere translations of books written in English. How very interesting and correct in style such books will be may be seen by a glance at the question-papers which are set at the Entrance Examination and at the new vernacular text-books which have been published by Messrs. Longmans & Co.

22. The *Education Gazette* [Chinsura] of the 3rd March writes:—

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
March 3rd, 1905.

The new scheme of vernacular education.

The feeling with which the new scheme of vernacular education was regarded at its inception, namely, that it was at once inconvenient and unnatural, has probably greatly decreased with the experience which has been gained of its actual working. The books and the apparatus necessary under the system are being gradually prepared and got together. Any defects which experience may reveal in such books and apparatus will, of course, come to be rectified in time. In truth, the opposition to the new scheme was largely due to its newness only. When time will have gradually accustomed people to the new system, its superiority to the one which it replaces will come to be generally recognised.

23. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 7th. March offers the following suggestions in connection with the new proposals about rural primary schools:—

NIHAR,
March 7th, 1905.

The new system of vernacular education.

There are few men in every village who will be able to make contributions towards the cost of building houses for *pathsalas*. In cases where *pathsala* houses are greatly needed, but where private contributions are not forthcoming or are not sufficient, Government should pay the whole or the major portion of the cost. People will be naturally slow to support the new system of education with money so long as they do not see its results. In his Convocation speech, Lord Curzon said, by way of advice to the graduates and undergraduates, that talking much did not necessarily mean doing much. The Education Department has for a long time been framing rules after rules for the improvement of lower education, but the effect of those rules remains yet to be seen.

To make the new system of education effective, Government should make arrangements for the training of teachers by converting some middle schools in the mufassal into *guru-training* schools. The new system should also be introduced into the higher class schools, so that the *pathsalas* may follow their example.

The proposal about text-books does not at all meet with the writer's approval. There are at least twenty provincial dialects in Bengal. To prepare text-books in all these will neither be easy nor feasible with reasonable expenditure of money, not to speak of many other difficulties which will be met with in the attempt. The writer can, therefore, on no account support the Government's proposal. The books should be written in easy and lucid Bengali, and the writer will be glad to see the Government give up its resolve

to provincialise the literature of Bengal. Literature is the best exponent of national character and an important factor in national improvement. Any tampering with the existing literature of Bengal is likely to produce very bad results. The books ought to be written by competent native writers who have a reputation in the line.

The introduction of the new system of education has made the duties of inspecting officers extremely complicated and heavy. Sub-Inspectors and Deputy Inspectors have now to discharge the duties not only of inspecting officers but also of teachers. To secure a satisfactory discharge of both these duties, it is necessary that the number of Deputy Inspectors should be largely increased, each large-sized district getting the services of not less than three or four such officers. Again, to secure the services of educated young men of character as Sub-Inspectors, better prospects than now exist should be thrown open to them by making the able and efficient among them eligible for Deputy Inspectorships and teacherships in high schools. It is only if these reforms are carried out that the new system of lower education may be expected to yield good results.

JYOTI,
March 2nd, 1905.

24. It has been resolved in a conference of the professors and teachers of the Chittagong College and Collegiate School, says the *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 2nd March, that in Bengal students should be taught to pronounce Sanskrit like up-countrymen and Maharattas. Mr. Pedler has made arrangements for teaching pronunciation of English. The teachers of Chittagong, therefore, must, of necessity, go a step further and make arrangements for teaching the pronunciation of Sanskrit. But who says that Sanskrit is pronounced better in up-country and the Maharatta land than in Bengal?

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 6th, 1905.

25. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March is glad that some arrangement has been made in the Presidency College of Calcutta for imparting commercial education to Indian students, and suggests that the education should not be such as to drive the students when educated to the doors of merchants for employment.

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 6th, 1905.

26. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 6th March notices the following allegations in connection with the University Entrance Examination which commenced at that town on the 1st March last:—

- (1) According to the original programme, one of the days on which the examination would have been held was to have been *Sivaratri* day—a day of fast according to the Hindu *Sastras*. This defect was, however, rectified in time.
- (2) The Registrar's receipts acknowledging the deposit of fees by intending examinees were not in many cases received by them in time. Reminders had to be sent out for the purpose, and some of the receipts are said not to have reached the candidates till the evening immediately preceding the commencement of this examination.
- (3) The number of questions in the English paper was too large to be properly answered in the given time by the majority of the examinees.
- (4) The Bengali of the translation paper on the first day of the examination was almost unintelligible to the students.
- (5) In the Sanskrit paper, it was highly objectionable to have required the candidates to give the story of Savitri in the author's language.
- (6) There was a widely-current rumour in the town of Dacca that the questions in the translation paper had leaked out, by some mistake, before the actual day of the examination.

NIHAR,
March 7th, 1905.

27. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 7th March fails to see the meaning of the strict rules which the Director of Public Instruction has framed to regulate new admissions to schools. A boy's guardian must now supply the school authorities with nineteen items of information regarding the boy before the latter can be admitted. The fulfilment of the ninth, tenth, and eleventh

conditions mentioned in the circular will entail endless hardships on guardians who have to admit their boys to a school.

28. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 8th March writes:—

SANDHYA,
March 8th, 1905.

Rumour about making the University Examinations, increasingly stiff.

It is the wish of our Viceroy that we became a nation of slaves. The spread of education would interfere with the realisation of this ideal. So education must be restricted as much as possible.

For some time past an opinion has been expressed in certain quarters that it is not desirable that too many students should pass the University examinations—that the number should be restricted in the case of the Entrance to almost a thousand, in that of the F. A. to say three or four hundred, and in that of the B. A. to fifty or sixty. We understand that a terrible proposal is going to be made in the meeting of the University Senate on Friday next. An effort will be made to make the Entrance Examination as stiff as possible. We repeat our request to our countrymen to give up licking the feet of Europeans even now. Can they not educate their own sons in their own way independently?

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

29. The *Krishnanagar* [Krishnagar] of the 3rd March makes the following allegations against Kali Babu, the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the local Charitable Dispensary:—

KRISHNANAGAR,
March 3rd, 1905.

- (1) That he is not always present at the dispensary premises to attend to patients.
- (2) That he does not personally attend to the patients in the cholera ward, but delegates this duty to his compounders.
- (3) That when people go to him for medicine in the outdoor department, instead of giving them the medicine from the dispensary stores, he writes out a prescription on a ticket and sends them away with the prescription.
- (4) That he does not often issue to patients in the outdoor department any medicines from the dispensary stores, but makes them buy the medicines in the ordinary wholesale stores in the town, from the proprietors of which he gets a regular commission on all medicines sold under his prescriptions.
- (5) It further appears that various petitions have on different occasions been made against this doctor by different persons, but that these have up to now come to nothing. One such unsuccessful petition was that of a student named Indu Bhusan Lahiri, who alleged that he had been expelled wrongfully from the dispensary premises.

30. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March publishes plague reports from Mothora in Bhagalpur, Gaya and Arrah.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 6th, 1905.

31. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 8th March reports on the authority of a correspondent the prevalence of a severe epidemic of plague at Farasdanga (Chandernagore) and Gondalpara, an adjoining village. The local French Administration is burning tar and sulphur as disinfectants. A number of deaths are daily occurring, and many are leaving their houses in a panic. Plague is also reported from Telinipara.

SANDHYA,
March 8th, 1905.

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

32. The *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 1st March has the following:—

Oppression by a Canal officer in Bihar.

The Bengali Babus are at present like the plague to the brave Bhojpuri. The Canal officer, Babu Upendra Nath Ghose, is a living example of this. The petition of Babu Begu Singh reveals the real man and shows in what respect the Canal Babu holds the laws. We cannot say why the Biharis are an eyesore to the said Babu. It is being heard that he is

BIHAR BANDHU,
March 1st, 1905.

dismissing the Biharis from their posts and filling up the vacancies by appointing his own kith and kin. The Biharis are to him what Japan is to Russia nowadays.

PABNA HITAISHI,
March 1st, 1905.

33. The *Pabna Hitaishi* [Pabna] of the 1st March complains that means of communication are comparatively worse in Pabna than in any other district in Bengal. And yet

Roads in Pabna.
the need for them is greater in this district than in many others, considering that it is situated on a low-lying area of land. People from the mufassal who may have come to Pabna town from a distance of say 50 miles to attend court can do so only on foot. The steamer service on the Padma is something of a convenience, but its usefulness is greatly marred by the absence of any fixed timing and fixed stations for the steamers. The District Board grants an annual subsidy of Rs. 5,000 for a steamer service between Pabna and Kushtia. But this service is necessarily intermittent, as the Gorai dries up at particular seasons, so that steamers are often arrested in the course of their journey for days together. And, further, the benefit of this service is confined only to the few. Would it be asking too much if the expenditure of an amount similar to this annual subsidy is requested on the laying out of a road from Shujanagar to Mathura, a work which will be a permanent boon to a large part of the population of the district.

RANGPUR
VARTAVAHA,
March 3rd, 1905.

34. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 3rd March complains that whilst the railway administrations in India show the greatest selfishness in securing every comfort and convenience for European passengers, they do not pay the least heed to the grievances of native passengers. Some of the most crying needs of native passengers are as follow:—

- (1) Separate compartments should be provided in second-class carriages for native passengers.
- (2) The intermediate class compartments reserved for Indian females should be accessible from compartments used by male passengers and divided from them by glass partitions.
- (3) The waiting-rooms for native females should be located inside the station-houses and have female attendants attached to them.
- (4) The vernacular writings on the name-boards of stations are at present extremely wretched.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 3rd, 1905.

35. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March draws the attention of the Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities to the terrible overcrowding of their up trains from

A railway complaint.
Calcutta on Saturday, and their down trains to Calcutta on Monday, as a result of the introduction of the system of week end return tickets.

HOWRAH HITAISHI,
March 4th, 1905.

36. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 4th March writes:—

The timing of a train on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.
Hitherto the Mecheda up local train on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway used on Saturdays to leave Howrah at 3-45 P.M., to suit the convenience of daily passengers. But it has been lately notified that from the 4th March this timing is to be changed, and the train is to leave Howrah at 5-30 P.M. on Saturdays as well as on other days of the week. This change has caused great dissatisfaction among the local travelling public. By this new arrangement, passengers bound for Sankrail and Andul will find it easier to avail themselves of the 2-30 steamer. Similarly, passengers for Bauria and Uluberia would be diverted to the Eastern Bengal State Railway or to Messrs. Hoare, Miller & Co.'s afternoon steamer service. The offices in Calcutta mostly close at 2 or 2-30 P.M. The 3-45 train was a great convenience to these office people, and the timing of this train should not have been changed.

HITAVARTA,
March 5th, 1905.

37. A correspondent of the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 5th March, signing himself as a railway passenger, writes as follows:—

A railway complaint.
Corruption among the employes of the Bengal and North-Western Railway is daily increasing. On the 8th February I came on board the steamer of that railway after having travelled from Bhagalpur to Mahuria by the East Indian Railway. I saw that the practice of taking bribe commenced here. There are two passages leading to the steamer, one for the general public and the other for those who pay bribe. The sufferings of those

who used the former passage can be better imagined than described, while those who used the latter were not even called upon to show their tickets. I arrived at 7 o'clock in the morning and halted at Samarya Ghat till 12 o'clock, when I prepared to take the next train. I asked the ticket Babu to give me two inter-class tickets for Bettiah, but the Babu said that he had no tickets for that station. I made a mistake in not offering him a bribe forthwith, and seeing that blue tickets were there I asked for them, but the request met with a refusal even on payment of a bribe. Consequently I had to purchase tickets for Samastipur only. On arriving at that station I saw a number of ticket-collectors for the first time going to and fro and procuring tickets for villagers on receiving bribes. On getting to the window of the booking-office I saw a large crowd waiting for tickets which were being issued to ticket-collectors only. I asked for a ticket to Bettiah and met with the same answer, "No ticket," but when I asked for a blue ticket, the Babu told me that I should have to pay him two annas for each such ticket. I declined to pay and preferred to complain to the station-master, but I did not know that the station-master, too, had a share in this perquisite. As the time was short and I became afraid of missing the train, I was obliged to seek the help of one of the ticket-collectors and secured tickets by offering him a bribe. I was astonished to find the railway employes receiving bribes in such an open manner at a station which is the head-quarters of the Traffic Superintendent and a principal station of the East Indian Railway. On coming to the inter-class carriage I found it overcrowded and was thus obliged to prefer a third-class. Under the circumstances, the extra fare paid by me ought to have been refunded to me, but where one has to pay bribe for purchasing a ticket he cannot expect any refund of the excess paid. At roadside stations, where the train stops for a short time only, passengers find it difficult to alight, owing to the carriages being locked up, and are often over-carried and thus unnecessarily lose time and money.

38. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 8th March writes:—

A railway complaint.

Formerly on the East Indian Railway, a warning bell used to be rung before the departure of each train from any platform. But for about two years now, this system has been discontinued. At present the station-master simply shouts out, "All right" and the guard gives the whistle and off the train goes. Now, the "all right" which the station-master shouts is in most cases quite inaudible to the passengers, to the majority of whom therefore the starting of the train comes almost unannounced. This causes great inconvenience, specially when ladies and children are travelling. It is to be hoped therefore that the old system will be restored.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 8th, 1905.

(h)—General.

39. The *Aryavarta* [Ranchi] of the 25th February says that it is very

A suggestion for increasing the pay of sepoys.

often heard that the Indian Army is being reformed in this and that way, but is there no one to suggest a reform in the pay of the sepoys with whose help the Government is conquering kingdom after kingdom? The pay of these sepoys is very poor. It is heard that the pay of all the European military officers is going to be increased, so something should be done to increase the pay of these poor sepoys too.

ARYAVARTA,
Feb. 25th, 1905.

40. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 28th February says that the

The Government's spirit of reform.

Government of this country never sets itself to remove really crying evils, evils which are everywhere felt as such; but it is ever eager to carry out such reforms as are of doubtful expediency or prejudicial to the interests of the country. The Calcutta Municipal Act, the Universities Act and the proposal to divide Bengal illustrate how ready the Government is to introduce such reforms as are opposed by the children of the soil. But Government is never anxious to undertake or expedite really useful reforms, such as a reform of the police and a separation of the judicial and executive functions—measures, the necessity of which has been urged by the whole country and the highest authorities and acknowledged by the Government itself.

CHARU MIHIR,
Feb. 28th, 1905.

SANJIVANI,
March 2nd, 1905.

41. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes:—

The partition question.

The entire public of Bengal is almost mad at the idea of the partition of their country, but Government still refuses to make any public announcement of its intention in this regard. It is certainly not right to keep the people in this state of painful suspense. The *Indian Daily News* reports that the papers relating to this question will soon be in the hands of the Secretary of State, and that the Indian Government will come to a decision on this question before breaking up for Simla. If Lord Curzon partitions Bengal in defiance of public opinion, future generations of Bengalis will never cease to curse his name.

JYOTI,
March 2nd, 1905.

42. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 2nd March says:—

An advertisement.

The following advertisement has appeared in the *Englishman* of the 15th February last:—

Wanted a shorthand writer for the office of Engineer-in-Chief, North-Western Railway, Lahore. Must be a European or Eurasian and conversant with Typewriting. Good general education. Knowledge of English indispensable. Starting salary Rs. 80 to Rs. 150. Apply with copies of certificates.

(Sd.) R. C. DYSON,

Dy. Engineer-in-Chief, N.-W. Ry., Lahore.

If a native is wanted on Rs. 10, it is advertised that he should be a B.A. or an F.A., and that he should be proficient in shorthand writing, but when a European or Eurasian is wanted on a salary of Rs. 80 to Rs. 150, "knowledge of English" only is indispensable. Woe to the cursed Indian!

SANJIVANI,
March 2nd, 1905.

43. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes:—

The Government Telegraph Department.

The Chief Superintendent of the Government Telegraph Department has recently advertised for a number of European and Eurasian signallers for his department. How long will this injustice continue to be perpetrated? The population of the country is primarily Hindu and Musalman. And yet Eurasians and Europeans are invited, to the exclusion of Hindus and Moslems, for employment in the public service. Can nobody be made responsible for this state of things? We do not mean that Eurasians and Europeans are to be totally excluded. But what we do mean is that equal treatment should be accorded to all alike—Eurasian or European, Hindu or Moslem. Excluding Hindus and Moslems means an act of grave injustice. It behoves all prudent statesmen to refrain from such an act.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 3rd, 1905.

44. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March quotes the follow-

The Government Telegraph Department.

ing advertisement from the Anglo-Indian daily papers of Calcutta:—

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

European and Eurasian candidates for appointments in the General Service Signalling Establishment of the Government Telegraph Department are required. They should be over 16 and under 20 years of age and be able to produce certificates of age and character. Whilst under training they will receive an allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem as probationers. Pay, initial, Rs. 40 per mensem, rising to Rs. 195 per mensem by grade and annual increment. For further particulars, apply to Chief Superintendent, Traffic Branch, Government Telegraph Department, Calcutta.

Also

Qualified Non-Departmental-signallers are required for temporary service in the Telegraph Department. Pay will be at the rate of from one to two rupees per diem according to proficiency in signalling. For further particulars, apply to Chief Superintendent, Traffic Branch, Government Telegraph Department, Calcutta.

and comments on it in the following terms:—

Can the action of the authorities in this case be held justifiable under the terms of the Proclamation of the late Queen? Is this the way in which Government proposes to provide a livelihood for ignorant Europeans and Eurasians? Bengalis are rending the skies with their cries for bread. They are ready to go through fire and water if only they can have bread. Is it right for Government to take the bread away from the mouths of such people? Will not a benevolent ruler like Lord Curzon stop this persecution of the Bengali race?

45. The *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March draws the attention of the Postal authorities to the following suggestions for reform:—

SOLTAN,
March 3rd, 1905.

- (1) Reduction of the price of the post-card from one pice to half-a-pice.
- (2) Increase of the size of the existing post-card.
- (3) Reduction of the rates for book-post.
- (4) The postage for value-payable parcels refused by the addressee are now realised from the sender of the parcel. This tells with great hardship on honest traders when dealing with cheats. Formerly the sender had not to pay this charge; it was thrown upon his shoulders only some 15 years ago. Some modification of this system is therefore desirable.

46. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says:—

Mr. Carey.

We are tired of writing about Mr. Carey and his doings. It was at Berhampur that Mr. Carey first came to public notice, and since then he has been playing all sorts of wild pranks. It is a wonder that Government has not yet thought it proper to check the evil career of this wrong-headed civilian. This has emboldened Mr. Carey and he is now trying to lord it over all. We did not know that a District Magistrate could act so indiscreetly as Mr. Carey is said to have done in the Hooghly assault case. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor will transfer him from the judicial as well as the executive service, and either give him an appointment in the *ganja* office or send him back home on an idler's pension.

BASUMATI,
March 4th, 1905.

47. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 8th March has the following with reference to the recent assault case against Mr. Carey, Collector of Hooghly:—

The assault case against Mr. Carey.

PRITIJNA,
March 8th, 1905.

What is this that we hear? The ill-treatment of blacks by whites in this country of blacks is going to become a daily occurrence. To-day it is a black bursting his spleen, to-morrow it is his cottage burnt down, the next day it is the shooting of a black by mistake for a bird, on another occasion, again, it is the killing of a black for the sake of the prestige of civilisation—this varied record of the terrible oppression by the whites has made us quite sick. We cannot say how long it will be before the Almighty will save us from all this terrible oppression. The English are our ruling race. They are civilised and famous throughout the world for their statesmanship. The English power is always found eager to keep the peace all over India. The oppressions of the Musalman *régime* now possess the interest of mere stories; there was no remedy for oppression in those days, because the rulers themselves devoted themselves to oppressing their subjects. As regards the existing *régime*, though the British Government itself is not addicted to oppression, many Englishmen, proud of the fact that they belong to the ruling race, come to look on the world at large as a plaything made for their use, and now and then create such terrible mishaps as compel us to recall the stories of the oppressions of the Musalman *régime*.

48. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says that the Hon'ble Mr. J. Chaudhuri was not right in pointing out to the Government, at a meeting of the Bengal

Government and Malaria.

BASUMATI,
March 4th, 1905.

Legislative Council, that while it was spending large sums of money for the prevention of plague, nothing was being done for the prevention of malaria, which does much greater havoc in the country than plague. People have had enough experience of preventive measures and specially appointed doctors in connection with plague to desire their repetition in connection with malaria.

49. *Al Punch* [Bankipur] of the 4th March says that the correspondence which was published in the *Behar Herald* unjustly

The Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Patna.

AL PUNCH,
March 4th, 1905.

criticizing some of the actions of Maulvi Wajid Hossain, Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Patna, seems to have emanated from the brain of some Bengali Babu, one of those whose habit of unjust criticism has been noticed in very befitting terms by His Excellency Lord Curzon in his last Convocation speech. The fact which has turned the head of the Babu is that one day the Maulvi censured

Further, the number of assistants he has been provided with is quite inadequate to the needs of this large country. There is only *one* entomologist for all India, where there are 48 for all America.

The Government here wishes to keep the cultivating classes practically unlettered. They are to have no acquaintance with English,—such is the opinion of Government, and as to Bengali, even of that they should be allowed to learn only the rudiments. It is ideas like these which underlie the new scheme of rural education in Bengal. Government is prepared to spend lakhs in famine relief, but if any expenditure for the permanent prevention of famine is proposed, the proposal is at once met with a host of objections from the Government. The money which was spent on the Tibet expedition might well have been devoted, and may even now be devoted, to the improvement of agriculture. Lord Curzon wishes to be known as a Viceroy with a unique record, but we wish to enquire of His Excellency what he has done in the course of the last six years for the improvement of the commerce and agriculture of India. Mere professions are not enough; what is wanted are deeds. Government might object that the American scale of expenditure is impossible in India, as India's resources are limited. But we wish to point out that the money which has all these years been devoted to famine relief might well have been spent on works of permanent internal improvement. It is all a question of will. If they had really wished to do these things, no objection of want of money would have been allowed to stand in the way.

54. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 6th March publishes the following in English:—

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 6th, 1905.

"Nomination *versus* competition."

The new rules for recruiting the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service have been published in the *Calcutta Gazette* which we reproduced in these columns the other day. They clearly show that the old method of nomination, which is on principle wrong, is to be revived with some modifications of details. In all civilised countries the responsible branches of the Civil Service are recruited by competition, as it enables the employer to test the fitness of the candidates for public service most easily. The utility of the method had been fully established. As to its success here in India, most of the high officials of the country and the successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal testified to the appreciation of the method by continuing it, until very recently the Government of Sir Andrew Fraser thought it proper to revert to the old method. We do not see in what respect the method of nomination can be given preference to that of competition. Rather the Rule 8 with all its sub-sections seems to us most cumbrous and complex, which involves sheer waste of public money. In sub-section (c) it is laid down that the Commissioner of a Division and all the District Officers under him should meet on a day, to be appointed by the Commissioner, and see and converse with the candidates with a view to test their suitability for the public service. Is this an efficient method of measuring the comparative merits of the candidates? They are required to produce certificates of character and conduct, of educational qualification and of good health in the initial stage of their nomination before the District Officer, who must forward them to the Commissioner with his opinion as regards the fitness of his nominees. These qualifications, together with some other special acquirements, it seems, constitute the meaning of the aforesaid sub-section. Can seeing and conversing with the candidates for a short time enable the officers concerned to form a right estimate of the special qualifications of the candidates? We think, by examining answer-papers, if the questions be set on specified subjects, as was the case when competition was in vogue, that purpose is more effectively served. But though a provision, however imperfect, is made for testing the special qualifications of the nominees of Divisional Commissioners, the nominees of the Syndicate of the Calcutta University are left without any such provision. Then, again, what is the use of calling together all the District Officers who are required to submit their opinions as regards the claims of their respective nominees previous to the nomination of the candidates by the Commissioner, involving, as it does, considerable waste of public money?

The Commissioners are required to pay special attention to the "social qualifications" of the candidates. There will always be difference of opinion as to what constitutes the social qualification. As, for instance, the strict

owner before the law Court, because they would not be required to prove that he had dishonestly watered or soiled his jute. Such Inspectors would, therefore, find it a lucrative business to oppress poor jute-owners. As for the balers, they would have nothing to fear from Jute Inspectors, who would never dare enter into their firms. The police, who are always seeking opportunities to oppress poor people, would pounce on poor jute-owners on the slightest pretext. Moreover, the provisions that jute should not be exposed to dew, nor washed in muddy or sandy water, etc., would prevent poor cultivators from growing jute.

58. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes as follows on the proposed jute legislation :—

SANJIVANI,
March 2nd 1906.

The proposed jute legislation.

We do not of course wish to support in any way any dishonest practices of native traders, but all the same we consider the present piece of legislation unnecessary and injurious. We consider that it will lead to a great deal of harassment of the native jute-traders; it will create a sense of great disquiet among the cultivating classes; it will increase corruption and litigation; and generally it will cause serious injury to the cause of the jute trade in Bengal.

It is intended under the proposed legislation to have special Inspectors to detect cases of watered or otherwise adulterated jute. Unless these Inspectors can annually make out a large number of such cases of fraud, there would be little expectation of the permanence of their office or of future promotion. So it is not unreasonable to apprehend that a great deal of unnecessary disquiet will be created by these Inspectors simply from a desire to justify their existence. A parallel may be sought in the conduct of the Salt police. It is universally known that in many cases the Salt police first themselves deposit a quantity of salt in the house of a cultivator and next proceed to arrest him for the offence of manufacturing salt. The people of the Orissa coast and the Sunderbans groan under the oppressions of the Salt police.

These Inspectors will of course all enjoy high salaries. They will not therefore go about from village to village and from *hât* to *hât*, seeing things with their own eyes. They will have a number of ill-paid subordinates; and it is needless to remark that it is in the hands of these subordinates that the powers for harassing the cultivators will lie. So, oppression and corruption appear inevitable.

The European merchant after he has bought the jute from the native trader or *bepari* cannot at once export it abroad. Hopes of a larger profit and other similar motives compel him to keep it stored for a time in godowns. And it is found that the quantity which is so stored suffers a decrease in many ways before it can again be taken out for shipment. For instance, a visit to the Hatkhola godowns will show a good many stray fibres of jute floating about in the air. Now the European trader is not prepared to put up with this loss quietly. In fact, he makes the native *beparis* put in an extra weight of five seers of jute to each maund of the article bought, for which extra weight no extra payment is made. Now this dishonesty on the part of the European has led to similar dishonesty on the part of the native. The extra weight which the native trader is compelled to put in without payment he makes up by adulteration with water and sand. This is the deadlock at which the jute trade has arrived to-day.

If Mr. Maddox had heard the complaints of native merchants engaged in the jute trade as he had heard the Europeans he would have come to see that these dishonest practices might be remedied without any resort to legislation, and that the proposed piece of legislation is such as is calculated to do more harm than good.

India is nowadays ruled for the benefit of the European trading classes. It is this community who make the laws as suits their interest, and the native public are bound to humbly obey all such laws.

We had no idea that, as in the present instance, a piece of legislation could be framed for the sole interests of a particular section of the community. Mr. Maddox has cited the case of Russia as a country where the watering of jute is a penal offence. But we wish to inquire if the Indian Government is prepared to accept Russia as its model in all things? Let Government put down dishonest practices in the jute trade by all means, but let it not introduce a Russian *régime* into Bengal.

a comparing clerk of his for slow progress in his work, but the clerk began to talk insolently before him and was ordered to leave his presence.

DACCA PRAKAS,
March 5th, 1905.

50. The *Dacca Prakas* [Dacca] of the 5th March writes :—
Mr. Jack, the local Joint-Magistrate, is soon going away from here. Although he is not old in years, he won the entire confidence of the public by his amiability and by his way of administering justice. His sudden departure from our midst can only be ascribed to the ill-luck of the Dacca public.

DAILY HITAVADI,
March 5th, 1905.

51. The *Daily Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 5th March, in noticing a recent petition to Government by the jute-shippers of Narayanganj, praying for the appointment of a number of European Inspectors on monthly salaries of not less than Rs. 700, in order to detect cases of watered jute, remarks :—

These Inspectors are to be appointed to protect the interests of the jute-shippers. But who is to pay their salaries? The shippers or the Government? If Government agrees to bear the cost, it becomes worth inquiring as to what benefit the public at large will get out of them. Government expense means expense out of the pockets of the poverty-stricken subject. Then, again, it is suggested that the Inspectors should be Europeans. Cannot the work be done as well by Indian Inspectors? We would not have raised any question of the respective claims of Europeans or Indians if the jute-shippers had borne the expenses of these Inspectors out of their own pockets. We touch on this subject only because we remember the excessively great influence which the European mercantile association exercise over the Government in this country.

HITAVARTA,
March 5th, 1905.

52. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 5th March has the following :—
The people believed that the inauguration of the Pusa Agricultural College was meant to benefit them, but the deliberations of the Agricultural Board of that College have greatly disappointed them, so that they have lost all faith in it. From the report of the Board it appears that Government does not actually want to improve the agriculture of India, but that it wants that the weavers of Lancashire may thrive. For this reason the Board has devoted its attention to the cultivation of jute and cotton in preference to paddy or wheat, the staple grain of the country. At the instance of English merchants who thought their business would not thrive unless attention is paid to jute, the Government is going to make a law for preventing the jute cultivators from moistening the jute at night with dew or water. Such a law, if passed, would give rise to much oppression on the cultivators and, there is no doubt, open the way to much corruption. There is not the slightest doubt that the Government of India has undertaken this one-sided legislation at the instance of the merchants of England.

SANDHYA,
March 8th, 1905.

53. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 8th March institutes a comparison between the arrangements made by the Government of the United States of America and the Government of British India for promoting agriculture and giving an agricultural education to their subjects, and observes :—

It is to the selfish policy of the English nation that the destruction of all the industrial arts of India is to be ascribed. The English wish to convert India into a purely agricultural country. Their ideal is that India should produce by agriculture all the raw material for manufacture by England. Such being the case, one can easily imagine on what scale they should spend money on the improvement of agriculture in India. Lord Curzon is apt to take credit to himself for having established the Pusa Agricultural College. But everybody knows the history of the project for the foundation of this college. The work could be started only owing to the munificence of Mr. Phipps, a partner of the celebrated Andrew Carnegie. That the work of this college will not be conducted according to the satisfaction of the public is apparent from the arrangements which have already been made up to the present. An indigo planter has been placed at the head of the college. He is a man who never learned scientific agriculture in any recognised institution, who never had in any way come in contact with University education, and his knowledge of indigo planting was of the simplest practical description.

Hindu idea cannot tolerate lower caste men, however rich or educated, to be placed on an equal footing with men of higher castes ; whereas the European sojourners in India do not attach any importance to the caste divisions. Brought up as they are and ignorant as they are of caste rules prevailing in this country, it is not very unlikely that some European officials, junior in service, should rely upon the opinions of their Hindu subordinates when required to determine the social qualification of any candidate. A case of such misconception of social qualification occurred some time ago in the district of Tippera, the District Officer refusing to allow a gentleman belonging to a lower caste to compete for the examination in the Police Department. The matter then formed the subject of a memorial which was submitted to the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal who, of course, vetoed the order of the District Officer. If what constitutes "social qualification" of the candidates for the Executive Branch of the Provincial service be not clearly defined, similar misconception may arise needlessly humiliating the candidates rejected on that score and causing a stir amongst the caste people who will make a common cause with the disappointed candidate and must seek redress at the hands of the higher authorities.

The method of nomination does not also fare better than competition, if we regard the question from a political standpoint. In the case of competition the unsuccessful candidates will have no occasion to find fault with the authorities, rather they will either curse their lot or attribute their failure to several deficiencies, and will patiently bear the pangs of disappointment—a state of mind which does not any way foster disloyalty; but, in the case of nonnomination, the position of the unsuccessful candidates is altered. They will be led to attribute, rightly or wrongly, their failure to the partiality of the nominating officers.

III.—LEGISLATION.

CHARU MIHIR,
Feb. 28th, 1905.

55. Referring to the proposed jute legislation, the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 28th February writes:—

The proposed jute legislation.

It is no exaggeration to say that the jute trade is completely in the hands of Europeans, and nobody can say that in the interests of these Europeans, Government will not pass the proposed draft Bill into law. This draft Bill has taken us by surprise. Never probably was a better instrument devised or calculated to grind the poor. We trust our sympathetic Lieutenant-Governor will not allow this Bill to pass into law. The whole mischief might be avoided if the European jute merchants refuse to buy watered jute, or jute adulterated with sand. If they cannot combine for this purpose, the fault is theirs, and that is no reason why the poor cultivator should be harassed with oppressive legislation. We cannot understand the need of special legislation for the prevention of the adulteration of jute. If any cultivator sells watered or sand-mixed jute as dry and unadulterated jute, he can be punished under the existing Penal Code. We can assert with confidence that if this draft Bill passes into law, the cultivation of jute in Bengal will undergo serious diminution.

BURDWAN
SANJIVANI,
Feb. 28th, 1905.

56. Referring to the proposed jute legislation, the *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 28th February remarks:—

The proposed jute legislation.

We appeal to our rulers to pause and to consider well what will be the effects of this piece of legislation. It is calculated to do infinite harm and no good. The cultivators who produce jute will be harassed by the police at every step. Can these cultivators afford the money to build godowns to store jute in? Is it possible for a cultivator to guarantee that not a breath of dew shall touch his jute? We are only afraid that this piece of legislation will only be the precursor of the doom of jute cultivation in Bengal.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-ANANDA
BAZAR PATRIKA,
March 1st, 1905.

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

The proposed jute legislation.

1st March says that the proposed jute legislation would have the effect of preventing cultivators from growing jute, an effect which is desirable on the ground that paddy crops are at present greatly neglected by them in favour of the jute crop. Jute Inspectors would, if the proposed law were passed, be able to haul up any poor jute

SOLTAN,
March 3rd, 1905.

59. Writing on the proposed jute legislation, the *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March expresses the opinion that this piece of legislation will do both good and evil. For instance, the jute might get accidentally wet, or it might get saturated with dew from being allowed to lie in the open and for want of accommodation to store it in, and yet the cultivator might be wrongly proved guilty and punished. Further, a fresh source of bribery will be opened up for the investigating officers. As regards the advantages of the proposed legislation, it should be observed that such restrictions would surely improve the quality of jute, and the European merchants engaged in the trade would also be great gainers.

BANGAVASI,
March 4th, 1905.

60. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th March writes as follows on the proposed jute legislation :—

The proposed jute legislation. The proposed legislation, which is the result of the alarm created among jute merchants by the adulteration of jute, is enough to strike panic into the hearts of the cultivators and traders. That jute, like every other commodity in the world, has nowadays come to be adulterated cannot be denied. But the adulteration is done by dishonest traders and middlemen and not by the cultivators. It has become necessary, no doubt, to check this adulteration in order to save jute merchants from loss. But we cannot approve of the means which has been proposed for the purpose. Nay, we are inclined to think that the legislation proposed will do more harm than good. It will in many cases lead to the unjust oppression of the poor cultivators.

The names of Jute Inspectors and of the police are enough to strike panic into every heart. Many of the inspectors may be honest and there may also be found many honest policemen. But will all Inspectors and all policemen be such? If not, will not the proposed law afford dishonest Inspectors and policemen opportunities of committing oppression and earning money by unlawful means? Who can say that no Inspector or policeman will ever pass adulterated jute under the influence of bribes? The truth is that while in very many cases the law will not afford the protection sought, it will, on the contrary, open up ways for the oppression of the poor.

We would have raised no objection to the proposed legislation, if there had been no other means of checking the evil complained of. But cannot the jute merchants themselves, who export jute to other countries, themselves check the evil by appointing thoroughly efficient experts for the selection of the jute they purchase? But, it is said, this is not possible owing to the keen competition which nowadays prevails among the jute merchants, and which stands in the way of the rejection of adulterated jute. Is it not shameful that a law, which is likely to be oppressive to the poor, should be proposed for checking an evil, which the educated and enlightened merchants who suffer from it can themselves put an end to by unity, but which they fail to do in consequence of jealousy among themselves? It is the merchants' own fault that they allow themselves to be cheated. To make a law to harass the cultivators will, therefore, do no good.

Is it quite impossible for the jute merchants to unite and check the evil? Certainly not. The jute merchants in Narayanganj have united among themselves and successfully fight the evil. So do the owners of the gunny-manufacturing factories in this province. Why then should the jute merchants of Calcutta alone fail?

What need is there then of legislation when the evil can be checked in other ways? It is true there is a law in Russia to prevent the adulteration of jute. But can a law which is good for the dominions acknowledging the despotic rule of Russia be also good for the well-administered dominions of the English? We appeal to Sir Andrew Fraser to desist from the proposed legislation and rely upon the existing law for checking the evil.

CHARU MINIR,
Feb. 28th, 1905.

61. Writing on the proposed amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act, the *Charu Minir* [Mymensingh] of the 28th February observes :—

The Bengal Tenancy Act Amendment Bill. There is no doubt that the object of Government in bringing forward these amendments is to benefit the raiyat. It cannot be denied that many zamindars enhance their raiyats' rent exorbitantly. The recent ruling of the Calcutta High Court in the case of Bepin Behari Mandal

23. Krishnadhan Ghose (reported in the Calcutta Weekly Notes, Part IX, page 265) shows that the existing law is adequate enough to save raiyats from excessive enhancement. The present amendments which had been proposed before this ruling was given, aim at arming Revenue officers with an amount of authority which can never be regarded as safe either for zamindars or raiyats. If the amendments become law in their present shape, the inevitable consequence will be increased litigation and more strained relations between zamindar and raiyat. Further, the zamindars will lose many rights which they have acquired. In truth, this Bill merely foreshadows the undertaking of a cadastral survey for all Bengal.

We are sorry to see Government trying to create a fresh source of income for itself in section 5 of this Bill. It is proposed in this section that attested copies of papers in connection with the record-of-rights will have to be filed in every case between a zamindar and a raiyat, and that unless these papers are filed before the hearing of the case, the suit is to be dismissed. Now, the number of rent suits in Bengal is a large one, and at least two rupees will be the cost of getting an attested copy of the record-of-rights papers in each case. This extra two rupees will be an extra burden on the raiyat as costs of the suit. If any raiyat objects that the *jama* which his zamindar claims is not correct, he can easily prove his statement from the record-of-rights papers. But in suits where the *jama* as stated by the zamindar is not taken exception to by the raiyat, why should there be any compulsory filing of copies of the record-of-rights papers?

62. Two correspondents of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 4th March pray to Government to take the opportunity of the proposed amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act to make some provision for the separation of the accounts in the zamindar's *sarishda* of different shareholders when a holding or tenure happens to be owned by several co-sharers. The absence of such a provision is causing the greatest hardship to raiyats and tenureholders.

BANGAVASI,
March 4th, 1905.

63. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 2nd March writes:—

The Bengal Local Self-Government Act Amendment Bill.

In the draft amendment of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act which has been prepared, a new section has been inserted, under which the District Board will pay an annual contribution towards the upkeep of any water-works which may be undertaken for the benefit of the sadar town of that district. It is highly unjust to saddle District Boards with this item of cost. The sadar towns all possess Municipalities, and areas under the jurisdiction of Municipalities pay neither the road nor the public works cess in aid of the District Board funds. Such being the circumstances, we cannot understand why District Boards should pay for the water-supply of the sadar towns. All that the District Boards can now do with the limited funds at their disposal is to contribute in aid of the water-supply of the rural areas. Indeed, even for this purpose they have often to ask the assistance of Government. Is it not unjust, under the circumstances, to lay fresh burdens on them? What sort of arrangement is this, whereby the people in the rural areas are to die of thirst, while the town population would be rejoicing at their expense?

SANDHYA,
March 2nd, 1905.

64. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March says that the proposed amendment of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act will, if carried, have the effect of neutralising the benefits of the Permanent Settlement by

The proposed amendment of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act.

empowering the District Boards to levy a land-tax for railway or tramway extensions in the country. The District Boards are governed by District Magistrates, so that Government will practically be able to levy the proposed land-tax in any district whenever it may desire to do so. Why should not the District Boards themselves guarantee hereafter, as they do now, the interest on all capital invested in feeder-lines within their jurisdiction? If they are freed from this responsibility of having to meet guaranteed interest, they will never see whether any feeder-line is really worth the money spent on it. Besides this, all feeder-lines will in the long run be the property of the Government, so that if any expenditure is to be incurred on their account it is Government which should incur it. Government is

SANDHYA,
March 3rd, 1905.

therefore requested to remove the provision in question from the proposed amendment of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act.

HITAVADI,
March 3rd, 1905.

65. Referring to the proposed legislation for the protection of wild game in India, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March remarks:—

As it is, the country has been practically disarmed by the Arms Act and the method in which that Act is enforced. This new piece of legislation will only go further in the same direction. A great many people who are now allowed to carry arms will be deprived of them under this law if it is passed. We are unable to understand why the authorities nowadays harbour any designs of increasing the severity of the Arms Act. It is rumoured that the Arms Act will soon be amended. It is proposed in future to have two classes of gun-licenses—one for pure show, where the guns may not be used for shooting purposes, the other specifically for the purpose of shooting. Persons who will possess licenses for the former class will not be allowed to possess licenses for the latter class. It is understood that a Bill on these lines will be introduced into Council as soon as the opinions of the Local Governments have been gathered by the Supreme Government. Who will listen to the cries of the subjects? No doubt this piece of legislation will remain one more lasting monument of Lord Curzon's rule in this country. We really cannot understand what Lord Curzon is driving at. The frontier is being strengthened, because of a fear of Russian attack. And why are the disarmed Indian population being repressed? Is it for fear of a revolt or commotion?

BASUMATI,
March 4th, 1905.

66. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says:—

Rumoured amendment of the Arms Act.

It is rumoured that by an amendment to be made in the Arms Act, licenses for keeping fire-arms will be divided into two classes, viz., licenses for keeping fire-arms for show and licenses for keeping fire-arms for use. This is state-craft! Praised be the intelligence of the man who has invented this novel method of disarming a nation and at the same time of gratifying its vanity. It is frequently complained that, owing to the disarmament of the country, great injury is done by wild animals both to its inhabitants and to its crops. Perhaps the authorities think that this complaint is false, or they would not have been ready to make the Arms Act harder for the people. The rumoured legislation would, however, be useless to the Government, because, loyal or disloyal, the inhabitants of the country could do no harm to it, even under the existing provisions of the Arms Act.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

BIHAR BANDHU,
March 1st, 1905.

67. Noticing the affairs of the Tikari Estate and the powers granted to the present Manager and others, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 1st March says that Lord Curzon had said in his speech at Jaipur that European officers should not be appointed in large numbers in the Native States. But in the Nizam's State there are 28 Europeans whose salaries range from Rs 190 to Rs. 4,225 a month, while in Bihar we see that almost all the higher posts in the small estates are filled up by Europeans in whose hands the Chiefs are mere puppets. The way in which the Tikari Estate is being managed is not at all satisfactory. Extravagance and taking of loans are reigning supreme in that estate.

BHARAT MITRA,
March 4th, 1905.

68. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 4th March has the following:—

The cause of the abdication of the Maharaja of Indore.

The *Sidiq-ul-Akhbar*, an Urdu paper published in Rewari, has now published some new facts regarding the abdication of the late Maharaja of Indore. It says that His Highness had done nothing which could justify his deposition by the Government. Hence the Government set about finding some means by which the Maharaja might be made to abdicate of his own accord. The *Advocate* of Bombay has also of late published a correspondence which, besides supporting the statements of the Rewari paper, throws light on certain other facts new to the public.

69. The *Howrah Hitaishi* [Howrah] of the 4th March notices a petition presented by one Srifarai Jama Khama Singha on behalf of the six banished Raj Kumars and the general public of Manipur to His Excellency Lord Curzon, in which certain allegations of a grave kind are made against Colonel Maxwell, the local Political Agent. The editor appeals to the Viceroy to undertake an immediate inquiry into the allegations made in this petition. To give an idea of the gravity of the charges made, it is pointed out that one of these is that Colonel Maxwell has taken to himself as mistress a married daughter of the dead Maharaja Sura Chandra. The husband of this princess is alive, but he is too afraid to take any steps to vindicate his rights.

A petition against the Political Agent at Manipur.

HOWRAH HITAIISHI,
March 4th, 1905.

70. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 8th March gives the substance of a petition which is said to have been presented to the Viceroy by one Srifaria Jamba Khama Singha on behalf of six banished Raj Kumars and the general public of Manipur, containing certain serious allegations against Colonel Maxwell, the Political Agent of that State.

Allegations against the Political Agent at Manipur.

PRATIJNA,
March 8th, 1905.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

71. The *Aryavarta* [Ranchi] of the 25th February has the following:—

A contrast between Christian and Vedic morality.

The Indians believe in transmigration and say that as a man soweth so he must reap. They consider it totally absurd that the confession of one's sins before a spiritual teacher will secure a pardon for past sins. According to the Christian belief the Divine Mediator will take upon himself all the sins committed by man, but the Indians say that everyone is responsible for his own sins. The fear of sin therefore makes the latter always prefer a pious life. If the Indians have become liars now, it must be effect of the English laws and the foreign rule. An Indian borrowing money considers himself a sinner so long as he has not discharged it, but the Limitation Act of the British Government has purged him of this idea. Moreover, there was no Registration Act in India before, still people did business covering lakhs and lakhs of rupees on words of mouth. My Lord! how do you now call the Indians liars and swindlers?

ARYAVARTA,
Feb. 25th, 1905.

72. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 9th March writes:—

The Viceroy's Convocation speech.

It is necessary at the forthcoming Town Hall meeting to say clearly why we are so bitterly offended with Lord Curzon. Lord Curzon wishes to maintain the English predominance quite intact, and to keep the subject population under repression as mere slaves. We, on the contrary, wish to be partners with the English in the work of governing our country under the imperial suzerainty of Britain. Our ideal is to be subjects of King Edward, but not to be slaves. We wish to be devoted servants of the King, but we refuse to lick the feet of His Majesty's English servants. This ideal is in accordance with the promises of the British nation. All this agitation against Lord Curzon is nothing more than a laying of our heartfelt sentiments before our Emperor. The Viceroy is a temporary officer—he comes and goes in five years' time, but the English *raj* is a permanent institution. If any high official does not act in consonance with the King's promises, then certainly it is morally justifiable for the subjects to protest publicly against his acts. The suzerainty of Britain, and a share for the subjects in the administration of their country, these should constitute the real policy for the Indian Government. Ignorant and selfish men pronounce as seditious all attempts to realise a union of these two ideals. We are subjects of the British *raj*. It is for the sake of the dignity of that *raj* that we consider the behaviour of Lord Curzon unjustifiable.

SANDHYA,
March 9th, 1905.

73. Referring to the recently announced visit to India of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the *Mahakali Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 28th February writes:—

The Prince of Wales's Indian visit.

We are humble subjects under His Majesty's protection. We cannot express in words our pleasure and heartfelt obligation at this instance of His Majesty's sympathy for us. The people of India have always been loyal but poor. They will none of them be found backward even in devoting their lives for a benevolent King. May God bless our Emperor with long life!

MAHAKALI PATRIKA,
Feb. 28th, 1905.

SANJIVANI,
Feb. 2nd, 1905.

74. Referring to the recently announced visit to India of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 2nd February writes:—

The Prince of Wales's visit to India. We are glad at this announcement. We could certainly expect nothing but good if His Royal Highness could see with his own eyes our real condition. That Indians are no barbarians, but a race with centuries of civilisation behind them, fully the peer of any other race on earth, is a fact which the Prince will now have an opportunity of learning at first-hand. His Royal Highness will come to see that it is not right that such a civilised race should be denied any longer the full liberties of British subjects.

All India will unite in giving Their Royal Highnesses a cordial welcome, and in attempting to make their sojourn in India pleasant.

As regards the announcement that no exchange of presents will be permitted during the visit, while we recognise the magnanimity which prompted His Majesty the Emperor in making this restriction, we desire to submit that the Indian public will not feel their hearts content if they are debarred from offering presents to His Royal Highness. When there are no restrictions about offering presents to all the officials from Lord Curzon to the District Magistrate, we do not think it was right to forbid presents only in the present case. However, there is no doubt that many people will, in defiance of this restriction, offer presents to the Prince in order to satisfy their own hearts' desires.

We repeat our expression of pleasure at Their Royal Highnesses' approaching visit to these shores.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 2nd, 1905.

75. Referring to the recently announced visit of the Prince of Wales to India, the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March remarks that the people of India will feel overjoyed to have His Royal Highness in their midst. Let the Prince have an opportunity of seeing the real condition of his father's subjects with his own eyes. The Indian public will remain in eager anxiety to see His Royal Highness.

SOLTAN,
March 3rd, 1905.

76. Referring to the recently announced visit of the Prince of Wales to India, the *Soltan* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March remarks:—

The Prince of Wales's visit to India. There can be no doubt that this long sojourn of the future Emperor of India in their midst will be highly welcome to the Indian people.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 3rd, 1905.

77. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March accords a hearty welcome to Her Excellency Lady Curzon on her return to India, and expresses a hope that the Indian ladies of Calcutta will also join in the address which is intended to be presented to Her Ladyship by their more educated sisters.

SANDHYA,
March 9th, 1905.

78. The *Sandhya* [Calcutta] of the 9th March has the following:—
Englishmen are practically demonstrating that they dislike us in their heart of hearts. But they are not the people to leave us under the influence of anger. We, too, have come to have a feeling of disesteem. We do not like the English as a people. There is not in the whole world another such selfish, envious, exclusive and rude people as they. At times we quite smart under their rude behaviour. Not that they always oppress us with deliberate intention. They have not yet come to have clear notions of courtesy and good-breeding. Their civilisation is not dominated by spiritual ideals. Civilisation, to them, consists in facilities for exchange and barter. That is why they do not know how to behave with us. Englishmen are incapable of appreciating our moral elevation and are only trying to drag us down to a lower level and forcing into the very marrow of the God-fearing Hindu their own godless luxury and airs and ways as well as their shop-keeping spirit. That is why even the good that Englishmen do proves an evil. What is evil is evil and, besides this, what is good, that too has proved an evil. Between their good and their evil they have made our position quite uncomfortable. We have come to feel a disesteem for the very name of Englishman. Even those who have embraced their gross, sectarian creed and those who eat, dress and live like them abuse them every day of their lives. We have no desire to kindle the flame of animosity. We have only stated the truth. After a century

or a century and a half's mutual intercourse our feeling for each other is this—that Englishmen do not like us, neither do we like Englishmen. The wonder is that, notwithstanding all this mutual rage and dislike, neither would leave the other. It would not do for Englishmen to leave India. If the English lion leaves India he will be turned into a mouse. Nor would we, on our part, cut off our connection with these pertinacious Englishmen. This is no sycophancy or falsehood. Whatever the differences, there will be no separation between the two till Heaven's purpose is fulfilled. We have forgotten ourselves. The ancient Hindus, so religious and so old in wisdom, are now fallen and degenerated. But they will regain their former position under the protection of this half-civilised English people. By collision with Englishmen the fire of their wisdom will be kindled anew. As teachers of wisdom the Hindus will once again conquer the world. That is why the ancient Hindu people still exist—that is why they need the protection of, and the rude collision with, a more robust nationality. By our nature we have a dislike for Englishmen. Their social behaviour is such as to pain and offend us. But if we look with spiritual eyes we shall see that the English have been sent by Providence. Though they are selfish and ignorant of courtesy and good-breeding, yet we should not cherish any antipathy to them. We need protection—that is why they are come to protect us; we are diseased—that is why they are come to administer bitter medicines; we are full of boils all over—that is why they are come to apply the surgical knife. Though offensive, they should therefore be acknowledged as good friends.

79. Referring to the recent assault case against Mr. Carey, Collector of Hooghly, the *Mihir-o-sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 3rd March remarks:—

The case against Mr. Carey.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
March 3rd, 1905.

Magistrates like these are bringing terrible disgrace on the British name in India. In no other country has such a bad name been ever acquired by the English—a race famous for its love of justice, for protecting the poor, and for succouring the weak.

80. Referring to the Hooghly assault case, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 4th March says:—

The Hooghly assault case.

BASUMATI,
March 4th, 1905.

If the people of this country follow Mr. Carey's example, they can expect to be soon freed from oppression. If the native gentleman beaten by Mr. Carey had a desire to have the matter brought before a law court, he would have received much greater sympathy from the public by appearing as a defendant instead of appearing, as he has done, as a complainant.

81. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 6th March writes:—

Alleged ill-treatment of Indians by Europeans.

The ill-treatment of natives by Europeans may now be reckoned as an almost daily occurrence. In the majority of cases the assaulted and insulted natives quietly pocket the outrage; in a few cases, they seek the redress of the law; and in fewer cases still, they seek the unfailing remedy of returning blow for blow, and kick for kick. A Bengali gentleman in Chittagong town recently showed great moral courage by resorting to the last-named class of remedy. It appears from the local newspaper that on the 1st March last, a clerk of the local Railway office was returning to Chittagong in the afternoon by rail in a third-class carriage attached to a goods train. When alighting from the carriage near the double mooring junction, he was accosted by a European, who demanded his name and the reason why he travelled on a goods train, and threatened him with punishment. The Babu replied that he was a railway employé and possessed a "pass." The European was not satisfied, high words came to be gradually exchanged till it came to blows. The European struck the first blow and immediately got one back from the Bengali. A crowd now assembled and parted the combatants. It does not appear that anything further has since happened in connection with this incident. In truth, if people follow the lead of this clerk, and choose this method of redress for such outrages, then they would cease as now to be molested and ill-treated by Europeans always and everywhere.

DACCA GAZETTE,
March 6th, 1905.

HITAVARTA,
March 5th, 1905.

82. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 5th March is glad to see in the *Vyankteswar Samachar* paper that some Musalmans, among whom Fakir Din Muhammad of Dacca is foremost, are making efforts to stop the slaughter of cows, efforts which, if successful, will have the effect of removing the only cause of difference between the Hindus and the Muhammadans, and goes on to remark:—Our contemporary expects help from Government also in this matter, but to expect help, in the prevention of cow-slaughter is only a delusion.

HITAVARTA.

83. The same paper criticises the performance by means of living pictures held in the Corinthian Theatre under the heading "Beauty Market," from which the following passages are taken:—

Many men who heard the name and fame of the lovely faces, but were obliged to suppress their feelings, had the good fortune of getting an opportunity of feasting their love-thirsty eyes by drinking deeply of the beauty of these clever and young ladies and let their hearts remain satisfied with that much only. May God bless all and satisfy their hearts' desires. A poet has well said, "My darling youth will not last long." Why then keep it concealed? Beauty and youth belong to this earth, and to this earth they will return. Consequently so long as one lives, why not live merrily and enjoy even by making a free gift of beauty, because Christian ladies sell kisses in open markets, earn money, and even steal the heart of the poor calf (young men)? They do not lose anything, the cheeks remain as they are, and have a double profit in the bargain. The beaux of this country when they heard stories of such scenes felt agitated and considered themselves unfortunate since they were not born in Europe. However, through the kindness of some liberal-minded anglicised gentlemen and ladies, and also that of some brothers and sisters, this great want has been removed.

HITAVARTA.

84. The same paper says that the question of Home Rule has again been raised by the Irish in the British Parliament, and that whatever Mr. Balfour may say or do as regards the question, the people of Ireland are not like the cowardly loyal Indians, so worthless as to be satisfied with empty words.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
March 6th, 1905.

85. Referring to Mr. Redmond's motion in Parliament about "Home Rule" for Ireland, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 6th March says:—

The Irish question is agitating the minds of the people of England, who are afraid of some serious occurrence on any day in Parliament. We are only afraid lest the agitation might turn the heads of the Babu society of this country.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPIKA.
Feb. 25th, 1905.

86. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th February states that the cold has abated in Cuttack town and that a little cloud was visible on Thursday, last week.

UTKALDIPIKA.

87. The same paper reports that a Marwari of Nayasarak in Cuttack town has imported plague from Calcutta and that the patient is recovering.

UTKALDIPIKA.

88. The Arilo correspondent of the same paper writes that the only tank in his village is in a very bad state of repair. It dries up in the month of *Chaitra*, which means great hardship to men and cattle in the middle of the summer season. It is hoped that Government as well as the District Board will kindly take steps to re-excavate the tank.

UTKALDIPIKA.

89. The Puri correspondent of the same paper says that the temple of the god Kapoteswar, three miles to the north of Puri town, is too small and is too much like a cave to allow easy passage of pilgrims into and out of it. As the shrine is growing in importance, the hope is expressed that some pious and rich donor may come forward with an offer for its enlargement.

90. The same paper is sorry to find that the Secretary of State for India has made up his mind to saddle India with the expenses of the Tibet Mission on the alleged ground that the mission was undertaken only for the benefit of India. It is observed that India will derive no particular benefit from the mission, the main or the only object of which was the protection of the interests of the British Empire in general.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Feb. 25th, 1905.

91. Referring to the abolition of the competitive test for the recruitment of candidates for the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service and the Subordinate Executive Service in Bengal, and to the fact that the example of the Bengal Government has been followed by the Government of Madras, and that it may probably be followed by the Government of Bombay in the near future, the same paper observes that the system of pure nomination entirely dispenses with the test of merit, and that it will soon be seen how the system works. It is to be feared that the new system will encourage flattery and wheedling, as indications of the same have already come to notice.

UTKALDIPIKA.

92. A correspondent of the same paper says that the bridge near Amanakuda on the Tulnakhara-Gop road was breached by flood about four or five years ago, and that the breach becomes impassable in the rainy season and causes great inconvenience to travellers. The Cuttack District Board is asked to attend to the matter.

UTKALDIPIKA.

93. Referring to the announcement that the Secretary of State for India will shortly make not less than eleven appointments as Assistant Engineers to the Public Works Department of the Government of India, and to the condition that every candidate must be a British subject of European descent—a condition, that is, which precludes the Indians from the right of applying for any of the posts in question—the same paper asks, "Is this not a distinction made between black and white?"

UTKALDIPIKA.

94. The same paper states that an Association, by name "Saraswat Samiti," was started in Cuttack town about a year ago its main object being to disseminate the teachings of the old *sastras*. The anniversary meeting of this Association was held on the 18th instant under the presidency of Babu Krishna Chandra Das Praharaj, the well-known zamindar of Baliaberha in Midnapore. The meeting, which was a complete success, was graced by the presence of Mr. M. S. Das, C.I.E., Rai Radhanath Rai Bahadur, Babu Madhusadan Rao, the Minor Raja of Pal Labara and other gentlemen.

UTKALDIPIKA.

95. The *Star of Utkal* [Cuttack] of the 25th February says that the Rajas of Khalikote and Rerhakhol are taking a keen interest in the affairs of the Utkal Conference and are trying to establish branch Associations in their own States.

STAR OF UTKAL,
Feb. 25th, 1905.

96. The same paper has the following:—

The Puri District Board. It is complained that the Puri District Board consists mostly of members who are quite ignorant of the local conditions and have no opportunity of visiting the interior of the district. Government knows that our representatives generally take little interest in their work and therefore keeps them under leading strings. As regards usefulness, there is little difference between the nominated and the elected members. The elected members, however, are more obstructive.

STAR OF UTKAL.

97. The same paper says that a kind of white clay is found abundantly in Bahilda in Mayurbhanj which whitewashes better than lime.

STAR OF UTKAL.

98. The same paper says that the trained weavers of Mayurbhanj are turning out a sort of *Uriya endi* or silk gin which is well suited for coats and trousers and sells cheap.

STAR OF UTKAL.

STAR OF UTKAL,
Feb. 25th, 1905.

99. The same paper points out that some lawyers have their nets so peculiarly woven that from shrimp to whale nothing escapes them, that they do not charge high fees according to their position in the Bar, and that still they are favoured by the Judges at the time of hard work. It is suggested that the rule regarding juniors obtaining in the High Courts should be insisted on in the District Courts and that a stop should be put to the present irregular system.

STAR OF UTKAL.

100. The same paper has the following :—

A complaint against a Deputy Magistrate.

On Saturday, last week, a Barrister appeared before Babu Jyotish Chandra Acharya, Deputy Magistrate of Cuttack, in a case that was fixed for the day. Jyotish Babu said the case had been compromised. The Barrister submitted that he was instructed otherwise and asked to be told what orders had been entered in the order-sheet. Jyotish Babu said no order had been entered, and threatened that if no compromise was made he would see that the complainant got no relief. The Barrister said that he would see that he got it. Upon this Jyotish Babu lost his temper and used language unworthy of the Court and unbecoming to the Counsel, and thus made the Court contemptible. However, the quarrel was composed through the mediation of Rai Haribullabh Bose Bahadur who appeared on the scene just then. The writer observes that Jyotish Babu and the Barrister may fall out and make up as their private interests may dictate, but that the public have an interest in the matter, as the improper behaviour of Jyotish Babu towards others has often been heard of, and as it is not right that British Courts of justice should be turned into bear-gardens, or that the dignity of a Court should be lowered in the eyes of the public. The writer further says that the complainant was forced against his will to compound the case and that the Court dictated the terms of the compromise.

STAR OF UTKAL.

101. In an article headed "Utkal in Ancient India," the same paper describes the past glories of the Utkaliyas, their architectural excellence, their religious enthusiasm,

their love of learning, their love of trade and their warlike spirit. The writer says that the Aryan migration into Utkal had taken place long before the Mahabharata was composed and, stating the boundaries of Orissa under the princes of the Gangetic dynasty, observes that in the prosperous days of Orissa the province comprised within its limits Midnapore, Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Hooghly, Rajmahendry, and Gondwana, besides Orissa proper, and that occasionally the conquests of the Gajapati princes extended even to the Carnatic.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Feb. 22nd, 1905.

102. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 22nd February is glad to learn that the Raja of Dharakote has offered a

The proposed Higher Class Girls' School at Cuttack.

monthly subscription of Rs. 15 and a donation of Rs. 300 for the proposed Higher Class Girls' School at Cuttack, and hopes that other Tributary Chiefs and the leading zamindars will ere long make handsome contributions for such a cause.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

103. By way of correcting its remarks, reported last week, regarding a teacher of the Balasore Zilla School who had flogged

A correction.

an infant student, the same paper states that the teacher concerned did not cane the student out of any sinister motive, but simply for the purpose of maintaining discipline in his class. [See Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 4th March 1905, para. 77.]

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

104. The same paper is glad to learn that it is in contemplation to found

A proposed Home for Hindu widows at Puri.

a Home for Hindu widows at Puri, with the support of the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj. The writer observes that the usefulness of such an institution in a place like Puri can hardly be exaggerated as it will serve, among other objects, the noble purpose of preventing young widows from being seduced or otherwise oppressed by the beastly ruffians, who are so numerous in such places of pilgrimage, and that it is the bounden duty of every Hindu to remedy this gross evil at a sacred place like Puri.

105. The same paper states that the cold has not entirely abated, that the sky is clear, that the general health of Balasore town is not bad, but that cholera prevails there in a sporadic form, upon which, however, the

The weather and the public health at Balasore.

URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD, Feb. 22nd 1905.

Magistrate of Balasore keeps a strict eye.

106. The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that the weather was cloudy, that a heavy shower of rain fell, and that the cold increased in Puri town last week.

The weather in Puri.

URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD.

107. The same correspondent states that small-pox has made its appearance in Banaswar Gali and Pathuria Sahi in Puri town.

Small-pox at Puri.

URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD.

108. The Dehurda correspondent of the same paper points out that the cattle of this country, and especially of Balasore district, which are indispensably requisite for agricultural work, are fast deteriorating both in numerical and in physical strength, that the main cause of this lamentable deterioration is the want of sufficient fodder, which, in its turn, is due to the reclamation of the grazing grounds by the people owing to increase of population and to the loss of crops. The writer hopes that our British rulers, who are helping us in every way, will also help us in this matter which is of such vital importance.

URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD.

109. The same correspondent states that Mr. Egerton, Magistrate of Balasore, has already had his attention drawn to this matter. He has distributed some bulls of excellent breed among the local zamindars for the improvement of the bovine species with the ulterior object of improving agriculture thereby. The writer also prays for the introduction into the schools of this province of a book on agriculture, like *Sarala Krishi Bijana*, by Babu Nitya Gopal Mukherjee, Assistant Director, Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

URIYA AND NAVASAMVAD.

Mr. Egerton, Collector of Balasore, and the improvement of cattle in that district.

110. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd February states that a heavy shower of rain, which fell in Balasore last week, has greatly facilitated cultivation work in that district, that the sky has since been clear, and that the cold has abated.

The weather at Balasore.

SAMVAD VAHIKA, Feb. 23rd, 1905.

111. The Uparbhag correspondent of the same paper says that rinderpest is raging virulently in village Panchpara in the pargana of the same name of Mayurbhanj State.

Rinderpest in Mayurbhanj.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

112. Referring to the proposed amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act and to the interview on the subject so kindly granted by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to some representative zamindars of Bengal, the same paper thanks His Honour for his good-heartedness and hopes that a ruler who is so solicitous for the welfare of the people will consider the matter minutely and come to a decision which will be good both for zamindars and their tenants.

The proposed amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

113. Referring to the proposal for the construction of school-houses for the *pathshalas* in Bengal, the same paper points out that the houses of higher and middle schools also are in many cases in a very wretched condition, and observes that the latter schools stand in equal, though not greater, need of school-houses and should receive equal consideration at the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 22nd February also approves of the proposal and observes that it would not be enough to remove this particular want of the *pathshalas*, for they have other and equally pressing wants which ought to receive the kind attention of the Local Government.

Housing of *pathshalas* in Bengal.

SAMVAD VAHIKA.

114. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 25th February states that the out-turn of sesamum, *arhar*, *mung*, *chana* and other crops this year has been less than that of the previous year and that so these articles of food are comparatively dear, and that as yet there is no sign of the mango crop, which is one of the main supports of the poor for some months in the year.

The crops.

GARJATBASINI, Feb. 25th, 1905.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

Bengali Translator.

The 11th March 1905.

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REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 11th March 1905.

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I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

303. A new chapter in Russian history is opening, writes the *Bengalee*, and the present Russian Government should wisely yield to the national demand for real reform and a real constitution instead of courting effacement by maintaining blind despotism.

BENGALÉE,
4th March 1905.

The position in Russia. Old Russian methods have failed to prove effective and troops employed to kill men cannot compel them to resume work. Suspension of railway communication with Siberia will prove disastrous to General Kuropatkin's army, which will be completely cut off from Russia.

Should the revolutionary movement spread the present monarchy might be swept away by the wave of popular fury. In accordance with M. Yarmuloff's report, the Tsar and his advisers should lose no time in carrying out the necessary reforms, for if the people assert themselves, they must be obeyed, or the Government will perish.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

304. In consequence of numerous complaints received against the daroga of the Salkea Police, the *Bengalee* appeals to

BENGALÉE,
3rd March 1905.

The Salkea Police daroga. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to call for the papers of the case which the daroga brought against two innocent men, Babu Annoda Prosad Mookerjee and his son, as a perusal of the papers will convince His Honour that it will be extremely unsafe to employ such a man in the Police Department. If he can act in such a high-handed fashion at Salkea, which is so close to Calcutta, there is hardly anything he is not capable of doing in the remote interior.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

305. The *Indian Empire* gives particulars of an extraordinary case reported from South Sylhet, showing the happy relations existing between European Magistrates and planters.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
7th March 1905.

An Extraordinary case. Three of the latter with over 200 coolies visited the Kalighat mela, and one of them ordered the removal from a stall belonging to two cloth merchants, of goods to the value of Rs. 275. This was done in the presence of a police constable.

The Subdivisional Officer ordered a police enquiry, but while this was progressing the shopkeepers were made to appear before another magistrate, who summarily dismissed the case on the ground that the merchants had no business to go to the fair unasked. It is hoped that the attention of the Chief Commissioner of Assam will be drawn to this unusual procedure of the Magistrate.

(d)—Education.

306. Writing on the subject of the education of the masses, *New India* proposes that the Indian Association should raise funds for the organisation of an Education Mission

NEW INDIA,
4th March 1905.

The education of the people. Society which will train up and send out missionaries to every village in the country, to teach the people the elementary lessons of hygiene, every-day science, and the ideals and duties of civic and patriotic life.

307. The *Bengalee* expresses surprise that the Hon'ble Ambica Charan Mozumdar's question regarding the Calcutta

BENGALÉE,
5th March 1905.

The University "Caucus." University Teachers' Association was not answered at the last meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council, but it would not be sorry if the delay should result in arresting the usurpations of the Teachers' Guild and in alleviating the serious malady from which the University is suffering. It is expected that His Honour will make a thorough enquiry into the matter which has become a grave scandal as far as the Calcutta University is concerned.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
6th March 1905.

308. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* recounts the facts connected with a disturbance which took place during a football match at Lahore on the 20th December last, between the students of the Dayanad Anglo-Vedio College and the local Christian College, in which some students and a Professor of the latter institution were hurt. Although it was arranged to have the matter jointly enquired into, the Punjab University Sports and Tournament Committee appointed for this purpose a Sub-Committee of its own, consisting of only one Hindu against four Europeans and one Musalman, which threw all the blame upon the students and a Professor of the D. A. V. College.

A meeting of the Syndicate, presided over by the Principal of the Christian College, accepted the finding of this Sub-Committee and debarred all students of the D. A. V. College from participating in future football tournaments. A new Sub-Committee was also appointed to report on the conduct of the alleged offending Professor, and has threatened the latter with loss of his degree and the College with disaffiliation if he is not removed from its staff. An appeal to the law Court is the only remedy left to the D. A. V. College authorities, but the *Patrika* is of opinion that Government may pass another Validation Act to legalise the illegal proceedings of the Sporting Committee and the Syndicate.

BENGALUR,
9th March 1905.

309. Referring to the foregoing case the *Bengalee* states that the Syndicate of the University has now passed orders punishing only the students and not the Professor of the

Ibid.

Hindu institution. The decision was not unanimous and a Judge of the Chief Court dissented from it. It is generally felt that justice has not been done and evidence which would have altered the recommendations of the Sports Committee was not taken. The Syndicate should in duty bound have taken fresh evidence before arriving at a decision, and the Principal of the Christian College should have thought proper not to have sat on the Syndicate when the question was being considered.

INDIAN NATION,
6th March 1905.

310. The *Indian Nation* pronounces it the Vice-Chancellor's address to the Bombay University, to be free from sarcastic allusions and left-handed compliments. Though

Dr. Mackichan's address. not an ideal Convocation address, its spirit and substance are academic and suited therefore to the occasion. The statement that the poor student will not be excluded from the highest benefits of the University, is reassuring, if it means that the cost of education will not be higher than at present.

The journal considers it advisable for Government to establish or allow others to establish institutions unconnected with the University which, if properly conducted, should secure for its scholars a fair share of Government appointments.

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

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
3rd March 1905.

311. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is of opinion that Mr. Apar, as Municipal Commissioner, has done immense service to the citizens of Calcutta especially by his note on the recent Government Resolution in which unjust reflections were cast upon the independent members of

Mr. J. G. Apar's note on the Government Resolution affecting the Calcutta Municipality. the Corporation, and the unjustifiable acts of the executive were sought to be whitewashed. The Government have shown themselves to be ignorant and incapable of dealing with the subject, and to avoid receiving the report of the Special Committee under Mr. Apar they sent down Mr. K. G. Gupta from Darjeeling to serve as an instrument of Mr. Allen to deal a deadly blow to the cause of Local Self-Government and the interests of his own countrymen.

BENGALUR,
4th March 1905.

312. Referring to the petitions addressed to the High Court, and the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, against the opening of a drinking bar connected with the restaurant at No. 1, Old Post Office Street,

The proposed drinking bar near the High Court.

the *Bengalee* considers it obvious that the proposed site is most objectionable on account of its contiguity to the High Court and the offices of members of the legal profession. Spence's or the Great Eastern is near enough to answer the convenience of European gentlemen, and a liquor-shop in the heart of *Ukipara* would be too utterly bad and indefensible.

313. The *Bengalee* characterises, the proposal of Mr. Shirley Tremearne to provide Rs. 20,000 in the next municipal budget for an address and present to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, as obviously illegal. Section 14, sub-section (2), clause (IX) of the Calcutta Municipal Act will only permit of the presentation of a mere address of welcome, as the money required for a gift cannot come under the category of a public ceremony or entertainment.

The best way to stop the mischief will be to extend to corporate bodies the principle of non-interchange of presents, for legality should not be sacrificed to loyalty.

314. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* expresses surprise that Mr. Shirley Tremearne of all men should be seized by a fit of loyalty to the Crown and display it by damning legality, reason, and duty to rate-payers. Loyalists should not trade on their loyalty by making others pay instead of opening their own purse-strings. The journal considers that the disposal of sacred funds held in trust without consulting the owners of these funds denotes "an ill-conditioned mind."

BENGALIAN,
7th March 1905.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
9th March 1905.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

315. The *Indian Mirror*, thanks the Government for establishing the institutionat Pusa, and hopes that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will do something for scientific agriculture in Bengal. Improved scientific methods and the use of scientific implements will lead to more abundant crops, which means increased prosperity and ability of the people to withstand the effects of scarcity or famine. Large tracts reclaimed and converted into model farms will enable the people to see and appreciate the use of the new methods and implements, and thus lead to their introduction.

INDIAN MIRROR,
9th March 1905.

(h)—General.

316. Commenting on the attitude of Government in regard to the operations of the Arms Act, the *Weekly Chronicle* finds from local experience that (Assam) fresh gun-licences are rarely granted unless the position of the applicant satisfies the strictest scrutiny. Renewals are granted under almost prohibitive conditions, and every opportunity is taken to confiscate guns on good, bad or indifferent reasons.

These are obvious indications that the Government is contemplating an amendment of the Arms Act with a view to practically disarming the people.

317. The felicitous language used by His Excellency Lord Kitchener in his speech at the Calcutta Madrassa Annual Exhibition affords, says the *Bengalee*, an example of the strangeness of the times, when a soldier talks with the wisdom of the statesman and a statesman is found to indulge in the language of the barrack room.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th Feb. 1905.

BENGALIAN,
3rd March 1905.

318. The *Indian Mirror* is loud in praises of Lord Kitchener on account of the speech which he made at the Madrassa prize distribution, and considers that His Excellency has performed yet another brilliant exploit in conquering the hearts of the Indian people. Contrasting Lord Curzon's Convocation speech with Lord Kitchener's it says the Viceroy ignores the past relationship between the East and West and the extent of the latter's debt to the former for its progress in civilisation, while the Commander-in-Chief finds it difficult to over-estimate the debt which the West owes to the East whether in literature, science or art. The journal strongly condemns Lord Curzon's utterances and concludes by thanking Lord Kitchener for his sympathetic attitude towards the Indian.

INDIAN MIRROR,
7th March 1905.

NEW INDIA,
4th March 1905.

319. *New India* regrets that the demonstration at the Town Hall, Calcutta, has been forced on the organisers by the mischievous acts and utterances of the present Viceroy.

It is fortunate that Lord Curzon has not to deal with white men in India, for on far less provocation he would in England or America have had his house besieged by infuriated mobs, his doors and panels broken, his windows dislodged, and his effigy burnt in the public squares, while he would have had to seek personal safety in flight. The Indian and especially the Hindu is however too humane and refined to seek these civilised outlets for his outraged feelings, but that he is not insensible or cowardly is proved by the fact that the Empire has been built on the heroism not of the English but of the Hindu and Muhammadan soldiers of India. It is hoped that the demonstration will not degenerate into a mendicant wail or demonstrate Lord Curzon's soda-water theory of public agitations in India. There should be no reference to any outside authority, but an appeal may be made to the Indian people to cultivate such physical and moral virtues which will compel respect and make a repetition of such insults impossible. As regards Lord Curzon and his administration, a resolution should be adopted proclaiming in plain, strong, but dignified language the nation's absolute want of confidence in the man and his policy.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
7th March 1905.

320. The numerous protest meetings held all over the country show, says the *Indian Empire*, the effect produced by the uncalled-for insults offered by the Viceroy in his Convocation speech. After the Calcutta Town Hall meeting a memorial will be sent to His Majesty the King-Emperor through the Secretary of State for India. The protest, which should be made in a methodical and sober manner, is needed on account of the injury this wholesale condemnation of Indian character has done and will do in the future. The pernicious example set by the Viceroy will be followed and improved upon by the European officers of Government, who are not already conspicuous for their considerate treatment of Indians.

BENGALIEE,
9th March 1905.

321. Commenting on the forthcoming public meeting in Calcutta to consider Lord Curzon's Convocation speech and his policy, the *Bengalee* considers that no attempt should be made to minimize the significance of the demonstration which is the outcome of the feeling of the entire country. The occasion will be a solemn and historic one, and the journal is confident that temperance and moderation, understatement rather than exaggeration, will mark the proceedings.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
5th March 1905.

322. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is of opinion that the Viceroy has forced the protest meeting upon the people by the aspersions he has cast upon the Indian national character and literature and by refraining from expressing some sorrow for the pain he has unnecessarily caused the whole nation.

The successive measures of His Lordship throw's government, designed to back the progress of the country fifty years have rendered the people miserable, but the Convocation speech following so soon after the Universities Validation Act has acted like the last straw on the camel's back. The present protest is made by all India, and although some titled Indians, for fear of offending the authorities, refrain from attending the meeting, the *Patrika* knows that their hearts will be there.

BENGALIEE,
10th March 1905.

323. Reverting to the subject of the public meeting at the Town Hall, the *Bengalee* points to it as the most striking evidence of the freedom of speech and discussion which is enjoyed under British rule, and trusts that on this occasion, the Indians will rise to the height of their obligation in the exercise of their unique privilege. They should allow facts to speak for themselves, and sobriety and moderation should govern their proceedings.

A vigorous protest against the serious reflections upon the character of the people, cast by Sir Mordant Wells, resulted in his being censured by the Secretary of State and his leaving the country within a few months. It is

believed that the resolutions to be placed before the Town Hall meeting will compare favourably in respect of moderation with those adopted by men of the last generation, whose wealth without their public spirit has been inherited by manv.

324. The demonstration at the Town Hall is, says the *Indian Mirror*, undoubtedly one of melancholy interest, for this is the first time that the Indian public will meet together to pass resolutions in deprecation of the general policy and particular utterances of a Viceroy. It is due to circumstances of a most painful character. Lord Curzon has grievously wronged the Indian people by traducing their epics and their national ideals, and has shown not the least inclination to correct his erroneous statements. The *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata* are to the Hindus what the Bible is to the Christians, and in reviling the Hindu sacred books Lord Curzon has reviled the Hindu religion itself.

INDIAN MIRROR,
10th March 1905.

The meeting has not been convened to express indignation, and under the guidance of its able President, the proceedings will earn the approval of even the most moderate of public critics.

325. The *Bengalee* draws the attention of Government to the hardship experienced by Sub-Deputy Collectors owing to their being disallowed travelling allowances for journeys within 15 miles, and trusts that the earliest opportunity will be taken to redress this grievance.

BENGALÉE,
7th March 1905.

326. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* deprecates the punishing of Deputy Magistrates on reports against them submitted by the District Magistrate without giving them a hearing. The method adopted by Government of rewarding or punishing public servants is pronounced to be ridiculous, and the journal would like to know what action the Government takes on two contradictory reports about Deputy Magistrates. The case of Babu Nabin Chander Sen is quoted as an example of how a Deputy Magistrate was in the beginning affectionately hugged, then cast aside, and once again restored to his previous position. Other examples are also given of Deputy Magistrates being condemned by one District Magistrate and praised by another, and with such conflicting reports it would be interesting to know what opinion the Government forms of these officers' characters.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
7th March 1905.

327. The policy of the Government has, writes the *Hindoo Patriot*, become one of repression only. Education, or rather a modicum if it, will be imparted to a select few; the public have been shut out from Government service by the abolition of the system of competitive examination, and stringent laws have been passed to keep the people in the dark with regard to Governmental action. Every effort is being made to curb the legitimate aims and aspirations of the down-trodden Indian, who is being maligned worse than ever. Imperialism is at its highest, and good feeling in the rulers towards a conquered nation has become a thing of the past. This oppressiveness is ascribed to the desire to check the growth of the gentry and the bourgeois, whose increase of power forms an impediment to autocratic rule. The mischief already done, thanks to the Education Despatch of 1854, will not be easily killed by reactionary measures.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
7th March 1905.

The policy which precludes the children of the soil from the benefits which are their birthright is a short-sighted one and does not speak well of its inaugurator.

328. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* draws the attention of the Viceroy to the extremely hard case of Mr. Trimback Gonesh Paranjape, late an Extra Assistant Commissioner in Berar, who after 29 years' approved and spotless service, has been deprived of his bread and turned adrift in his old age without the pension he might be entitled to under the rules. He was accused of contravening Government orders, by acquiring landed property in the district to which

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
7th March 1905.

he was attached, while occasionally making false declarations that he had not done so. The finding against him, however, rests on most vague, inconclusive and unsatisfactory evidence, combined with circumstances characterised in the report as "of a very suspicious nature." Being a gazetted officer, the enquiry into his case should have been held under Act XXXVII of 1850, and it is remarkable that he should have been refused copies of important papers relating to his case.

Even if the charge be held established, the *Patrika* considers the punishment out of all proportion to the alleged offence, and trusts His Excellency Lord Curzon will peruse the papers of the case and do justice to the aggrieved officer.

BENGALIAN,
7th March 1905.

329. The *Bengalee* considers that, with the exception of the Covenanted Indian Medical Service, the medical officers in Government service are the most deserving but

most ill-paid public servants in India. In addition to the high qualifying standard of admission, there are five years of incessant study, practical demonstration, night work in hospital wards, with the danger attending the dissecting room and wards for epidemic diseases, besides difficult yearly examinations. After passing successfully through this course, Assistant Surgeons in Government service receive salaries much below those drawn by holders of similar offices in the Provincial Service, and it is only in a few cases that they are appointed Civil Medical Officers.

The lot of the Hospital Assistants or "Native Doctors" is still more lamentable, as they have not the remotest chance of preferment. They start on Rs. 25 and reach a maximum salary of Rs. 75. This means that they get as much as a tramway conductor without any education or special preparation, or a clerk in public or private service without any special study or particular qualification.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
8th March 1905.

330. The *Hindoo Patriot* is of opinion that the recurring budget surpluses indicate that taxation in India is maintained at a much higher level than is necessary, as they have

been made possible by the artificial appreciation of the rupee and the consequent saving of three to four millions annually on the Home remittances of the Government of India. Everything disproves the Government view of the people's prosperity, and the recommendation of the Congress should be given effect to, of further reducing the salt duty, the land tax in provinces where there has been a succession of calamitous years, and the abolition of the duty on cotton goods.

INDIAN MIRROR,
8th March 1905.

331. Commenting on the changes announced in the Civil branches of the administration, the *Indian Mirror* states that the new Department of Commerce and Industry strengthens the Executive Council of the Governor-General and redistributes the duties in

the Civil Secretariat. A good deal of work has been made over to the new Department, but it is left to be seen how far it will help the true cause of industrial development by the promotion of the indigenous industries. The *Mirror* would have preferred a Commercial Cabinet, composed of representatives of the Indian and European mercantile communities, with its headquarters permanently located in Calcutta. The admitted incapacity of the Viceroy's Executive Council furnishes a strong ground for its reconstitution on the lines suggested by the National Congress.

BENGALIAN,
10th March 1905.

332. The *Bengalee* draws the attention of the authorities to the very unjust rule in the Public Works Department Code, Exception (1) to paragraph 35, Volume I, Chapter I, which deprives natives of Bengal or persons born in or near Calcutta of Presidency allowance. This rule is not in force in Bombay and Madras, and was enforced in Bengal recommendation of the Local Government 25 years ago.

A grievance of the Public Works
Department Accountants of
Bengal.

333 The *Bengalee* complains that the policy of the present Lady Superintendent of the Dufferin Hospital is to replace the Indian nurses by those of European or Eurasian extraction. Within four months of her appointment the Lady Superintendent imported a Eurasian nurse from Bombay for the post of matron. This person has made herself oppressive to the Indian nurses in consequence of their refusal to perform menial offices for her. It is almost impossible for any self-respecting Bengali lady to remain in the Hospital either as nurse or student, and these serious charges should be enquired into.

BENGALIAN,
10th March 1905.

III.—LEGISLATION.

334. Commenting on the proposed Bill to amend the law for the prevention of adulteration of jute and for the suppression of fraudulent practices in the jute

The Jute Bill.

trade, the *Bengalee* disapproves of the infliction of fines upon producers, who are generally poor and illiterate peasants without the means of discerning whether the moisture in any particular case exceeds the maximum allowance of ten per cent. They are seldom guilty of fraudulent practices, which are usually resorted to by middlemen, and in their case alone should the difference be realized and no fine imposed.

The journal advocates the appointment of Indian instead of European Inspectors, for they would be as honest and efficient and far cheaper. It is hoped that these appointments are not to be created for the exclusive benefit of Europeans.

335. In this connection, the *Hindoo Patriot* states that the authorities would be well advised to devise a simpler method of dealing properly with fraudulent attempts, than

Ibid.

the excessively stringent measures proposed, since the official report shows that moisture in jute dries up quickly in the sun, that some degree of it is necessary, and that an extent of 10 per cent. is allowed by the trade.

336. The *Telegraph* is glad to find that the condition of the poor Bengal raiyats has attracted the attention of the Government, but it does not consider it judicious or advis-

The Bengal Tenancy Act.

able to amend the Bengal Tenancy Act. Its intricacies afford the raiyat sufficient allurements for running to the law-Courts to see whether some particular point turns in his favour. This is one of the chief reasons why many of them are hopelessly in the clutches of the village money-lender. Costly litigation is the bane of rural Bengal, and if the Government is really willing to confer a boon on the peasants it must make litigation less costly.

BENGALIAN,
3rd March 1905.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
10th March 1905.

TELEGRAPH,
9th March 1905.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

337. *New India* publishes the petition of certain residents of Manipur openly accusing Colonel Maxwell, the Superintendent of Manipur State, of "a variety of oppres-

Colonel Maxwell in Manipur.

sions." The destruction by fire of the Assistant Superintendent's and, later, the Executive Engineer's bungalow was ascribed to the Manipuris of the town, and by the exercise of executive authority, a large number of them were ordered by the Colonel to rebuild the destroyed bungalows at their own cost as a punishment for the offence of which they have been suspected. On making a representation in the Cherup Court the aggrieved parties, who had been asked to be present, were maltreated by Gurkha sepoys and some were arrested and imprisoned. Among them were seven members of the old Manipur Raj family, six of whom were subsequently expelled from the State and one set at liberty.

The present Sub-Inspector of Manipur is said to be a brother-in-law of Colonel Maxwell, and owing to this relationship it is alleged that anyone may be convicted on the Sub-Inspector's mere report and obtain no redress by appealing to the Superintendent.

The journal considers that these charges are of a very serious character and should be investigated, and that the petitioners should be very severely dealt with if they fail to substantiate their statements.

NEW INDIA,
4th March 1905.

BENGALUR,
5th March 1905.

338. Lord Curzon's extreme unpopularity, writes the *Bengalee*, is not only in regard to domestic administration but also in relation to the Native Princes. He has annexed

The *ex*-Maharaja Holkar.

the Berars, humiliated some of the Native Princes, and in many cases has interfered with the internal affairs of their States in direct contravention of ancient usage and treaty rights. His Excellency is a law unto himself and beyond all obligations of ancient custom. The right of the Bara Thakur of Hill Tippera has been trampled under foot, and the degradation of the *ex*-Maharaja of Holkar will be emphatically condemned as an example of high-handedness. It now appears from an article in the *Bombay Advocate* that the *ex*-Prince was compelled to resign. He was perpetually asked in letters from the Government when he proposed resigning, and the climax was reached when Lord Curzon refused to receive a pre-arranged visit from Holkar at Mhow, unless he promised to abdicate. The *ex*-Chief abdicated under reasonable conditions, and the Government cannot be justified in interfering with the rights of the young Prince and detracting from the dignity of the State by reducing the State Army on the plea of economy.

PEOPLE,
6th March 1905.

339. Commenting on the article in the *Advocate of India* disclosing the facts connected with the deposition of the *ex*-Maharaja of Holkar, the *People* finds that his

Ibid.

only fault appears to be the slight spirit of indifference he displayed on the proposed visit of His Excellency Lord Curzon to Indore. The case of this unfortunate Maharaja is similar to that of the Maharaja of Kashmir, but the latter denied that his abdication was voluntary and even addressed the then Viceroy, Lord Lansdowne, asking to be allowed to defend himself.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
3rd March 1905.

340. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* strongly condemns the enlistment of boys in military service are yet within their teens.

What military recruiting means.

British soldiers generally inspire the natives of India with awe and sometimes terror, but boy-soldiers, some of whom were recently noticed at the Dum-Dum railway station, only cause merriment. Fit recruits are evidently not forthcoming, and recruiting officers have no choice in the matter. They should, however, exhibit some kindness of heart and place matters in a clear and impartial light to the young man before enlisting him. Many young men are tempted to enlist owing to family quarrels, but they repent soon after the fatal step has been taken. This would to a great extent be avoided if the defence of India was entrusted to the natives of the soil. But the Indian authorities distrust their own system of rule and will not confide in the Indians.

BENGALUR,
3rd March 1905.

341. The *Bengalee* considers it a pity that there is no one on the spot to point out the mistakes of the writer on Indian affairs in the *Times*. Sir Walter Lawrence

Lord Curzon and the *Times*.

must know that a growing opinion exists amongst the Indian community, which is partly shared by leaders of Anglo-Indian opinion, both official and non-official, in favour of the institution of Governorships with Councils, etc. This fact was demonstrated in the recent anti-partition agitation and the *Englishman* was the first to suggest that the status of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal should be converted into that of a Presidency Governor. The advantages pointed out with regard to the appointment of Sir Thirkell White as Lieutenant-Governor of Burma appear to have been completely overlooked in the cases of Sir Andrew Fraser, Mr. Fuller, and Sir Hugh Barnes. These obvious inconsistencies do not seem to have any effect on the writer.

BENGALUR,
4th March 1905.

342. The *Bengalee* draws attention to the statement made by Mr. Mackinder, Lecturer in Economic Geography at the London

How India saves England an additional fleet.

University School of Economics, during a recent address at a gathering of the members of the Compatriot's Club in London. He contended that the Army in India enables England to maintain her power in the Indian Ocean with merely a police fleet, which is far less expensive than a battle fleet. The journal points to this as an additional reason why the military expenditure of India should be apportioned between England and this country.

343. Commenting on the pamphlet issued by the Government of India with the object of minimising the possibility of affrays between soldiers and villagers, the *Bengalee* is pleased to know that it contains directions to avoid wounding the feelings of the village population. If they are scrupulously followed there will be fewer cases of affray caused by such sacrilegious acts as shooting a sacred animal or bird and outraging females.

BENGALIAN,
5th March 1905.

344. *Truth* (Howrah) is of opinion that the complete acquiescence of society in the outrage caused by many of the representatives and some of the avowed leaders of the orthodox Hindu community deliberately joining Englishmen, Muhammadans and others in partaking of forbidden food on the occasion of the dinner to Mr. Cotton is an unmistakeable index of the total disintegration of the Hindu social fabric. It proves that society has sunk to the lowest depth of inertness, a stage where the process of reconstruction begins upon a totally different model. The tacit approval of most of the members of the community is however the outcome of a degree of enlightenment attained through education and general culture. The journal regrets that the people did not display foresight and stamina by entertaining their guest in strict Indian style.

TRUTH,
27th Feb. 1905.

345. The *Hindoo Patriot* is not in favour of the separation of Burma from India, both on the grounds of Burma's alleged inequitable treatment in its financial relations with the Imperial Government and considerations of her general interest and welfare. Sir Hugh Barnes's address at the recent Rangoon Durbar supports the first ground, but the question of Burma's claim to a special equitable treatment on account of her undeveloped condition has to be considered. The Local Government is even more to blame than the Government of India for neglecting the splendid opportunities which the country offers. The accumulation of 107 lakhs of rupees justified the Supreme Government in retrenching its allotment to Burma under the new contract. The termination of the existing arrangement of fiscal relations between India and Burma will result in the latter having to starve if she cannot be self-supporting. Famine and plague may carry away the income with the major portion of the inhabitants, but the Colonial Secretary will not dare propose to appropriate even a small sum out of the British Treasury to make good any deficit of Burma's administrative or other unavoidable charges.

INDIAN MIRROR,
26th Feb. 1905.

346. Instead of wasting their energy in selecting a President for the Provincial Conference to be held in Mymensingh, the *Anrita Bazar Patrika* hopes that the people will apply it exclusively to real work. Popular enthusiasm should be created by means of public meetings in all important centres, and permanent arrangement should be made for the education of the masses through paid agents. The zamindars, middle classes, and raiyats should unite at the forthcoming Conference and agitate in a systematic and sustained manner on such questions as the Road Cess Fund the Chaukidari tax, Local Self-Government Bill, the proposed Rent Bill, and the Jute Bill. The Mymensingh people should also enter a united protest against the proposed partition of their own district, so as to void losing all their prosperity and vitality by being cut in two.

AMRITA BAZA
PATRIKA,
25th Feb. 1905

347. The threatened splitting up of the Bengali language has, writes the *Bengalee*, evoked as much opposition from the Muhammadan as from the Hindu community of Bengal. At a meeting of over 500 Muhammadans, held recently in Calcutta, it was unanimously resolved to condemn the proposal and to petition the Government praying for its withdrawal. It is expected that similar meetings will be held all over the Province unless the objectionable proposals are abandoned.

BENGALIAN,
14th March 1905.

348. Commenting on the fact that the present-day landholders prefer to reside in Calcutta instead of in the mufassal, the *People* quotes the Secretary to the Bengal Landholders' Association, who, in his Annual Report, states that "residence in Calcutta is universally recognised as affording greater protection to personal

PEOPLE,
Feb. 18th, 1905.

liberty and honour than residence in the mufassal." This universal recognition of danger is ascribed by the journal to the all-powerful district *Huzurs* who demand from local zamindars, when touring through their zamiadaris, the necessary supplies for their camp. Sometimes these demands go beyond the bounds of courtesy, with the result that the zamindars feel dishonoured or their personal liberties interfered with.

The Government should enquire into the matter and take proper steps to check any irregularity on the part of the executive authorities.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
2nd March 1905.

349. The *Indian Empire* comments sarcastically on the class of Englishmen who find pleasure in extorting homage from others and quotes the following two cases:—

Salam-loving Huzurs.

Dr. Bancroft, a Military Assistant Surgeon in charge of Sylhet district, while driving through Haibargaon met a peon of the local post office, who in his hurry to return to office forgot to *salam* him. This resulted in his being chased with a horsewhip by the doctor, who however thought better of it and desisted from the pursuit.

The second case is that of Mr. C. H. Candy, Inspector of Schools for the Berars, who passing by the Town Hall at Akola met two school-boys each about 10 years old. Failure on their part to recognize and *salam* the mighty Inspector led to their being sent in charge of a peon to the head-master of the Anglo-Vernacular School with a peremptory injunction to have the boys severely punished as they had insulted him. The zealous head-master used his birch with such force that it broke in two.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
1st March 1905

350. Referring to a paper on the marginally-noted subject, read by Mr. Thorburn before the last meeting of the London East India Association, the *Hindoo Patriot* advocates the establishment of technical schools in trade

centres and the mufassal, so as to resuscitate or improve the manufactures of India. England can with all her facilities, her wealth, and machinery stop imports on the plea that manufactured goods of other countries take away the food from the mouths of its labouring classes, but India can only raise raw materials and is obliged to receive back the goods manufactured out of them by foreign manufacturers. India's exports exceed her imports by 31 millions sterling, and out of the sum at her credit, the major portion is retained by England as Secretary for India's charges. This, combined with her own expenses, renders it expedient that India should not be afflicted with either tariff or protection unless the protectionists are ready to give her the same equality England would have to grant her colonies in the west and south.

BENGALIEE,
9th March 1905.

351. The *Bengalee* refers to the *Pioneer's* account of the case in which Major Roberts and Major Griffin, of the 1st Lancers, Skinner's Horse, were attacked by villagers while

An incredible story. "walking quietly through the village" of Chakarpur, on the borders of Jhansi district and the Orcha State. It discredits the statement that the attack was unprovoked and that the two officers after receiving several blows on the head and arms, wrested each a *lathi* from their assailants and proved more than a match for the entire male population of the village. This version is pronounced to be too one sided and supplied either by the officers concerned or on their behalf.

The journal condemns the unwarrantable and improper observations indulged in by the *Pioneer* before any enquiry or trial has taken place in order to ascertain the facts of the case.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL
OF POLICE, L. P.

WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 11th March 1905.

F. C. DALY,

Asst. to the Insp.-General of Police, L.P.