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REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 27th January 1912.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

[Corrected up to the 24th August 1911.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
BENGALI.					
1	"Bangaratna" ...	Krishnagar ...	Weekly	Kanai Lal Das, Karmokar, age 24	1,500
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Behary Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 54; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahman, age 43; Satyendra Kumar Bose.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura ...	Do.	Ram Nath Mukherji, V.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 50; Bisvanath Mukherji, B.L., age 43 years, Brah- man.	453
4	"Basumati" ...	Calcutta ..	Do.	Sasi Bhushan Mukherji, age 45 years; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 40; Mani Lal Banerji, age 35.	17,000
5	"Birbhum Hitaishi"	Bolpur ...	Do.	Raj Ranjan Sen Gupta, age 45	732
6	"Birbhum Varta"	Suri ...	Do.	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 37,	943
7	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	Do.	Prabodha Nanda Sarkar, Kayastha ...	900 to 1,000
8	"Chabhis Pargana Varta."	Bhawanipur	Do.	Hem Chandra Nag, B.A., Kayastha, age 28.	500
9	"Chinsura Vartavaha"	Chinsura ...	Do.	Dina Nath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 45	1,200
10	"Dairik Chandrika"	Calcutta ...	Daily	Hari Das Dutt, Kayastha, age 40 ...	500
11	"Education Gazette"	Chinsura ...	Weekly	Pundit Nibaran Chandra Bhatta- charyya, Brahmin, age 55 years.	1,400
12	"Hindustan" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Hari Das Dutt, Kayastha, age 40 ...	1,000
13	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto ...	Do.	Anukul Chandra Mukherji, Editor; Jogendra Kumar Chatterjee and Manindra Nath Bose, Sub-Editors.	30,000
14	"Jagaran" ...	Bagerhat ...	Do.	About 200
15	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	Do	Ananda Charan Chaudhury, Kayastha, age 35; Surendra Nath Mitra, Kayastha.	500
16	"Kalyani" ...	Magura ...	Do.	Biswar Mukherjee, age 47, Brahmin	500
17	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do.	Gopal Chandra Mukherji, Brahmin, age 50.	500 to 600
18	"Mombhum" ...	Purulia ...	Do.	Bagola Chandra Ghose, Kayastha, age 40.	500
19	"Medinipur Hitaishi"	Midnapore	Do.	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 34.	500
20	"Muhammadi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Muhammad Akram Khan, age 36; Akbar Khan.	1,000
21	"Murshidabad Hitaishi"	Murshidabad	Do.	Bowari Lal Goswami, Brahmin, age 45.	102
22	"Navajivani-o-Swadeshi Christian."	Calcutta ...	Monthly	Rev. Lall Behari Shah, Native Christian, age 52.	300
23	"Nayak" ...	Ditto ...	Daily	Rajkumar Sen, Baidya, age 28	3,000
24	"Nihar" ...	Contai ...	Weekly	Madhusudhan Jana, age 42 ...	300
25	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong ...	Do.	Charu Chandra Roy, Kayastha, age 37	500
26	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	Do.	Sosi Bhushan Banerji, Brahmin, age 46	About 450
27	"Prachar" ...	Calcutta ...	Monthly	
28	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ...	Weekly	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin, age 46; Banku Behari Ghose, Goala, age 40.	650
29	"Pratihar" ...	Berhampore	Do.	Kamakhyas Prosad Ganguli, Brahmin, age 62.	503
30	"Purulia Darpan"	Purulia ..	Do.	Amulya Ratan Chatterjee, Brahmin, age 40.	About 700
31	"Ratnakar" ...	Assansol ...	Do.	Satya Kinkar Banerji, Brahman, age 35.	600
32	"Samaj" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Sarat Kumar Mitra; Bihari Lal Ray, B.A.; Saroda Charan Mitra, chief contributor.	1,000
33	"Samay" ...	Ditto ...	Do.	Adhar Chandra Das	500
34	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	Do.	Shiva Nath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterjee, M.A.	10,000
35	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya- Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Calcutta ...	Do.	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahman, age 38.	2,000
HINDI.					
36	"Bharat Bazar Gazette"	Calcutta ...	Weekly	Chaturbhuj Aditihya, Brahman, age 30 years.	800
37	"Bharat Mitra"	Ditto ...	Do.	Sew Narain Sing, age 39; and Amrita Lal Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 48	3,200

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
HINDI—concl.					
38	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Patna ...	Weekly	Nand Kisor Das Surma, age 32 ...	500
39	"Bir Bharat" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Prantosh Dutta, Kayastha, age 37 ...	1,000
40	"Ghar Bandhu" ...	Ranchi ...	Fortnightly	Rev. Dr. A. Nottrott ...	1,250
41	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly	Hari Kissen Joahar, Khettri, age 35 ...	3,000
42	"Hitvarta" ...	Ditto ...	Do.	Rao Purandkar, Mahratta, Brahmin, age 29 ...	3,000
43	"Lakshmi" ...	Gya ...	Monthly	Madho Prasad, age 32 ...	209 (This number fluctuates.)
44	"Marwari" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly	R. K. Tebrevala, Hindu, age 40 ...	500
45	"Mithila Mibir" ...	Darbhanga ...	Do.	Bishno Kanta Jha, ...	530
46	"Sattya Sanatan Dharm" ...	Calcutta ...	Monthly	Radha Mohan Gokulji, Vaisya, age 41 ...	500
47	"Shiksha" ...	Arrah ...	Weekly	Shukhul Narain Panday, Brahmin, ...	2,000
48	"Sri Sanatan Dharm" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Ambika Prasad Bajpa; Sew Narain Lall. ...	300
49	"Tirhut Samachar" ...	Muzaffarpur ...	Do.	Sangeswar Prasad Sarma, Babhan by caste. ...	300
PERSIAN.					
50	"Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin." ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly	Sayyid Jalaluddin, Shiah, age 60 ...	1,000
URDU.					
51	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	Weekly	Syed Ahsan, Muhammadan, age 40 ...	500
52	"Darus Sultanat" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Quazi Abdul Latif, Muhammadan, age 37. ...	400
53	"Star of India" ...	Arrah ...	Do.	Munshi Muhammad Zaharul Haq, Muhammadan, age 60. ...	657
URIA.					
54	"Garjatbasini" ...	Talcher ...	Weekly	Bhagirathi Misra, Brahmin, age 42
55	"Sambalpur Hitaishini" ...	Deogarh (Bamra) ...	Do.	Dinabandhu Garhnaik, Chasa, age 36.
56	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balassore ...	Do.	Kasinath Panda, Brahmin, age 36 ...	334
57	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Cuttack ...	Do.	Ram Tarak Sen, Tamuli, age 49 ...	450
58	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Ditto ...	Do.	Gauri Sankar Roy ...	908
59	"Utkal Varta" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.	Moni Lall Moherana, Karmakar, age 47. ...	500

Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 24th August 1911.

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
	"Hindi Biharee"	Bankipore	Weekly.	Sheikh Abdur Rahim, Muhammadan.	
	"Bajrang Samachar"	Jamora (Gaya)	Monthly.		
	"Sulabh Samachar"	Calcutta	Weekly.		
	"Moslem Hitaishi"	Calcutta	Weekly		
	"Vartavaha"	Ranaghat	Weekly		
	"Viswadut"	Howrah	Weekly.		
	"Rajsaiki"	Perulia	Weekly.		
	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	Weekly.		
	"Mahamaya"	Chinsura	Weekly.		
	"Durbar Gazette"	Calcutta	Weekly.		
	"Medini Bandhav"	Midnapore	Weekly.		
	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	Daily.		
	"Birbhum Vasi"	Bampurhat	Weekly.		
	"Teli Samachar"	Barh	Monthly.		

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

COMMENTING on the letter of the people of Dasti and Dashtastan (villages near the Persian Gulf) to the people of

A letter to the people of Bushire expressing their readiness to fight against the enemies, etc., the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin*

[Calcutta] of the 15th January says that the people of those villages are indeed very strong and brave, but the first and foremost duty of the Persians is to bring about unity among themselves. If all the Chiefs unite together, the foreigners would never think of harassing them. The Persians are in no way inferior to the people of Transvaal. Their country is richer than Transvaal, and the population of Persia, too, is not less than that of the other country. The only thing wanting is unity among the Persians.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

2. Commenting on the *Times*' remark that the independence of Persia

The Persians should have confidence only in their national strength.

is not worth the sacrifice of a single English soldier, the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th January, writes that the hopes

which the Persians entertained from the English Government for the past six years have not been realized. The hope was based on:—First, support of the representatives of the English Government in establishing a Constitutional Government in Persia; secondly, sympathy of some Englishmen and the press with the Persians.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

The nature of the first support is quite clear from the following remarks of one who is thoroughly acquainted with the Europeans:—"One of the tricks of the Europeans is to suggest a new form of Government for a country in place of the existing one and to give only as much help in bringing about the change as will upset the former before the other has been firmly established. They then attack the country on the plea of mismanagement and incompetency." This was the policy of the English in helping the advocates of constitutional Government in Persia and no sooner steps were taken in this direction, they entered into an agreement with their old rival, Russia, who sided with the advocates of the old form of Government in Persia. This advocacy of the two Powers resulted in disorder in Persia and afforded an opportunity for intervention.

As for the sympathy of the English people and the press, the Persians should know that in all Parliamentary Governments, specially that of England, there always exists an opposite party whose business is to champion the cause of a foreign country with which the Government is about to deal.

The English Government is now-a-days friendly towards Russia, and so the party which represents the opposition is against any such relation. On the other hand, the Government being against Germany, the other party clamours for friendly relation with her. When at first the English Government interfered in Egyptian affairs, the strongest party of the time was against such interference. But in spite of their speeches, writings and promises the Egyptians got nothing. Had the Egyptians entertained no hopes of help from their English friends from the very beginning they might have done something to save their nationality, but now they cannot obtain liberty without making another Nile of blood flow in their country. The Russians and the English now give out that their interference in the north and the south of Persia is temporary, just as the latter once said regarding Egypt; and our leaders believe them as the Egyptians did before.

3. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th January,

The first duty of the Persians.

says that the first and the foremost duty of the Persians either abroad or at home is to force

the Government to call the Mejliss at once; otherwise Russia and England would manage to obtain the sanction of the Government to their railway scheme, the ministers being either friendly to, or in awe of, the two Powers. It has already been seen how, just after the dissolution of the Mejliss, the authorities accepted the ultimatum even before the Russian troops vacated the country. The influence of the two neighbours is increasing since after the dissolution of the Mejliss, and the matter has now come to such a pass that they now desire to appoint a successor to Mr. Shuster of their own liking;

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

and if they succeed, the Persian Government would not be able to dismiss him even if their nominee proves faithless. They would thus secure a firm hold over Persia's finances and put an end to her sovereignty. The ministers or the neighbours would not be able to do any such thing if the Mejliss exists.

The greatest and the most fatal mistake of the Persian Cabinet was to accept the ultimatum, and, though they may advance any excuse for their conduct, it has no value in the eyes of the foreign politicians. The internal dissensions and disorders would go on increasing, affording fresh pretexts for the foreigners, if the authorities delay in calling the Mejliss. They should, therefore, lose no time to avail of the present excitement in Persia which may pass away very soon. The Government is too weak to restore peace in the country by force and, if it does so with the help of the foreign troops, the sovereign power of the country would be gone.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

4. Giving a map of the railway lines proposed by the English and the Russians, the *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th January, says that the neighbours had already decided upon them when entering into agreement. The scheme, once an idea only, developed into a proposal and is soon going to be an accomplished fact. Railways no doubt do good to the country through which they pass, but not when constructed in a way in which they are going to be constructed, for Persia will have no control over them while not only all the profits accruing from it will go into foreign pockets but the natural resources of the country will be sapped and the Persians reduced to the status of coolies and labourers. The lines proposed means a division of the country. The English want to construct the line within the sphere of their influence according to the agreement with their own capital, and Russia is likely to do the same in the north. They also do not like that the railway lines of one should extend to the sphere of the other, which in itself means a virtual division of the country. They at present desire the branch lines, which are to be in the neutral zone, with an international capital; but if the Persians agree to it, this zone will also be soon encroached upon by the two Powers.

5. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th January, says that the remedy for the present condition of the Persians lies in their giving up their differences and selfishness, and in bringing about practical and real unity of the people, specially the Chiefs. This unity among the Chiefs can only be obtained by religious teaching, which is the duty of the spiritual leaders, who should be made to realize that the first thing the strangers would do would be to destroy them as being the worst obstacles in their way. The paper then refers to what an American paper says about the tyranny of the French troops in Morocco, where 1,720 Chiefs and spiritual leaders were killed by them. The daughters of these Chiefs are now serving as singers and cup-bearers to French officers. The paper then, referring to the Russian tyranny in Tabrez, quotes a passage from the *Herald* which says, "After taking the town of Tabrez the Russian robbers (soldiers) entered into the houses during the night on the pretext of searching for criminals and arms. It is said that 187 women and girls threw themselves into wells in order to save their honour, and thus they sacrificed their lives at the altar of the discord between the Persian Chiefs." After getting supremacy, asks the paper, will they not do the same thing with Ayatullah of Najaf, Mirza Mahallati, Kavam-ul-Mulk, Saulatuddowla and others? The Bakhtiari Chiefs and young men should know that the foreigners would treat them just as they have done with the people of Morocco and Tebrez; for they have made themselves the most marked in the eyes of the foreigners. Never think that you alone would be able to save Persia from the foreigners; it will be difficult for you even to save your own honour and name. In unity alone therefore lies your salvation.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

6. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th January writes:—
The Persians themselves are to blame. The Russians and the English are not to blame if they interfere in the affairs of Persia, for it is but natural for everyone, whether an individual or a nation, to

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS
HABUL MATIN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

seek its own good. It is the fault of the Persians themselves who are careless and cannot protect their own rights. It would be foolish for Persia to ask the Russians not to invade their territory when the Persians have failed to put a barrier in their way.

Had conferences of peace or parchments on which agreements are written been sufficient to prevent the harassments and interference by a strong Power, we would not have seen millions of *le as* spent on the organization of an army, invention of arms, warships and aviation by the military. Agreements are observed as binding only when the other party is strong enough to meet his adversary boldly. The life of a small Power in the vicinity of a great one depends on:—First, the existence of national feeling in each individual of that country, so that each of them may be bold enough to meet a hundred of the enemy, secondly, the support of a third Power strong enough to resist an encroaching enemy and, finally, consideration of gain or loss of the greater Power. For example, if England takes Afghanistan, it would not find it profitable. Persia is a rich and fertile country, while its people are devoid of a national feeling; there is no hope of salvation for her. Persia may expect the same sort of help from her neighbours as was given to Korea by Japan, or to Morocco by France. The only remedy for the Persians lies in having confidence in their own strength, giving up their differences and uniting together offering a bold front to save their country.

7. Referring to the Russian oppressions and tyrannies in Persia, the *Durbar Gazette* [Calcutta of the 19th January regrets to remark that the promises of the treacherous

DURBAR GAZETTE,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

Russia and Persia. and tyrant Government of Russia are not at all trustworthy, in as much as it was repeatedly announced by her before that she would withdraw her troops from Persia after her demands were complied with; but now it is said she will do so when perfect peace is restored in the country. The British Government is extolled for its readiness in keeping to their words and the note is concluded with a prayer for the expansion of its rule.

8. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January, says that the manner in which Russia is opposing every act of the Persian Government will most probably make it impossible for the latter to get any efficient manager of finances to fill the place vacated by Mr. Shuster. The result will be that Russia and England will take the management in their hands, and then adieu to Persian independence!

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

9. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes that Sir Edward Grey's foreign policy in regard to Persia is most weak. Britain and Russia vowed to defend Persian independence, but Russia, taking advantage of her internal troubles, is attempting to rob her of her independence, while England seems indifferent to the matter. Evidently Sir Edward Grey forgets that Russian predominance in Persia means terrible danger to India in the future. He is heedless to Lord Curzon's warnings on the point.

MUHAMMADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

Russia has been recently behaving towards Persia in a way in which she would not dare to behave towards even petty European Powers like Roumania, Servia and Bulgaria; even if she did, the other Powers would pull her straight in no time. But Persia is in Asia and is a Moslem State and, therefore, Russia resorts to officiousness and trickery in regard to her. Persia can only weep and wail in return. Her only hope lay in the expectation that the liberal-hearted British Government would interfere, but apparently the tendencies of the present Asquith Ministry lie in other directions. They say nothing to all these unjust excesses and oppressions on the part of Russia. The extensive kingdom of the minor Shah is about to pass under the grasp of the Russian demon. The Russian demons are unjustly and unjustifiably murdering the lovely sons of Persia, and thereby showing what beasts they are. The high priests of Persia are being killed under Russia's orders, either on the gallows or by the sword or by gunshot. As hunters kill wild animals so are these turbulent Russian wolves killing Persians, irrespective of age and sex, taking pride therein as acts of prowess and glory. It is vain for Persians to seek help from any human agency. Christian Powers of

of the people that a king was a king only so long as he kept the people happy.

16. Referring to the aggressive action of Russia in Chinese Mongolia, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 18th January disposes of the question as to why the other powers did not challenge it by saying that Russia is strong and a Christian Power, and that policy requires that one should not enter into a quarrel with the strong, and it would be a sin to spill Christian blood, but then China may be deprived of Tibet as it would do no harm to anybody. Humour apart, it would be wrong on the part of the English to do so, England having admitted the suzerainty of China over Tibet, and it would be no good policy to turn China into an inveterate enemy of England.

HITAVARTA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

17. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January refers to a recently published letter from Rai Sarat Chandra Das Bahadur, pointing out that the Dalai Lama of Tibet was never subject to the Emperor of China but was his spiritual adviser, and suggesting that advantage should be taken of the Dalai's presence in British territory to restore his rule in Tibet under British suzerainty, which will thus become a buffer State. Commenting on this, the paper remarks: Can the Rai Bahadur assure us that this scheme of his, if sought to be accomplished, will be quietly tolerated by China or Russia? This advice reminds us of the advice of the mouse in *Aesop's Fables*.

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

18. Referring to the release by the Commissioner of Police of the 11 persons arrested for attempting to enter the Government House and reaching the Royal Person during the King-Emperor's visit to Calcutta, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th January says that there was no need of arresting them at all, as no one could be so mean as to wish to do harm to His Majesty. However, it is glad that they have been let off so soon.

BHARAT MITRA,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

19. Referring to what an eye-witness has written in the *Bengalee* in defence of Mr. Bown, Deputy Commissioner of the Calcutta Police, *anent* the unfortunate event that happened on the *maidan* on the day of their Imperial Majesties' departure from Calcutta, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th January says:—

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

We believe that the incident happened through mistake committed in some quarter, and in such great affairs mistakes are inevitable. It is therefore, in our opinion, useless to agitate in the matter. At least everyone should remain silent, pending the result of the enquiry which Sir F. Halliday has instituted in this connection.

20. While admitting the difficulties of the Calcutta Police in managing the crowd assembled at the various functions during the Royal visit, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January cannot help noticing the oppression committed by individual members of that force in removing the Indians from the positions occupied by them and bringing the Europeans to occupy those places. If innocent people, assembled to show their loyalty by trying to obtain a sight of their Majesties, were treated in this way, there would be no need for them to see their ruler. No complaints were heard against the Police in Bombay. Is it to be supposed that no one went out to see their Majesties there? Lord Hardinge will be good enough to have a searching enquiry into the complaint.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

21. Referring to His Imperial Majesty's appreciation of the good service done by the Indian police during His Imperial Majesty's stay in this country, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says:—Leaving out of consideration a few minor incidents, the Police acquitted themselves very well during the Royal visit, and it will be extremely gratifying if they

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

continue to do so in future. It will, however, be extremely scandalous if they return to their old habits now that His Imperial Majesty has departed from these shores.

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

22. Referring to the recent incident between Bepin Chandra Pal and a spy reported by the *Sanjivani* (see Report of the Native Paper for the 20th January 1912, paragraph 34), the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January remarks:—

We are amazed at the story. Let Sir Frederick Halliday earn the public thanks by an inquiry into the case.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

28. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January says:—

Anent the incident reported in the *Sanjivani* concerning Babu Bipin Chandra Pal and the Sukea Street Police, Babu Bipin Chandra writes in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*:—"The incident concerning me was not of so grave a nature as to justify the publicity that has been given to it by the *Sanjivani*." We do, however, think that the incident was of a grave nature, and we request the authorities to enquire into it.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

24. We knew, writes the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January, that the Detective Police in Bengal would be abolished in January current. But the fact that Babus Krishna Kumar Mitra and Bipin Chandra Pal are being shadowed by spies proves that it still exists. Who will solve the mystery?

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

25. Referring to the Moplah riot at Cannanore over a procession to celebrate the Delhi Coronation Durbar, the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says:—

The Moplahs are God-fearing Musalmans, and they would not brook any disrespect shown to their religion. His Imperial Majesty also does not surely desire that the religious susceptibilities of the people should be wounded. In this state of things, it is a matter for consideration whether the Moplahs, who objected to the passing of a procession by the side of a *masjid*, or the people who insisted on taking the procession along that route, were the real authors of the riot.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

26. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says:—If the order proposed to be issued by the Commissioner of the Calcutta Police to the effect that bricks, lime and such things should be carried along Calcutta roads only in such carts as will allow not a particle of them to fall on the roads—if such an order is actually issued, it will cause great inconvenience to poor carters and, consequently, to the public.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

27. *Anent* the acquittal by the High Court of Satis Chandra Sarkar, a Natore youth convicted as having been an absconder in the Howrah gang case, the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January remarks:—

The times are now quiet and Government policy is now generous, so the police too must be generous.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

28. Referring to the case in which one Satis Chandra Sarkar, formerly an accused person in the Howrah gang case, was rearrested at Natore after his release, and ordered by the local Magistrate to furnish security for good behaviour but who has subsequently been acquitted by the High Court, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January asks why the police has been needlessly harassing the man. Peace will not be re-established in this country so long as the police will continue to be oppressive.

JASOHAR,
Jan. 13th, 1912.

29. Referring to Mr. Montagu's statement that during the last six years torture of prisoners by the Indian police for extorting confessions has ended fatally in 17 cases, the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 13th January asks if, under the circumstances, the police should not be deprived of the power of hearing confessions. Judicial officers only ought to have that power, otherwise oppression by the police ending even fatally is inevitable.

MUHAMMADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

30. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—

"Brutal police oppression in the Nadia District." A letter appeared in the *Muhammadi* of the 5th January last entitled "Police oppression" (see Report on Native Papers for 13th January, 1912,

para 8). A perusal of it has probably astounded and cut everybody to the quick. Readers will have noticed that this letter states that the senior Sub-Inspector of Police of Mirpur Thana and some others committed brutal outrage on a young girl named Ohhakiran. A story of such oppression in British territory cannot easily be believed. If the police whose duty it is to keep the peace commit such terrible oppression and then easily get off, how are the poor public to defend their honour? We draw the attention of the Sub-divisional officer of Kushtea, the District Magistrate of Nadia, the Inspector-General of Police, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to this matter; and we hope the Anjuman-i-Gattefaf Islam of Kumarkhali will make inquiries into this case and communicate the result of their inquiries to the District Magistrate and the Lieutenant-Governor. Of course it is not very easy to procure evidence against the police, but evidence will be forthcoming if sympathetic local Hindus and Musalmans set themselves to uproot such oppression in the future. If there is any sacred Moslem blood still flowing in the veins of the Moslems of that locality, we trust they will actively assist Government in remedying such oppression, else they would be underserving of the name of men.

31. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that the Musalman inhabitants of village Chandla in the Tippera district twice stole the *lingam* from the local Hindu temple, and once even realized Rs. 25 from the village as ransom for the image. The attention of the authorities is drawn to this very serious matter.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

32. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January writes:—

The *salaam* incident at Guntur (Madras). It appears from the *Deshabhimani* of Guntur in Madras, that some days ago a seven-year old boy called out *salaam* somewhat loudly to Mr. Jackson, Joint-Magistrate of Chingleput. This incensed Mr. Jackson, who ordered the boy's arrest. After the arrest Mr. Jackson, in his own single person, discharged the functions of complainant, witness and Judge, and punished the boy with a fine of Rs. 5 or a week's imprisonment in the alternative. Who is there in India plucky enough to protest against this strange procedure of a trial? But two things occur to us which we humbly ask leave to represent: (1) The newspapers lately reported how the little daughter of one of the operatives at the Sankrail mill approached the Queen-Empress on the occasion of her recent visit to the Sankrail Jute Mills with a *Salaam Memsahib*, and presented her with a bunch of wild flowers. The girl was certainly not arrested. It does not constitute *lesmajestie* or any criminal offence to say *salaam memsahib*, to the Empress of half the world. Why, then, should it be a criminal offence for a seven-year old boy to shout a *salaam* to an ordinary *fauzdar* under that Empress? Or would Mr. Jackson have overlooked the offence, if instead of a boy a girl had spoken, taking his cue from the example of courtesy and love set by Her Imperial Majesty? Is a Joint-Magistrate then entitled to honour greater than the Empress? Or is the respect due to him such a frail thing that it breaks into pieces even at the shock of a sound-wave?

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

(2) Often it happens that Indians are harassed for not *salaaming*. What, then, is now to be done? Are they to *salaam* silently, but are not to utter the word in any case? Or is it that grown-up men are to *salaam*, but that boys are not to have the right to say or to do *salaam*?

(3) Let therefore Government after it has settled down at Delhi, send for Mr. Jackson and frame a *salaam* law.

(4) Further, we ask the Government Medical Officer at Guntur to see if Mr. Jackson is in good health.

(5) And, lastly, will Government consider Mr. Jackson's claims favourably when the next High Court Judgeship falls vacant?

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

33. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January reports the above case, disapproving of the conduct of Mr. Jackson in it.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

34. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January takes Mr. Jackson, Joint-Magistrate of Chingleput, severely to task for having criminally punished a little boy of 7 who had *salaamed* him rather loudly. In this case Mr. Jackson stood as the complainant, witness and Judge at the same time. Such a judicial proceeding is even more than farcical. The writer then goes on criticising Mr. Jackson's conduct towards the boy's father in connection with the case, and hopes that Government will take care to bring the Magistrate to his senses.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

35. The *Sulabh Samachar* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—

Lawyers in the Punjab.

We strongly support the action of the Chief Court of the Punjab in limiting the number of lawyers in the province as beneficial to the public interest, and look for the adoption of similar measures in other Provinces soon.

BHARAT MITRA,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

36. The cotton-gamblers, says the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th

Cotton-gambling.

January, would bless the Chief Presidency Magistrate for refusing a European's application for summons against a Marwari merchant who failed to pay him the amount staked by the European who succeeded in winning it. Will the Government even now pay no attention to this matter?

NAYAK,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

37. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 17th January suggests that the service

Service of civil court summonses.

of Civil Court summonses should be henceforth by registered post, with acknowledgment due. This will save parties a good deal of worry and vexation, and remove from the field the corrupt peons now employed for this duty. If Government thinks it will suffer any financial loss by this reform, let it put on some extra fee for registration in such cases, but still let the agency of the post office be employed.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

38. Referring to the case in which one Sarada Charan Guha has been arrested by the Noakhali police in connection with a dacoity in village Chaupalli, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January says:—

"Investigation of a Noakhali dacoity case."

The prisoner complained to the District Magistrate that he had been very badly treated by the police and consequently his head was reeling. A little milk might do him some good. On this the Magistrate remarked, "He is a cracked (*sic.* His brother is a cracked (*sic.*) and he is, too." The Court Inspector said that he was a native of Faridpore. A mukhtear said that he was a native of Noakhali, his father was an employé in the Bhulua estate, and his brother was employed in the Noakhali Loan Office.

As a matter of fact, the prisoner's father, an old man of 70, was at one time employed in the Bhulua estate, his eldest brother, Sarat Chandra Guha, is employed in the Noakhali Loan Office, and his second brother is a lunatic. His grandfather was a native of Faridpore and married in Noakhali. The prisoner's father and all other children were born in Noakhali.

The police have pitched a camp at Chandraganj for the purpose of investigation, and Mr. Fell(?) will be deputed to take down depositions. But Mr. Fell does not possess a good knowledge of Bengali; so that depositions ought not to be taken down by him, as he will have to depend entirely on translations made by policemen.

(d)—Education.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

39. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January says that in spite of

"The present system of University education."

the compulsory hostel system for College students in Calcutta being conceived with a laudable object, the manner in which it is at present worked is defective and injurious in many respects. As regards the cost of living in a hostel many students are too poor to be able to pay a monthly seat-rent of Rs. 4-8. The depth of poverty of many students may be gauged from the

fact that their only source of income is tuition in private houses. Again, the rule that all students belonging to a college should live together is an inconvenient and injurious one, for these students being in many instances strangers to each other, a deep and sympathetic fellow-feeling cannot possibly arise between them, and they cannot be expected to serve each other heartily in times of illness. Formerly, this difficulty did not exist, for students used to live in messes with relatives and co-district men. Again, in the present system the presence of even a high caste orthodox Hindu student in a hostel makes it imperative to fully observe the scruples of caste in it, and this is injurious to the Hindu national solidarity. Students belonging to untouchable castes also cannot be kept in such hostels, and there are caste-prejudices even amongst the untouchables, so that even if the University were to set up a hostel for them they would not live together. This difficulty can be obviated only by setting up a hostel for students of enlightened views, irrespective of what colleges they may belong to. Besides all this, although the object of the hostel system is to keep students under discipline for their moral, physical and intellectual good, what steps have the authorities taken to guard them from the pernicious influence of theatres, and prevent them from wasting their time in play and amusements?

Thousands of students pass the Matriculation every year, and the largest majority of them desire to have a University education. But no college is allowed to take more than 150 students in one class, and all colleges are not fitted with classes for all subjects. The consequence is a rush of students in every college at the beginning of the session. Some colleges admit only such students as have passed in the First Division. The Presidency College does not admit even the full number of students. In some colleges again, clerks have the charge of selecting students for admission, and many students are subjected to trouble and insult by them. For these reasons, many students are driven from college to college for admission, and are at last obliged to take up subjects they do not care for. For this state of things, the hard rules of the University are responsible.

Under the new Regulations the cost of maintaining a college has greatly increased, and consequently the charge per head of students also. They have to pay increased fees and additional fees for studying science. Add to this, increase in seat-rent, increase in examination fees, increase in prices of articles of food and increase in wages of servants, and the result is that the average monthly cost of a student in Calcutta has increased from Rs. 15 to even more than Rs. 25.

In conclusion, the writer says that in the absence of endowments, all educational institutions in this country depend on fees realised from students for their maintenance. In this state of things, rules making the standard of education very high are liable to check the spread of education. Moreover, in a country where 94 per cent. of the people are illiterate, depth of education is not so much required as its extension. Considering all this, the authorities should soften the University Regulations and take steps to reduce the cost of education.

40. Rumour being afloat that considerable leniency will be shown in valuing the papers of the candidates for the ensuing Matriculation Examination on account of the Coronation festivities and the title conferred on the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, all the boys who appeared at the test examination from the Raj and Madhubani schools (in Darbhanga) have, says the *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 20th January, been sent up for the said examination.

MITHILA MIHIR,
Jan. 20th, 1913.

41. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 18th January, strongly protests against the absence of any provision in the schools in the United Provinces for teaching Bengali in the lower classes, although Bengali is prescribed as a subject for examination at the Matriculation Examination by the Allahabad University. This is a serious grievance for Bengalis domiciled in those parts of the country, who, at Lucknow, Allahabad, Vrindaban, Mathura and elsewhere constitute quite a respectable part of the population. The Government should be earnestly moved to rectify this wrong.

The Bengali language in the United Provinces.

ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA,
Jan. 18th, 1913.

JAGARAN,
Jan. 21st, 1912.

42. The *Jagaran* [Bagerhat] of the 21st January publishes a letter complaining of the vagaries of Hari Babu, the Sub-Inspector of Schools at Bagerhat. He recently stopped the grant-in-aid of a lower primary *path-sala* at Mirpur, without first inspecting the institution, and during his subsequent inspection he made remarks in the visitors' book which distinctly suggest that he sought to find out defects but could not help giving praise. Furthermore, he sought to deceive the school authorities by falsely saying that the stoppage of the grant was due to bad report against the school by some other inspecting officer. The matter was brought before the Deputy Inspector of Schools and he promised that the school would get its grant from next year. That was about a year ago. Up to Puja time last year no grant was, however, received in spite of the above promise.

DAILY BHARAT
MITRA,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

43. Referring to the notice of the meeting in the Town Hall under the Presidentship of the Maharaja of Bikanir held this evening in connection with the Hindu University, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 17th January, in its daily issue, tells the Marwaris of Calcutta hailing from Bikanir State that any contribution by them to the fund of the proposed University would be not only an act of patriotism, but be considered an evidence of their loyalty, and that their loyalty would be appraised by the contribution they make.

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

JASOHAR,
Jan. 16th, 1912.

44. Referring to the increasing death-rate in Bengal, the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 13th January writes as follows:—
In districts like Jessore and Nadia the death-rate is greater than the birth-rate. In other districts, the condition of which is not so bad, the population is, however, increasing at a very slow rate. This is undoubtedly a very serious state of things, and heavy death-rate from malaria is its cause. Government recommends the use of quinine, but we doubt whether it is possible for a whole people to take quinine like articles of daily food. Spasmodic efforts to improve the sanitation of particular places by local charity will not, in the present state of things, be of any use in grappling with the situation. Malaria has spread throughout Bengal, and the question of checking it is a general one in the country. The idea of levying a sanitation tax has been abandoned by the Government as opposed to public opinion. Under the circumstances, we would lay before the Government and public, a proposal which is the effect of mature thought and careful consideration on our part. It is this:—

(1) Let arrangements be made for excavating wells for wholesome drinking water in all villages.

(2) Let President, panchayats, be entrusted with the duty of re-excavating the wells annually and otherwise keeping them in good condition.

(3) Let Overseers and Engineers of District Boards be entrusted with the work of inspecting the wells.

(4) Let Boards of panchayats have the powers of village sanitation boards.

(5) Let the village sanitation boards be asked to submit annually to the Sanitary Commissioner or Collector reports on the health of villages.

Now, the question is, who will bear the cost of carrying out the proposals? It is not likely that the Government will be able to bear the entire cost, nor does it seem possible to levy fresh taxes on the people for the purpose. We therefore make the following further proposals:—

(1) Zamindars, talukdars and so forth who pay land revenue directly to public treasuries should be compelled by law to excavate wells in their own estates.

(2) A zemindar who pays an annual land-revenue of Rs. 5,000, should be compelled to re-excavate at least five wells every year; he who pays an annual land revenue of Rs. 100 should be compelled to excavate at least one well every year and so other zamindars according to their means.

(3) Let District Boards or Government take charge of having the wells re-excavated under the supervision of president panchayats.

(4) Let zamindars be empowered to increase rents, at the rate of 2 pice per rupee, in villages where wells will be excavated and regularly re-excavated and kept in good condition at least for three years after the excavation.

(5) Let the above scheme be made legal either by an amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act or by the passing of a new law.

We make the above proposal in the conviction that the whole-hearted effort of the State, backed by Legislation, is required for fighting malaria in Bengal. The scheme may not be liked by zemindars, but there is nothing strange or unjust about it. Zemindars have always been guardians of the happiness and prosperity of the people of this country. Our proposal is so modest and purports to be so good in working, that zemindars will not be put to any great expense all of a sudden in order to carry it out, at the same time it provides for the exemption of poor zemindars from the scheme. Moreover the small addition to rent which it will entail, will not press heavily on raiyats. As a result of this scheme, all Bengal will be provided with a good system of water-supply in 20 or 25 years.

Besides supply of wholesome drinking water, other sanitary improvements are required for ensuring health in villages. Boards of panchayats, which we have proposed to be converted into sanitary boards for this purpose, may as such carry on sanitary improvements in all directions such as road-repairing, clearing of jungles, providing drains and so forth.

The Government and public are requested to consider the above scheme.

g)—*Railways and communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

45. A correspondent of the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says

Supply of wagons to the inferior coal mines.

that as the native coal-owners at Kalipahari are too poor to be able to order 50 wagons from the Railway Company at one time, they are supplied with wagons at the rate of 1 per day or even two or three days. This causes them great loss, for they cannot transmit their coal in sufficient quantities. Moreover, their stacks go on increasing in bulk, and coal stacked for a long time depreciates in quality and value. Government is prayed to make arrangements for the supply of wagons in sufficient numbers to the inferior coalmines.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

(h)—*General.*

46. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 18th January hopes

Sylhet and the Bengal Presidency.

for the inclusion of Sylhet in Bengal, judging from the strong case made out in favour of such a course in the petition lately presented to the Viceroy by certain local notabilities.

47. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January supports the prayer

Prayer for inclusion of Deoghar in Bengal.

of the inhabitants of Baidyanath to include the Deoghar subdivision of the Sonthal Parganas district in Bengal.

48. The *Purulia Darpan* [Purulia] of the 15th January, says that Raja

Prayer for inclusion of Manbhum in Bengal

Jyotish Prosad Singha of Panchkote, Raja Durga Prosad Singha of Jheria, and other well-known zemindars and educated men in the Manbhum district are anxious to see the district included in Bengal. Only a few mischievous nobodies are opposing their view. It is hoped that Lord Hardinge, who has gratified all Bengalis by annulling the Partition of Bengal, will not fail to keep poor Manbhum in the company of its kith-and-kin.

49. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January, considers the prayer of

Prayer for inclusion of Purnea in Bengal.

the inhabitants of Purnea to be placed under the Government of Bengal to be perfectly reasonable.

ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

PURULIA DARPAN,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

50. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January thinks that the Government ought to grant the prayer of the Bengali inhabitants of Arakan to include Arakan in Bengal, because Bengalis form 75 per cent. of the population of the place and also because, before the British conquest of Burma, the place actually formed a part of Bengal.

The writer next protests against the desire of Biharis to make the Mahamanda river the boundary between Bengal and Bihar; because, in that case, half of Malda, which is wholly a Bengali-speaking district, the whole of Purnea, half the people of which speak Bengali and even Gaur, the ancient capital of Bengal, will be included in Bihar. In ancient times the Kosi formed the boundary between Bengal and Mithila. No one should now object to this river being made the boundary between Bengal and Bihar.

Lastly, referring to the petition submitted to the Viceroy by the inhabitants of Sylhet, praying for inclusion of the district in Bengal, the writer hopes that the authorities will see their way to grant the prayer.

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

51. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January reproduces almost in the same language the substance of the *Hitavadi* paragraph noticed in paragraph 50 above.

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

52. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January, in discussing the question as to what are the proper limits of the Bengali speaking area to be administered by the new Governor, writes:—

Ancient Bengal consisted of Rarh, Barendra, Bagdi and Banga, and the places where the Gaudian language prevailed. Rarh included the country from Panchakot to the western banks of the Bhagirathi—the area bounded on the north by the Ganges, on the west by Panchakot or the Paresnath Hills, Mandar, Trikut, etc., and on the south by the Baitarani. Barendra was bounded on the west by the Kausika or the Koshi—the old bed of the Koshi is still accepted as the boundary of Barendra. The new Presidency should be composed of all this tract of country. Furthermore, the old Badshahi parganas are traditional divisions, which should not be split up if the old Bengal is to be preserved.

According to Mr. Beames, the entire stretch of country between Panchakot to Sylhet and Titaniya to the Baitarani is the home of the Bengali-speaking people.

Accordingly, therefore, in addition to the Presidency, Burdwan, Rajshahye, Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, Manbhum, Singhbhum, parts of Bhagalpore and Sonthal Parganas, the Kishanganj subdivision of Purnea, and part of Purnea, Sadar, the northern part of Balasore, Sylhet and part of Gauhati should form part of the new Governorship. The Kosi would form the north-western boundary and the Baitarani the south-western. Such a marking off of jurisdiction will have all the elements of finality in it.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 20th 1912.

53. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 20th January supports the prayer of the inhabitants of the Deoghar subdivision to include the Sonthal Parganas in Bengal.

The inhabitants of Sylhet also are preparing a petition praying for the inclusion of Sylhet in Bengal. But, continues the writer, we are sorry to hear that a high official of the Surma Valley Division had made a strong stand against the movement. He is reported to have ordered the police to inform him who are in favour of, and who are against a transfer of Sylhet to Bengal, and forbidden Government servants to sign the petition. But the petition has already been signed by the non-official members of the Legislative Council residing in Sylhet, non-official title-holders of the place, all the local gentlemen with the exception of one who had been invited to the Delhi Darbar, all the local zamindars, with the exception of two, and many Musalmans. We think that the rumour of the said official's conduct is false, or that he is acting without authority. Now is the time for informing the Government of people's views as to which places should be included in Bengal and which places should not, and no one should object to it.

Sylhet was up to 1874 officially, and is even now naturally, a part of Bengal. More than 90 per cent. of the population of Sylhet are Bengalis. The father of Lord Gauranga, the great Hindu reformer of the sixteenth century,

was a native of Sylhet, and so is now Dr. Sundari Mohan Das of Calcutta. Sylhet, therefore should be included in Bengal. There can be no harm if the size of Bengal increases, neither can there be any harm if a Chief Commissionership becomes smaller. Specially, when the Government of Assam will be busy with affairs of the North eastern Frontier, it will be well for it to cut off all connection with Sylhet.

A correspondent of the *Bengalee* writes that some officials in Chittagong are agitating for inclusion of the district in Assam. This is highly objectionable. Officials should not take part in any such agitation, for their interference checks the flow of independent public opinion. Government ought to circularize all its servants in this connection; otherwise the work of redistribution of territories for the formation of the new Governments will become extremely complicated and difficult.

54. The *Siksha* [Arrah] of the 18th January strongly protests against the agitation set up by the *Patrika* and the *Bengalee* for what it calls a dismemberment of

Bihar for the Biharis.

Bihar, by suggesting the detachment of some of its districts and inclusion of the same in Bengal. The Biharis have long been aware of their diplomacy. The Biharis know how they are ridiculed by being called *sattu*-eaters. Bihar has no connection with the Bengalis. The Bengalis always considered it as a place for them to enjoy. This is confirmed by the *Patrika* itself, when it says that Bengal has no healthy place for a change. Considerations of humanity requires that Darjeeling may be made over to them, but to let them have a single other village would be altogether improper. The Biharis are conscious of what they have suffered at the hands of the Bengalis. It is no use recounting it, but Biharis no longer desire to be in the hands of the Bengalis. They wish to have a High Court of their own soon. It would not be out of place to say here that, with the transfer of the Lieutenant-Governor's office in April next, as few Bengalis should come here as possible. The Biharis do not like that the Bengalis should have any hand in what is done for Bihar.

Bhagalpore had a protest meeting against the agitation for including it in Bengal. But for the confidence that the Biharis have in the propriety of their own wish and the justice of the Government, they would have given the Bengalis a snub which would have stopped their asking for undue privileges. There are many thoughtful gentlemen among the Bengalis who will explain to their brethren entertaining undue wishes that Bihar is for the Biharis.

55. Referring to the agitation of the Bengalis in connection with the territorial redistributions, the *Mithila Mihir*

Boundaries of the new Province.

[Darbhanga] of the 20th January says that the fact that many Bengalis have settled in Madhupur, Baidyanath and Deoghar, cannot make them Bengal districts, and Government will kindly consider the question.

56. According to the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January, Ranchi is the proper place for establishing the capital of the new province in, owing to its having convenient means of communication and a salubrious climate.

Ranchi as capital of Bihar.

57. The *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 20th January says that Patna is by far the most suitable town for the headquarters of the new province, and neither Ranchi nor Hazaribagh can come up to it.

Headquarters of the new province of Bihar.

58. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 18th January writes that the selection of a hill station for the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar at Miri near Darjeeling, as announced by the *Indian Daily News*, will be a serious injustice to Orissa, in justice to which a central place like Hazaribagh should be chosen as the hill capital of the new province.

The hill capital of the new province.

59. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January asks: "Will the Jain community be pleased if Parasnath Hills are selected for the summer residence of the Lieutenant-Governor of the new province of Bihar?"

Parasnath Hills as summer residence.

SHIKSHA.
Jan. 18th, 1912.

MITHILA MIHIR.
Jan. 20th, 1912.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

MITHILA MIHIR.
Jan. 20th, 1912.

NAYAK,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

HINDI BANGAVASI.
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

60. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January protests against Pareshnath being used as the hill station for the Government of the new province. It will greatly hurt Jain susceptibilities.

BHARAT MITRA,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

61. One result of the transfer of the capital to Delhi, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th January that it says would be the facility afforded to Hindi, which is the mother-tongue of, or more or less understood by, 13½ crores of people, becoming the *Lingua Franca* of India. The Bengalis will have now to give up their ambition of making Bengali occupy that position on account of the separation of Bihar and removal of the India Government, over which they exercise their influence, to Delhi.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

62. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that the transfer of offices, consequent on the annulment of the Partition of Bengal, will cause pecuniary loss to many poor clerks, and hopes that the Government will make good the losses they will thus sustain.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

63. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] believes that the transfer of the headquarters of the Government of India from Calcutta will cause great loss to the city municipality. Even if the office buildings of the Government in Calcutta can be sold and the loss of the municipality from cessation of taxes for these buildings prevented, still the municipality will suffer from depreciation of the value of land in the city. Under the circumstances, the municipality cannot be said to be wholly unreasonable if it demands compensation from the Government of India for the loss that it will sustain in consequence of the removal of the capital from Calcutta.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

64. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that it will be highly regrettable if owing to the transference of the capital from Calcutta, the Calcutta Museum is relegated to a secondary position as a mere provincial museum, for the Calcutta Museum is a great educational institution for Bengali students. It is enough that owing to the transference of the capital to Delhi Calcutta will no more gain new wealth. If over and above this, the city is deprived of the wealth it now possesses, great loss will be caused to Bengal.

NAYAK,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

65. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 17th January writes:—We are not opposed to the removal of the capital from Calcutta. Englishmen would not take such a serious step merely from whim—there must be some serious hidden reason. The fact that the rise of the English in India is associated with the growth of Calcutta is undeniable. If therefore Calcutta has been abandoned, it must have been for some very good reason. But it is not necessary that the offices should move from Calcutta before Delhi has been made fit for habitation. This change will restore Bengali influence in Upper India—that would be a gain. Furthermore, the attraction of service will gradually cease to be felt by Bengalis—this also would be another gain. But His Excellency should all the same act with circumspection. It will not do for him to be unreasonably in a hurry to move to Delhi.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

66. The *Sulabh Samachar* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—*Anent* the statement that the Viceroy will spend some weeks each Christmas season in Calcutta, even after the removal of the capital to Delhi, our view is that if this is done, all interests will be safeguarded and conciliated.

NAYAK,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

67. *An nt* the statement that Belvedere and Hastings House are to be sold off by Government, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 17th January asks if there will be purchasers forthcoming for these houses. Hastings House has the reputation of being haunted. Belvedere, too, is infested with ghosts. Ask the old *chopdars* and they will confirm this. Moreover, Bengalis believe that a house which has been tenanted for 50 years should not be sold.

MUHAMMADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

68. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes that the Imperial visit has borne good fruit beyond expectation. The revolutionary spirit in the land is quite

dead. The Hindus have been conciliated by the undoing of the Partition. The Beharis have been gratified by the grant of a separate Government. The grant for primary education, too, has pleased all. We trust our ears shall no more be disturbed by cries of boycott of things British and *swaraj*.

69. We hear, writes the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January, that many Indian officers of the Military Department who actually went to Delhi and worked hard for the Darbar have not received the Darbar medal, while many English officers of the Department who did not even go to Delhi have received it. After all that has been said and done during the Royal visit, it will be highly regrettable if Government continues to make such distinctions of colour among its subjects in even petty matters.

70. Referring to the rumour of a partition of the Midnapore district, a correspondent of the *Nihar* [Calcutta] of the 16th January says that the inclusion of the Contai sub-division in the Balasore district will be calamitous to the subdivision, for it is a Bengali-speaking place, and its court language is Bengali as is also the languages taught in its schools. A partition of the Midnapore district on the above lines will, moreover, cause great loss to Midnapore zamindars by placing their zamindaris in two districts and injure the inhabitants of Contai by transferring them under the jurisdiction of the High Court that will be established in Bihar. Bihar is more distant to Midnapore than Calcutta, and who knows that the High Court in Bihar will be what the Calcutta High Court is? Moreover, as the Mitakshara law of inheritance is prevalent in Bihar, Orissa and Chota Nagpur, the inhabitants of Contai will have to prove separately in each case that they are subject to the Dayabhaga law. These and other causes make a transfer of Contai to Balasore highly undesirable.

71. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the language spoken by the people of the northern part of Balasore is akin more to Bengali than to Uriya. The zamindars of the place keep their records in Bengali and almost all business is transacted in Bengali. The system of land-tenure also is different from that prevailing in other parts of Orissa. In fact, the northern part of Balasore had been included in the Midnapore district before Orissa came under British rule. In habits and customs also the inhabitants of northern Balasore are different from the inhabitants of the other parts of Orissa. The biggest zamindaris in Balasore belong to Bengalis. For these and other causes a part of the Midnapore district cannot be included in Orissa. On the contrary northern Balasore should be included in Bengal.

72. The same paper in its editorial column considers it unnecessary to partition the Midnapore district, for if there is a great pressure of work it may be relieved by appointing a second Collector in the district, whose headquarters will be at Contai and who will do the revenue and police work of the subdivision and hear appeals against decisions of 2nd class and 3rd class Magistrates. On the other hand, according to Raja Baikunthanath De, the inhabitants of Balasore are eager to be included in Bengal. Under the circumstances, Balasore may be included in Contai to form a Contai district under the Government of Bengal. However that may be, Lord Minto sometime ago dismissed a proposal to partition Midnapore and form a new district with headquarters at Kharagpur on the ground that sufficient reasons had not been shown for justifying such a change. And it can now be safely said that no fresh cause for a partition of the district has arisen since then.

73. *Anent* the statement that Burma is about to be separated from India and made into a crown colony the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 17th January declares itself against the change. The situation on the north-eastern frontier is gradually becoming one of increasing complexity and difficulty, and Burma single-handed will not be able to cope with it.

74. *Anent* a statement that quite 96 per cent. of the Indian Civil Service officers now serving in Bengal would prefer to transfer their services to Bihar, the *Nayak*

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

NIHAR,
Jan. 16th, 1912.

NIHAR,
Jan. 16th, 1912.

NIHAR,
Jan. 16th, 1912.

NAYAK,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

NAYAK,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

[Calcutta] of the 18th January remarks sarcastically that Bengal can well afford to do without Civilians. Let them be replaced by Army officers, or if even those be not forthcoming, there are Bengalis ready to govern the country themselves in the King-Emperor's name.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

75. The fact, writes the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January that all Bengal Civilians with the exception of four have, according to the *Englishman*, prayed for service in

Civilians and Bengal.

the new province of Bihar, proves what little love and gratitude they have for the country which has fed and nourished them so long with money. If the Civilians refuse to serve Bengal, there are many Bengalis who are competent enough to govern the country under British control. However that may be, let us wait and see what the Civilians do. Bengal may be malarious but not so her money.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

76. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 18th January writes that as Bengalis are gradually being ousted from public employment in all parts of India outside Bengal proper, it is only just that no non-Bengali should be employed in the public service in Bengal proper. The ranks of the police, for example, are now filled almost wholly by such men.

HITAVARTA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

77. In commenting on the statement furnished by Government showing the number of appointments on Rs. 500 and above held by Indians and others, the *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 18th January regrets that the difference between the appointments held by Europeans and those held by Indians should have been so great, the former being 2,418 and the latter 790. Can such a difference ever stop the growing discontent in the country, when the Government has itself admitted that it is due to this cause?

The paper is not against the appointment of Europeans, but it would have some important posts only reserved for Europeans, while the majority of other appointments should go to the Indians. As for the percentage showing the increase, the paper points out, by an example, how statistics are misleading.

In conclusion, the paper suggests that only half the appointments of Rs. 1,000 and over, and one fourth the number on salaries from 500 to 1,000 should go to Europeans, Indians being given the rest, and that simultaneous examination for the Civil Service, so long approved by the Parliament, should be held in England and this country. The paper hopes the question will receive due consideration.

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

The Provincial Executive Service.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

78. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January thanks Government for abolishing the last grade of Deputy Magistrates. 79. Referring to the abolition of the eighth grade of the Provincial Executive Service, the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that now some thing must be done for munsifs and poor teachers.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

80. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that the new rules issued by the Government of India, fixing a maximum of fees chargeable on Native Princes and hereditary Rajas and Nawabs by Medical officers employed in Government service, are very salutary, particularly to the less wealthy members of the nobility. It would have been better had the rules been made to apply to both official and non-official medical practitioners. We, concludes the writer, know of cases in which Rajas have been ruined in paying fees to medical men, and yet have not been cured of their diseases.

NAYAK,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

81. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January is very happy to hear that Sir T. Gibson-Carmichael is to be the Governor of Bengal. "Our Governor."

During the short time His Excellency has been in office at Madras, he has shown a liberalism, benevolence and wisdom which suggest a strong hope that at last for some time we shall be able to pass our days in peace and without anxiety. We thank His Imperial Majesty again and again for the love for Bengal which he has shown in the selection of a Governor for this Presidency. It seems that the Bengalis have found a corner in the liberal and loving heart of the King-Emperor.

We shall make no unreasonable demands on our new Governor. We want to pass our days without anxiety, to live healthy lives, with no wasting cares. We shall be gratified if His Excellency can help us his best to enable us to do this. Let Bengal be freed from malaria and water-scarcity; let the police and spies be kept under control; and let all sections of the population, Hindus and Musalmans and Englishmen, live at peace and in concord. We cannot call this any very unreasonable demand. We only ask for things which people have a right to ask for. Our new Governor is sure to grant us our prayers.

We pray of Him, who in His grace has reunited severed Bengal, has purged the land of all unrest, has given us a non-civilian ruler and has given us a generous and wise man as our Governor, that He may enable His Excellency to govern his charge without any hitch. We Bengalis will give a most cordial welcome to our new Governor. He is our chosen ruler. Since the King-Emperor has chosen him, it goes without saying that his selection will be dutifully accepted by us. May God so ordain that he may prove to be a man after our heart, and fulfil the King-Emperor's hopes.

82. Referring to the rumour of Mr. Payne's being appointed as Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says:—
The Commissionership of Calcutta Police.

SAMAY.
Jan. 19th, 1912.

Mr. Payne is undoubtedly a very competent man. Moreover, it will be a very welcome change if, as it is rumoured, Civilians only are in future appointed as Commissioners of the Calcutta Police.

83. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 19th January is glad to hear that Mr. Payne will be Commissioner of the Calcutta Police from March next. At the time of the *Bak-r-id* riots in Calcutta, Mr. Payne had with great ability saved Howrah from trouble. The *Nayak* at that time wrote an article named "On this side and on that," in which Mr. Payne was highly praised. We hope, concludes the writer, that while he will remain Commissioner of Police our words about the police will not go unheeded.

NAYAK.
Jan. 19th, 1912.

84. The *Sulabh Samachar* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—
Sir F. Halliday and Mr. Stevenson-Moore.
We rejoice to see that Mr. Stevenson-Moore and Sir F. Halliday have been honoured by the King-Emperor. The omission of their names from the Durbar Honours list was a serious one. It has now been rectified and we tender our warmest congratulations to the happy recipients.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

85. The *Birbhumvasi* [Rampur Hat] of the 15th January suggests that Mr. B. C. Mitra, District Judge of Birbhum, should be one of the new Judges, who, it is said, are to be appointed to the High Court soon.

BIRBHUMVASI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

86. The *Sulabh Samachar* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—
Sir John Jenkins.
The death of Sir John Jenkins creates a loss to Indian administration which cannot be easily filled. Our warmest sympathies go out to his bereaved family.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

87. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January is sorry to hear it rumoured that Sir Lawrence Jenkins, the Chief Justice of Bengal, will soon retire. He has upheld the prestige of British rule in this country in a critical time, and the longer he adorns the Bench the better for the country.

SANJIVANI.
Jan. 18th, 1912.

88. The *Sulabh Samachar* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—
Lord Hardinge's new honour.
All India rejoices at the high honour of the Chain of the Victorian Order conferred by the King-Emperor on Lord Hardinge, as having been conferred on a worthy recipient.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

89. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 20th January thinks that all India rejoices at the very high honour deservedly conferred by the King-Emperor on Lord Hardinge, in the shape of the Chain of the Victorian Order.

BASUMATI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

90. Lord Hardinge should, according to the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th January, have received the Order of the Garter for all that His Lordship did to make Their Majesties' visit to this country as comfortable as possible, instead of the Chain

BHARAT MITRA,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

of the Victorian Order, which too is a great honour, considering that its recipients are generally the members of the Royal Family and their relations.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

91. The *Sulabh Samachar* [Calcutta] of the 19th January writes:—

Dacca District Board address to the Viceroy.

In connection with a recent meeting of the Dacca District Board to vote an addresses to Lord Hardinge on the occasion of his forthcoming visit to Dacca, the local Civil Surgeon objected to any reference being made to the undoing of the Partition as a controversial topic. The result of the discussion was that no mention was to be made at all of the Delhi announcements. Comment on this is needless.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

92. We eagerly wait, writes the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 19th

Lord Hardinge's visit to Dacca.

January, to hear the words of assurance with which His Excellency Lord Hardinge is sure to satisfy the inhabitants of Dacca at the time of his ensuing visit to the place

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

93. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January fully approves

The Dacca Municipality and District Board's address to Lord Hardinge.

of the decision of the Dacca District Board and Municipality not to make any mention of the "Boons" conferred by His Imperial Majesty in the address which they will jointly present to Lord Hardinge on the occasion of His Excellency's visit to the town.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

94. Referring to the manner in which Colonel Hall, Civil Surgeon of

Colonel Hall, I.M.S., Dacca, on the annulment of the partition of Bengal.

"Doings of officials in Dacca."

Dacca, opposed the proposal to refer to the annulment of the Partition of Bengal as a boon granted by the King-Emperor, in the joint address which will be presented to Lord Hardinge by the Dacca District Board and Municipality on the occasion of His Excellency's approaching visit to Dacca, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January says:— "Let Lord Hardinge see how unruly officials have grown in Eastern Bengal."

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

95. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 18th January writes as follows:—

"Welcome of the Viceroy in Eastern Bengal"

Lord Hardinge has saved the life of Eastern Bengal. Perfect arrangements had been made to crush the manliness of the inhabitants of Eastern Bengal. Nobody in Eastern Bengal dared to express his heart's pain or make a proper use of the gift of language he had received from God. Fear and panic were making people lifeless. The Educational Department became a terror like the Criminal Investigation Department; for there was no knowing when a school might be disaffiliated, or a boy expelled from it, or a teacher dismissed. The chaukidar began to exercise supreme authority in the village and even educated villagers were afraid of him. The quarrel between Hindus and Musalmans gradually extended from towns to villages. There were signs of the beginning of a terrible anarchy throughout the country. Nothing is more potent is feeding discontent than despair, and people began to despair of getting justice done to them, to despair of being freed from oppression and persecution, to despair of receiving just treatment from officials. In such a time Lord Hardinge has saved Eastern Bengal from present troubles and future danger, by advising the annulment of the Partition of Bengal. Hence Eastern Bengal cannot but accord him a most cordial welcome and an opportunity has come for doing so. The Dacca District Board and Municipality will present His Excellency an address on the occasion of his ensuing visit to Dacca. We are, however, sorry to hear that the address will contain no mention of the "boons." Strange indeed! The address not to contain any reference to the very thing for which Eastern Bengal is grateful to Lord Hardinge! Babu Sarat Chandra Chakravarti, B.L., courageously proposed to include in the address a reference to the "boons," but his proposal was rejected. This was exactly as one might expect. The Dacca District Board and Municipality are governed by officials. The annulment of the Partition of Bengal is a blow to their despotism, paramountly and pride. Why should they allow the address to contain a mention of the annulment of the Partition? They may not, but we shall. Let the public bestir themselves for an adequate expression of joy and gratitude at the time of Lord Hardinge's visit to Eastern Bengal, in spite of the opposition offered by the Dacca District Board and Municipality. His Excellency will reach Goalundo on the morning of the 29th

instant. Let the public men of Faridpur headed by Babu Ambika Charan Majumdar give him a fitting reception at the place. Let all the boats on the Padma be decorated and thousands of voice sing songs of gratitude therefrom. Let Goalundo town put on a jolly appearance and its inhabitants congregate in thousands to welcome His Excellency. Another place full of life on His Excellency's way is Narayanganj. Let the inhabitants of the place at once make elaborate arrangements for welcoming His Excellency and in their address express in the best way they can the joy which the annulment of the Partition of Bengal has evoked in the hearts of all Bengalis. Let the beautiful bank of the Sitalakshi be decorated with gates, flowers and flags, and thousand of voices cry that His Excellency has saved the life of Eastern Bengal. Let Dacca be full of festivities. Babu Ananda Chandra Roy is a man of great influence at the place. Let him and the pleaders, zamindars and tradesmen organize such a reception for His Excellency as Dacca has never seen before. Mymensingh also should not be silent at this time. Let the public men of Mymensingh with Babu Anathbandhu Guha at their head come to Dacca to express their joy to His Excellency.

Let a wave of joy deluge all Eastern Bengal so that he who has saved its life may see how grateful the Bengalis are to their benefactors.

96. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 19th January is astounded at

DAINIK CHANDRIKA
Jan. 19th, 1912.

The Dacca District Board's address to the Viceroy.

the action of some European Dacca officials in insisting on the omission of any reference being made to the annulment of the Partition in the address to be presented by the Dacca District Board to the Viceroy on the occasion of his forthcoming visit to the city of that name. The District Magistrate did not allow a proposal that such a reference should be made to be discussed at all. This shows what a world of difference there is between western and eastern loyalty. Orientals cannot praise this kind of loyalty.

97. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January suggests three things to be mentioned by the proposed Moslem deputation which is to wait on the Viceroy at Dacca :—

MUHAMMADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

The Viceroy at Dacca

(1) The grant of separate representation to Moslems on local bodies; (2) their admission into the public service in the proportion they bear to the total population of the country; (3) the grant of a sum of money for the spread of Musalman education.

98. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that the decision

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

"Native versus Indian."

of the Manager of the North-Western Railway not to use the term "native" for Indian in sign-boards, papers and so forth concerning the line, should be enough to open the eyes of the Government of India to the necessity of their also never using the term "native" for Indians. When the Indians do not like to be called natives, what objection can Government have to calling them Indians instead of natives?

III.—LEGISLATION.

99. Referring to the interpellations in the last sitting of the Supreme Legislative Council, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says :—

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

Interpellations in the Supreme Legislative Council.

We are glad that the Royal grant of fifty lakhs of rupees to primary education will be a recurring annual grant over and above the ordinary grants of the Government; but we are afraid lest this fact of Royal generosity should stand in the way of the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's Education Bill being passed. We are, moreover, unable to make out why the Hon'ble Mr. Ali Imam has hesitated to reply to the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's question about the opinions which have been received by the Government on his Education Bill.

The statistics laid on the table in reply to the Raja of Dighapatia's question about the numbers of Indians and Europeans employed in posts carrying salaries of Rs. 500 or more each, prove how partial have the authorities been towards Europeans in the matter of employment in the higher posts of the public service. Cannot all India supply more than 924 persons fit to

hold high and responsible posts? Had Government guided itself by the terms of the great Proclamation of Queen Victoria, we would surely have found at least 2,000 Indians among the 5,390 officers holding such posts. Again, if the Hon'ble Raja had asked for statistics about posts carrying salaries of Rs. 1,000 or more each, he would have seen how few Indians hold such posts. This is indeed a most unsatisfactory state of things. As regards the smallness of the number of Musalmans employed in high posts, it is due mainly to their backwardness in education.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1913.

100. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that considering the wide knowledge which Sir William Duke and a few other Bengal officials have got of Orissa, it will be better to have the Orissa Tenancy Bill dealt with by the members of the present Bengal Legislative Council, instead of leaving it to be dealt with by the Legislative Council that will be formed in Bihar, as has been suggested in many quarters.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Jan. 22nd, 1913.

101. Seeing that Princess Indira's brother is coming out from England to be present at her marriage with His Highness Maharaja of Gwalior, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January is unable to understand the *Englishmen's* statement that the marriage is not to take place, and asks if the opposition to this marriage, raised by some Anglo-Indian papers and reformers some time ago, is going to be realized.

MARWARI,
Jan. 16th, 1913.

102. The *Marwari* [Calcutta] of the 16th January writes:—
The coronation of King-Emperor George V, ruler of a fifth of this globe, has been celebrated at Delhi. In commemoration of this festivity the Indian Princes that have been for some reason banished from their territories humbly pray to His Majesty that their Sovereign will bestow his compassionate consideration on their case.

The noblemen that may be deemed worthy to hold their position should be sent back to their capitals and reinstated as rulers, as has been done in the case of the Chief of Bilaspore (Punjab); or even while in custody be declared free to go on pilgrimages as was allowed in the case of the late Maharaja Holkar; or they may be permitted to come to their capitals on certain occasions to join their domestic celebrations as the Holkar was allowed to come to Indore for some days on the occasion of the birth of a grandson. The deposed Maharaja of Bharatpur has been residing at Deoli since last eight years, and now he desires to leave this wild tract of land in favour of some place of pilgrimage, and to be allowed to visit the various sacred places in India. The Maharaja's prayer is very opportune at this occasion of coronation festivity. Our merciful Sovereign His Majesty the King-Emperor and the Government of India would be graciously pleased to do some favour to the ex-Maharaja of Bharatpur if his prayer be proper. Some arrangement is desirable also in the case of Maharajas of Jhalawar and Panna.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

NAYAK
Jan. 18th, 1913.

103. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 18th January writes:—

Famine in Bombay. The fact that a public meeting has been convened by the Sheriff of Bombay under the presidency of the Governor of the Province to raise funds for helping the famine-stricken in Kattywar clearly shows that things are in a very bad pass there. And yet the King-Emperor was made to say that a timely rainfall had averted all prospects of famine from those parts of the country. Were such prospects really averted? Or was it that the officials could not properly grasp the situation? Or, was it that the officials deliberately misled the Sovereign and kept him from making searching inquiries by means of false assurances of hope? Who will solve this riddle?

104. Referring to the petition submitted to the Government by Babu Ashutosh Jana, of Birulia, in pargana Keoramal, in the Midnapore district, about failure of crops in the district and the inability of raiyats in it to conduct settlement suits and pay land-revenue fully, the *Nihar* [Contai] of the 16th January hopes that the prayer contained in the petition for remission of land-revenue and so forth, will be kindly granted by the Government in consideration of the Royal visit.

NIHAR,
Jan. 16th, 1912.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

105. The *Tirhut Samachar* [Muzaffarpur] of the 18th January publishes a letter from one Mangal Prasad Sharma, describing the scene at the Motipur station (Bengal and North Western Railway), where people assembled to see His Majesty, and how they were denied admission on the platform at first, but admitted there by the gracious command of His Majesty on his arrival and were given opportunity to do homage.

TIRHUT SAMACHAR,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

106. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that the Royal visit has, by giving the Indians an opportunity of seeing their Sovereign after about two centuries, filled their hearts with joy, and the boons granted to them by His Imperial Majesty cannot fail to increase their loyalty to him. The annulment of the Partition of Bengal has gratified all Indians and removed unrest from the country. In fact, the Royal visit marks the beginning of a new era in the history of India, establishing a closer connection between the country and the ruling House of England and making it necessary for the English rulers of the country to rule it henceforward with greater regard for the views of its inhabitants.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

107. The *Jagaran* [Bagerhat] of the 21st January writes that the King-Emperor's visit has given rise to a feeling among Indians akin to that produced by the sight of a divine being. Hitherto the King-Emperor was to us more or less of a stranger; now we know that he is one of us, our King-Emperor who is not indifferent to our joys and sorrows. No Bengali, whatever his political views, cherishes any feeling but these of cordial good-will towards the Royal person. His Imperial Majesty's attitude of sympathy and benevolence recall the noblest monarchs of ancient India, the traditions of Ram and Yudhishtira, of Asok and Akbar.

JAGARAN,
Jan. 21st, 1912.

108. There are four kinds of heroism, says the *Shiksha* [Arrah] of the 18th January, and His Majesty the King-Emperor's being endowed with all the four is the talk of the day in every household. The paper gives instances to exemplify this statement. That business men who had closed their shops in order to go and see His Majesty had a brisk sale of their goods on return, goes to show that His Majesty is a religious hero. His clemency in ordering the release of political prisoners like Bal Gungadhar Tilak and others, of which there is a rumour, his command to the Governor-General to stay in Calcutta for some time every year and ordering the police to let off the Eurasian lad who had attempted to approach His Majesty, etc., show his heroic mercy. His marksmanship, experience in naval affairs, the heavy bag secured in the shooting excursion and his command to abolish the Criminal Investigation Department of Bengal, indicate the heroic nature of his heart. The boons announced at Delhi eliciting the gratefulness of the peoples throughout India, point out His Majesty's heroic charity. The Indians value nothing so much as love, and His Majesty loves his subjects. The people are, therefore, ready to sacrifice their lives for him. The King-Emperor has achieved that which many lakhs of people could not do. He has secured the love of his subjects. His Majesty should therefore be congratulated, so should the people also be since they have got such a King over them who is possessed of all the virtues besides love for his subjects.

SHIKSHA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

The present state of affairs points out to the repeal of the Press Act, for the Editors will have no occasion to write strong articles, nor the authorities the necessity of sending them to jail. The way in which the King-Emperor

conducted himself while here has taught both the subjects and the officials their respective duties. The former have learnt loyalty, and the latter love. The atmosphere has cleared off darkness born of misconception.

SAMAY,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

109. Referring to Mr. Tilak's letter contradicting the rumour of his release, the *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that Government could at this time have given a striking evidence of its generosity, by releasing Mr. Tilak.

NAYAK,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

110. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 18th January writes that the release of Tilak at this moment would have won the gratitude of all Hindus, as the modification of the Partition has won the gratitude of all Bengalis. Lord Hardinge has missed a fine opportunity of showing his greatness and largeheartedness.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 29th, 1912.

111. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January fails to make out why Government is losing a unique opportunity of gaining universal popularity by releasing Mr. Tilak.

BANGAVASI,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

All India is eagerly expecting his release, which is sure to deluge the country with joy and convince people of the Government's generosity.

112. His Imperial Majesty's last words in Bombay, writes the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 20th January, should convince Lord Hardinge of the sincerity of the loyalty of the Indians, for they show how fully His Imperial Majesty recognises that loyalty. Besides the annulment of the Partition of Bengal proves how energetic and courageous an official His Excellency is. He should, therefore, take the opportunity of the Royal visit to repeal the Press Act, which is, as it were, a chain binding the Indians.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

113. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 17th January says that when Government has itself opened the path to Provincial autonomy in India, time will come

when the Provincial Legislative Cabinet will be converted into Provincial Parliaments, Provincial Executive Councils into Provincial Cabinets, the Supreme Legislative Council into a Supreme Parliament, and the Viceroy's Executive Council into a Supreme Cabinet. In fact, India will have the same form of Government as obtains in Australia, South Africa and Canada. We firmly believe that India will benefit by British rule?

NAYAK,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

114. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January, speaking for all Bengal, would not like to see Mr. Bhupendra Nath Bose a Member of the Executive Council, if Raja Kishori Lal Gosain is to retire from that office. Why not put Sir Gurudas Banerjee or Sir Chandra Madhab Ghosh in the office.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

115. Seeing that the separation of Bihar from Bengal has given rise to animosity and jealousy between the Biharis and Bengalis, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January calls on those possessing foresight and intelligence to throw oil on troubled waters, and restore good feeling between the two communities in which alone lies the good of both.

DAINIK CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 22nd, 1912.

116. The *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 22nd January thanks the Princes of Gwalior and Bikanir for presenting statues of Their Imperial Majesties to Delhi—the personages by whose grace, the glories of India's ancient capital are to be revived.

HITAVARTA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

117. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 18th January is glad that the educated community kept aloof from the last Congress which was made up of the members of the Mehta party, which acts in defiance of public opinion in spite of a special appeal by Surendra Nath Banerjee.

The paper also criticises Surendra Nath Banerjee and the Hon'ble Mr. Bhupendra Nath Basu for their high-handed proceedings, for more disregard for the opinion of the public than is shown even by the official rulers of the country. The Presidential speech is condemned for having included certain social questions in an address intended for a purely political assembly.

118. The *Hitavarta* [Calcutta] of the 18th January apprehends a schism among the Muhammadans, from the advice given to them by Mr. Sirajuddin Ahmad, Bar-at-Law not to take interest in the Turkish and Persian politics, and warns them against this calamity.

HITAVARTA,
Jan. 18th, 1912.

119. The *Durbar Gazette* [Calcutta] of the 17th January notices the monstrous meeting of Hindus and Muhammadans held at Poona on the evening of the 26th December last under the presidentship of Sir Aga Khan, about the aggressions of Russians and Italians. The meeting consisting of both Hindus and Muhammadans expressed its sympathy for the oppressed Persians. The President thanked the Hindus for their sympathetic feelings towards the oppressed Musalmans. The meeting was dissolved with a resolution of thanks to Lords Curzon and Lamington for their true sympathy with the Persians.

DURBAR GAZETTE,
Jan. 17th, 1912.

120. Seeing the evil propensity of the Musalmans to use beef, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 20th January, was all along afraid lest the Hindus took to pork by way of teasing the Mussalmans. It is, therefore, sorry to find its fears realized, inasmuch as the Hindus of a village in the Shahpur District of the Punjab, ate the flesh of pigs killed by Europeans, and have now been boycotted by the Muhammadans. Both the communities, if they really wish well of their country, should give up wounding the feelings of each other.

BHARAT MITRA,
Jan. 20th, 1912.

121. Referring to the increase of imports in India, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January says that it proves that Indian industries are not being able to compete with foreign industries. This state of things will not be removed so long as the Excise duty on cotton goods in India is not abolished. Again, in spite of the prevailing high prices, the export duty on rice has yielded Government a revenue of 5 lakhs of rupees. Is this not a sign of the poverty of the Indians?

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

122. It is a common mistake on the part of Anglo-Indians, writes the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 19th January, to suppose that there are hoards of dead capital in India. In fact, in a country where the condition of the poorer classes is deplorable, where middle class men find it difficult to make the two ends meet, and where destructive famines are frequent, there cannot possibly exist much hoarded wealth.

HITAVADI,
Jan. 19th, 1912.

123. In the 8th chapter of the book on Assam plantation which is being published in the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur], the author Ayodhya Prosad Singh writes:—

BIHAR BANDHU,
Jan. 13th, 1912.

Lalit Monorama, or the Assam tea labourer. The cooly has a hard life in Assam. One cannot help weeping to think of it. The very hair stand on end to contemplate all the sufferings that he is made to undergo there. Those who know the condition of the Carolina slaves, or those who know what brutal treatment those slaves receive at the hands of their English masters, will not find much difficulty in realizing the hardships which the cooly in Assam is subjected to. The loyal subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor always looked to the successive rulers of the province for the mitigation of these hardships. The Press also tried to point out the bone breaking labour of the unfortunate cooly in Assam. There was no man who was a greater well-wisher of India or more ready to do good to the people of this country than Sir Henry Cotton. When he became the Chief Commissioner of Assam, people hoped that the cruel tea planters of Assam would be taught a lesson by him, but unfortunately he had to leave Assam and go to England. The country is as it were wedded to calamity for ever, and it is only by the grace of God and the English officials' following the path of making the subjects happy laid out for them by His Majesty, that it can again emerge out of the great misery and distress.

Flogging is the ordinary pastime in Assam. Many an English officer goes about with a whip in his hand, which he uses on the bare back of the poor cooly for a trifling fault. They do not remember in their conduct that the coolies are not machines but as much human beings as they are. The cooly woman, specially if she is a little handsome or at any rate if she is not ugly, finds it hard, rather impossible, to save her chastity from her English master or his Indian subordinates. The Assam planters are generally unmarried, and those

who are married, generally live there without their wives. The result, which is but natural is that every Englishman generally keeps a *Kali Bibi* (black wife) in his house. Again, there are many who are not satisfied with one single woman or remain contented with having outraged the chastity of one woman. Possessed, therefore, of one woman they are ever on the look out for another and no sooner they come across one younger or more handsome than her, the latter is at once discarded and the other takes her place as *Kali Bibi*. I do not mean to say that every woman raised to the dignity of *Kali Bibi* is dragged to the Saheb against her wishes, though sometimes this also happens, but the women have no alternative when those under whose protection the coolies live, are bent on bringing about their ruin.

The writer is very glad that a wise and generous man like Lord Hardinge is the present Viceroy of India and hopes that the sufferings of the unfortunate coolies of Assam will attract his attention.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPKA,
Jan. 15th, 1912.

124. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 13th January reports that popular meetings were held on the 6th and 9th instant at Rambha and Khalikota respectively, both in the district of Ganjam, and resolutions were passed in them for memorializing the Government of India through the Madras Government with the object of uniting the Uriya-speaking district of Ganjam in the Madras Presidency with Orissa, at the time of redistribution of boundaries for formation of the new province of Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa.

The proceedings of the meeting at Rambha are reported by two other papers, viz, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 10th January and the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 13th January.

URIYA AND NAVA-
SAMVAD,
Jan. 13th, 1912.

125. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 13th January, commenting on the question of redistribution of boundaries by the India Government with a view to make the different provinces of India politically autonomous writes as follows:—

"If we have correctly surmised the spirit of the announcements, the Government of India has adopted a bold policy in making the different provinces autonomous in so far as the provincial problems are concerned, reserving to itself the right to interfere in case of mis-government. The first step towards autonomy is to place a people having the same language, customs, manners and traditions under a single administration. Hence, we hail with the greatest delight the desire on the part of the responsible authorities to place the Bengali-speaking people under an enlightened administration. On the same principle, so far as the province of Orissa is concerned, we very much wish all the Uriya-speaking people under one and the same administration. The Uriya-speaking people are now under three administrations. Some are under the Madras Presidency, some under Bengal, some under Central Provinces. Now, when the question of boundaries is being raised in connection with the creation of separate provinces, we would respectfully draw the attention of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, to so adjust the boundaries that all the Uriya-speaking people may enjoy the benefits of one Government. In this way only can a backward race like the Uriyas ever hope to compete with their more progressive brethren of India. If they are placed under the same Government, their interests will be identical and they will be able to form correct notions about their needs as a community."

UTKALDIPKA,
Jan. 13 h. 1912.

126. Regarding the provisions of the Orissa Tenancy Bill which is now before a select committee for consideration, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 13th January comments as follows:—

Comments on the Orissa
Tenancy Bill.

1 (a). Everybody in Orissa knew that the zamindar's *nijot* and *nijchas* lands came under one and the same category, and as there was legal distinction laid down for different enjoyment of the two sorts of land, the zamindars were never anxious to observe any distinctions in the use of either the one or the other. At the time of the last settlement of Orissa Mr. Maddox

entered those lands as *nijjot* which were so from the time of the settlement of 1837, and the rest of the land in zamindar's possession were entered separately as *nijchas*. The present legislation tries to keep up the same distinction. Restrictions are laid down for the enjoyment of *nijchas* lands, their area being proportionally very large. But it must be remembered that some waste-lands and roads are included in *nijchas* lands and, consequently, their actual acreage is far less than what is found from the settlement papers. Moreover, during the famine of Orissa in 1866, much land was abandoned by raiyats and, therefore, the zamindars were under the painful necessity of bringing it under cultivation with much labour and expense. Some of the *nijchas* lands have also been purchased for money by zamindars from the raiyats. Under these circumstances, therefore, all the *nijchas* lands should not be regarded as lands originally belonging to raiyats and the right of occupancy cannot therefore accrue to them.

(b). The tenure-holders such as Mukadams, Sarbarakars and even Bajiaftadars, used formerly to enjoy *nijchas*. When the Bengal Tenancy Act was enforced in Orissa, they were deprived of these rights. At the last settlement, some Bajiaftadars were recorded as tenure-holders and others as raiyats, and in all the suits which have subsequently been brought before Civil Courts, the Judges have held these Bajiaftadar-raiyats as tenure-holders, and have remarked that the settlement papers were wrong in recording them as raiyats. Now, under the present legislation, the tenants under these Bajiaftadar raiyats are treated as under-raiyats and thereby the powers of these Bajiaftadars have been enhanced, which is illegal and unjust. It will rather be legal that they should have the proprietor's right to *nijchas* lands under the present legislation, than to acquire a right to which they are not entitled. It is not proper to legalise a mistake committed by one settlement officer. The distinction between *nijjot* and *nijchas* is only imaginary, and has no actual existence.

2. We do not understand why should Mukadams and Sarbarakars, from whom *kabuliyats* have been taken, be called "sub-proprietors" under the present legislation. They have all along been called tenure-holders, and we are unable to understand what harm is done and inconvenience felt by retaining that name. There is no doubt much inconvenience will arise from the creation of this new term "Sub-Proprietor." We know that, at the last settlements, *kabuliyats* were not taken from Sikimi zamindars, and when they were sued for arrears of rent, cases could not be maintained against them even on appeals to the High Court. Under such circumstances, the objects of the legislature are frustrated, even though they are regarded by it as "Sub-Proprietors."

3. Provision has been made in the Bill that suits against Chandnadars will lie to the Collector. But they have, up-to-date, been sued in Civil Courts under the provisions of Act IV of 1882. It does not, therefore, appear proper and convenient to bring one man under two courts of different jurisdictions.

4. Deputy Collectors empowered by Collectors are included in the term "Collector" in the Bill. It appears, therefore, that these Deputy Collectors are indirectly empowered to hear appeals in rent-suits at the discretion of the Collector. This does not appear to be reasonable. It is our conviction that those empowered Deputy Magistrates who hear criminal appeals are often unfit to do so, and it is our firm belief that they are not yet qualified enough for the purpose. Such will also be the fate of rent appeals.

5. The Bill does not provide for the exact amount to be paid by the raiyat to the zamindar if he sell his land, which is left to be determined by custom. So the unreasonable practice of some zamindars demanding 8 to 12 annas of the sale price from the raiyats is left untouched. The Bill also makes no provision against tenure-holders and others who enter in their sale-deeds, as consideration money, an amount less than what they actually give or receive, with a view to defraud the proprietors of their just dues.

6. It was never before known in Orissa that a raiyat having the right of occupancy in any land in a village, acquires the same right in any other piece of land as soon as he cultivates it. With the introduction of the Bengal Tenancy Act, this right was created in Orissa. The zamindars of

Orissa do now-a-days, therefore, avoid leasing out their lands to 'occupancy raiyats and consequently become losers, and so it will be in future. It is, therefore, proper to do away with such a measure.

7. Another creation of the Bengal Tenancy Act in Orissa, is the commutation of rent. This measure is not conducive to the good of either the landlords or the tenants. It should therefore be done away with.

8. The editor also objects to the clauses 50, 60 and 63 of the Bill, and to its Chapter XII on land records, holding that the continuance of a permanent staff of settlement is very harassing, and is sure to bring about misery both to the landlords and tenants. He complains that no provision has been made therein for restricting the power of leasing out lands by raiyats without the permission of their proprietors, and that the provision for the appointment of common manager, without restricting the power of co-proprietor to sell or mortgage their estate, is inadequate. In conclusion, he reiterates his former complaints regarding the entry of *sarbasadharan* lands in settlement papers.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 27th January 1912.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 27th January 1912.

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL SPECIAL DEPARTMENT.**

[As it stood on 1st January 1911.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 47, Brahmin	3,000
2	"Bihar Herald"	Patna	Weekly	Manmotho Nath Roy	600
3	"Biharee"	Bankipore	Do.	Sihya Sankar Sahai, zamindar and pleader of criminal court, Patna.	700
4	"Bengalee"	Calcutta	Daily	Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Roy.	About 6,500
5	"Bihar"	Patna	Monthly	Rai Bahadur Gajadhar Parshad, Kayastha, pleader, age 62.	300
6	"Hindoo Patriot"	Calcutta	Daily	Prish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 43, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	700
7	"Indian Echo"	Ditto	Weekly	Kunju Behary Bose, age 45, Kayastha...	600
8	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Do.	Kesab Chandra Banerji, B.A., age 46, Brahmin.	1,500
9	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Rai Norendra Nath Sen Bahadur, age 63, head of the Maha-Bodhi Society.	1,000
10	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Not known	500
11	"Kayastha Messenger"	Gaya	Do.	Bidyanand Moklar, of Mohalla Murapore, Kayastha, age 40 years.	500
12	"Musalman"	Do.	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman, Muhammadans.	800
13	"Reis and Rayyet"	Do.	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 60 years, a Calcutta house-owner.	500
14	"Star of Utkal"	Cuttack	Do.	Kherode Chandra Roy Chaudhuri, Head Master of a Government College.	500
15	"Telegraph"	Calcutta	Do.	Surendra Nath Bose, B.A., age 39 years	2,000
16	"Comrade"	Ditto	Do.	Mr. Mahomed Ali, B.A. (Oxon), a Muhammadan, age 29 years.	2,000



II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

204. The editor of the *Telegraph* is sorry to find several contemporaries complaining of alleged high-handedness of the police on the occasion of the Royal visit. He is sorry,

TELEGRAPH
13th Jan. 1911.

The Indian police. because, not only did instructions apparently issue from the highest quarters as to the attitude of the police, but the higher or superior officers were themselves only too ready to obey these instructions to the letter.

Such being the case, he has no doubt that the authorities would leave no stone unturned in punishing the men who might have been guilty of high-handedness or cruelty. The police are the living emblems of the power and authority of the Government; they represent the executive administration to the people at large.

205. In commenting on the charge of theft of a wrapper brought against Babu Bepin Chandra Pal by a police officer, the *Bengalee* sincerely hopes the authorities will take suitable notice of the conduct of this officer, if what is said in the report is true. What, by the way, has become of the reported intention of the Government to abolish the Special Branch of the C. I. D.? It is the barest truth to say that the proceedings of this branch are a source of grave irritation and annoyance, and sometimes of positive hardship to the people, and have evoked the indignation of the whole community. The country would breathe a sigh of relief if this branch were abolished.

BENGALURU,
14th Jan. 1912.

206. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes an article by Bepin Chandra Pal, which runs as follows:—"I notice that your attention has been drawn to a recent incident concerning myself and the Inspector in charge of Sukea Street police-station. It happened on the 30th of last month, almost immediately after Their Majesties had arrived in Calcutta. But I deliberately declined to give any publicity to it for three reasons. In the first place, on principle, I am against the ventilation of the personal wrongs of individual public men. One cannot ventilate these without keeping these wrongs before one's mind's eye for some time; and it naturally creates a more or less rankling sense of the injury received, and thereby helps inevitably to import an element of personal acerbity into the public life, which is so fatal to the preservation of the integrity and idealism of that life. In the next place, the particular offender here was one of my own people. But for his uniform he would, I am absolutely confident, have as instinctively shrunk from offering any such wanton insult to me, and would, on the contrary, have been as indignant, if it had been offered by any one else, as any member of the general public. And when we consider it all, our rising indignation against him is naturally overcome by our tender pity for him. Besides, to publicly expose the Indian police officer who is so often the victim of circumstance, is to some extent to indirectly traduce our own character, especially in the eye of the unthinking foreigner, and should not be undertaken except for very grave reason. The incident concerning me was not of so grave a nature as to justify the publicity that has been given to it by the *Sanjibani*. Lastly, the presence of Their Majesties in Calcutta was an additional reason that weighed with me in declining to take any notice of this matter. But since the *Sanjibani* has published a somewhat inaccurate account of it, I crave the hospitality of your columns to give a correct version of what actually happened.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
16th Jan. 1912.

"But before I do so, I think it will clear up matters a little if I were to give a short 'previous history' of the case. Within a few days of my return home, it was brought to my notice that some men of not quite respectable appearance had commenced to visit the houses of some of my friends and relations, making irritating enquiries as to when I had been there, how long I had stayed, whom I had seen, etc. One of these men went, I understand, more than once to my daughter's house in College Square, when the male members of the family were all out, and tried to molest the ladies with these questions.

I have never questioned the right or the reasonableness of the action of any Government in keeping watch over the movements of those whose political views or activities it may think to be dangerous. And having nothing to hide, I have never felt the least uneasiness at the attention that has been paid to me by the Indian police during the last nine or ten years. But when such serious and responsible duties are entrusted to the class of police informers we have in this country, who are generally men of no education and less character, and when these men go about their business in a way which is distinctly provocative of a breach of the peace, the thing becomes more than a mere joke and requires to be checked.

"It is, therefore, that when the durwan of my friend Dr. Sundarimohan Das, where I went to meet some friends on the day of Their Majesties' arrival in Calcutta, reported that a suspicious-looking man was making enquiries about me there but who refused to be announced or meet me, and that he was, at that very moment, standing on the opposite footpath, I thought it was time to take some action in the matter. The durwan gave me his description, and I quietly walked up to him, and asked him why he was making enquiries about me, what was his business, and also what was his name, and where did he live. He got exceedingly nervous, and made no answer. I then put my hand on his left arm and told him that I was going to make him over to the police, and he would have to come with me to the thana. He offered no reply nor resistance, but quietly crossed over to the other side of the road with me. But as I wanted him to follow me to Dr. Das's door, so that I might have him identified by the durwan, he refused to budge. At this I called out to the durwan, and the man at once tore himself away from me, leaving his wrapper in my hand. A shop-keeper who was sitting by, ran after him, evidently taking him for a pickpocket, but I called him back, and allowed the suspected spy to go his way. Returning to Dr. Das's place, I sent the wrapper to Rai Binode Kumar Gupta, Bahadur, with a note, saying that I thought the man belonged to the C. I. D., and giving a brief account of what had happened.

"In about an hour's time, when I was sitting in Dr. Das's drawing room, I heard someone calling for him, and as the durwan was away, and Dr. Das was not there, and there was no one to attend to his visitor, I went down myself to see who it was, and was at once accosted by a police officer, who had come and almost laid siege upon the doorway with a number of constables—I forget now if they were duly armed with regulation sticks or not. There was, as usual, a fairly large crowd also on the public road, keenly watching the action. As soon as he saw me, the officer in charge of the expedition put on all the airs native to his high position, and asked me in Bengali, in a voice loud enough to be heard by the admiring and awe-struck crowd, 'Why have you stolen this man's wrapper?' I laughed outright and exclaimed, 'Has it come to this, after all these years?' and as I had just commenced to tell him how this man was causing annoyance to my people, the Inspector bawled out again, 'Is it the first time that you have come to know that you are watched?'

"I:—'I know that I am watched, and I am neither afraid of, nor do I object to it; but your man had no business to make any enquiries about me from my servants or at my friends' houses.'

"The Inspector made some offensive retort, the exact wording of which I forget now, and I saw that there might be a serious breach of the peace if I permitted myself to be drawn into this vulgar war of words with him, and so asked him to take out a summons against me if I had done anything criminal. At this one of his men, forgetting that his superior officer was there talking to me,—an incident which proved the discipline of the force to which he belonged,—put in the remark—'No summons.'

"I said:—'No summons? Do you mean then that it is a warrant? Then let it be so.'

"The Inspector:—'All right. I arrest you. Come.'

"I at once obeyed his order, and he stepped out with me into the street. But we had hardly moved half-a-dozen steps, when he came back to himself, and toning down a bit, said:—'I don't arrest you.'

"Who arrests me then? Surely I don't arrest myself?" I said. And seeing that he was coming back to himself, I added, "Why do you kick up a row over so simple an affair?"

"The Inspector:—'What could I do? This man came and told me that you had boxed his ears, and had taken away his wrapper?'"

"I:—'How could you believe such a thing?'"

"The Inspector:—'But he told me, and you see he still says it.'"

"I:—How dare you put the words of such a man against mine? You may do so, but I assure you none of your betters, from the Commissioner upwards, would ever dream of doing it."

"Inspector:—'Let him have his wrapper, then.'"

"I told him that it was not with me, but had been sent to Binode Babu. He seemed to make a grievance of this also, and asked me why I had sent it to Binode Babu and not to him. I said, for the simple reason that I thought the man belonged most likely to the C. I. D.; besides I knew Binode Babu, but had not the honour of his (the Sukea Street Inspector's) acquaintance."

"This is all that happened between me and the Inspector."

207. A correspondent of the *Bengalee* writes as follows:—"I have seen your editorial on a recent ugly incident concerning me and the Inspector of Sukea's Street thana, published in yesterday's *Bengalee*. The incident

Babu Bepin Chandra Pal and the police.

happened on the 30th December within a couple of hours of the arrival of Their Majesties in Calcutta, and I deliberately declined to give publicity to it for the following reasons: (i) I am opposed on principle to the ventilation of the personal wrongs of public men in the press, for such publication inevitably keeps the sense of the wrong in our mind longer than it would otherwise be there, and thus tends to import an element of personal acerbity into the public life, which is so fatal to the preservation of the integrity and idealism of that life. The sooner public men forget their personal grievances the better for their own character and for the use they serve. (ii) Secondly, the offender here was one of our own people. But for his uniform, he would, I am confident, have as instinctively shrunk from offering such wanton insult to me as any other member of the Indian public. And when I think of it my rising indignation is completely overcome by a tender pity for the man. Besides to expose the lapses of the Indian police officer, who is so often a mere victim of circumstances, is to some extent to indirectly traduce our own national character, especially in the eye of the unthinking foreigner. And it should not be undertaken except for very grave reason. The incident concerning me was by no means of so grave a nature as to justify the publicity that has been given to it, from kindly motives no doubt, by the *Sanjibani*. (iii) Lastly, the presence of Their Majesties in Calcutta was an additional ground that weighed with me in declining to take any notice of it. But since the matter has been publicly discussed, I may as well give an accurate version of it myself.

"Within a few days of my return home, I came to know that some men of clearly disreputable appearance reminiscent of the habitual vagabond or the confirmed opium-eater, were paying unwelcome visits to the houses of my friends and relations and making irritating enquiries as to when I went home, whom I saw, and how long I stayed, etc. One of these men went I think, more than once, to my daughter's house when the male members of the family were all out, and insisted upon getting these pieces of information from the ladies. I never questioned the right or the reasonableness of the Government keeping watch over those whose political views or activities are considered dangerous by them. And having nothing to hide, I never felt any uneasiness for this constant observation. But when it is done by men of doubtful character, oftentimes even by known criminals, and when these men proceed about their work in a way that is calculated to lead at any time to a serious breach of the peace, the thing demands some check.

"It is, therefore, that when on the 10th of last month, the durwan of my friend, Dr. Sundarimohan Das, where he had gone to meet some friends, told him that a man had been making similar enquiries about my visits to that house, and that he was then standing on the opposite footpath, I quietly walked up to him, and asked for his name and address, and threatened to take him over to the thana as a suspect. He was taken completely aback at this,

BENGALIAN,
16th Jan. 1912.

and without answering any of my queries walked with me to the other side of the road. But as soon as I called out to Dr. Das's durwan, with a view to identify him as the man who had been making these enquiries about me he refused to come any further with me; and as I had my hand on his arm, he tore himself away from me, leaving his wrapper on my hand. At this a man who was standing by, ran after him, but I called this man back, and let the suspect go his way. Returning to Dr. Das's place, I at once sent the wrapper to Rai Binode Kumar Gupta, Bahadur, briefly telling him what had happened.

"In about an hour's time, a Police Inspector came to Dr. Das's place with about a dozen constables and called for Dr. Das. Dr. Das was then taking his afternoon siesta, and thinking that it might be some friend or patient, I myself went down to see who it was. I was at once asked by the Inspector why I had 'stolen this man's wrapper.' I laughed outright and said, 'Has it come to this, after all these years?' and told him how this man was annoying me. At this he bawled out, 'Don't you know that you are watched?' I said, 'Yes, I know and I don't object to it either, but surely he had no business to come and make these annoying enquiries.' At this he made some offensive remark, the exact wording of which I forget. I saw there might be a breach of the peace if I permitted myself to be drawn into this quarrel, and so I told him that I had nothing more to tell him, and he might take out summons against me. At this one of his men put in the remark: 'No summons.' I said, 'No summons? Then do you mean it is to be a warrant? Then let it be so.' The Inspector said, 'All right then, come, I arrest you.' I at once followed him, and we both stepped out into the public road. After taking two or three steps he turned round and said, 'I don't arrest you.' I laughed and said, 'Who arrests me then? Surely I don't arrest myself?' Seeing that he was coming back to himself, I said, 'Why do you make all this row about so simple an affair?' He said, 'What could I do? This man came and told me that you had boxed his ears.' I said, 'How could you believe it of me?' He said, 'But he told me so and still says it.' I said, 'How dare you put his words against mine? You may not believe me, but go and ask your superiors, from the Commissioner to the Viceroy, and they will tell you whether Bipin Chandra Pal is capable of telling a lie like this or not.' 'Why have you kept his wrapper, then?' he asked again, a little more soberly this time. I said, 'I did not keep it. I wanted to take him to the thana, and he ran away, leaving his wrapper.' 'Let him have it now, then.' I then told him that it had been sent to Binode Babu. He asked me why I had not sent it to him. I told him, for the simple reason that I thought this was a C. I. D. man, and I knew Binode Babu, but had not the honour of his (the Inspector's acquaintance). Here practically ended the episode, so far as I was directly concerned. There were one or two bye-plays, however, which, but for the wonderful patience and forbearance of the crowd that had gathered there, might have caused a riot that would have reflected no credit either upon the Calcutta police or upon the Calcutta public. I am extremely thankful that Their Majesties' visit to our city was not contaminated by any such regrettable incident."

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BEHARRER,
19th Jan. 1912.

Establishment of a separate
High Court for Behar.

208. The editor of the *Beharree* finds that his desire to get a separate chartered High Court for the province of Behar has created quite a sensation in Bengal. He fully anticipated that in this matter he would have to meet a vehement opposition from his Bengali countrymen. Behar has paid heavily in the past, not only for its administrative connection with Bengal, but also for its being under the same High Court. That there is but a solitary Behari Sub-Judge has been possible only because the Beharis have been under the Calcutta High Court, where it is not possible for them to have their claims recognized. The editor desires to assure his contemporaries that the educated Beharis are very keen indeed to have a separate High Court for themselves at Patna, and at the same time he does not deny

that there may be a few who would not have it just now. Among the grounds urged against Behar having a separate High Court are that it would not only weaken the strength and prestige of the Calcutta High Court, but Behar would also after all get a weak High Court, and that public opinion being not so very strong here, the High Court for Behar would be dominated over by the European members of the planting community. The editor is not prepared to attach any importance to these considerations urged against Behar having a separate High Court. He admits that public opinion in Behar is not so advanced as it is in Bengal, but he does not think that it is so weak and impotent as to tolerate the High Court for Behar being dominated over by the planting community.

209. The *Hindoo Patriot* says that the Beharis are agitating for a High Court. Behari aspiration for seats on the Bench of the High Court will perhaps find it favourable if they get a separate High Court.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
22nd Jan. 1912.

Establishment of a separate
High Court for Behar.

The Bench of the highest tribunal should ever be the strongest, and the best men available should always be chosen for the purpose. The journal says that the lawyers of Bengal had to begin under a very hard competition with English Barristers of great erudition and admitted ability. The Beharis are obviously overlooking the fact that after the partition of Bengal the same High Court, without the least inconvenience to anybody, exercised its jurisdiction over two separate administrations, but the journal cannot help telling its Behari friends that the association of centuries will be gone, and the two peoples who are progressive and have ever stood side by side will henceforth stand apart. The forces of unification will be no more. In the interests of larger national problems it is meet that there should be some meeting ground where the leading men can unite and exchange their views. The High Court of Calcutta will, in future, serve this purpose admirably. The Bengali and the Behari will retain their own fellowship and march on in the path of progress. The work done by centuries during which the two peoples remained together, will continue to add to one's national weal.

210. In commenting on the trial of Mr. John Cowan for violating the "Sunset Circular" and his replies to the Magistrate that he was proud of his conduct and proposed to speak at the same place again the same night (15th) at the same hour, the *Reis and Rayyet* says:—What the Magistrate would have done had the same or similar reply been made by any other accused in the place of Mr. Cowan, is perhaps more than can be guessed.

REIS AND RAYYET,
20th Jan. 1912.

Violation of the Sunset Circular
by the Revd. Mr. John Cowan.

(h)—General.

211. In commenting on the proceedings of the Patna meeting, the *Behar Advocate* writes as follows:—As to the resolutions about Patna being the seat of the new Government the less said the better. As would appear from the text, given elsewhere, it has been taken for granted that Patna has been proposed by the Governor-General and sanctioned by the Secretary of State to be the seat of the new Lieutenant-Governor. No one who has gone through the despatch with his eyes open can accept such an interpretation when one finds no mention at all of Patna, or any other place in Lord Crewe's reply, or in the announcements made by the King-Emperor himself.

BEHAR ADVOCATE,
15th Jan. 1912.

212. The *Behar Advocate* says that the peace of its usually quiet town is much disturbed by the most foolish claim supported by fallacious arguments recently advanced by the

BEHAR ADVOCATE,
15th Jan. 1912.

Ibid.

Bengalis to include a greater portion of this district in Bengal. The Bengalis were so far well known for their acuteness, but this agitation has revealed them in true colours. Can there be anything more mean than to say that Bhagalpur should go to Bengal, as some Beharis—fortunately there were very few who could be seduced by them—sympathised with the *swadeshi* and boycott movement following the partition of Bengal, or otherwise it would be very hot for the new Lieutenant-Governor of Behar to administer the province?

As for the Kayasthas, their lot would be almost unimaginable if the proposal of the Bengalis be adopted. In spite of the efforts of Justice Mitter, the Chitragupta Vansi Kayasthas differ in manners and customs as much from the Bengal Kayasthas as black and white, and that up till now no union by marriage has yet taken place between the two. I do not know if there are any Chitragupta Vansi Kayasthas beyond Bhagalpur district, save a family in Rajmehal, and severed as they will be from the rest of Behar, their fate in the province of Bengal would be simply pitiable. Bengalis should at least for consistency's sake not selfishly advocate the cutting off of an important limb of Behar when they themselves fought so hard for Lord Curzon's cutting up their province in two.

BEHAR ADVOCATE,
16th Jan. 1912.

213. In commenting on the separation of Behar and the fixing of its capital, the *Behar Advocate* says no one can deny that but for the agitation of the Bengalis the chance of the separation of Behar was as far remote as ever, and the cry "Behar for the Beharis" was a cry in the wilderness. If the Beharis have got what they longed for, they should thank their brethren of Bengal, who, with one voice, made one long-sustained agitation for about six years, forcing at last the Government of India to take into consideration its annulment or its modification, so as to unite the whole Bengali-speaking nation of East and West Bengal. The journal has already said that the people of Orissa and Chota Nagpur don't like it. Even in Behar the opinion about it is divided, whereas the Anglo-Indian officials would prefer Ranchi or Hazaribagh. But the location of the Government offices at any of the last two places cannot but be detrimental to the best interests of the advanced Beharis, not only because they are outside Behar, but also because the Government should have to keep itself in close touch with its people. The only alternative, therefore, is to select a place which satisfies the threefold condition of being in Behar, of being directly connected with Chota Nagpur, and eagerly liked by the members of the Indian Civil Service. Gaya is the only town which fulfills all these conditions, as stated in the memorial submitted to the Viceroy and Governor-General on behalf of its residents, and the selection is bound to give satisfaction to the Beharis, the Uriyas, and the members of the Heaven-born service.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
16th Jan. 1912.

214. The *Hindoo Patriot* states that it is alleged that officials in Eastern Bengal—their names are not mentioned—tried their best to persuade the Nawab to head a deputation to Delhi for praying to His Majesty not to disturb the existing constitution of the provinces. The Nawab, it seems, was not strong enough in health to undertake the journey, but the persistent representation in the press that he is set up by officials seems to be worth contradicting. The Government of India is decidedly opposed to the policy of setting one community against another.

BEHAREE,
9th Jan. 1912.

215. The *Beharee*, quoting the following extract from an article in the *Kayastha Messenger*,—

Ibid.

One thing is clear that the people of all the three provinces of Behar, Chota Nagpur, and Orissa consider Patna to be quite unsuitable for the seat of the new Government, and their unanimous opinion, stripped of the selfish motive is, that some other more suitable place should be selected for the purpose.

says that a more distorted, grossly misleading, and highly undesirable generalization, can hardly be penned to beat this. The journal is surprised that such a statement should have been published in public print; the most representative meeting of educated Beharis held in Calcutta, under the presidency of the Maharaja Bahadur of Darbhanga, is a sufficient refutation of the above. The journal says that it is utterly untrue that the people of all the three provinces of Bihar are unanimous that some other place other than Patna should be selected as capital of the province; the fact, however, is that the people of Gaya are not at all unanimous in the movement started to make Gaya as the capital of the province, and some of the leading men of the place are strongly opposed to it, and attribute the movement to a few gentlemen who do not evidently have any better occupation to engage in.

BEHAREE.
19th Jan. 1912.

216. The *Beharee* states that the separation of Behar has been a matter of very great regret to its Bengali friends. The *Patrika* has, of course, gone off its head; but the journal finds even a gentleman like Babu Sarada Charan Mitra bemoaning the loss in the following manner (which is taken from the *Punjabee*):—

Administrative changes.

A contemporary learns that Mr. Sarada Charan Mitra, *ex*-Judge of the Calcutta High Court, has expressed the following opinion about the recent administrative changes in a letter to a friend in Lahore :—

"It is true that the popular party has gained a victory over the bureaucracy by the amalgamation of the Bengali-speaking people. Something more, however, is left, and that is that Sylhet and portions of Orissa and Chota Nagpur should also go out of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Behar. But I am sorry that Bihar and Orissa have been taken away. They are very healthy provinces, and it would be a death-blow to the sanitary cause of Bengal by this removal."

It is an admitted fact that the separation of Behar is most keenly felt by its Bengali friends, as will appear from the letter of Babu Sarada Charan Mitra quoted above. They have, however, hit upon a new plan, and they depend for their success on their art of manufacturing agitation. They want to take Bhagalpur to Bengal. Likewise, they claim a portion of Purnea and the Sonthal Parganas. The whole thing is so absurd that the journal does not desire to enter into it at any length.

217. A correspondent of the *Beharee* writes as follows:—"The partition of Bengal has been annulled, and Lord Hardinge has thought that he has quieted the unrest in Bengal.

BEHAREE,
19th Jan. 1912.

Ibid.

We, Beharis, also expected the same. But the Bengalis are not going to be content with and to adopt a restful posture. They are now intent on doing more harm than what they had done when the partition of Bengal was proclaimed and was accordingly brought about. That time, by their mischievous agitation they had created a feeling of unrest in the whole educated, half-educated, and illiterate masses of the Bengalis. The result was anarchy, sedition, and bomb-throwing. Misfortunes to many a home, troubles to the Government, application of repressive measures, and throwing back of the country a century behind—not to speak of their own humiliation and disgrace. This time, though fully gaining their much-urged-for boon, namely, the unification of the five Bengali-speaking districts of Bengal, they, it seems, being unable to bear the future prosperity of Behar which its separation from Bengal is destined to work out, to whatsoever a small degree, let it be hoped, have set up an agitation for the dismemberment of Behar on the most flimsy grounds. They have begun dictating to the Government the actual partition of Behar and the transfer of the districts of Bhagalpur and Purnea to the Bengal Presidency. Not content with their uncalled-for advice in their own organs, the *Bengalee* and the *Patrika*, have, it seems, tried to secure the assistance of certain English journals who have not yet fully considered the great ominous import of the venomous Bengal agitators, and are now trying to recommend to the Government the partition of Behar, but I am sure the Government is too wise to hear their clamour.

"Let alone Behar as at present it stands. We do not want any amputation of our limbs. The people of Orissa do not want to be reunited with Bengal, neither the people of Chota Nagpur. If the inhabitants of Manbhum themselves want to be taken into Bengal, then let them be so taken; but why should those inhabiting Bhagalpur and Purnea districts be taken into the boundary-limit of Bengal against their will and count at the bidding of the narrow-minded and selfish Bengali agitators? I repeat, the Government is too wise to listen to these suggestions."

218. Commenting on the large number of Behar Civilians who will be called upon to serve in Behar, the editor of the *Beharee* says that these gentlemen of the Indian

BEHAREE
19th Jan. 1912.

Ibid.

Civil Service have made no secret of their honest convictions in this matter; they have been freely giving out their counsel of perfection to those who had the privilege of meeting them. The editor has thought it proper to revert to this subject at some length, not because he has the least doubt that the Government of India is likely to be prevailed upon to shift the capital of the new province from Patna to Ranchi or any other place other than Patna,

but because he thinks it his duty to protest against such attitude of opposition to the popular interest and wishes which these gentlemen of the Civil Service have assumed in this matter.

Now, has it ever struck those who are for taking the capital of the new province to Ranchi, that such a step is calculated to arouse the bitterest opposition of the whole of Behar, and will, to a very great extent, detract much from the boon conferred on the people? The editor once more repeats that he has a right to insist that the province of Behar will be governed in the best interest of its people, and not in the interest of the so-called whims and comforts of the Civilians, and if this is conceded to the Beharis, he will be a bold man who will say that by locating the capital of the province at Ranchi, the Government would be promoting the best interest of the people concerned. It is further said that by reason of the Ganges running on the northern side, and the railway lines on the south, sufficient lands cannot be found to construct the buildings necessary for the head-quarters of the Government. This is so untrue that the editor does not desire to say anything on this point.

As regards the proposal to locate the offices of the Government temporarily at Ranchi, pending the construction of necessary buildings at Patna, the editor once more records his humble but emphatic protest against such an arrangement. Ranchi is admittedly hotter in the months of April, May, and June than Patna, and it would absolutely serve no useful purpose to locate the offices under tents there.

BEHARKE,
11th Jan. 1912.

219. In the *Beharee*, replying to several letters recently appearing in support of the inclusion of Purnea as part of

Administrative changes.

"United Bengal" on the ground of its being a Bengali-speaking district, a correspondent, signing himself "K. P. Sen Sinha, B.A.," points out to the writers of the letters the inaccuracy of their statement and exposes to the public their mischievous misrepresentation of the whole matter. He says that the census report of 1901 shows in the district of Purnea over 17 lakhs Beharis and ninety-two thousand Bengalis, and that 94.6 per cent. of the total population speak the Hindi language, and 4.9 per cent. speak the Bengali language. He further says that the Kaithi character, a purely Behari one, is prevalent throughout the district and the court language is Hindi, whilst the Hindi vernacular is the Maithil form of the Behari language. The principal zamindars of the district are all Beharis, whilst the social relations and customs of the whole district are more akin to the people of Behar than to the Bengalis. There are village gods such as Devala Maharaj, Goraiya, and Tipaur, whose names are not even heard in Bengal, which are worshipped by the people of Purnea district. Even the food is quite different from that of the Bengalis. He, therefore, appeals to the Government not to be misled by the shallow rhetoric and mischievous misrepresentations of the Bengalis.

BEHARKE,
19th Jan. 1912.

220. In replying to several letters recently appearing in support of the inclusion of Bhagalpur in Bengal, a correspondent of the *Beharee*, signing himself "Anant Pershad,"

Ibid.

writes a long article. He divides the case under four heads—Historical, Linguistic, Political, and Social. He shows that it is not true to say that the pargana of Bhagalpur, with Colong and Chhye, were included in the Subah of Bengal. In 1773 the district was formally severed from and annexed to the Diwani lands of Bengal, but a few years afterwards it was constituted into a separate district under a Magistrate who had jurisdiction over Monghyr also. As for linguistic reasons, he points out that Hindi is spoken by over 21 lakhs of the people of Bhagalpur and Bengali only by 3,622!—and though the Hindi spoken is what is called a border tongue, the various forms prevalent are but dialects of Hindi. Under the head Political Reason, he points out that at the Conference at Bhagalpur in 1906, at which Mr. Surendra Nath Banerji presided, it was clearly shown that Behar had no grievance at the partition, but merely sympathised with Bengal in her bereavement. *Swadeshi* was followed as an economic movement. It was Mr. Banerji himself who had made the solemn promise of Behar for the Beharis and Bengal for the Bengalis. It was unfair now to make this selfsame Conference a catspaw to draw Bhagalpur away to Bengal. As for social conditions, it was quite wrong to say that certain

forms of worship, such as *Durga Puja*, are performed after the manner of the Bengalis. Then look towards the manners and customs, dress, etc. In what respect could any one call the 21 lakhs of such people Bengalis? It was a pity that instead of throwing in their lot with the children of the soil, the domiciled Bengalis of Bhagalpur should have started a controversy, which is sure to end in bitterness and in nothing else.

221. Commenting on the subject of Political versus Social Reform, the

BENGALÉE,
16th Jan. 1912.

Political versus Social Reform. *Bengalée*, in referring to its own case, points out that the fundamental political reform which India demands is self-government and the establishment of absolute equality between the Indian and other classes of His Majesty's subjects. This particular reform, it says cannot possibly be dismissed as one of those reforms which touch only the surface of things. For the sense of subordination which is the direct outcome of the existing situation is at the root of much that is degrading in Indian life and conditions.

222. The editor of the *Bengalée* publishes a letter over the signature of

BENGALÉE,
21st Jan. 1912.

Official meddlesomeness. Babu Ambikacharan Das, Vakil, High Court, calling attention to a manifesto which has been issued by Rai Haricharan Das Bahadur, Government Pleader, Silchar, in which the writer declares that in his opinion Sylhet would be benefited by remaining in Assam. The thing to be noted in connection with this manifesto is that the Rai Bahadur, who is a quasi-Government servant, is reported to have said that he issued this manifesto at the request of the Government. As the editor has all along maintained, the position of Government and of Government servants in this matter ought to be one of strict neutrality. The public are certainly entitled to know if there is any foundation for the statement that the manifesto was issued at the request of the Government, and, if the statement is well-founded, what the authorities have to say in justification of the action they are said to have taken in this matter.

223. A correspondent of the *Bengalée* writes as follows:—"I desire to draw the prominent attention of the Government through the medium of your valued paper to the

BENGALÉE,
24th Jan. 1912.

Ibid. meddlesomeness of certain officials in the Sonthal Parganas in the matter of territorial redistribution. A certain official is against the incorporation of the Sonthal Parganas in Bengal, and in view of the approaching visit of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor to Dumka and the strong public opinion in favour of Bengal, he is trying to get up a fictitious agitation to impress His Honour how much the people desire to be incorporated in Behar. He is warning people not to show any outward inclination for Bengal, and it is said he is arranging crowds to be lined on both sides of the road for shouting 'we want Behar' as His Honour will pass. Important gentlemen of the Sonthal Parganas are being invited to come over to be present at the time of His Honour's visit, and it is very much to be feared that their conscience will be sacrificed at the official altar. I therefore, fervently pray to His Honour to take notice of it and to see things in their true colours."

224. In commenting on the announcement that Lord Carmichael is to be the Governor of Bengal, the *Indian Mirror* says

INDIAN MIRROR,
23rd Jan. 1912.

Lord Carmichael, Governor of Bengal.

that the appointment is another token of the solicitude of the King-Emperor for his subjects in Bengal. His Imperial Majesty is doing all that is possible to make Bengal happy.

225. In commenting on the announcement that Lord Carmichael is to be the first Governor of re-united Bengal, the *Bengalée*

BENGALÉE,
23rd Jan. 1912.

Ibid. has heard from a high authority that Bengal is now going to be governed by men innocent of all knowledge of Indian affairs and its reply is that it has had enough of expert knowledge. The journal wants at the helm of affairs a little of that wholesome ignorance which, in the words of Lord Carmichael, means freedom from prejudice. Knowledge of Indian affairs has too often been synonymous, in the case of Indian officials, with deep-rooted prejudice and a deplorable want of sympathy with Indian aspirations.

226. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* does not know how to express its gratitude to the King-Emperor and Lord Hardinge for making Sir Thomas Gibson-Carmichael its

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
23rd Jan. 1912.

Ibid. Governor. There was a talk of Sir Lawrence Jenkins being appointed as

such. Needless to say, a better selection could not have been made, but then the loss to the Calcutta High Court would have been irreparable. The journal also doubts if His Lordship's appointment would have been regarded with equanimity by the Anglo-Indian community. Under these circumstances, no better arrangement could perhaps have been thought of than the transfer of Lord Carmichael from Madras to Bengal.

INDIAN EMPIRE,
23rd Jan. 1912.

227. In commenting on the release of Mr. Tilak, the *Indian Empire* says that the prolonged incarceration of a man of Mr. Tilak's attainments and character has been a matter

of disappointment to a large number of its countrymen, and his release, as well as the release of many other political prisoners who are suffering in the company of the vilest criminals for their opinions, was expected and hoped for with confidence by a large slice of the Indian population, if not the whole of it, as a special mark of favour during the Royal visit to the country. And Mr. Tilak has now come forward himself to say that he is still in Burma and in his cell in the Mandalay Jail. This will be a sore disappointment to his countrymen, who were glad at the possibility of his release.

III.—LEGISLATION.

TELEGRAPH,
13th Jan. 1912.

228. The *Telegraph* states that in the Royal announcement there were no particulars of the redistribution. For light on this subject, one has to wade through the des-

patches of the Government of India and the Secretary of State. The principle on which the redistribution is to be made appears to be that the Bengali-speaking population should be placed under one Government. If the journal is correct in this supposition,—and it believes there can be no doubt of it,—then it is plain to the meanest comprehension that Sylhet, and parts of the Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur Divisions should undoubtedly form part of the new Presidency, because they are inhabited by Bengali-speaking peoples. Be that as it may, the journal fears it cannot support the attitude and action of a number of Beharis who met on Sunday last in the Calcutta residence of the Maharaja of Darbhanga to raise the cry of "Behar for the Beharis." It is no new cry and much evil has already been done by it.

BENGALÉE,
16th Jan. 1912.

229. The *Bengalée* publishes the following article on the Territorial Redistribution scheme:—An esteemed friend sends us the following scheme of territorial redistribution:—

Ibid.

"I know the feeling among the Uriyas at the recent territorial changes. They are glad at their separation from Bengal, but they are keenly disappointed at the present changes, for they mean that their hopes of having a separate administration for the whole of the Uriya-speaking population are set back for a long time to come. They feel that their interests have been sacrificed for those of Behar. The Uriya-speaking people have been yearning for years to have a separate administration for the *present* province of Orissa (consisting of the districts of Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, and Sambalpur) with Ganjam and some small Uriya-speaking tracts in the Central Provinces and Singhbhum in Bengal. No doubt, the scheme of territorial redistribution has been proclaimed from the gracious lips of our beloved King-Emperor, but His Gracious Majesty has also said that the details have yet to be settled by his responsible officers. So that if a scheme can be suggested which will meet with the approval of all interested parties, there is no reason to be hopeless about a modification. The scheme for territorial redistribution that I suggest is that all the Uriya-speaking people of the above-mentioned tract should be placed under a Chief Commissioner. The loss of Orissa to Behar may be compensated by placing the whole or portions of the permanently-settled districts of Benares, Ballia, Gorakhpur, and Mirzapur under the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Behar. The loss to the United Provinces may be compensated by placing the Delhi Division and, if advisable, some other eastern districts of the Province of the Punjab under the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces. The loss to Punjab may be compensated by placing the Province of Sindh under the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, about which an agitation has already been started. This scheme

will please the Uriya-speaking population. The Uriyas have nothing in common linguistically, ethnologically or historically with Behar; and, moreover, Orissa is at a considerable distance from Behar. Benares and its adjoining districts are in intimate touch with the western districts of Behar. Moreover, the new Province of Behar under this scheme will be more homogenous and compact with common linguistic, ethnologic and historic associations. The eastern portion of the Punjab too is intimately connected with the western portion of the United Provinces. The Province of Sindh, apart from its distance, has nothing in common in language, race or association with the Presidency of Bombay, but has everything in common linguistically and ethnologically with the Punjab. Moreover, this scheme will give a much-needed outlet to the wheat-growing districts of the Punjab in the seaport of Karachi, which is bound to be much improved by this scheme. As a part of this scheme, the Chief Commissioner of Orissa may be given an Advisory Council with representation from each of the districts. The Acts at present in force for the administration of Provinces under Chief Commissioners may be amended by suitable provisions being made for Advisory Councils. These Advisory Councils may be given the power of suggesting legislation and approving final drafts of Acts suitable and necessary for their respective administrations; and these final drafts may ordinarily be passed into law by the Imperial Legislative Council. These Advisory Councils may further be given certain powers about making suggestions regarding the preparation of budgets, putting questions to the official members regarding the administration of their respective Provinces or making other suggestions relating to the general well-being of their respective Provinces. This change is sure to be welcomed by all the Provinces at present under the administration of Chief Commissioners and will, moreover, be of much service to the local officials in ascertaining at first hand the representative non-official opinion. The Imperial Legislative Council will also be relieved of much work which is of no interest to the rest of India. Under this scheme the United Provinces and the Punjab may well be given an Executive Council similar to that of Bengal at the present moment."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
18th Jan. 1912.

230. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that the question of the redistribution of territories consequent on the re-union of the Sundered portions of Bengal and the creation

Territorial redistribution.

of new administrations has set many a mind thinking. The journal has been receiving so many important suggestions for the guidance of the authorities in this matter that it is sorry it cannot do full justice to them all. Below the journal gives an extract from a letter, by Mr. N. Mazumdar, of No. 17, Bancharam Okur's Lane, laying down a principle of redistribution which, while fully meeting the real object of all these changes, will involve little trouble and inconvenience on the part of the officials who will be entrusted with the work of carrying out the scheme. The extract runs as follows:—

"We must remember that the redistribution of the areas does not depend on the sweet choice of the titled rich men nor on the whetted appetite of our friends of the legal profession, clamouring for a High Court even when they are dreaming of difficulties in the satisfactory formation of the province, owing to imaginary dead-lock over the redistribution of areas. It is on the well-being of that dumb million—the agricultural class—which is the chief and first care of the State, that the redistribution of the area depends. The province that will suit them best should be the province in which they must be put. It does not matter whether some Bengalis from Calcutta or other parts of Bengal have settled in some parts of Behar or not. If the cultivating class and the petty village *malliks* as they are called in Behar, depend for their revenue transaction on the Hindi language and character, that estate or pargana wherein such cultivators and *malliks* hold land should remain in Behar. But in estates or parganas where the accounts and village papers are in the Bengali language and character, it is of the utmost necessity that such estates and parganas should be taken out of the Behar districts and annexed to the new Presidency of Bengal. Almost the whole of the Behar districts bordering on Bengal have been surveyed and records-of-right prepared by the Settlement Department. It will not at all be a difficult

thing to get from the Director of Land Records a list of estates in Behar where the records-of-right have been prepared in Bengali. This will be the best solution of the difficulty, and a redistribution on these lines can be objected to by no man with the least pretence to sanity."

It would greatly simplify matters if redistribution takes place on the basis of the language in which the records-of-right have been prepared by the Settlement Department. This test will also enable the authorities to find out the language which the bulk of the population use, and thus minimise the risk of being misled by the clamorous few.

MUSSALMAN,
19th Jan. 1912.

231. The editor of the *Mussalman* says that the Muhammadans of Eastern Bengal are extremely sorry for the manner in which the modification of the partition has been effected by the Government of India. Perhaps

The modification of the partition
of Bengal.

Lord Hardinge has by this time gauged the Muhammadan feeling and is going to the capital of the province to meet the Muhammadan leaders there and give pledges for the "safeguarding of Muhammadan interests." If such be his Lordship's idea the editor welcomes it and hopes his co-religionists in Eastern Bengal will avail themselves of the opportunity to the advantage of the community.

MUSSALMAN,
19th Jan. 1912.

232. The *Mussalman* states that its co-religionists who were under the impression that the Government was on their side and that they could depend upon Government patronage so long as they did not join any agitation and keep themselves aloof from other communities are now disillusioned and have realised that the "favourite wife" may be, and as a matter of fact has been, divorced without even a moment's previous notice. The partition of Bengal was believed by the generality of the Muhammadans as a measure effected for the benefit of the Muhammadans of Eastern Bengal, and that belief gained ground when its co-religionists in the province received some attention at the hands of the Government. The journal, however, from the very beginning has said that the motive that led to the partition was entirely different, and that the concessions the Mussalmans were said to be enjoying were not for any special love for them but for dissuading them from doing anything embarrassing to Government. However, the journal has no desire to enter into any controversy in regard to the partition and its cause and effect; what the position of the Indian Mussalmans is, has now been quite clear to everybody. Self-help should henceforth be their motto.

Ibid.

His Majesty has said, though not very directly but quite clearly, that the "common happiness, contentment and general well-being" of his people depend on their unity by "the ties of sympathy and brotherly love."

Unity between the different sections of the Indian community means a forcible public opinion, and a strong public opinion in India where there are men amongst the people who can adorn the benches of the High Courts, who can be the colleagues of the Viceroy in his Executive and Legislative Councils and who can sit with the Secretary of State at the India Office, means the end of the existing bureaucratic form of administration and the inauguration of constitutional government in this country. His Majesty understands that the unification of India means the vesting of the affairs of Government in the hands of the people, and it is in their interest that he advocates unity among them and the consequent delegation of power by the Government to the children of the soil. The journal has always preached unity and cordiality between Hindus and Muhammadans, but can anybody say, unless he looks at things with a jaundiced eye, that it has even been indifferent to those Moslem interests which it could conscientiously and legitimately support, or those causes which it considered its duty to advocate? The journal does not say that the Mussalmans, are solely responsible for the existing estrangement between the two communities; the Hindus, it thinks, are as much responsible for it as the Mussalmans, and it is the duty of the leaders of both the communities to find a solution of the great Hindu-Muhammadan problem. The journal hopes and trusts its countrymen and co-religionists would bestow their serious thought on the question and make their best endeavours for the attainment of the end so devoutly wished by His Imperial Majesty.

233. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes an article headed "Devolution or Revolution?" which appeared in the *Englishman* and relating to the transfer of the capital, which will, no doubt, be read with great interest by the

Change of the capital of India
from Calcutta to Delhi.

general public. The journal shall, however, deal with the subject in its own way. So long as the King-Emperor was in India, it was the duty of every Indian journal to refrain from discussing the question. It is, however, time now to take up the subject, as it is of the utmost importance both to the Government and the people.

The transfer of the capital may be looked at mainly from three points of view,—from the point of view of the Bengali nation, from that of the Anglo-Indian community in Calcutta, and from that of the Government. Its bearing on the Bengali race and on the Anglo-Indian community in Calcutta is pretty clear, and, though perhaps it is not so patent so far as the general government of the country is concerned, it is easily demonstrable.

The journal will dismiss the bearing of the transfer on the Bengali race and the Anglo-Indian community in Calcutta with a few words. In the first place, personally both these have been injuriously affected to a serious extent, occasioning, in some cases, loss to what may be ranked as vested interests. Thousands of Bengalis belonging to *Bhadralog* classes are now maintained by the Government of India in its various departments. They reside three months in Calcutta with their families and spend the rest of the year at Simla without them. Many also remain permanently in Calcutta. It will be impossible for them to retain their posts if they are practically banished from their homes to Simla and Delhi, as it will not be possible for them to take their families there on the small salaries they are paid. These thousands of Bengalis and their successors will thus be thrown back on Bengal to drag a miserable existence here. It will not, again, be possible for any competent Bengali to serve on the Imperial Council. And lastly, the all-India character of the Bengali race will vanish. Thus, many of the inestimable advantages, secured for the people of Bengal by Bengali efforts during the last 60 or 70 years, are bound to disappear as soon as Calcutta ceases to be the capital. No Bengali, with a grain of sense or a drop of love for his nation in him, can therefore contemplate the change with equanimity.

But such personal losses apart, the injury to the position of the Indian and Anglo-Indian communities, arising from the removal of the capital from among them, with which they have been associated from the beginning of the British rule, is an injury to the cause of Indian public opinion in general. It is the Bengali race, as associated with the metropolis of India, and it is the Anglo-Indian community similarly associated that have always not only voiced the Indian public opinion, but formulated and guided it. The great non-official body of British merchants and those hailing from other European countries and America have ever exerted a healthy influence in forming the public opinion for the whole of India, and this because they are brought together here by enterprises connected with Calcutta as the capital of India. Side by side with it, the voice of Bengal, as an advocate for the whole Indian nation present at the seat of the Supreme Power, has been raised and heard, sometimes in concord with the Anglo-Indian public opinion, and sometimes in opposition to it.

Now, the transfer of the capital displaces those two great instruments of helping and forming an All-Indian public opinion, without any reasonable chance of bringing into existence any equally good substitutes for them at Delhi or elsewhere. This loss to the Bengali race and the Calcutta European community is a loss to the whole of India. Apart from this phase of the injury caused by the transfer of the capital, one may proceed to consider its bearing upon the Government itself, that is, upon the interests of the State.

The majesty, dignity, and influence of the Government of a country is materially manifested and developed by its capital city. This is the rule with all nations. A city becomes fit to be the capital of a country not by a fit of the ruling authorities, but by an accumulation of circumstances, that is, by way of "natural selection," to borrow the language of scientists. It is the condition of the chief city which attracts the supreme seat of the Government to it, and the mere location of the Supreme Government does not create the capital.

If the British Government would desert London or the French Government would desert Paris to locate itself elsewhere, its dignity, majesty, and influence is bound to seriously suffer. Now take the case of Calcutta :—

- (1) It is in Calcutta that the English rule in India originated.
- (2) It is Calcutta that contains the first living Fort—Fort William, with which the glory of the English rule is associated.
- (3) It is Calcutta which is the seat of the premier University in the country.
- (4) It is Calcutta which, with its dock and port, demonstrates the naval power of England more than any other city in the land.
- (5) It is Calcutta which has developed the first medical institution in the land.
- (6) It is Calcutta which is the seat of the premier High Court in India.

The combined influences of these vitalising factors is to make Calcutta the premier city of the land, and the Supreme Government, being located here, have the benefit of these influences as contributing to its dignity, majesty, and power.

For the Supreme Government to leave Calcutta and intend creating a new capital is,—

In the first place, to give up a certainty for a hope.

In the second place, as regards Delhi, that hope is likely to be illusive, as Delhi being the hot-bed of plague and malaria, cannot attract people when they may possibly avoid it.

In the third place, as it is not a port, it cannot be a centre of international commerce.

In the fourth place, when, by merely locating the Supreme Government at a place, that place necessarily does not acquire the dignity of the capital of the land, as has been proved in the case of Simla ; merely to call it the capital would hardly do better.

In the sixth place, is it just to the people to spend hoards of money for the sake of an idea which may or may not succeed? Indeed, this cost question needs the serious consideration of the Government in its present financial condition, specially when it cannot find money for sanitation, education, and other urgent needs of the country.

All these and many things more show that the transfer is not good for the people, nor good for the State. In fact, as the popular saying goes, Delhi would be precious only for its “*laddoo*” (precious ball), which is sweet neither to those who have tasted it, nor to those who have not tasted it.

BENGALUR
21st Jan. 1912.

234. The editor of the *Bengalee* says that if ever there was a settled fact in politics, the people have it now. Skilfully, and with a view to appeal to Indian sentiment, especially that of Calcutta, they do not say a word against, or pass lightly over, the modification of the partition. They concentrate their attack upon the transfer of the capital and raise a constitutional issue of grave moment. The editor congratulates them upon their good sense and the wisdom of their tactics ; and though there may be some disappointment in some quarters, and the people of Calcutta would probably have been better pleased if there had been no transfer of the seat of Government, his fellow-countrymen are long-headed enough to recognise the substantial character of the Royal boons, and will certainly take no part in any agitation against any part of them. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce may lead, but the Indian community will not follow.

BENGALUR,
23rd Jan. 1912.

235. The editor of the *Bengalee* says that the new Presidency Government will be formed probably in April next, and the Legislative and the Executive Council will be reconstituted. In respect of the Executive Council he does not exactly know what will be the procedure that will be followed. But probably the members will resign and new members will be appointed. Of course the old members, at any rate some of them, may be reappointed. The constitution of the Executive Council is a matter of the first importance, and much of the success of the new Administration will depend upon the

personnel of this body. If the Governor is surrounded by a body of wise and sympathetic Councillors in close touch with popular opinion and the new-born spirit of the age, the Government will be conducted upon lines that will conduce both to its popularity and efficiency. The popularity of a Government is, indeed, the first condition of its efficiency. For the more popular a Government is, the more willing will the people be to co-operate with it; and popular help and co-operation must add largely to the efficiency of an administration. It was the fundamental error of Lord Curzon's policy, which also aimed to secure efficiency, to seek to make the administration efficient without the aid of the people. The mistake has now been righted; and this grave error in policy has been recognised and condemned. All eyes will be turned upon the appointment of the members who are to form the Executive Council of the new Government of Bengal. It is not the policy of this paper to nominate any person to any appointment, high or low. But one may, and ought, in the interests of the public, to discuss the principles which should guide the making of appointments upon which the public weal will so largely depend. The editor trusts that the Executive Council of Bengal will be kept immune from the sinister influence of the reactionary principles which proved so disastrous to the administration of the new Province. It is no use concealing the fact—and the Government of India must know it—that if the partition was a grievous blunder, the policy which followed was on a par with it, and kept alive and intensified the excitement and unrest caused by the partition. Sir Bampfylde Fuller was gone, but his spirit brooded over the administration and was incarnated in the measures of the Government. There were men who were apt pupils of Sir Bampfylde Fuller. They were saturated with his spirit; and being in the high places of Government, they had no difficulty in determining its policy in accordance with the principles of their master. For the present the editor refrains from giving names, but will do so at the right moment, if he thinks it necessary. But all Bengal, east and north, felt the power of the triumvirate who from Dacca or from Shillong or from both places, guided the measures of the administration and inaugurated a policy which one is anxious should not be reflected in the Government of the new Presidency. Reactionaries whose policy has been tried and has met with dismal failure, should have no place in the new Executive Council or in the responsible offices of the Secretariat. The new Governor should have a fair start, unfettered by the counsels of men who have been tried and have failed.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

236. The *Telegraph* says that the lesson it derives from the Royal visit is the dawn of a new and resplendent era in the history of this ancient land. And no wonder that this should be so, when it is for the first time in three centuries and more that India has had an opportunity of welcoming and entertaining a live Emperor. It is confident that henceforward the road to progress and prosperity will be perfectly uninterrupted, that India will now have every opportunity to grow politically and materially, that discontent and disaffection have been buried never to rise again.

TELEGRAPH,
13th Jan. 1912.

237. Commenting on the subject of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Dacca on the 29th instant, the *Bengalee* regrets to observe a note of dissent, and from a quarter least expected. It learns from a telegram sent by the Associated Press that at a meeting of the Dacca District Board, it was proposed by Babu Sarat Chandra Chakravarti, pleader, that the King's visit and the boons should be mentioned in the address to His Excellency the Viceroy. The motion was objected to, and by two of the most influential official members, who might be said to be the representatives of the Government. The Collector, Mr. Marr, and the Civil Surgeon, Colonel Hall, "strenuously opposed" the motion in the words of the telegram. Colonel Hall said that the modification of the partition was no boon but rather a controversial matter. The journal asks, is it open to an official of the Government to hold this language in regard to an announcement made by the

BENGALÉE,
16th Jan. 1912.

Sovereign himself, which millions of His Majesty's subjects all over India regard as a boon? The journal has heard a great deal about the discipline of the Indian services and their loyalty to authority. What becomes of all this loyalty and this much-vaunted sense of discipline when high servants of Government publicly tell the people that what they regard as cherished boons which have strengthened their attachment to the Throne are no boons at all? The matter is too serious to be passed over lightly and is scarcely consistent with the respect which officers in His Majesty's service owe to their Sovereign. The most fitting reply to a regrettable exhibition of this kind would be a rousing popular ovation accorded to His Excellency at Dacca, which will convince the high officers referred to above, and all else whom it may concern, that the royal boon of the modification of the partition of Bengal is no controversial matter, but a beneficent gift from the Sovereign, which the many millions of his subjects in Bengal and elsewhere cherish with gratitude and affection; and the journal is confident that such a reply will be forthcoming on the occasion of His Excellency's visit to Dacca.

TELEGRAPH,
20th Jan. 1912.

238. In commenting on His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Dacca, the *Telegraph* is extremely surprised to notice the attitude of two high European Government officers of Dacca, the District Magistrate, Mr. Marr, and

Dr. Hall, the Civil Surgeon. It had been arranged that a joint address would be presented to His Excellency by the local Municipality and the District Board. There is nothing objectionable in this. But when a meeting was held the other day to settle the terms of the address, Babu Sarat Chandra Chakravarti proposed that there should be mention of the blessings bestowed on the people by His Majesty by unsettling the settled fact of the partition, the transfer of the capital, etc. This was opposed by the Vice-Chairman of the District Board, a Muhammadan gentleman, the District Magistrate and the Civil Surgeon.

Even if one takes it that the Vice-Chairman, being a Muhammadan, sides with the opposition, the journal finds no possible excuse for the two high-placed officials in condemning an action done by His Majesty himself. If this is not open disaffection, the journal does not know what is. The journal only puts it to the responsible rulers if such examples are not likely to contaminate the public; it is an incident which should not be lightly overlooked.

BENGALER,
24th Jan. 1912.

239. In commenting on the approaching visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Dacca, the editor of the *Bengalee* is confident that sooner or later, sooner rather than

Ibid.

later, the memory of the feud and the bitternesses of the last few years will be wiped out and the two great communities will once more begin to co-operate with each other for their common good and the advancement of their common interests. The visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to Dacca will afford a unique opportunity for inaugurating the new era of co-operation. If Lord Curzon, more than any other single man, was responsible for all that has happened in East Bengal since the partition, it is to His Excellency Lord Hardinge that one is indebted for the initiation of that measure which has so radically altered the aspect of things in East Bengal, and indirectly all over India. It would, therefore, be in the fitness of things if advantage were taken of His Excellency's visit to the premier city in Eastern Bengal to inaugurate the new era which is to be fraught with so many and such rich possibilities for the future. God grant that its brethren in East Bengal, both Hindus and Muhammadans, may rise to the height of the occasion and may so conduct themselves that posterity will have reason to bless them. All eyes must, during the short period that Lord Hardinge will be at Dacca, be turned to that city. It is not given to all of us to make history. Dacca has at this moment the opportunity of making it. Will she throw it away?

HINDOO PATRIOT,
18th Jan. 1912.

240. The *Hindoo Patriot*, in referring to the proscription of the *Yugantar* leaflet headed "Bande Mataram, do not fear", says

Proscribed leaflet headed
"Bande Mataram," do not fear.

that such inflammatory literature will be swept away like straw before the tidal wave of loyalty which the people have so strikingly displayed a few weeks ago. It is time that the handful of fanatics, who evidently stand detached from the country, should abandon these activities and pursue a life of better usefulness.

241. In commenting on the hard lot of the Assistant Civil Surgeons, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that it goes without saying that one of the most neglected branches of the public service, except perhaps the Educational, is that of the Civil Assistant Surgeons. Hard is their lot in all conscience, both as regards their initial pay and the prospects held out before them. It must be admitted on all hands that the members of the Subordinate Judicial or Executive Service fully deserve all the advantages they now enjoy—nay, they deserve a more kindly treatment. But then, what does one find by comparing their status with that of a Civil Assistant Surgeon? If such a comparison is held, one cannot fail to be struck by the great disparity which it would disclose.

Prospects of the Civil Assistant Surgeons.

A qualified person enters service as a Munsif or a Deputy Magistrate on an initial pay of Rs. 200 per month; while a Government resolution lately published has further bettered the lot of the Deputy Magistrate by raising his initial salary from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250. But, alas, an Assistant Surgeon will have to put up with a much lower scale of pay, and it will take him about 20 years of the best period of his life to reach the figure of Rs. 250 in his own cadre! A Munsif or a Deputy Magistrate by that time might fairly hope to attain the position of a Sub-Judge, or chances favouring him, of that of a District Judge, and a District Magistrate, respectively, while their pay would come up to the dignity of four figures.

If the journal has made the above comparison it is to lay bare the startling disparity in the pay and prospects of these different branches of public service, all recruited from among persons who have received a generous education as a preliminary qualification for their appointment as such. The fact might well make one pause to consider as to where the differentiating factor comes in and what it may consist of. Judged by the ordinary canons of justice and fairness, an appointment ought to carry a decent salary with prospects in proportion to the special training and ability and arduous nature of the service required of the person who is to hold it and the responsibility which attaches to it. Now applying the same principle in the case of the three departments of the public service, the journal finds that the special training which the Assistant Surgeon has to undergo before he can qualify himself for entering Government service is in no way less sustained or easier of attainment than what would qualify a person to enter the service as a Munsif or a Deputy Magistrate.

Why then this difference in treatment? The only plea, as far as the journal can see, that has hitherto been urged for justifying this distinction between the pay and prospects of the Civil Assistant Surgeons and the members of the other Provincial Services is that the former are permitted to carry on private practice, while the latter have got no other source of income. At the first blush the ground no doubt appears to be a reasonable one, but on closer consideration it will be evident that it carries no weight. The period of time that an Assistant Surgeon who, it must not be forgotten, is a whole-time officer of the Government, placed in charge of a big hospital and saddled with onerous duties incidental thereto, can afford to devote to the building up of a lucrative private practice is very limited. Then the frequent transfers of Assistant Surgeons in the exigencies of the public service seriously hamper the efforts at securing any such private practice and place them at a great disadvantage in comparison with qualified local private practitioners whose numbers are, thanks to the spread of education amongst the community, ever on the increase and who can stick to their station permanently. And what is the upshot of the whole thing? Why, the Assistant Surgeons have to pay a very substantial penalty for an imaginary advantage from which, as a matter of fact, they derive little or no income.

242. In commenting on the Abor expedition, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that it was plain sailing for the expeditionary force—they came, they saw and they conquered.

The Abor expedition.

Now, they will begin to see the real difficulty of their position. It is true they will leave the country after having come to an understanding with the headmen of the sections, such as will prevent any future trouble on the frontier. But what value may be attached to such an understanding? And if there is no certainty of at least permanent peace on the frontier, what is the return for the huge outlay already made on the expedition? Surveys and

explorations are no doubt good things, but then the Indian tax-payer is too poor to go in for such costly luxuries; more so when these are undertaken outside the limits of India.

BENGALÉE,
21st Jan. 1912.

243. A correspondent of the *Bengalée* says that the reputation of Dhanbaid as one of the healthiest stations in Manbhum is going to fade away. Early in December last plague made its first appearance in the bazar. Had proper measures been taken, then it would have perhaps been nipped in the bud. Strange to say, the authorities did not think it worth their while to take any precautionary steps to stop the progress of the disease, which being unhampered, began to spread and is now raging virulently. No steps are being taken to burn the dead bodies or to disinfect the houses where a victim is claimed by the disease. Sometimes the dead bodies are thrown away near tanks and dwelling-houses, thus facilitating the further spread of the dire disease. There is a sanitary committee here which, to the surprise of the public, have suspended even the usual works. Those who can afford have left the place; but imagine the distress of those who cannot do so. The authorities should shake off their lethargy and lose no time to take preventive measures.

BENGALÉE,
24th Jan. 1912.

244. In commenting on the decision of the Chairman of the Naraingunge Municipality that no address should be presented to His Excellency the Viceroy, the *Bengalée* says that it will, it feels sure, be condemned by all right-thinking men. Did it never strike the Chairman that to refuse to present an address to His Excellency the Viceroy, on the ground that the Commissioners were of opinion that the boon of the modification of the partition should be referred to in the address, was tantamount to showing positive disrespect to the Sovereign who conferred the boon as well as to his representative?

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The 27th January 1912.

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