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[No. 35 of 1900.]

## REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 1st September 1900.

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Roznáma-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 20th August has the following:—

Europe's intention in regard to China. While Germany and France are still considering what policy they should adopt in the Chinese

crisis, England and Russia are vying with each other for supremacy in China. England has occupied Shanghai which is a first class port in China, while Russia has brought under her control the province of Newchang. It is said that Germany and France intend to send troops and men-of-war to Shanghai to look after their own interests. As the movement of England in that part is likely to interfere with the concession newly acquired there by France, she has become very angry with the former. Although it is said that the aggressive conduct of England may give rise to an international quarrel, such a quarrel is, in our opinion, almost impossible; for the Chinese Empire is vast, and every Power will have a rich slice to gratify its greed. In our opinion, the object of all that is being said about the seriousness of the rebellion in China and the fighting resources of the Chinese army, is to justify the aggressiveness of the European Powers in China. It is said that they are in China to suppress the rebellion and save the legations. They have no intention to conquer China.

It is also said that the European Ambassadors and the Christian Missionaries are at the root of the present disturbance in China. We do not believe that England has occupied Shanghai without the consent of the other Powers. When the Japano-Chinese war was over, the European Powers sent Germany to China directing her to demand some concession. When they saw that Germany was successful in her enterprise, every one of them demanded a concession. Now also the European Powers have instructed England to occupy Shanghai and Russia to conquer Newchang, so that the Powers may follow suit. The European Powers are acting in concert in China, and the difference among them is of an insignificant nature. It is intended either to agreeably mislead those who expected such a disunion or to settle their own individual interests.

Pekin will be conquered by the allied forces of Europe and an Emperor from among the Chinese with nominal powers will be placed upon the Chinese throne. The Powers will assume the administration of a province as an indemnity for the war, so that, by and by, the superiority of the European Powers will make an impression on the Chinese and the European law will be introduced among the Chinese, and they will become accustomed to the disgraceful life of a slave. After a few days the nominal Emperor, who will be as good as the Lion in the Flag, will, under some pretext, be dethroned and China and her five hundred millions of people will be governed by Europe.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

2. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 21st August complains that the only duty of the chaukidars in the village in

The chaukidars in a village in the Burdwan district.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Aug. 21st, 1900.

the Burdwan district, seems to be to realise the chaukidari tax, which the villagers have been paying since the introduction of the chaukidari system. The chaukidars do not seem to consider it a part of their duty to keep watch in the village at night. In these days of recrudescence of theft and dacoity in the district, a sense of perfect insecurity therefore prevails among the villagers.

3. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 22nd August says that a *Sankirtan* procession, in which many respectable men took part, was passing through the streets of Burdwan town on the 19th August last, that is to say, on the Sunday following the *Janmastami* festival, when the District Superintendent of Police suddenly appeared on the scene on horse-back and began to whip the singers, as well as the spectators, chasing them all for about half a mile. This was all the more strange as a pass had been taken out for the procession. No fuss has been made over the matter, the respectable men who were in

PALLIVASI,  
Aug. 22nd, 1900.

the procession feeling ashamed to let the world know of the ill-treatment to which they were subjected.

BANKURA DARPAH,  
Aug. 23rd, 1900.

4. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 23rd August says that as there have been of late a number of thefts in Bankura town, the police ought to be on their alert.

The Inspector and the District Superintendent ought to see that the town constables perform their duty of night watch properly.

HITAVADI,  
Aug. 24th, 1900.

5. A correspondent complains in the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th August that, on the 17th August last, one Major England assaulted a cart-driver belonging to the Zoological Gardens. The driver was taking a

pair of bullocks to the cowshed, and one of those bullocks had a wound. The Major took the driver to task for working a diseased animal. The driver excused himself, the Major got angry and mercilessly thrashed the poor native. The matter was brought to the notice of Babu Bijay Lal Datta, Officiating Superintendent of the Gardens. He had the Major called to his presence and asked him to give him his name and address. The Major felt himself insulted and offended by being called to the presence of a native and was about to insult the Superintendent. But Bijay Babu did not yield and maintained the dignity of his position, and the Major had at last to give him his name and address. The matter was reported to the police, and the Major threatened the Superintendent with vengeance and punishment.

CHINSURA  
VARTAVAH,  
Aug. 26th, 1900.

6. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* [Chinsura] of the 26th August says that the young wife of one Abinash Chandra Mukherji, a Police Sub-Inspector in a case of suicide, committed suicide, a report of the occurrence was

sent by the *panchayet* to the thana. The Sub-Inspector, Kazi Noajis Ali, came to make a local investigation, and although he had every reason to be satisfied, from the evidence taken by him and from the appearance of the corpse, that the case was one of suicide, he sent up the dead body for *post-mortem* examination, disregarding all the entreaties of the villagers not to offer such an unnecessary insult to the corpse of a Brahman lady. The *post-mortem* examination disclosed death to have been due to hanging, and the Sub-Inspector at last submitted his report, stating that the case was one of suicide, and that there was no suspicion of foul play. Why, then, had the Sub-Inspector, in the absence of any sufficient ground for suspicion, sent up the dead body for *post-mortem* examination? It is such abuse of their power by the police that makes them lose the sympathy and incur the hatred of the people, and makes the latter wish to see the police deprived of their powers. It does not conflict with the sense of duty of the police to let off dacoits and indulge in malpractices in cases of murder. But Sub-Inspector Noajis Ali could not conscientiously abstain from sending up the corpse of this Brahman lady in a simple case of suicide. This Noajis Ali is a Sub-Inspector admitted into service through the door of a competitive examination and is supposed to be unlike the cruel and heartless *darogas* of old.

BHARAT MITRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1900.

7. Referring to the outrage on female chastity in the village Udaykati in Pirozpur, Barisal district, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th August observes that it was for such outrages as these that the Musalman

rule became unpopular among Hindus. Such outrages had become matter of history under the British rule, but it is a regret that there has again been a revival of the old Musalman oppression. O Viceroy! O Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal! Even under your auspicious rule Musalman oppression is often taking place. Why are you not inflicting exemplary punishment upon those oppressive cowardly Musalmans for their heinous cowardice? Our mind has become very uneasy. An insult of such a grave nature is always keenly felt by the Hindus.

(b) — Working of the Courts.

MHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Aug. 17th, 1900.

8. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 17th August complains of the paucity of Musalmans in the judicial service. It appears from the Bengal Civil List that, of the 57 Subordinate Judges in the Bengal Judicial Service,

only one is Musalman. Of the three hundred Munsifs, only ten are Musalmans. Of 483 Deputy and Sub-Deputy Magistrates, sixty-three are Musalmans. Of the 11 Musalmans in the Judicial Service, only three are in Bengal Proper, and yet it is in Bengal Proper that the Musalmans preponderate over the Hindus. The Lieutenant-Governor said some time ago, that almost all Musalman Munsifs were posted to Bihar, because they did not know Bengali. Now-a-days, however, Bengali knowing Musalmans are passing the B.L. examination, and it is hoped that Musalmans will henceforward be more largely appointed to the Judicial Service.

9. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 21st August says that Mr. [Sen, District Judge of Mymensingh, has not inspected any Subordinate Criminal Court in the district during the current year. Considering the

The District Judge of Mymensingh. manner in which justice is administered in such courts an occasional inspection by the District Judge is calculated to produce a wholesome effect upon them.

10. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 22nd August says that though Babu Hara Kumar Das, First Munsif of Burdwan, is The First Munsif of Burdwan. not a bad Judicial Officer, his treatment of the pleaders is extremely bad. The other day he fined Babu Gopi Nath Rai a senior member of the local bar, five rupees for contempt of court. Now-a-days, pleaders have no spirit and they bear the high-handedness of the Munsif in silence.

11. Referring to the decision in the Cawnpore plague riot case, the *Navayug* [Calcutta] of the 25th August writes that The Cawnpore plague riot case. the Judge has no doubt given a wonderful proof of his kind heartedness by sending a score of people to the gallows at one stroke of the pen. The manner in which the plague measures were given effect to in some places created a panic among the people, so much so that they could be taken for mad men. The reader will easily understand how the accused would have fared if they had been Eurasians instead of being natives.

12. The same paper writes as follows with reference to the decision in the Sullivan case:—

The Sullivan case. Sullivan was on duty when he shot Gunapat dead. It cannot, therefore, be consistently contended that he was insane when he committed the crime. Moreover, he confessed soon after the commission of the crime that he had a grudge against Gunapat and had killed him to wreak his vengeance. Ten rounds of ball ammunition are served out to each soldier on duty. Sullivan was supplied with the usual ten rounds, but only nine rounds were found on his person after the commission of the murder. Major Brown deposed that he had known the accused for fifteen months, he had been seeing him every day since 1899 and had observed no mental aberration in him. If there had been any such mental aberration it would have come to his notice.

When the case was being tried in the Police Court, Mr. Hume, the Public Prosecutor, anticipated that the accused would plead insanity, and when he actually found the accused's attorney Mr. Pugh put forth the plea of insanity, he questioned Major Brown to make everything clear. We also anticipated that stress would be laid on this plea of insanity in the High Court, and our anticipation has been fulfilled.

The three doctors, who declared Sullivan insane, had observed him three days only. Major Brown, however, did not detect insanity even after fifteen months' observation. The appearance of the accused in the dock in the High Court did not also lead any one to suspect insanity in him. The only extraordinary thing about him was that he winked too often in the dock. The Judge directed the jury to declare the accused insane, and they did so.

13. The same paper writes as follows with reference to the decision in the Bogra murder case, in which one Char Bibi has The Bogra murder case. been sentenced to death for murdering Chhamiran, another wife of her husband:—

The plea of provocation exculpated Augustine from the charge of murder. It ought to have been considered whether the refusal of Chhamiran to give a little milk to her hungry children was or was not sufficient provocation to the

CHARU MIHIR,  
Aug. 21st, 1900.

PALLIVASI,  
Aug. 22nd, 1900.

NAVAYUG,  
Aug. 25th, 1900.

NAVAYUG.

NAVAYUG.

accused. But, then, Char Bibi is not a Eurasian but a native woman. That makes a great difference.

BANGAVASI,  
Aug. 25th, 1900.

14. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th August writes as follows with reference to the decision in the case in which one Rameswar was prosecuted for rash driving by the Municipal Engineer of Benares :—

The complainant prosecuted the defendant twenty days after the occurrence. In reply to the Court, he said that the delay was owing to his inability to ascertain the defendant's name sooner. The Police Superintendent is said to have been an eye witness of the occurrence. Yet it took the complainant twenty days to ascertain the defendant's name! It is most likely that if the defendant had not brought a suit for damages against the complainant his name would not have leaked out at all. The Joint-Magistrate says in his judgment that the three *syces* who deposed in favour of the prosecution contradicted one another. But he also says that there was no flaw in the Police Superintendent's evidence, and it is on the strength of this evidence that he has convicted the defendant. It is said that the Police Superintendent is an intimate friend of the complainant. Why was not this question raised during the trial? Will this question remain undecided?

BHARAT MITRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1900.

15. Referring to the Lloyd case, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th August observes that the accused was sentenced to four month's simple imprisonment for shooting a native. It is a new thing that a European officer has been punished on a charge of having shot at a native with a gun. Victory to Judge Vincent!

BHARAT MITRA.

16. Referring to the Sullivan case, the same paper says that three doctors declared the accused a mad man. The Judge therefore had no other alternative than to concur in the opinion passed by the medical authorities. The Judge therefore had had to postpone the case for an indefinite time and refer the case to the Government. The accused Sullivan showed no signs of madness before he committed the murder. Otherwise he would have been sent to the Lunatic Asylum. Now that he has turned mad after committing the murder he ought to be kept in the Lunatic Asylum until his recovery. Such is the rule in the case of natives. Perhaps this rule will not be applied in the case of the European. Perhaps this murder of a native by a European will be treated like other cases of a similar nature.

BHARAT MITRA.

17. Referring to the Cawnpore riot case, the same paper observes that in a riot case like the one which occurred at Cawnpore no one can definitely say who actually committed the murder. No one, therefore, knows who are the persons, who killed the six constables in the Cawnpore riot. But the District and Sessions Judge of Cawnpore has been able to detect twenty men as the persons who actually killed the six unfortunate constables, and is going to hang them. Against this decision an appeal has been preferred to the Allahabad High Court, and it is to be hoped that that Court will do justice in the case. The decision of the Cawnpore Judge should be kept recorded in letters of blood.

PRATIVASI,  
Aug. 27th, 1900.

18. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th August has the following with reference to the decision in the Cawnpore plague riot case :—

The extreme rigour of the plague rules, false rumours, neglect of duty by police officers, all these led the people to suspect the motive of the Government, and they committed the riot. They had been driven almost mad and had been cruelly oppressed and persecuted. It was not certainly the object of the rioters to ill-treat Government officers or to disobey the reasonable orders of the authorities. In this case, the riot, in which some constables were killed, was the work of an excited mob. The dreadful punishment, which has been meted out in the case, is calculated to create a panic in the public mind. It is true that the rioters killed a head-constable and four constables, but it is also true that the riot was the consequence of police oppression. According to a letter from Messrs. Cooper Allen & Company of Cawnpore, published in the

*Indian Daily News*, police constables used to rifle the inmates in the plague camp, and people who had no plague were compelled to go to the segregation camp.

No one can have any sympathy with rioters, but no one can at the same time have any sympathy with that law which provides for such punishment as this. The law in England is different.

19. The same paper has the following:

The Sullivan case. Private Sullivan, who killed a tailor in the Fort, has become insane. Proof of his insanity is supplied by the evidence given by certain big doctors. On the strength of that evidence the Judge has arrived at the conclusion that Sullivan is insane. It is not we alone that must plead guilty to the charge of bowing in all submission to the authority of Manu and Yajnyavalka. Did the English Judge, too, refrain from exercising his own judgment in regard to the soundness of the opinion expressed by medical experts?

PRATIVASI,  
Aug. 27th, 1900.

Sir Isaac Newton, it is said, was once making a cage for two birds, one of which was small and the other large. He had made a large door for the admission of the larger bird and was making a smaller opening for the smaller bird when some one asked him if the larger door might not do for both. This at once led the great philosopher to see his mistake. The great poet Kalidas is said to have been caught in the act of chopping the branch of a tree on which he was himself seated. Dr. Bomford is a very learned man. We have heard that in medical science his book learning is unfathomable. He has obtained the highest title in that subject, and is the Principal of the Calcutta Medical College. Why, then, should he, profound scholar as he is, prove an exception to the general rule that applies to all scholars? That is why he has given proof of uncommon intelligence in the diagnosis of insanity. Says the Doctor—Sullivan labours under delusions as to who he is and where he is. We do not know if medical science has invented any machine for detecting delusions. But then we are ignoramuses and they are specialists. Dr. Bomford, however, has not said that any such machine has been applied in this case. We believe that the Doctor has expressed his opinion regarding Sullivan's impressions and delusions from a study of Sullivan's questions and answers. What is there to show that Sullivan did not give wrong answers as to his name and residence from wicked motives? What evidence has the Doctor adduced to show that Sullivan is really insane? Dr. Bomford says that the accused did not volunteer any statement, but gave answers to the questions which were put to him, and that this is a principal symptom of insanity. If a study of medical science is necessary to acquire this knowledge, then we must confess we are helpless. We were under the impression that a wise man talks little and that the insane alone talk and prate ceaselessly. There is the English saying "Prune thou thy words." The Doctor says that when he told the accused that he stood charged with murder, the man did not understand him. Yes, he did not understand, for his understanding the statement would have proved disastrous to him. He is not a scholar, a man that is, who does not know what will do him good or harm. We think that it is here that his feigned madness is to be detected. Why could not the man who could understand a question about his name and residence understand this question? When the Judge asked his name, he gave a name and did not say that he had not struck anybody, and asked about his residence said something indicative of a place and did not speak of eating biscuits. The Doctor says that though nobody had told Sullivan of his intended visit, still he behaved himself in that way. One who feigns madness on purpose would not be likely to commit mistakes that would defeat his purpose. He would play a mad man before anybody who might visit him. Would he not feign madness before all men, fearing that anything said before people who were unknown to him might bring him into trouble? According to medical science, a long course of observation is necessary to enable a doctor to ascertain whether or not, a particular patient is insane. But Sullivan's insanity is of such a simple type that a very short observation has been sufficient for the doctors to pronounce an opinion regarding it.

(d)  $\lambda \neq 0$

Mr. T. H. Green (Lancaster): We have had a very busy day, and have had to dispense with the usual social hour. We requested a man to conduct the meeting, and he did so. We are now adjourned to the Hotel Santa Clara. This is a good hotel, and we are very well accommodated.

(1) The District Superintendent is responsible to the Secretary, and the District Inspector is responsible to the Commissioner.

(2) The board considers the liability and the financial and property  
extortion and malice. The board can consider the matter.

[3] This letter was written a year ago, and was sent to Dr. James L. Garfield, who is a prominent physician. The letter was never sent out. The last sentence has the words "Garfield" — it goes to the bank during the week.

14) The Superintendent and the property engineer for training. The provisions are simple, but substantial, and are of a very good quality. The supply of food and water is to be very inexpensive. The local authorities will properly look after this.

The Superintendent is our greatest teacher, & these are fascinating boys who amuse & interest during the week.

(8) Harmonium, flute and other musical instruments are found in many temples. Stages of this song and dance and these play the common customs, but they do not affect the character of the Superintendents.

177 Many bushy rosaries jump right at Scorpion players on their tails and pull milk, eggs, and water forbs in their own nests. This period may prove disastrous as disastrous to other students living in the soap room.

(8) Justice is not done by the masters. They are not relieved of responsibility even during their reorganization. This is to create a great hazard.

(10) Many school students and the hospital will not go out except the last long away from the hospital. So steps are taken to put down this practice.

(11) There are now also permission to the students of the hospital, and many hospital students are found joining and associating with them. The professors are sometimes found belonging to the students. All this goes on during May and June, and the students are not allowed to do this.

(3) There are regular classes supervising the hotel industry. Why are these entitled to do so? How are they financed?

(b) If a student misses 10 or 11 class - two one-hour lectures, this except his attendance in the final meeting. He must sit the paper then in private.

*E. is despatched from the Ministry of Public Instruction, will soon be enquiring with the author, Mr. Edgeworth. He shall only be intrusted with this information.*

(a) *Lowell Shiff (1997) and 3D visualization of Advection-shed.*

21. The Chinese Veterinary Committee of the Chinese says that the Chinese Municipality, in the capacity of the Chinese Veterinary Committee, has had the usual due care of their animals up to the present time. It is further stated that about 2000 cattle are registered under Mr. Ward, as the Chairman. This form has been sent to the Chinese Veterinary for your consideration. It is better to wait for their final report.

(3) to the Director, Ministry of General Services that the annual  
travel grants, military personnel to be known as ~~allowances~~, that the inter-  
imperial funds will be taken into account in the budget of the  
Department of General Services, and (4) a representation that this will be  
with great difficulty possible, as the amount of the general tax  
is now so small that no change has been necessary, and it may be necessary  
to increase the amount of the tax in consequence of the passing of another  
law requiring the payment of a tax on the value of land. It is also requested  
that the amount of the annual grants be increased to £10,000,000.

and not upon privies. Again, of the owners of these 1,943 holdings possessing no privy, 1,182 pay no general tax, being too poor to do so. But they, too, will not be exempted from the latrine-tax, because they are the owners of holdings, however poor or wretched.

(2) The burying of the night-soil of the whole town in the fields near the town will be prejudicial to public health. The present practice of easing on those fields is perfectly unobjectionable from a sanitary point of view.

(3) A latrine tax will bear heavily also on the well-to-do. At present they keep their privies clean at Rs. 10 or 12 paid to mehters every year. But a latrine-tax assessed upon the value of holdings will cost them more.

To check the commission of nuisance in open places within municipal limits, all that it is necessary to do is to strictly enforce the provisions of Act V.

A latrine-tax has been for some time tentatively introduced in the municipality. But it is already felt as a burden by the rate-payers. Nor is the work of the removal of night-soil going on satisfactorily under municipal management.

23. A correspondent of the *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August, complains of neglect of duty by the Garden Reach Municipality in the 24-Parganas district. The streets and lanes in this municipality have not been repaired for a long time, and are not at all swept or lighted. The drains are all choked, and are never cleaned. Malarial fever is, in consequence, raging most virulently. The municipality can well afford to maintain a Health Officer, but has not, up to this time, seen fit to do so.

24. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 22nd August complains that the native hotels in Barisal town, both Hindu and Musalman, are kept in a filthy condition, and are a source of insanitation. The food supplied there is bad rice, two or three days old, being sometimes supplied. The beddings used by the hotel inmates are soiled and stinking. These hotels are frequented by a large number of people, and the municipality ought to require the hotel-keepers to keep their hotels clean and tidy and supply fresh victuals to their customers.

25. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 22nd August draws attention to the arbitrary conduct of the keeper of the Sujaganj pound, in Murshidabad town. On the 14th August last, a cow belonging to the late

A complaint against a pound-keeper. Babu Ram Chand Ghosh of Ghatbandar was taken to the pound. A man at once went to pay the fine and charges and get back the animal. But although the fine and charges due were paid, the man in charge of the pound refused to give any receipt for the same. The animal was not, therefore, taken back. Later on, the Manager of the firm of Messrs. Ram Chand Ghosh & Co. himself went to get the animal back. On this occasion, too, a receipt was refused, on the plea that the receipt book had been left behind in the cutchery, and the gentleman was told to come in the evening. A man was sent at the appointed time, and though the pound-keeper was himself present at the time, a receipt was again refused. The fine and charges were at last paid in the presence of a witness and the animal was taken back. The owner of the cow has brought the facts to the notice of the municipal authorities.

It is hoped that an enquiry will be made into this matter, but not through the agency of the municipal overseer or any other subordinate municipal officer. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman or some respectable Commissioner should himself enquire. The points to be ascertained are—(1) whether the pound-keeper keeps a servant or other agent for stealing cattle for the purpose of bringing them into the pound, (2) whether the pound-keeper keeps a receipt book in the prescribed form, and (3) whether the pound-keeper gets anything on account of feeding charge, if an animal is detained in the pound for a very short time, say, for half-an hour or an hour.

26. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 23rd August has the following:—

The Englishman exultingly says that the talk of Calcutta under the new Babus having no longer any power in the municipality, when Mr. Duke comes to be

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,

Aug. 22nd, 1900.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
Aug. 22nd, 1900.

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,

Aug. 22nd, 1900.

SANJIVANI,  
Aug. 23rd, 1900.

appointed Chairman of the municipality on Mr. Bright's resigning that office, he will be able to carry on his work smoothly and without let or hindrance. But it is already very long since the power of the Babus was extinguished; so, the question arises whether it is the conduct of the European Commissioners, who only pocket their fees and say ditto to the Chairman, which has turned Mr. Bright's head. Why has the town come to such a miserable plight even under the undisputed sway of the Chairmah? Why have the streets and lanes become impassable in consequence of the stench proceeding from accumulated mud and filth? Have the Babus been driven away, in order that the town may be made healthier and more beautiful in this manner?

SANJIVANI,  
Aug. 23rd 1900.

27. The same paper, in its mufassal column, says that every year, since the great earthquake, the northern part of the

The Goalpara Municipality in town of Goalpara is submerged in the river water Assam.

during the rainy season; but the municipality makes no remission of either the house-tax or the latrine-tax for the period during which the houses remain under water and the privies, in consequence, are not served. It is also a pity that the municipality should spend the money realised from such rate-payers in clearing jungle on the Goalpara hill when it is not yet settled whether the hill belongs to the Government or to the zamin-dars of Lakhimpur.

JYOTI,  
Aug. 23rd, 1900.

28. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 23rd August complains of the prevalence of the foot-and-mouth disease in the

Cow mortality in the Chittagong villages of Adhunagar, Chunti, Satagarh, Sukh-charhi, Patibila, and Harbang, in the Chittagong

district. Cow mortality is serious and will cause the raiyats great hardship in this sowing season. It is hoped that the attention of the District Board will be drawn to the matter.

MANBHUM,  
Aug. 28th, 1900.

29. The *Manbhumi* [Purulia] of the 28th August complains of mismanagement in the Purulia municipality. The municipal meetings are held in the morning, but as most of the Commissioners are pleaders, they cannot take part in the proceedings at that inconvenient hour. The meetings of the municipality should be held in the evening, so that the pleader-Commissioners may attend them.

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

SANJAY,  
Aug. 17th, 1900.

30. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 17th August draws attention to the great necessity of excavating a canal from the

A canal wanted in the Faridpur river Padma to irrigate the villages Jasai, Kanchnagar, Habaspur, Bhatbhanga, Guruchandi, Patikabari, Joykrishnapur, Raghunandanpur, Samastipur, Satbaria, Jaygram, Bhirpur, Balia, Mighna, Birkimpur and five or six others within the jurisdiction of the Pangsa thana, in the Faridpur district. These villages have received no rain water this year, and their residents will, therefore, suffer both from scarcity of food and from scarcity of water. Scarcity of water has been a standing grievance of these villages for a long time, and if a canal is not excavated to remove it, their condition will grow alarming at no distant date.

CHARU MHIR,  
Aug. 21st, 1900.

31. The *Charu Mhir* [Mymensingh] of the 21st August draws attention to the bad condition of the road between Sarisabari and Pingna, in the Mymensingh district. In many places where bridges are required, there are no bridges at all, and many of the existing bridges are in an extremely unsafe condition. People find the greatest difficulty in using this road.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Aug. 21st, 1900.

32. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 21st August says that the Government's attention having been drawn to the necessity for a road from Burdwan town to Rayna, a village in the Burdwan district, Sir John Woodburn has called for a report on the subject from the District Board and has promised a contribution from the Public Works Cess Fund towards the construction of roads in the district. The District Board has proposed the construction of a road from Burdwan to Rayna *via* Sihara. This road would be 15 miles long, Sihara being 9 miles from Burdwan and six miles from Rayna. All the land which would be required for the portion of this road between Sihara and Rayna would have

to be acquired at a considerable cost, and the road would not pass through any important or populous villages. But it would cost the District Board less and serve the purposes of the villagers in the Rayna thana better if, instead of constructing such a road, the Board simply repaired the old Badshahi Road, which runs from Burdwan *via* Rayna to Jahanabad. This road passes through many important villages; and no land would have to be acquired for it. Its length from Burdwan to Rayna is only eight miles. It is a very broad road and in every way better suited as a communication between Burdwan and Rayna than the one which the District Board seems to be intent upon constructing. According to some people, the objection against repairing the Badshahi Road is that it is submerged in the flood water of the Damodar during the rainy season. But this objection must have been removed since the repair of the breach in the Damodar embankment at Kumirkola. But supposing the road to be still occasionally flooded during the rainy season, that would be no reason for giving it up in favour of the more costly and circuitous communication proposed by the District Board. Another point in favour of the Badshahi Road is that if it is repaired many zamindars and other people will render pecuniary help. The Badshahi Road will benefit more people than a road from Burdwan to Rayna *via* Sihara.

33. A correspondent of the *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 22nd August says that a road from Turka to Sarosanka, in the Midnapore district, would establish a through communication between Khakurda on the Contai

A road wanted in the Midnapore district. road and Dantun, a place of importance containing a Munsif's Court, a charitable dispensary, a sub-registry office, a post office, a police-station and a railway station. A road runs from Khakurda towards Dantun, but it stops at Turka, and there is a village road from Sarosanka three miles from Turka to Dantun, leaving a gap of three miles between Turka and Sarosanka. This gap causes serious inconvenience to the residents of this part of the district as they have frequently to go to Dantun. The District and Local Boards have been memorialised on the subject, and it is hoped they will listen to the prayer of the memorialists.

34. Sarat Chandra Das Adhikari and Surendra Nath Maiti, writing in the same paper from the Midnapore College, under date the 15th August last, complain of the want of a proper waiting-room at the Khargapur Station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway for the passengers who arrive there by the 9 P.M. mixed train and the 1 A.M. mail train from Puri and who have to wait at the station the whole night for the Sini and Midnapore trains. There is a wretched hut, which serves as a place of rest for passengers, and all the passengers by the two trains are ordered to go there, though it is too small for even the whole of the passengers coming by the earlier train. Most of the passengers have, therefore, to spend the night in open places exposed to all the inclemencies of the weather.

35. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 23rd August writes that only fifteen miles of the Jaldi road have been constructed, connecting Chandpur with Chambal. The postponement of the construction of the remaining portion of the road is causing great hardship to the public. There is a *hut* at Golamganj near Chambal and another *hut* three miles down. A large number of villages near Chambal are served by the Jaldi post office, which is at a distance of six or seven miles. There is also a school near Jaldi. The traffic, both goods and passenger, between Jaldi and Chambal is very heavy, and the postponement of the construction of the remaining portion of the Jaldi road is a source of great hardship and inconvenience. The construction of the road has been sanctioned by the District Board, and it is strange that it has not yet been completed.

36. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 25th August writes that Babu Bipin Behari Basu, Head-clerk, Railway Engineer's Office, Bogra, has been dismissed, while Mr. King, the Engineer who is alleged to have abused and assaulted him, has got his pay increased from Rs. 300 to Rs. 350. But is this true? Could such injustice be perpetrated under the just British rule? It is quite probable that Bipin Babu has been dismissed for some other reason, and that there is some other reason for

MEDINI BANDHAV  
Aug. 22nd, 1900.

MEDINI BANDHAV.

JYOTI,  
Aug. 23rd, 1900.

BANGAVASI,  
Aug. 25th, 1900.

the increase of Mr. King's pay. Bipin Babu has submitted an application to the Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities, praying for re-instatement in service. In the reply to this application, everything will most probably be made clear.

(h)—General.

SHI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Aug. 22nd, 1900.

37. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August says that there was much complaint Mr. Jolly's dismissal, when Mr. Jolly was appointed an Extra Assistant Commissioner in Assam. But Sir William Ward, who was Chief Commissioner of Assam at that time, did not listen to this. Mr. Jolly has, however, now been dismissed for a very serious offence—an offence for which any other person would have been sent to jail with hard labour. The people of Assam have been dissatisfied with their Government because Mr. Jolly has been let off so easily.

It is said that Mr. Kemp, Police Inspector, will be appointed to the vacancy which has been caused by Mr. Jolly's dismissal. But was not Mr. Kemp only two years ago, thought unfit even for a first grade Inspectorship? Was not Babu J. C. Bhadra then considered an abler officer than Mr. Kemp and allowed to supersede him? Nothing has since happened to show that Mr. Kemp has become an abler officer than he was two years ago.

It is also rumoured that Mr. Hunter, a dismissed Police Superintendent of Madras, too, has been considered a fit candidate for the post. But are there no fitter men in the country, and has no Bengali a greater claim to the post?

38. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 22nd August complains that the discontinuance of ferry allowance is causing great hardship to the postal peons of East Bengal, especially to the postal peons of the Backergunge and Barisal districts, which remain under water for about eight months in the year. During these eight months the village postal peons are put to very great hardship in performing their duties. They are too poor to pay ferry hire out of their own pockets, and they have consequently to wade through, or swim across, pools of water, which causes great delay in the delivery of letters and other postal articles.

39. The *Anusandhan* [Calcutta] of the 22nd August writes as follows:—  
Rai Durgagati Banerji Bahadur, C.I.E., has reflected great credit on the Bengali race by ably discharging his duties as the Collector of Calcutta. He is respected by Natives and Europeans alike. One of his enemies has lately written a fault-finding letter to the *Sanjivani*. It appears from the letter that it has been written because somebody's interest has been injured. Durgagati Babu is an experienced officer, but he has been called "old." He is cautious, but he has been called "procrastinating." He recognises merit, but he has been called "partial." He does good to others, and has perhaps thereby created many enemies. May a just officer like Durgagati Babu grace the post of Collector of Calcutta for a few years more!

40. A correspondent of the *Rangpur Dik Prakash* [Kakina, Rangpur] of the 23rd August says that the practice of delivering letters and papers in the villages Belpukar, Hazari, &c., in the Rangpur district, only once a week, being a source of great inconvenience to the villagers, they applied for a post office to be located in the Hazarihat School. The postal authorities agreed to this proposal on the condition that the villagers should deposit Rs. 126. The money has been collected, and is ready to be deposited with the post office. But although three or four months have passed away, nothing more has been heard from the authorities.

41. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 23rd August complains that though the mail train from Calcutta and the mail steamers from Barisal and other places arrive at Khulna not later than five o'clock in the morning, the postal peons do not start from the post office to make the first delivery of letters before 8-30 A.M. This causes much inconvenience to the Khulna public, especially, as the first down train leaves Khulna at 8-18 A.M., that is to say, before people have received their letters from Calcutta. Babus Mathur Lal Nag, Basanta Kumar Haldar, and Devendra

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
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ANUSANDHAN,  
Aug. 22nd, 1900.

RANGPUR DIK  
PRAKASH,  
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KHULNA,  
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Nath Sarker and many other people complain that they never receive their letters, &c., before 10:30 or 1-1 A.M.

All this is due to the lax management under the present Post Master. Under former Post Masters, the peons had to commence delivery at 7:30 A.M. There is no reason why the same practice should not be again followed.

42. The *Pratiwas* [Calcutta] of the 24th August understands that Mr. Sibold, the accused in the Hazaribagh case, has been re-appointed in the Ganduk Division. A man convicted of a criminal offence cannot be appointed

to the public service. Why has this rule been violated in Mr. Sibold's case? Will native lives be considered to be of any value if an impression is created in the minds of European officers that their worldly prospects will not suffer in the least in consequence of killing natives?

PRATIVASI,  
Aug. 24th, 1900.

The reappointment of Mr. Sibold. The proposed law relating to civil appeals.—

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

43. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th August has the following with reference to the proposed legislation relating to

HITAVADI,  
Aug. 24th, 1900.

The proposed law relating to civil appeals.—

The object of the proposed legislation may be very praiseworthy, but we do not know whether the Bill, in its present form, will serve its purpose. It is notorious that Munsifs and Judges, who can keep their files clear, are rapidly promoted. All Judicial Officers, be they Munsifs or Sub-Judges, seek official praise and official favour. They seldom, if ever, care to consider whether justice is being done, and hurry through the suits. Even European Judges are guided more by the desire to gain official favour than by the desire to do justice. It requires immense labour and extraordinary patience and forbearance to properly try a regular suit. The Sub-Judges are very able and erudite officers, but they are not required by the present system to give proofs of their ability.

It is the Government and the Government alone, which is responsible for the increase in the number of appeals. The departmental rules issued by the Government, from time to time, smack of the shop-keeping principle, and Government officers have to sacrifice humanity, dignity and erudition for the sake of their posts. When the evil thus brought about becomes widespread, the Government proceeds to pass a law for its removal, the frequent alterations in the laws throw the public into a panic, and the administration of justice becomes as uncertain as gambling.

During the rule of Lord Elgin, when the question of restricting civil appeals was first raised, a *Pioneer* correspondent gave out a secret. He said that the courts of justice and the judicial officers were, so to say, the emblem, the manifestation of the power and prestige of the British Government. In the eye of the people, they exercise absolute power. But if the decisions of the lower courts are made appealable in almost all cases, and if, on appeal, these decisions are set aside, the people will gradually lose their confidence in and respect for the Magistrates, Judges and Sub-Judges, and learn to look upon the High Court as a separate and independent power in the country. On all these grounds, the right of appeal should be restricted, and the powers of the Judicial officers in the districts should be increased. All this was no doubt foolish effusion, but even such effusion cannot be lightly ignored in these days of rampant "imperialism," when the desire to exercise absolute and uncontrolled power is such a predominant feature of the British administration in India.

The proposed Bill restricting the right of appeal will be submitted and discussed in the coming session of the Supreme Legislative Council. It has been given out that the opinions of only a few select officials, and of only those societies and associations, whose opinions have a value, will be consulted. The legal profession is sure, not to be consulted, as the Bill will go against their interests.

### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

44. Referring to the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur, the *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th August observes that

BHARAT MITRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1900.

The deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur. The deposition of the Maharaja has been brought about by the fact that he could not conduct himself

as the nature of the times required. He could not satisfy the representatives of the British Empire the slightest movement of whose finger can reduce a thousand crowns to dust. The deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur is one of the numerous instances in point.

PRATIVASI,  
Aug. 27th, 1900.

45. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 27th August writes as follows with reference to the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur:

The deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur:

One must reap as one sows. The Maharaja is suffering from the consequences of his own actions. His misfortune is no doubt extremely regrettable, but much more regrettable is his immorality. But under British rule even thieves and dacoits enjoy the privilege of being publicly tried. Ram Singh would have been publicly tried if he had not been a Maharaja. Lord Curzon has given proofs of far-sighted statesmanship by stating at length the grounds of the Maharaja's deposition. By so doing he has broken the time-honoured custom of the Foreign office—the custom of secrecy, which creates suspicion in the public mind, and leads the public to sympathise with deposed chiefs.

But it would have been better to let the Maharaja have the benefit of a public trial. Malhar Rao was publicly tried. Why was not that precedent followed in the present case? Ram Singh urges that the death of the servant with whose murder he has been charged was purely accidental. He ought to have been given an opportunity to prove his contention. It is our desire, as it is without doubt the desire of the Government, that the public should be convinced that no native chief is deposed without good cause. A public trial would have strengthened the official position.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BASUMATI,  
Aug. 23rd, 1900.

"You and we."

46. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 23rd August has the following:

You have come from over seas,  
and we are waiting here.  
You are ruling the country,  
and that is to us a great pleasure.  
You issue orders and commands,  
and we carry them out.  
You give us kicks and cuffs,  
and in silence we die.  
You export shiploads of merchandise,  
and we carry it all to your ships.  
You give us the wages of a cooly,  
and we take what you give.  
You draw a thousand or two thousands,  
as your monthly pay.  
But if we draw forty and ten a month,  
you grumble and make comment.  
You drive a carriage and pair,  
and we serve as coolies and grooms.  
If you suffer any inconvenience,  
you abuse us for it.  
You live comfortably in pleasant repose,  
under the swinging punkha.  
And if the punkha moves slowly,  
you cause a rupture of the spleen.  
You walk proudly and triumphantly,  
and we look fearfully at you.  
And standing at a distance,  
we salaam you a thousand times.  
You are the sadar *Naibs* (the deputies of the sovereign),  
and we are poor raiyats.  
If you lose your temper,  
you punish us as you please.  
You are white, as white as milk,  
and we are black niggers.  
You are all *huzurs* and *dharma-satars* (incarnations of justice),  
and we are "soor" and "sala."  
You are celestial flowers,  
like the *Mandar* and the *Parijat*.

While we are mere thorny flowers,  
 mere *Siakul*, *Ghetu*, and *Palas*.  
 You amass lakhs upon lakhs,  
 while we have nothing to eat.  
 You sleep on golden couches,  
 while we sleep on mats.  
 You are masters and we are servants ;  
 you belong to the ruling race.  
 We do not want diamonds and rubies,  
 coarse rice is all we want.  
 In the peace and quiet of our lowly huts,  
 with our humble families,  
 May we our poor life pass,  
 bearing our full share of misery and suffering.  
 Lo ! there looms at a distance that happy and peaceful abode,  
 when we shall meet there,  
 All distinctions between the black and the white will vanish,  
 and we shall all be in peace.  
 Your pride and your vanity,  
 and your high strides.  
 All will be reduced to dust,  
 leaving no trace behind.  
 Why then this boast and this pride,  
 for the greatness of an hour ?  
 A hard, dry, stony heart,  
 mere money cannot make great.

47. A correspondent complains in the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 24th August that on the 24th July last, a Hindu A missionary case.

HITAVADI,  
 Aug. 24th, 1900.

widow complained to the local Deputy Magistrate that her daughter, aged 11 years, had been wrongfully confined by the zanana missionaries. She had come to Mymensingh with her daughter with the object of placing her in the local hospital for treatment. In the street they met one Sindhu Nath Sarkar and asked him to show them the way to the hospital. The man conducted them to the house of the zanana missionaries and told them that that was the hospital. The daughter was placed in the mission house, but when the mother found out the mistake and went to the missionaries to take back her daughter, she was driven out.

The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 24th August thus comments on the above :—

It is hoped that the matter will not be hushed up. It ought to be enquired who this Sindhu Nath Sarkar is. Judging from the circumstances of the case, one would take him for a mission *arkati*. Are the missionaries employing *arkatis* to help them in spreading and promulgating their true religion ? Are coolies badly wanted in the celestial tea garden of Jesus Christ ? The famine is a golden opportunity for the missionaries, and they are now in a jubilant mood. It is a great regret that the Government, which is now burdened with a host of orphans, has entrusted the missionaries with the charge of many of those orphans. The missionary snare is spread even in Calcutta. Only the other day, a girl of only 11 years disappeared from the custody of her mother, one Syama Dasi of Champatola. The girl was traced to a local mission house. The missionaries refused to hand her over to her mother, and the matter has now been dragged to the police court.

48. The same paper has the following :—

Race-partiality is no doubt one of the sterling English race-partiality as a virtues of the British nation, and this is what has cause of Indian poverty. enabled a handful of Englishmen to rule the world.

It is, however, this race-partiality, carried to the extreme which is at the root of Indian poverty. All the loaves and fishes in the public service are monopolised by Englishmen, and a native, even if he be very much more competent than an Englishman, has no chance of being appointed to one of these high posts. Nay, no native would be appointed to any such post even if his services were procurable on half the pay drawn by a European. But this is not all. The Government never hesitates to legislate in favour of English interests, whenever even the least English interest comes into conflict with Indian interests. The Government has passed the Factory Act and undertaken the mines legislation with no other object than the protection of the interests of

HITAVADI.

British merchants. The Indian people are bound hand and foot. They have not even the liberty to work as hard as they please and are half-starved.

The relation between the ruler and the ruled resembles the relation between the father and the son. The prosperity of the son delights the father. In their vast world-wide Empire, have the English ever come across such loyal subjects as the Indian people? None but Indians can worship the sovereign with their heart's blood. The Indian people look upon the English not only as their rulers, but also as their protectors. The Government should, therefore, try its best to maintain the honour and safety of its subjects and to promote their happiness and welfare. It is as incumbent upon the Government to protect the lives of the people as it is to protect them against foreign invasion. The Indian people are being gradually impoverished. Free trade is causing India's wealth to flow out from the country through a thousand channels while famine is slowly but steadily swallowing the Indian people. India—India with its abundance of water, wealth of fruits, and luxuriance of verdure—will ere long be turned into a cremation ground and an abode of ravenous animals, if this state of things long continues. The world is filled with the lament of famine-stricken India rending the skies, and the subjects of a civilised, prosperous, and powerful Government are begging for alms from door to door. Does this reflect any credit on British rule? Let the Government take pity on the Indian people. Let it devise means to protect its subjects. Otherwise a stain will be cast on the British administration, and the Indian people will sink into the depths of degradation.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

49. The *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 8th August is informed that an aerial spirit, dressed as a military officer, presents himself at night time before the guard of a magazine in Sambalpur and orders him to un-

*An aerial being in a Government magazine.*

dress and then commit suicide. A sepoy, who was lately guarding the magazine on a particular night, actually committed suicide in the manner, indicated by the aerial being, who being dressed as a military officer practised deception successfully. The writer requests the authorities to ascertain the truth of the allegation and, if it is found to be true, to abandon the haunted magazine or take such other step as may appear advisable.

50. The same paper points out that a large amount of money is spent every year in India in making preparations for the expenses of official receptions, reception of Viceroys, Governors and other high authorities, of which a substantial portion goes to meet the costs of dinner parties, fire works and nautches. The writer is of opinion that some reform is necessary in this direction as some of the expenses may be easily cut down, while others utilised in feeding the poor, establishing scholarships for the benefit of students of schools and colleges, and excavating tanks, &c. The writer hopes that the authorities will take note of the fact and encourage the reforms noted above.

51. The same paper is of opinion that Lord Curzon is always kindly disposed towards the ministerial officers of Government and this feeling of His Excellency is well displayed in his judicious orders, regarding the training of those *amla* of the North-Western Provinces, who know one of the two characters, namely, Nagri and Persian, now in currency in the offices of those Provinces.

52. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 8th August is sorry to find that daring thefts are increasing in number in the Balasore town and that the Police are unable to bring the culprits to justice. The residents of the town are therefore in an alarmed mood.

53. The *Sambadwahika* [Balasore] of the 9th August is sorry to learn that the Government of the United Kingdom is unwilling to help India with a grant though lakhs of her inhabitants are dying of starvation. The writer strongly objects to increase the debt of India, as she will never be able to liquidate it in time.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
Aug. 8th, 1900

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Aug. 8th, 1900.

SAMBADWAHIKA,  
Aug. 9th, 1900.

54. Referring to the reward, which His Honour has promised to the

The Lieutenant-Governor's encouragement of hand-writing. students of the Balasore zillah school in connection with hand writing and gymnastics, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 11th August observes that

the policy of encouraging the art of writing a good hand is always good and that good hand writing is always necessary in business.

55. The same paper urges the necessity of reducing the number of

The strength of the Indian army. troops now stationed in India and argues that if the Imperial Government wants to keep an additional force for imperial purposes, India should be relieved of the cost of maintaining the same.

56. All the native papers of Orissa are glad to find that a certain number

Promotion of the Uriya Sub-Deputy Collectors. of deserving Uriya Sub-Deputy Collectors have been promoted to the rank of Deputy Collectors and appreciate the justice which Government has

done towards them.

57. Referring to the donation of Sir Mangal Das Nathu Bhai of Bombay

Sir Mangal Das Nathu Bhai's gift. for the encouragement of the study of art by Indians, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 15th August observes that other rich men of

India should imitate his example by making liberal contributions towards the object.

58. Referring to the effect of the Chinese war on the cotton mills of

Effect of the Chinese war on Indian cotton mills. Western India, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 18th August observes that the Indians should try by all means to encourage cotton piece-goods, manufactured in their own country.

#### ASSAM PAPFRS.

59. The *Silchar* [Silchar] of the 15th August says that the settlement operations in Cachar have been attended with

The Cachar settlement. innumerable mistakes. One man's land has been written down as another's. The names and castes of the raiyats have not been in a very large number of cases correctly noted. In many cases, again, the *kutcha patta* does not agree with the *pucca patta*, the rents put down in the former not agreeing, in many instances, with those recorded in the latter, although the rate of rent is the same in both. In fact, the settlement has been grossly vitiated by mistakes. To have these corrected, the raiyats will be put to no end of trouble and expense.

It is a matter of the highest regret that both Rai Sarat Chandra Banerji, Bahadur, the Settlement Officer, and Kisor Babu, the officer who actually conducted the settlement operations, are going away from the district, leaving the arduous and difficult task of correcting the mistakes referred to above and making the mutations to a new officer. Kisor Babu's transfer to Habiganj should be cancelled and Muhammad Sadir, who has been posted to Cachar in his place, should be sent to Habiganj.

60. The same paper says that Mr. Cotton was kind enough to grant to every Local Board Overseer employed in Assam

Local Board Sub-overseers in Assam. a daily *bhatta* of two to three rupees, if the officer travelled upwards of five miles from the Sadar

station. But no similar concession has been made to the Local Board sub-Overseers. These officers get a pay of Rs. 30 a month, and horse-allowance at half the rate given to overseers. If the Chief Commissioner's attention had been drawn to these poorly-paid and hard-worked officers, numbering only five in the whole province, he would certainly have made some provision for them too. These men have no prospect of pension or of employment in the Public Works Department. They should, therefore, be granted a diet allowance, when in the mafassal at, at least, half the rate which has been sanctioned for overseers.

61. The same paper says that it is extremely anomalous that, whilst all Police Sub-Inspectors in Assam, get a *bhatta* when in the mafassal, no such allowance is given to the Reserve Sub-Inspectors, whose duties are in no way less onerous than

UTKALDIPICA,  
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NAVASAMVAD,  
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Aug. 18th, 1900.

SILCHAR,  
Aug. 15th, 1900.

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SILCHAR.

those of Sub-Inspectors in charge of thanas. Reserve Sub-Inspectors have not also the same chances of promotion and reward as Sub-Inspectors in the general line.

SILCHAR,  
Aug. 15th, 1900.

62. The same paper has for some time received complaints of neglect of duty by the village postmen attached to the Sonai and Barkhola post-offices in Assam. The matter has been brought to the notice of the authorities more than once, but without effect. Recently, complaints have been received from Babu Narendra Kumar Barman of Bijaypur, Amu Singh Manipuri, teacher in the Santi pathsala and Babu Gopi Charan Nath of Bhangarpore that they do not get their letters from the Barkhola post-office in time. A similar complaint has been received from Pandit Tara Nath Sarma of Sonabarighat in regard to the Sonai post-office.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 1st September, 1900.