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[No. 14 of 1903.

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 4th April 1903.

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No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.					
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	" Dharma-o-Karma "	Calcutta ...	....	....
2	" Prachar "	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	....	....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>					
1	" Sign Board "	Calcutta ...	....	1st April, 1903.	
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	" Anusandhan "	Calcutta ...	....	29th March, 1903.	
2	" Bangabhumi "	Ditto ...	2,000	31st ditto.	
3	" Bangavasi "	Ditto ...	12,000	28th ditto.	
4	" Basumati "	Ditto ...	17,000	28th ditto.	
5	" Hitavadi "	Ditto ...	15,000	27th ditto.	
6	" Mihir-o-Sudhakar "	Ditto ...	1,000	27th ditto.	
7	" Mistabhasi "	Ditto ...	....	28th ditto.	
8	" Naya Yug "	Ditto ...	500	28th ditto.	
9	" Pratijna "	Ditto ...	....	25th ditto.	
10	" Prativasi "	Ditto ...	2,500	30th ditto.	
11	" Rangalaya "	Ditto ...	1,500	....
12	" Samay "	Ditto ...	600	27th March and 3rd April, 1903.	
13	" Sanjivani "	Ditto ...	3,000	26th March, 1903.	
14	" Som Prakash "	Ditto ...	1,200	....
15	" Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto ...	1,000	26th March, 1903.	
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	" Dainik Chandrika "	Calcutta ...	200	30th March, 1st April and 3rd April, 1903	
2	" Samvad Prabhakar "	Ditto ...	1,200	30th and 31st March, and 1st and 2nd April, 1903.	
3	" Samvad Purnachandrodaya "	Ditto ...	400	28th, 30th and 31st March, and 1st and 2nd April, 1903.	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.					
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	" People and Prativasi "	Calcutta	....	27th, 28th, 30th and 31st March, and 1st and 2nd April 1903.	
URDU.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	" Ahsan-ul-Akhbar "	Calcutta ...	....	27th March, 1903.	
HINDI.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	" Bharat Mitra "	Calcutta ...	3,200	28th March, 1903.	
2	" Hindi Bangavasi "	Ditto ...	6,000	3rd ditto.	
PERSIAN.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	" Roznama-i-Mukaddas - Hablul Mateen."	Calcutta ...	1,000	30th March, 1903.	
BENGALI.					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	" Bangabandhu "	Chandernagore	....	....
2	" Bankura Darpan "	Bankura	900	....
3	" Burdwan Sanjivani "	Burdwan	300	24th March, 1903.	
4	" Chinsura Vartavaha "	Chinsura	500	29th ditto.	
5	" Education Gazette "	Ditto	1,300	26th ditto.	
6	" Medini Bandhav "	Midnapore	About 400	30th ditto.	
7	" Nihar "	Contai	150	31st ditto.	
8	" Pallivasi "	Kalna	600	25th March, and 1st April 1903.	
BENGALI.					
<i>Monthly.</i>					
1	" Sevika "	Diamond Harbour	....	....
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	" Basirhat Suhrid "	Basirhat	....	....
2	" Khulna "	Khulna	....	....
3	" Murshidabad Hitaishi "	Khagra	400	25th March, 1903.	
4	" Pratikar "	Berhampore	600	27th ditto.	
BURDWAN DIVISION.					
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.					
1	" Sevika "	Diamond Harbour	....	....
1	" Basirhat Suhrid "	Basirhat	....	....
2	" Khulna "	Khulna	....	....
3	" Murshidabad Hitaishi "	Khagra	400	25th March, 1903.	
4	" Pratikar "	Berhampore	600	27th ditto.	

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS—concluded.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Places of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
	URIA.	ORISSA DIVISION.			
	Weekly.				
1	"Garjatbasini" ...	Talcher ...	500	14th and 21st March, 1903.	
2	"Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	400	12th March, 1903.	
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...		4th, 11th and 18th March, 1903.	
4	"Utkaldipika" ...	Cuttack ...	500	14th and 21st ditto.	
	HINDI.	PATNA DIVISION.			
	Monthly.				
1	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...		April 1903.	
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Jain Gajat" ...	Arrah ...	....	16th March, 1903.	
	URDU.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	....	28th March, 1903.	
	BENGALI.	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.			
	Weekly.				
1	"Manbhumi" ...	Purulia ...	500	24th March, 1903.	
	HINDI.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Arya Varta" ...	Ranchi ...	550	....
	BENGALI.	RAJSHAHI DIVISION.			
	Weekly.				
1	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia ...	300	25th March 1903.	
2	"Rangpur Dik Prakash" ...	Rangpur ...	7,480	26th ditto.	
3	"Rangpur Vartavaha" ...	Ditto ...	....	....
	BENGALI.	DACCA DIVISION.			
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Faridpur Hitaishi" ...	Faridpur ...	About 300	....
	Weekly.				
1	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	400	....
2	"Bikash" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	22nd March, 1903.	
3	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	800	24th and 31st March 1903.	
4	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	375	29th March, 1903.	
5	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Barisal ...	500	26th ditto.	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	600	30th March 1903.	
	BENGALI AND URDU.				
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Sankhanidhi Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	200	....
	BENGALI.	CHITTAGONG DIVISION.			
	Tri-monthly.				
1	"Suhrid" ...	Noakhali ...	1,000	24th March, 1903.	
	Weekly.				
1	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	1,000	26th March, 1903.	
2	"Samsodhini" ...	Ditto ...	380	....
3	"Tripura Hitaishi" ...	Comilla ...	250 to 300	31st March, 1903.	
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
	Weekly.				
1	"Pratinidhi" ...	Comilla ...	400 to 500	28th March, 1903.	
	BENGALI.	ASSAM.			
	Fortnightly.				
1	"Paridarsak" ...	Sylhet ...	500	....
2	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	....	....

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March writes as follows :—

Mr. Chamberlain's praise is being heard everywhere. But will this praise succeed in drowning the grievances of the Indians in South Africa? Though South Africa is British territory, British Indian subjects of His Majesty the Emperor living there, even when possessors of lakhs, are termed "coolies," are not allowed to leave their houses after nine o'clock in the evening, or to travel by rail except third class, or to walk on the footpaths of streets or to drive in hackney carriages. They are not allowed to acquire any landed property or mining right or to carry on trade. Over and above these disabilities, they are subjected to a *ziziah* tax of Rs. 45 per head per annum. It is not probable that these grievances of the Indians in South Africa did not come to Mr. Chamberlain's notice. The fact is that, though well aware of them, he does not consider it necessary to take steps to remedy them. The authorities have held out promises of redress to the Indians in South Africa since the commencement of the Boer War, but have done nothing as yet to fulfil their promises. Can anything be more shameful and regrettable than this?

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. The *Bikash* [Barisal] of the 22nd March says that hackney carriage horses in Barisal town, when released from harness

A horse nuisance in Barisal town. at night, are allowed to freely roam about in the public streets, to the inconvenience and even danger of the public. The police does not seem to take any notice of this. In the day time also horses are sometimes seen running about in the streets. What for are the town chaukidars and the havildar paid, if they cannot put a stop to this nuisance?

BIKASH,
Mar. 22nd 1903.

3. The same paper says :—

Badmashes in the Barisal district. In some of the villages under the sadar station of Barisal, some low-caste Musalmans have become troublesome to the villagers. They are always engaged in false criminal suits, assaults, dacoity and murder. There are some notorious *badmashes* in those villages.

BIKASH,

4. A correspondent of the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 25th March writes :—

The panchayet of a village in the Burdwan district. While collecting the chaukidari tax the panchayets of the village of Ghanasyampur in the Burdwan district treat the poor villagers harshly. The panchayets not being properly elected, are very rough and haughty. They are generally rich men who do not care for the poor villagers. They have assistants, who do anything they like. Far from being reprimanded for their misdeeds, they are supported by the *amla* and *peshkars* of the Court. These men hush up the cases which the oppressed villagers bring before the Court. This ought to be enquired into and impartial and educated men should be selected as members of the panchayet.

PALLIVASI.
Mar. 25th, 1903.

5. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that the shrine of

Kalighat in Calcutta has become a haunt of *badmashes*, who molest the helpless pilgrims at every possible opportunity. The police does not seem to take any notice of these bad characters. On the 20th March some pilgrims took lodgings in premises No. 12, Haldarpara Lane, close to the Kalighat police outpost. At midnight, some ruffians broke into the premises and assaulted the inmates. Their cries for help drew some neighbours to the place, at whose appearance the ruffians fled. No constable was found before or after the occurrence.

PRATIJNA,
Mar. 25th 1903.

6. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 26th March says :—

A fire in Chittagong town. Fires in Chittagong town are a matter of daily occurrence. The houses being made of bamboos and other combustible substances easily take fire. The authorities of Chittagong town are continually putting off the purchase of a fire engine for want of funds. On the 24th March the Public Works buildings caught fire. No police officer,

JYOTI,
Mar. 26th 1903.

with the exception of one or two constables, was seen at the spot when the fire first broke out. Some gentlemen and school-boys of the place helped to bring out the furniture and valuables from the burning house. When the fire was burning furiously, the Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police came to the place and ordered those gentlemen and school-boys to disperse. This insult did not, however, discourage them, and in spite of it they helped to bring out all the valuables that were in the house.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

7. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 26th March says :—
Neither the Municipality nor the police seems to take any interest in the quarter of Calcutta, called Sankibhang. There is no conservancy arrangement there. The streets there are not regularly watered. The other day knives were freely used in a fracas which took place in that locality, but the police did not appear on the scene. No police constable can be found on guard there. About two weeks ago some body murdered a Musalman and left the dead body at the gate of a gentleman's house. The culprit has not yet been detected. The people of the locality have been frightened on this account.

SANJIVANI.

8. In continuation of what has appeared in a previous issue, the same paper publishes a correspondence to the following effect :—

The Chaukidari tax.

I live in village Diganga under thana Kalaroa in the Khulna district. The total population of the village is not more than 100, all of whom are Musalmans, and most of whom are so poor that they find it difficult to make both ends meet. These people have to maintain three chaukidars. These chaukidars are never found to go on rounds at night. I am a teacher in the village, and with my small income I find it difficult to maintain my large family, and yet I have to pay Re. 1-4 as chaukidari tax every year. I have a nephew who cannot earn even one meal a day. He also has to pay Re. 1 as chaukidari tax. Sarapadi Sardar has some agricultural lands, but he has a very large family to maintain. He has to pay income tax and also Rs. 4 as chaukidari tax. If any one fails to pay the chaukidari tax the other villagers have to pay it for him. What is the use of maintaining three chaukidars when one would be sufficient for the village ?

RANGPUR DIK-
PRAKASH,
Mar. 26th 1903.

9. The *Rangpur Dikprakash* [Rangpur] of the 26th March says that, though investigations have been made by the police, no clue has yet been obtained to the culprits who committed a number of thefts in Rangpur town.

If enquiries are conducted with promptness, there can be some likelihood of a clue being obtained to the stolen properties. The daroga generally comes to investigate two or three or sometimes even five or six days after the occurrence, and thieves generally get ample opportunity for disposing of their booty.

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

10. A correspondent writing in the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March from Rupganj, Narail, Jessore district, complains that although there is a separate steamer ghat at Rupganj, the steamers of the Khulna-Magura line anchor at the bathing ghat at that place, thereby causing serious inconveniences to the public. Remonstrances have proved of no avail with the steamers' *khaliasi*.

HITAVADI.

11. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Gopalpur, Jamalpur thana, Burdwan district, complains that though the residents of the village have been regularly paying the chaukidari tax, the village has never got the

services of a chaukidar. The village should get a chaukidar of its own.

12. Another correspondent of the same paper draws attention to the depredations of tigers in Mathbaria in the Backergunge district. The animals have killed large numbers of cattle and goats and also some men, and have mauled many men.

NIHAR,
Mar. 31st, 1903.

13. A correspondent of the *Nihar* [Contai] of the 31st March says that some mischievous people are frightening the villagers of Ramnagar. They set fire to houses on slight provocation. The other day they set fire to the houses of two employés of the local zamindars, which were thus burnt down with all their belongings. The police should punish the incendiaries.

14. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 31st March says that for the last few days a band of up-country men are gambling publicly in Barabazar, Mymensingh town. Many gentlemen and even school-boys are found to attend the gambling house, and many poor men have lost there everything that they possessed. It is said that the men have got permission from the District Magistrate to gamble publicly. If so, was the District Magistrate right in giving them such permission?

CHARU MIHIR,
Mar. 31st, 1903.

15. The same paper says that a serious riot took place in village Ram-bhadrapur under thana Phulpur in the Mymensingh district, and one Musalman was killed and three were wounded. The cause of the riot was gambling.

CHARU MIHIR,

The Government should not permit gambling in the mufassal.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

16. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 24th March says that the first and second Munsifs of Mymensingh town not being invested with the powers of Small Cause Court Judges, all Small Cause Court cases are filed in the third Munsif's Court. As the third Munsif is lying ill for some time, much mismanagement has been caused in his Court. A Munsif with Small Cause Court powers is therefore much needed in this place.

CHARU MIHIR,
Mar. 24th, 1903.

Want of a Munsif with Small Cause Court powers in Mymensingh town.

17. The same paper says that it will be a great inconvenience to the people of Sherpur, a famous town of the Mymensingh district, if the local Munsif's Court be removed to the Jamalpur subdivision in the same district. Sherpur, though only 10 or 12 miles distant from Jamalpur, is separated from it by two rivers. In the rainy season one of these rivers, the Seri, becomes a quarter of a mile broad, and the other, Brahmaputra, becomes half a mile broad.

CHARU MIHIR.

The jurisdiction of the Sherpur subdivision extends up to the Garo Hills, which are about 40 or 50 miles distant from the town. Consequently the distance between the Garo Hills and Jamalpur is 50 or 60 miles, a distance which cannot be travelled in any conveyance owing to the want of good roads. The inhabitants of the Garo Hills will be much inconvenienced if they have to go to Jamalpur for a law suit. It is not desirable that heavy expenses should be incurred for a suit of small value.

HINDU RANJIKI,
Mar. 25th, 1903.

18. The *Hindu Ranjika* [Rajshahi] of the 25th March says that Babu Ambika Charan Mukerji, the Munsif of Nowgong in the Rajshahi district, tries cases whimsically. Though witnesses may be present and applications for their examination may be made, he dismisses suits for default. About 50 appeals have been filed against his decisions. The following is an order given by him:—

ORDER SHEET,

IN THE COURT OF THE MUNSIF OF NOWGONG,

No. 23 of 1902 Title, Jadunath Kasya or Gour Chand Mondul.

The plaintiff's application is refused, because the application is not a *bona fide* one. The plaintiff's object seems to me to simply provide for a loophole in appeal. Therefore it appears to me to be quite unnecessary and inadvisable to try the case by examining the witnesses in attendance for the plaintiff. The suit is dismissed for default. The defendants will recover costs.

(Sd.) A. C. MUKHERJI,
1-12-02.

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

19. In continuation of his previous communications on the subject, the Beguserai correspondent of the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March makes the following allegations against Mr. Mahmud Hassan, Munsif of the place:—

1. The Munsif shows great favour to Musalman pleaders, Mukhtears, Amla and Muhrirs. Muhrir Ali Hassan and Amla Nazir Naim are on very

intimate terms with him and are treated with special favour. Last year when the Munsif fled from the town for fear of the plague, he took up his quarters in Nazir Naim's house. Muharrir Taher is also a favourite of the Munsif.

2. On Nazir Naim's representation the Munsif advanced some money to one Baldeo Das Agarwalla to carry on a trade in chillies. The man, however, lost money in the trade, and the Munsif then brought a suit against him and had his property attached even before the disposal of the suit.

3. Great irregularities were committed by the Munsif in the rent suit which was brought by Nazir Naim's sister against Raghu Nath Singh, a tenant of hers. A decree was unjustly given in favour of the plaintiff, but the case has been sent back by the Appellate Court for retrial.

4. A serious complaint against the Nazir in connection with the execution case of Ajodhya Prasad, decree-holders *versus* Kehal Rai, judgment-debtor, was suppressed by the Munsif.

5. Mahafez Alam Ali was not much liked by former Munsifs. He is, however, a great favourite with Mr. Mahmud Hassan. The Munsif has not yet thought fit to report the fact of his loss of eye sight to superior authorities, but makes a *protégé* of his own, named Azhar, who lives in his house as private tutor, to help Alam Ali in his office work without remuneration. The Munsif did his best to screen Alam Ali when it was discovered that a certain application had been lost from the file of case No. 256 of 1902, and although Alam Ali himself admitted that he had made over the paper to a third party.

6. Among the mukhtears, Mr. Mahmud Hassan's special favourites are mukhtears Basarat, Aminuddin, Tabarak, Jahiruddin and Kudrat Kasim. They frequently get commissions, and are appointed guardians *ad litem*.

7. Among the Musalman pleaders, Maulvi Abdulla is Mr. Hassan's great favourite. He has flourished very much in practice since Mr. Hassan came to Begusera.

8. Pleader Arsal Ali, too, is very much favoured by Mr. Hassan. He took out no certificate for practice for the last ten years and had been serving in an indigo factory. But he has recently submitted an application for a certificate with the object of reverting to the profession. Mr. Hassan has permitted him to practice, although the permission of the High Court has not yet been obtained.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Mar. 27th 1903.

9. Referring to the appointment of Judges in the Calcutta High Court, the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says:—

The appointment of Judges to the Calcutta High Court says that no comment against the appointment of the three new Judges is called for. If the Chief Justice

had appointed a Musalman Judge in place of Mr. Amir Ali, he would have shown his impartiality. As the claims of Mr. B. L. Gupta have been overlooked, adverse criticism is being directed from many quarters against the Chief Justice of Bengal.

SRI SRI VISHNU -
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA-BI-ZAR
PATRIKA,
Mar. 25th, 1903

10. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says:—

The cost of Mr. Amir Ali's travel. The Hon'ble Justice Amir Ali has obtained permission of the Government to travel first class by special mail train of the East Indian Railway Company. The cost will be borne by Government. In other words Mr. Amir Ali will enjoy his travel at the expense of the poor Indian tax-payer. Government should not have paid heed to this unjust request of the Judge, and the Judge himself should have felt ashamed to spend public money in this way. But since the Pennell case Mr. Amir Ali has become a favourite of Government.

PEOPLE AND
PRATIVASI,
April 1st, 1903.

11. A correspondent of the *People and Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st April writes as follows:—

The Subdivisional Officer of Barasat and his rumoured transfer. Babu Amritalal Mukharji is the Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Barasat subdivision. We do not know if so able and competent a Magistrate ever sat on the Bench of the Barasat Criminal Court. It is a piece of no common good luck to us that we, the residents of the villages in the Barasat subdivision, are living so happily under the happy regime of Amrita Babu. Committing the care of our property and families to Amrita Babu, we sleep in perfect security at night, trusting to his protection we live abroad, leaving our wives

and children at home, and we walk proudly along the path of justice, entrusting our honour to his protection. We are confident that Amrita Babu will punish the wicked, protect the good, make up family differences, and wipe away any stain that may be cast on respectable households. Amrita Babu takes great pains to survey us with an all-seeing and equal eye, makes us happy by his dispensation of justice, and goes about *incognito* to get at the truth of a matter. Amrita Babu helps the helpless, supports the poor, protects the good, and punishes the wicked. We shall give the public an idea of Amrita Babu's character by referring to a few trivial incidents. One Dukhiram Kapali of village Kasimpur, suffered oppression at the hands of a rich man in connection with his holding. Finding no other remedy he represented his grievance to Amrita Babu, who advised him to submit a petition to him. The man pleading want of funds, Amrita Babu gave him some money out of his own pocket, and righted his wrongs in due course. A rich youth named Sarat Chandra Roy of village Sivalay was ruining himself and his family by youthful indiscretions. Amrita Babu admonished him in court, and thereby reclaimed him. In short, Amrita Babu's virtues defy description. A rumour that he will be transferred has filled everybody in the subdivision with sorrow. We pray Government to grant our prayer by keeping him in Barasat for good.

(d)—*Education.*

23. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 24th March says that the students of the local zilla school have to undergo drill every day at 12 noon. The students come to school at half past 10 in the morning, immediately after breakfast, and they should not be allowed to take heavy exercise so soon after meal. It is very dangerous to health. The Civil Surgeon should be consulted, and another time should be fixed for the exercise.

CHARU MIHIR,
Mar. 24th, 1903.

24. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th March writes as follows:—

Lord Ampthill's Convocation speech. Nothing, it would seem, will serve Lord Ampthill's purpose, but he too must, like Lord Curzon, win renown as an orator. "What so easy as that?" His Lordship, perhaps, says that to himself. If Lord Curzon is the Governor-General, is he not a Governor? If Lord Curzon is young, is he not younger? Then Lord Curzon was only plain Mr. Curzon sometime ago, whereas he has been always a Lord. How is he then inferior to the Governor-General? To this it may be replied that Lord Ampthill may not be as learned, as shrewd, as clever, as sedate, as accomplished and as courteous as Lord Curzon; that Lord Curzon has obtained the Viceroyalty by sheer dint of merit, whereas he has become Governor of Madras by sheer dint of birth; that he is the Governor of Madras simply because he is Lord Ampthill. It requires ability to win renown by making a Convocation speech. But Lord Ampthill was determined to win renown and, failing that, notoriety. He therefore hit upon a simple method of effecting his purpose. That method was nothing more or less than trumpeting his own praise and abusing Indians.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA-BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Mar. 25th, 1903.

But even in abusing Indians, His Lordship has not been able to display originality or ingenuity. The abuse poured forth by him is only a repetition of the stock abuse to which Indians have always been treated by the Anglo-Indian press. We shall not therefore take up our space by criticising it, but content ourselves with quoting a few specimens of his oratorical skill.

His Lordship declared at the very outset that he was there not as a Professor but as Governor. But has His Lordship any of the qualities that a Governor should possess? He has little learning and small experience. The words he has spoken in such an inflated style in the capacity of Governor appear to us to be no better than puerilities.

The writers in the native press are the greatest object of His Lordship's anger. These writers, says he, are men obscure and unknown in society, and University graduates ought not to heed what they say. They are not true friends of their country, they only seek popularity by abusing the officials; abuse of the officials is their occupation, and they know nothing of politics or statesmanship. The only people to whom Lord Ampthill is known in his own

country are, we believe, his father and his mother and his wife, whereas the names of the editors of the leading native newspapers in this country are familiar to men, women and children in this country, and their patriotism is freely admitted by every one in the land. And these men are not friends of their country! It is only a handful of salaried, irresponsible foreign officials, who have transported themselves from their own land for the sake of money alone, are its true friends! None but a child can say such a thing. Nothing, one cannot help thinking, can exceed such impudence. But it is a matter of surprise that such people should be appointed as Governor by the just and wise English Government.

It would ill beseem us to reply to one who has no experience of this country, who has no correct idea of the significance of words, and whose every statement is unreasonable and indicative of inexperience. It is also inexpedient and sometimes dangerous to speak much against inexperienced youths.

Lord Curzon is young, and yet we read his speeches with real pleasure and respectfully, because they contain no abuse of any individual or community and because he is a well-educated, generous, sympathetic and eminent statesman. The proper course for Lord Ampthill was to follow in Lord Curzon's steps. But this would have required ability, and was therefore beyond the capacity of a man like Lord Ampthill. That the Governor of Madras should be unable to curb his tongue, and to use language such as educated people are in the habit of using is a disgrace of the Government.

25. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 25th March, has the following suggestions with reference to the Sanskrit Title Examination:—

Suggestions in regard to the Sanskrit Title Examination.

(1) *Adhyapakas* may be allowed to appear at any examination, but they should not be eligible for stipends.

(2) Examiners should be carefully selected. Every titled pandit is not fit to be an examiner.

(3) The secretaries of any Sanskrit association in a circle should not be allowed to conduct the examinations alone. They should conduct them with the help of officers of the Educational Department.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

The subjects of study in the last two infant classes under the new vernacular scheme.

26. A correspondent named Niranjan Chandra, B.A., writes to the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 26th March that the new system of lower education in Bengal does not prescribe any text-books for the last two infant classes, the students of which are to be taught on

the Kindergarten system and by means of object lessons. As a matter of fact one only teacher has to teach all the four classes of a mufassal lower primary school. It is impossible for him to teach all these classes and at the same time devote considerable time to object lessons in the two infant classes. In the circular, dated the 17th April 1900, the Director of Public Instruction hopes that this difficulty will be overcome with the help of monitors. But the students of the higher classes in a vernacular school who are to be the monitors may not waste their valuable time in teaching the infant classes. Besides this the monitor's acquirements are sure to fall short of the knowledge required to give object lessons under the Kindergarten system. It is also beyond the power of the teacher, who draws not more than Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 a month, to engage paid monitors.

Again, it does not appear to be wise to give technical education instead of first giving general education to little boys. What is the use of giving simple lessons in botany and physiology to little boys? What is the use of telling them what is meant by "সরল রেখা, বক্র রেখা ও কুটিল রেখা?" Little boys, when they will grow up, will learn them much more easily and in much less time. It will be very difficult to make a boy of five to understand what is meant by the word কুটিল। It is sheer waste of precious time to try to give simple geometrical lessons to such little boys. The principle ought to be first to teach them words from general literature and then to give them technical education. It may be said that the object of making little boys understand what is meant by "সরল, বক্র ও কুটিল রেখা" is to develop their power of observation. But this argument does not hold water; because the ideas denoted by "সরল ও বক্র"

রেখা" are generated in their minds as soon as they learn the alphabets, and কুটির রেখা is of no use to them. Again, arrangement has been made to enable little boys to form ideas of hard and soft things, sweet and sour things, black and white colours, &c., with the help of their hands, tongues, eyes, &c., respectively. The Director does not perhaps know that in Bengal the home is a better place to teach these things than the school. The same may be said of the idea of imparting the knowledge of bad smells from the actual observation of decomposed vegetable and animal matter in the school room.

Again, while boys of five are to be given lectures in "মূল, কাণ, পত্র ও তাহাদের সহজ কার্যালয়গতি" those of six are to be taught the simple thing "চক্ষুর সাহায্যে অধিক চারিটি দিক," and while "ভজ-এবণ ও ঘাতমহিলা দ্রব্য" is a subject for the former, the simple subject, "কর্ণ সাহায্যে উচ্চ মুহূর্ষ, দূরস্থ নিকটস্থ শব্দ," is one for the latter, for whom such a difficult subject as "শব্দ হইতে কথিত ভাষার উৎপত্তি" is also a subject of study.

27. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says:—

The new Muhammadan school in Calcutta has been sanctioned by Government and established in Hogal-Kuria, Calcutta, where no Musalman resides. The school ought to be established in a Musalman quarter of the town. Dr. Ross, the Principal of the Calcutta Madrassa, should enquire into the matter.

28. A correspondent writes in the same paper:—

The Nilphamari Sub-Inspector of Schools, Rangpur district, writes:— The District Board of Rangpur should appoint a Musalman Sub-Inspector of Schools in place of the Hindu Sub-Inspector, in the Nilphamari circle of the above district. The inhabitants of the place are Musalmans and a Musalman Sub-Inspector will be suited to them. The present Hindu Sub-Inspector collected subscriptions from the Musalman teachers for the Saraswati Puja and asked them to celebrate it. This is against the Musalman religion. With a Musalman Sub-Inspector this could not have been.

29. The same paper says:—

Dr. Ross has been a valuable acquisition to the Dr. Ross of the Calcutta Calcutta Madrassa. Since his arrival the Madrassa has flourished in every department. He has made special arrangements for teaching history and geography, *hadis* and *tafsir*, in his school. His dealings with the students are exemplary. He sympathises and mixes freely with them, encourages them and gives them instructive advice. Not even educated Musalmans can behave like him. He spends money out of his own pocket to educate poor Musalman boys. He will make the Madrassa a model institution.

30. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that not a few were the vagaries which were committed by the paper-setters at the last F.A. and B.A. Examinations.

The questions set at the recent University Examinations.

A correspondent makes the following complaints:—

(1) The chemistry paper at the F. A. Examination was impossible to answer without a practical training in a laboratory, which, however, is not imparted to F.A. candidates in any college in Bengal. The paper was so difficult that even B.A. candidates could not be expected to answer it properly.

(2) In the first Sanskrit paper at the same examination, a question was set asking the candidates to translate some Sanskrit *slokas* into Sanskrit. The candidates failed to make out what the examiner meant and each candidate answered the question according to his own light.

(3) The mathematics papers at the B.A. Examination were too difficult and too long to be fully answered within the time allotted. Nor were 60 per cent. of the marks, as laid down in the rules, assigned to book articles. In the first paper, the second part of the first question and the ninth question were wrong and the question relating to statical friction was incomplete. In the second paper, only 18 marks were assigned to Astronomy, though the rules assign 40 marks to that subject.

(4) There were two questions in the Psychology paper which the candidates failed to understand.

HIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

Will not vagaries like the above be ever put a stop to? Has no one any responsibility in the matter of setting papers?

HITAVADI
Mar. 27th, 1903

31. A correspondent of the same paper draws attention to the bad state of education in the Pabna town. In that small town there are no less than four Entrance Schools, one second grade college, a girls' school, a Madrassa, two Sanskrit *tols* and almost countless pathsalas. Some of these educational institutions contain only a handful of pupils, and as their whole income is derived from the fees paid by the students, they are in a very bad pecuniary condition. The result is the imparting of bad education by poorly paid teachers and complete absence of discipline, as boys of even very bad moral character are not expelled and unfit boys are promoted every year for fear lest they should leave the school.

BANGAVASI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

32. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th March notices the following irregularities at the last F.A. and B.A. Examinations:

The question papers at the last F.A. and B.A. Examinations.— (1) The second and fourth questions in the pass paper on Botany set at the B.A. Examination were selected from portions which were not prescribed for that examination.

(2) The B.A. Honour papers in Chemistry were very stiff and demanded a very minute knowledge of the subject.

(3) The question on Political Economy in the B.A. pass paper were more difficult than those of the corresponding Honour paper.

(4) The seventh question in the second paper in History was,—“Account for the impermanence of his conquests.” The word “impermanence” is not a current English word.

(5) In the Sanskrit paper set at the F.A. Examination, some Sanskrit *slokus* were required to be translated into Sanskrit. But Sanskrit cannot be translated into Sanskrit.

PEOPLE AND
PRATIVASI,
Mar. 31st, 1903.

33. The *People and Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st March writes in its English columns:— “We are glad to find that the Government of Bengal is fully alive to the importance of female education. Out of a total grant of ten lakhs of rupees for educational purposes in Bengal during the current official year, the Bengal Government has set apart over a lakh for the encouragement of female education. This is as it should be, and the thanks of our people are due to Bengal Government for this grant in aid of female education.”

TRIPURA,
HITAISHI,
Mar. 31st, 1903.

34. A number of pathsala teachers writing from Brahmanbaria, in the Tippera district, in the *Tripara Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 31st March regrets that the educational authorities have departed from their original plan of locating one of the three training schools intended for that district at Brahmanbaria and have established it at Sarail. They should reconsider the matter before a house is built for the school at Sarail. There is no good hostel at Sarail where teachers of all religions may board during their sojourn in the place. The place is also very distant from some parts of the subdivision.

PEOPLE AND
PRATIVASI,
April 1st, 1903.

35. The *People and Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st April says that in this season of plague the Superintendent of the Eden Hindu Hostel in Calcutta shows culpable negligence in the matter of keeping the rooms occupied by the students in a healthy and disinfected condition. His own room is, of course, disinfected every day. Last year one student died of plague in the Hostel, and this year two servants and one sweetmeat-vendor have died of it there. It is also said that the quality of the students' food is becoming worse every day, and its quantity also is being gradually reduced. The attention of the Principal of the Presidency College is drawn to the matter.

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

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

36. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that under the new system of Municipal government in Calcutta the northern division of the town is culpably neglected by the

Municipal authorities. The conservancy is so bad as to make it a torture to walk on the roads. The lanes and bye-lanes are wholly uncared for. The northern division of the town has thus been converted into a hotbed of plague, cholera, dysentery, small-pox, remittent fever, typhoid fever and other epidemics. Matters were very different under the old City Fathers. Everything went on smoothly under them. The conservancy was good. Plagues and pestilences were few and far between. The death-rate was much lower than at present. The condition of the southern division of the town is, however, different. It is an angels' paradise near the filthy helllike slums inhabited by natives.

It is hoped that the Commissioners who have been returned to the Municipal Board in the recent elections will apply themselves to the improvement of the health of the town and hold a special meeting to consider the matter. The virulence of plague may most probably be checked by a better system of conservancy than what exists at present. A number of able, enlightened and sympathising doctors should also be engaged to teach the citizens the plain principles of sanitation and see that they are observed.

37. A correspondent of the *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 25th March says that no good medicines for cholera are kept in the charitable dispensary in the Backergunge district. The charitable dispensary of the village Kaukhali in the Backergunge district. For the last two or three months no medicines have been supplied to the dispensary.

KASIPUR NIVASI.
Mar. 25th, 1903.

38. The *Pratijna* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says:— Under the rules of the Calcutta Municipality no filling up of a tank in the New Road, Kalighat. tank can be filled up with refuse and the sweepings of the streets. But this rule is not observed by the Municipality itself. A piece of low land, just in front of the *Pratijna* office, is now being filled up with refuses and sweepings, the stench from which vitiates the atmosphere in that neighbourhood and the health of the quarter is threatened. Two cases of cholera have occurred. The refuse and sweeping should be at once removed.

PRATIJNA,
Mar. 25th, 1903.

39. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 26th March says that Mr. Kiran Chandra De, the District Magistrate of Faridpur, has given a deathblow to Local Self-Government in that district. Up to this time men belonging to the independent professions have been elected as Commissioners of the Faridpur Municipality. But on the last occasion the District Magistrate himself conducted the general election of Commissioners for the local Municipality. He put forward the *amla* of his Court as candidates for election. No one dared to vote against the Magistrate's men who were easily returned as Commissioners. It is rumoured that these newly-elected Commissioners will elect a Government officer as their Chairman. Local Self-Government is thus in danger in Faridpur. Government should veto this election. The Magistrate was led to take such an active part in the election an account of a conflict which he had with old Commissioners, and in revenge he had his own men returned.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

40. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that there was neither excitement nor hard fighting at the last general Municipal election in Calcutta. None of the old and illustrious Commissioners appeared as candidates. The experience of the new Commissioners is of a very limited character, and tax-payers have nothing to hope from them. Since the resignation of the old Commissioners, the Europeans have become gainers and the poor tax-payers losers. Mr. Greer now reigns over these new Commissioners.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

41. The same paper says:— The Calcutta Municipality does not seem to take any notice of the insanitary condition of the native quarter of the town. Filth is continually accumulating in the streets and the foul gas arising therefrom is tainting the entire locality. Plague cases are on the increase, and low class people are leaving the town.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

42. A correspondent of the same paper says that the pound in Jashai village in the Faridpur district is situated in very low land. There is no shed for cattle and no fodder and water for the poor animals. The local

Board should take note of this.

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

43. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that while plague has been raging almost in every quarter of Calcutta

Complaints against the Calcutta Municipality.

and rewards have been proclaimed for ascertaining the number of plague deaths, little attention is paid to the conservancy of the town. There are streets and lanes which are not served by the Conservancy Department for two or three days together. Attention is specially drawn to Bhowani Charan Dutt's Lane and Hara Dhol's Lane.

Heaps of stones are yet lying by the side of the streets which were repaired months ago. The lighting is also unsatisfactory. In many lanes not only is the lighting bad, but the condition of the lamps is wretched. The authorities in fact pay no attention to the comforts and convenience of native rate-payers.

HITAVADI.

44. The same paper says that the other day a decree for Rs. 500 was passed in the Calcutta Small Cause Court against the Calcutta Municipality in a suit brought by a gentleman who, in November last, sustained

personal injuries and damages to his carriage and horse in consequence of the neglect of the Municipality in properly guarding and lighting an excavation made in a certain street. But this failed to bring the Municipality to its senses, and recently a gentleman who was driving after dusk along Roghu Nath Chatterji's Street came to grief at one of the excavations made in that street for laying water-pipes and left unguarded and unlighted. If this case also comes before a law Court, the Municipality will have to pay damages, but as the money will come from the pockets of the rate-payers and not from the pockets of the Municipal employés whose neglect led to the accident, the latter will not be brought to their senses.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

SRI SRI VISHNU-
PRITA-O-
ANANDA-BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

45. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says:—

The land revenue rate.

There has been some falling off in the land revenue collections of the Government, because there has not been a full rent collection owing to want of timely rainfall. This is an argument in favour of a reduction of the land revenue. It is better to reduce the rate of the land revenue than to collect oppressively, which invariably helps to bring about famine.

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

46. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March says that the Settlement Inspectors, Rakhal Babu and Doulat Singh, employed on the settlement work in the Sonthal Parganas district committed great oppression on the people in realising subscriptions for festivities in connection with the late *Dol jatra* festival. Rakhal Babu realised about Rs. 150 from the residents of Karegram, and in so doing practised great *zulm* on some respectable gentlemen and even widows. Very serious complaints have also been heard against Doulat Singh, who did not hesitate to resort to even brute force in realising subscriptions. But the subscriptions realised are suspected not to have been properly spent. The people of Madhupur thana are too poor to get two meals a day, and these unwarranted extortions pressed heavily upon them. The Settlement Officer, though ready to redress the grievances of the raiyats in other matters, did not check the highhandedness of his subordinates in this.

(g)—Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.

BANGAVASI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

47. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th March says:—

A railway complaint.

An intermediate class compartment in the up-train leaving Howrah at 1-14 P.M. (Calcutta time) was ordered to be reserved by the correspondent in due time. On the 9th March, the correspondent came to the Howrah station in proper time, but to his astonishment found

that no intermediate class compartment had been labelled "reserved." He represented the matter to the station-master who could only put him in a servants' carriage attached to a second class carriage. He had thus to travel in a third class servants' compartment though he paid intermediate class fare. The compartment was ordered to be reserved 48 hours before the starting of the train, and the authorities were reminded of it about 47 minutes before the train started.

The correspondent goes on to say that on his return he observed that no starting bell was given in Memari, Debipur, and Bainchi for the starting of the train. On enquiry he found that the power of starting trains had been taken from station-masters and given to guards and drivers of the trains, who gave a whistle at the starting. This arrangement will cause great inconvenience to the public, especially to female passengers who will not know the exact starting time.

48. The same paper observes that though the Bengal-Duars Railway has been opened and though trains are running regularly over the line, the line has not yet been fenced on any side. Cattle are being continually run over by trains.

A railway line and a road in the Rangpur district.

The road leading from Kakina to Harah Sar Bil is in a state of disrepair. As this road is much used for traffic in Rangpur, it should be repaired before the rainy season commences. It becomes simply impassable in the rains.

48. It is said, says the *People and Pratibasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st April, that on the 19th March last a ticket-collector, named Strange, assaulted the 2nd clerk of the office of the Chief Medical Officer, Presidency Division, in the Howrah station on the East Indian Railway, snatched away his ticket and at last handed him over to the police. It is said that Strange's motive was to be avenged for an occurrence of the previous day when he was attacked by a number of daily passengers for having gratuitously assaulted an old respectable inhabitant of Bali. The head ticket-collector in the station is said to be a man of a very haughty disposition, and his example is followed by his assistants.

BANGAVASI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

PEOPLE AND
PRATIBASI,
April 1st, 1903.

(h)—General.

49. The *Bikas* [Barisal] of the 22nd March says that though some of the measures passed by the Government are not agreeable to the public, yet there is no doubt that Lord Curzon has earned the gratitude of the whole country by reducing the salt and income-taxes. May God bless the Emperor and his representative in India!

50. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 24th March says that Lord Curzon has shown his independence and sympathy with the people of India by reducing the income-tax and the salt-tax. He has earned the gratitude of the people by showing a regard for the Indian National Congress, which has been demanding a reduction of those taxes for the last few years.

51. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 25th March says that the reduction of the income-tax will benefit only those who are in receipt of fixed salaries. Members of independent professions, such as Vakils, Mukhtars, Doctors, traders and others will not be benefited by the measure, for they will be harassed by the income-tax assessors. Even those whose annual income is below Rs. 600, will be harassed by these men.

52. The same paper doubts whether the small reduction of the salt duty will benefit the poor retail buyer in the village. The villager keeps no information regarding the causes which regulate the prices of commodities. The small reduction will therefore benefit the wily and deceitful shopkeeper instead of the poor villager. Seventy-six years ago Mr. Tucker, Accountant-General to the Board of Directors, said: "The salt merchants had not afforded to the inhabitants of many of the districts a corresponding reduction in the retail price." Government ought to have considered the matter and ensured reduction of the retail price.

BIKAS,
Mar. 22nd, 1903.

BURDWAN
SANJIVANI,
Mar. 24th, 1903.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

JYOTI,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

53. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 26th March says that the reduction of the income and salt taxes has been made in accordance with the wishes of the public. This is a good and beneficent measure of Lord Curzon's.

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

54. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 27th March has been astonished at the Government's reply to Rai Tarini Prasad's

Prostitutes near educational institutions. interpellation in the Bengal Council drawing its

attention to the neighbourhood of the educational institutions in Bankipur and Bhagalpur being infested by prostitutes and asking for a remedy. Is the Government of a country, in which a special law can be passed to impose a tax on cloth factories for the protection of the foreign cloth trade, in which no delay is made to pass a sedition law in order to cow down a loyal subject people, in which new laws and regulations are every day enacted for the benefit of tea-planters, really incapable of passing a law to regulate the location of houses of ill-fame? Who shall believe that a Government, which has girded up its loins to revolutionise the educational system of the country for some benefit to the student community which may be, after all, merely fanciful, is unable to remove houses of ill-fame from the neighbourhood of educational institutions? Is it impossible to pass in India a law similar to the one in force in Cambridge and Oxford, which keeps out prostitutes from those two towns?

HITAVADI.

55. The same paper writes as follows:—

In introducing the Budget for 1903-1904 into the Budget for 1903-1904. the Supreme Council, Sir Edward Law expressed great satisfaction at the increase of revenue for a succession of years, in spite of the prevalence of plague and famine in the country. He took it as a sign of the prosperous condition of the country that in spite of the evils referred to, the public exchequer has been able to make a saving of eighteen crores of rupees in the course of the past four years. The writer, however, fails to be convinced by the Finance Member's argument. To him the prosperous condition of the finances means that the Government has been heartless enough to exact from the subject people, though suffering from the direst calamities, their full dues. The artificial raising of the value of the rupee, again, though it has benefited the Government which has large gold liabilities to meet, has done not a little harm to the Indian masses. The rupee, in which the raiyat has to pay his rent, has been made dearer, but no corresponding reduction has been made in the amount of the rent. The result is that the raiyat has to pay to Government more than its due and has to starve and die after that. Under these circumstances, the prosperous condition of the finances cannot be regarded as a thing to be congratulated upon.

The reduction of the salt-tax would have been as much a matter of congratulation to the lower classes as the reduction of the income-tax has been to the middle class, if Government had been able to see its way to reduce the salt-tax by ten annas per maund, that is to say, by one pice per seer, instead of by only eight annas per maund. Retail traders will now reduce the price of salt per seer not by one but only by half a pice and will therefore benefit themselves to the extent of three annas per maund by a reduction of the tax, the whole of which ought to have gone to lighten the burden of the poor taxpayer. It is true, as Sir Edward Law said, that improved means of communication having reduced the cost of transmission, traders may be expected with a reduction of the salt-tax by eight annas, to reduce the price of salt by one pice per seer. But there is no doubt that in many places the reduction will benefit the trader more than the consumer. And even this small reduction is not a reduction made for good, but may be nullified whenever Government has need for more revenue.

HITAVADI.

56. The same paper says that the persons who have received favours at the hands of Mr. Badshah, Postmaster-General, Bengal, failing to find an answer to the charges which were published in this paper against that officer, are sounding his praise in other papers, saying that he is an able, active and intelligent officer. But they have not ventured to say that the charges published in this paper were either untrue or unjust.

The writer will be glad to know what proof of his ability Mr. Badshah has given in the Postal Department; what special service he has rendered to the public; in what way he has improved the condition of his subordinates; what improvement he has effected in the Department. So far as the writer is aware, Mr. Badshah has rendered no special service either to the public or to the employés of the Department. He has particularly benefited only a number of Eurasian youths and girls. Mr. Badshah's apologists praise him for the attention he pays to the complaints of the public. But were former Postmasters-General indifferent or deaf to the complaints of the public? The good name of the Postal Department was not formed in a day; and it would certainly not have possessed to-day the good name which it enjoys, if former Postmasters-General had treated the complaints of the public with indifference. If, therefore, the statement of the apologists be true, all that can be said of Mr. Badshah's work in this respect is that it has been satisfactory, but no special praise can be due to him for discharging what is an essential duty of a Postmaster-General. A Postmaster-General who does not do that duty incurs blame, but one who does it earns no praise thereby.

But assuming that Mr. Badshah deserves praise for being attentive to public complaints, can even this praise balance the blame which attaches to him for his arbitrariness in filling up vacancies and giving promotions? In judging Mr. Badshah, the first thing to be determined is whether the facts mentioned in this paper are correct or not. And, if they are found to be correct, the next thing to be determined is whether those facts do not prove Mr. Badshah's unjust behaviour and arbitrary conduct. If they do, the next thing to be determined is whether an officer like him is fit to be placed in charge of a Department and appointed as Excise Commissioner.

The writer then gives a number of cases in which Mr. Badshah has again made or proposed to make supersessions in giving promotions, the supersessions being made or proposed to be made in favour of Mrs. Allen, his personal clerk, Mr. O'Lawlin, Mr. Ryan, Mrs. Bray and Mr. Sebasto.

Mr. Love, Superintendent in the Postmaster-General's office, is allowed to live on the office premises without paying any rent. He has so lived for a year in contravention of the Public Works Department Code.

A whimsical officer like Mr. Badshah ought not, in fact, to be placed in charge of a department. He is believed to be a very good clerical officer and he ought to be appointed as the Deputy Director-General of the Post Offices, which post is just now vacant, instead of being appointed as the Excise Commissioner of Bengal.

57. A Dacca correspondent of the same paper regrets that, though Government makes large profits from the Postal department, it does not treat the employés of the department with kindness and consideration. A clerk has to enter the department on Rs. 15 a month and to remain on that salary for about a dozen years. He then gets a lift to a post with Rs. 20 a month. This generally proves his last promotion, for he has, generally, to retire before he can enter the grade.

The condition and prospects of the peons are also very miserable. Though their work has almost doubled within the last few years, their salaries still range between eight to nine rupees a month. They do not also get sufficient boat allowance nor do they get this allowance in time. The rates of the peon's salaries were fixed when food-grains, oil, salt, &c., were much cheaper than they are now and have not been since revised. Then, again, though court peons and employés in the Police department get a month's leave on full pay once every year, the privilege is denied to postal peons. The Inspector of Munshiganj in the Dacca district has reduced by one month the time for which peons used to get boat allowance.

The post office premises in the mufassal are in most cases wretched huts, invariably in a dilapidated condition, and containing no cook-rooms, bed-rooms or privies for the use of the post-masters.

The rate of commission which is allowed to post-masters on the sale of stamps has been reduced from one anna to one pice in the rupee. The rate should be half an anna in the rupee.

HITAVADI,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

BANGAVASI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

58. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th March says that the reduction of the income-tax will bring relief to many poor men. This measure will benefit about three lakhs and 15 thousand of the Indian poor, who will certainly remember the King-Emperor and Lord Curzon in their daily prayers.

The reduction of the salt tax will also benefit India. The Government should arrange for notifying this reduction to the people of India, either by beat of drum or by the distribution of hand-bills circulated in every village. The Government should keep an eye on the traders so that they may not sell salt at a high price. The reduction of the salt tax will lead to an increased sale of the commodity, and Government will not be a loser by the concession.

MISHTABASHI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

59. The *Mishtabashi* [Calcutta] of the 28th March says that the reduction of the income and salt taxes has been a great boon to the people of India. These two measures alone, if not any others, will commemorate the rule of Lord Curzon in India. Thousands of poor people will bless him. We thank Lord Curzon for his political foresight

PEOPLE AND
PRATIVASI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

60. The *People and Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th March writes in its English columns:—

The Viceroy's Budget speech. "We cannot join in the congratulation which is being offered to His Excellency the Viceroy on his Budget speech. His Excellency's former speeches gave us a better idea of his temper and ability than the two recently delivered. The latter seem to be the outcome of a temper ruffled, and a mind exasperated; the reason no longer works on facts, but glides glibly over the slippery ground supplied by imagination, there is no longer the logical conclusion or inference of a clear-sighted judge, the advice or exhortation of a benevolent preacher, but the impassioned opinionative display of an advocate's rhetoric. The reasoning does not convince, but the sting pricks and pains. The dogmatism has no support, while the reluctance to acquiesce in it is censured. Do these go to make up a good speech? We are told that the Berars were taken because circumstances render it necessary, but no attempt was made to meet the charges brought against the Government by Lord Stanley of Alderly. We are told that the Government have no desire to place high education under their heel, but there is no attempt at explaining why then the Lieutenant-Governor should be made the Rector, or the Director of Public Instruction the Chairman of the Syndicate. His Excellency tells us of his determination to reform the police, but at the same time intimates that the low *morale* of the people stands in the way of a reform worth the name. If the people from whom the police were to be recruited and amongst whom they were to act were so many saints, Lord Curzon might achieve an easy distinction, but the reformer has always to combat with these difficulties, and the low *morale* or any such disadvantage is never made any excuse by those who know their business. What was the necessity of gratuitously wounding the feeling of the people by referring to their low *morale*? We are what we are and one who pretends to elevate us had rather give up his pretension than plead such a lame excuse.

"There is the authoritative pronouncement that the Delhi Darbar has deep political significance, but no attempt to meet the argument that kind treatment and good Government would do far more to enhance British prestige and perpetuate British rule than a thousand such pageants. The Delhi Darbar was an occasion when race hatred and contempt for the natives ran rampant and the hearts it has gladdened and conciliated are far less than those it has broken and lacerated. So far as we can see the Delhi Darbar has further strained the relation between the Europeans and natives.

"His argument in favour of increased military activity which is being made so much of in certain quarters is not so convincing to us at any rate. On the contrary, we see that it is a clear case of one being beaten at one's own weapons. We never believed that the British were here on a philanthropic Mission; that they should do nothing beyond attending to domestic cases; they are at liberty to maintain the British dominion in those parts of Asia where it has for long been established. We have contended only that let not India be fleeced in the name of justice and fair play to pay for the maintenance of British dominion. If the Imperial Government has set apart the Indian

Exchequer for meeting the expenditure of territorial expansion, let it be distinctly known and there will be no further misunderstanding on this point."

A cartoon on the reduction of the salt-tax. 61. The same paper contains a cartoon under the heading;—

"Expert opinion

on

The Reduction of Salt-tax.

A sop to Cerberus."

The cartoon represents a European, standing most probably for Lord Curzon, who has thrown a pinch of salt towards a native, probably Babu Surendranath Banerjee, who views this act with astonishment, discomfiture and disgust in his whole aspect and attitude.

62. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 28th March says that the existing system of *begár* in the Punjab is very oppressive.

The *begár* system in the Punjab. It is a pity that the civilized English should be staunch advocates of this barbarous practice. Mr. Thorburn once strongly protested against it, but to no effect. Of late another Englishman has brought to light several cases of oppression in connection with the *begár* system, but for this he has been sentenced by the Jullundar Court to pay a fine of Rs. 150. Instead of putting a stop to this inhuman practice, Government has gone the length of fining one who protested against it.

63. The *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 30th March writes in its English columns:—

The Budget statement.

"The most noticeable feature of this year's Budget statement is the remission, however partial, of the salt-tax and the raising of the taxable minimum of the Income-tax from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. That these remissions will benefit the poorer classes of His Majesty's Indian subjects admits of no doubt. The severity of these taxes is felt by the poor middle classes and the petty traders of the country, and if only the office underlings will approach the subject in the spirit in which these remissions are granted by our noble-hearted Viceroy, Lord Curzon, then and then only any real benefit will accrue to those for whom they are intended and who stand in such urgent need of them. But, as fate would have it, even these small mercies, so humanely ordered, do not reach the parties for whom they are intended in actual practice. And we must say we are not without our misgivings in the present instance. We will explain what we mean in the following lines:—

"We will take up the Income tax, the taxable minimum of which has been raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. Nothing is more desirable than this. We are on principle a supporter of this direct tax, so long as it does not touch the pocket of the middle classes and the petty traders. It is by these two latter classes that the oppressive nature of the tax is sorely felt, and the sooner they are relieved, the better. But, as we have said, unless the persons upon whom will devolve the duty of giving effect to this remission view the matter in the same spirit as has actuated the higher authorities to grant this much-needed reform, no appreciable relief will actually accrue to the poor people whom the tax presses heavily. Where is the guarantee that the local officers entrusted with the working of the measure will not, in their zeal for increased revenue, try to prove, by having recourse to all sorts of vexatious and tedious processes, that the vast majority of the classes have incomes up to Rs. 1,000. The incentive for doing this will be very great indeed—the local officials will try to prove by actual result that the Government estimate of loss of revenue by the proposed remission was based upon no accurate data and will claim special credit and promotion for achieving what was considered impossible. It is only the clerks and servants who receive fixed pay from Government and other private parties will enjoy the benefit without any hitch. We will, however, prefer to judge by result. We will wait for the actual result of this year's working of the Income-Tax Department.

"The case of the salt-tax is worse still. Here we have to deal with the all-powerful English merchants. It is to be noted that the Liverpool and

PEOPLE AND
PRATIVASI,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

BHARAT MITRA,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Mar. 30th, 1903.

Cheshire salt merchants have long been crying for the reduction of the Government duty on salt. That this agitation on the part of the salt-manufacturers of England was carried on from year to year from disinterested motives, we confess, we are not prepared to believe. The matter stands thus: The Liverpool and Cheshire merchants import salt and the Indian Government impose upon every maund of salt imported a duty of Rs. 2.8. Now add to this the cost and profit of the manufacturers. Salt is perhaps the only commodity which is equally used by all, the rich and the poor. So the benefit will be equally enjoyed by all classes. But will the salt merchants agree to this arrangement? What is there to show that the small relief granted by our generous Viceroy will not be swallowed up by the several classes of middle men between the manufacturer and the consumer? Only the wholesale traders will probably reap the benefit of the reduction; to the poor peasant who is compelled by circumstances to buy in small quantities, say two pice worth of salt at a time, the benefit will not be appreciable. So the benefit is likely to be enjoyed by the upper classes and the wholesale merchants."

64. The *Charu Mihir* (Mymensingh) of the 31st March says that the reduction of the salt-tax will not benefit the poor.

The reduction of the salt-tax.

Only wholesale European dealers and retail native dealers will be benefited by the measure. As Government has not fixed the price of salt, the dealers may keep the price of it the same as before. The Government will suffer loss owing to this reduction, and yet the people will not get their salt at a reduced price.

III.—LEGISLATION.

65. The *People and Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 28th March writes in its English columns:—

Interpellations by the native members of the Legislative Councils.

"Our representatives in the Councils can ask the Government 'why have they done this or that', demanding from them a satisfactory explanation of their conduct, if not an apology or an expression of repentance for going astray from the plain path of duty and fair dealing. But the replies which the Secretaries to the Government generally vouchsafe to the questions popularly known under the dignified appellation of interpellation far from being a satisfactory explanation of the wrong doing seem to suggest that it is sheer audacity on our part to claim to know, the 'how' and 'why' of what the Government do. We are told not to assume dark conspiracies, but when we quote verse and chapter to show that our paternal Government are not as good as their words, that their policies and professions look very well on paper, but bear a very remote relation to their actual practice, a reply is flung at us, which only adds insult to injury. It is this insincerity of the Government which embarrasses us more than anything else.

"We know that the British Government is only human, and we are not so foolish as to take it at its words, when it says that it will be saintly in its treatment towards the governed. Nor do we call it unjust when it shows only a slight tendency to support the claims of the Europeans and to overlook their failings. We are accustomed to relative justice, and this is what we demand from the British Government. For instance, we do not contend for a moment that the British Government should always be altruistic in its motives, that it should only have the trouble of governing an alien race and leave the benefit to be enjoyed by them only. It is entitled to the lion's share and that it shall enjoy. But an animal like the lion has some superior instincts. It is always indulgent to the weak and the imbecile and feel it derogatory to enjoy itself at their cost. It does not forego its own comfort and enjoyment, but it never grudges the weak and the resourceless a small share of their booty. It is because we credit the British Government with such a magnanimous spirit that we approach them with prayers and demands which might otherwise be set down as sheer impertinence. The British instinct is for Self Government, it likes to be governed by collective wisdom. Wherever the lot of the Britisher may have been cast, he carries with him the traditions of his race. It is only an instinctive tendency to be faithful to these traditions that has led the British Government to introduce a little of Self-Government.

in our country. It was only natural that the unsophisticated English administrator in governing an alien race would think of being backed up by indigenous advice and experience. Introducing Self-Government and allowing the people of the land a greater and greater share in the administration of their country was only a move in the right direction. The British statesman was formerly only too ready to welcome native interference and assistance. We remember to have come across in Chesney's 'Indian Polity' an expression of regret for not finding constituencies whom to ask to send representatives to the council. But those days are gone. The English official can no longer brook the native interference and audacity. The Government is being run on the old line. There are the councils, there are the native members and their interpellations. But the official autocrat who has known what it is to enjoy power alone does no longer retain the noble instincts of a responsible ruler, with his respect for public opinion and dread of public criticism but has developed into a petty tyrant, with unbounded indignation at the impertinence of those who by providential dispensation must tamely submit to what they do without questioning its propriety or otherwise.

"This is why Self-Government is supposed to be an anachronism by the present official class. This is why the native has been sought to be sent about his business, and this is why interpellation is a mere mockery in the council, inasmuch as the information wanted is mostly withheld, and evasive and contemptuous replies are always given. The Managers of the State Railways hold a conference, whose object might be negatively described to drive away the natives from Railway service, the Government avows its knowledge of the whole thing, sees through its utter mischievousness and wants us to understand that the Government is an abstract something which dissociates itself from what its high officials do. Why should the Government seek to make a fool of us? It is high time they told us in plain terms 'this is what we do, this is how we seek to run the British Government, our professions and policies notwithstanding, you do not understand our plain hints, what can we do for you?'"

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

66. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* [Burdwan] of the 24th March notices the death of Mr. Caine, and says that he was a well-wisher and a real friend of the poor people of

The late Mr. Caine. India. With him has passed away the happiness of the poor men of India. By his death India has lost a great supporter in Parliament.

67. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 26th March has a highly eulogistic obituary notice of Mr. Caine.

The late Mr. Caine. 68. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 26th March notices the death of Mr. Caine, and prays that he may lie in his grave in peace with the heartfelt and sincere blessings of three hundred millions of the Indian people.

69. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 27th March notices the death of Mr. Caine and says:—

The late Mr. Caine. Humble people like us will keep your memory fresh in their minds and shed tears for you. We have no other means of expressing our gratitude than by means of our tears. Grateful India will never forget the ties of gratitude with which you have bound her. The inhabitants of the vast expanse of country from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin and from the Indus to the Irrawaddy, are mourning for you. They are sending messages of condolence to your relatives, and expressing sympathy for them. They are praying for the peace of your soul.

70. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 28th March says that, in his Convocation speech, His Excellency the Governor of Madras described the editors of native papers as a set of people unknown to the public. The manner in which he delivered his speech fully showed that he wanted to equal Lord Curzon in point of ability and acquirement. He owes his position as Governor of Madras solely to his family connection. If merit be tested by qualifications and acquirements, he must remain far behind Lord Curzon.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Mar. 24th, 1903.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

JYOTI,
Mar. 26th, 1903.

SAMAY,
Mar. 27th, 1903.

BHARAT MITRA,
Mar. 28th, 1903.

URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPAKA.
Mar. 14th, 1903,
&c., &c.

UTKALDIPAKA.

GARJATBASINI,
Mar. 14th, 1903.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Mar. 4th, 1903.

UTKALDIPAKA,
Mar. 14th, 1903.

GARJATBASINI,
Mar. 14th, 1903.

UTKALDIPAKA,
Mar. 14th, 1903.

UTKALDIPAKA.

UTKALDIPAKA.

UTKALDIPAKA,

71. The *Utkal Dipika* [Cuttack] of the 14th March states that there is no rain, the sky is clear and the midday is warm. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 14th March

states that though the sky is cloudy, there is no rain. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 4th March states that there is mist every morning.

72. The *Utkal Dipika* [Cuttack] of the 14th March states that the general health of the Cuttack town is good. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that fever prevails in that part of the Cuttack district.

73. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 14th March states that cattle-pox is doing much injury to cattle in the Talcher State.

74. The same paper is sorry to state that a tiger has killed many calves and goats in the Talcherghurh. The Dhenkanal correspondent of the same paper is glad to

learn that a tiger was bagged by a *shikari* in village Benalia of that State. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 4th March is glad to note that a royal tiger was killed at Jamkunda in the Balasore district.

75. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 14th March and the *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 14th March take much pleasure in depicting that trait in His Excellency the Viceroy's character that prompted him to do justice to the late sarishtadar of the Bogra Collectorate, who

had been dismissed on insufficient or unjust grounds, and regret that the Viceroy has very little time to right other personal wrongs, though their number is not few.

76. Referring to the vacancy in the Dewanship of the Daspalla Tributary State, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 14th March requests the Superintendent of the Tributary States to pay personal attention to the matter and appoint a competent man inasmuch as the previous Dewans did not prove successful. The writer fails not to point out the quarters where desirable recruits can be had.

77. The same paper gives a short account of the tour of His Honour the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Orissa, and promises to notice in a future issue the addresses presented and the replies given.

78. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that a certain number of cultivators in that subdivision of the Cuttack district, who executed kabuliyaats to pay water-rates, got water when it was too late to save their crops, while others of the same subdivision,

who had executed similar kabuliyaats, got no water at all. Both of them are now charged full rates, and steps are being taken to realise the full amount due from them. The writer contends that they deserve remissions to a certain extent and that the canal authorities should not overlook this.

29. The Bodhapur correspondent of the same paper states that there was a ferry-boat at the junction of Thoriapara and Paikan on the Taldanda Canal, and that somehow or other the ferry-boat service has been discontinued. This has imposed untold sufferings on the people of the neighbourhood, whose distress and inconvenience on that account know no bounds. The correspondent urges that the Superintending Engineer should at once supply a ferry-boat and remove the grievances before it is too late, for the place is a very important one, inasmuch as thousands are required to cross the canal at that point every day.

80. Referring to the approaching election of Municipal Commissioners for the Municipality of Calcutta, the same paper is sorry to note that certain objectionable provisions of the Act by which that Municipality is governed are allowed to exist, though the rate-payers protested against the same with great unanimity, and observes that Government should take away those provisions from the Statute if it has a mind to encourage Local Self Government.

81. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 14th March is sorry to learn that a station named Motang lying in the State of Dhenkanal, which affords rest-houses to travellers from Angul, Talcher and Cuttack, is infested with thieves and robbers, who attack travellers at night with great impunity. The writer hopes that the Manager of Dhenkanal will attend to this without loss of time.

GARJATBASINI,
Mar. 14th, 1903.

Highway robbers in the Dhenkanal State.

82. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 11th March does not approve of the provisions of the Tea Cess Bill, and is of opinion that the sale of tea will be impeded thereby.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Mar. 11th, 1903,

83. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 14th March supports the petition of the residents of Puri to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, praying for the maintenance of discipline and the preservation of peace in the Puri temple with the aid of Pandas and

UTKALDIPAKA,
Mar. 14th, 1903.

What the arrangement for the management of the Puri temple should be.

Pariarees, who, though they need the help and control of an able manager, are religious, popular and respectable, and not with the aid of the police, who will be simply out of their element in a place like the temple. The editor agrees with the petitioners that the labours of the Puri Temple Commission are incomplete, for they did not take the evidence of the temple servants, the Mahantas of the local Maths, the Pandits of Muktimandap and other religious heads of Puri, and did not examine the system of discipline that prevails at present in that temple. Consequently the public are of opinion that the report of the Commission must necessarily be incomplete and unsatisfactory, and that Government will necessarily be led to adopt an erroneous policy if it depended in any way on the conclusions arrived at by the incomplete labours of the said Commission. It will be a great mistake to introduce the police element into the internal management of the temple, for the police are dreaded and looked upon with contempt. The police can never command that confidence, respect, love and feeling which the presence of a Panda in his true garb inspires in the minds of the pilgrims, and though the present generation of Pandas has, along with other parts of the Hindu hierarchy, to a great extent, deteriorated, they have not as yet lost all their prestige. The Panda is still the messenger of Jagannath. He invites His votaries and leads them on to His sanctuary. He chronicles the history of every Hindu family in India and lives upon the gifts of the worshippers of the god. He alone knows how to manage Hindu women and children. He shares in the weal and woe of the worshippers. He has a firm footing in the heart of the Hindu Somaj. No one can deny his position. No legislation can impair or lower his god-given prestige. Government should always be slow in countenancing any measure that may affect the Hindu women or Hindu religion in any way. What is required is the appointment of a good and able manager, who will make the existing machinery work in a better way.

UTKALDIPAKA,
Mar. 21st, 1903.

84. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 21st March states that the days are becoming warmer day by day.

UTKALDIPAKA.

The weather in Orissa.

85. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that cholera is

UTKALDIPAKA.

raging in the Jajpur town, and that some people have already died of the disease.

UTKALDIPAKA.

Health of the Cuttack district.

UTKALDIPAKA.

86. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 18th March notices one death from cholera in the Balasore town.

UTKALDIPAKA.

Cholera in Balasore town.

UTKALDIPAKA.

87. The same paper regrets to note that two pilgrims died of plague at Bhadrak in district Balasore and infers that they must have contracted the disease at Calcutta.

UTKALDIPAKA.

Plague cases at Bhadrak in the Balasore district.

UTKALDIPAKA.

88. The same paper states that small-pox has made its appearance in the Balasore town, but that no fatal results are apprehended.

UTKALDIPAKA.

Small-pox in Balasore town.

UTKALDIPAKA.

89. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 21st March is sorry to learn that green mangoes are perishing in numbers every morning, and that this is due to some unknown cause.

UTKALDIPAKA.

The prospect of the mango crop.

UTKALDIPAKA.

cause.

UTKALDIPAKA.

UTKALDIPAKA.
Mar. 21st, 1903.

90. The same paper takes a sympathetic notice of the demise of Babu Anam Chandra Das, a Government pensioner and a distinguished member of the Native Christian community in Cuttack, whose life-long services were placed at the disposal of that community. The Baptist Mission to which he belonged had recognised this by the grant of a pension.

GARJATBASINI,
Mar. 21st 1903.

91. The *Garjatbasini* [Talcher] of the 21st March is glad to announce that the tiger, which was committing devastations in the Talcherghurh, was at last bagged by the Raja of that State.

GARJATBASINI,

92. The same paper approves of the humane and statesmanlike measures adopted by the Raja of Athmallik by relaxing the rigour of the forest rules and by placing the forest produce at the disposal of his famished subjects.

GARJATBASINI,

93. The same paper is of opinion that the maintenance of discipline and preservation of peace in the Puri Temple should not be made over to the police, as that would be a source of great inconvenience and trouble to the general Hindu public.

ALL THE NATIVE
PAPERS OF ORISSA.

94. All the native papers of Orissa rejoice at the reduction of taxation brought about by the statesmanlike policy of Lord Curzon, and hope that the India Government will steadily pursue this policy by lightening the public burdens as far as that is practicable.

ALL THE NATIVE
PAPERS OF ORISSA.

95. All the native papers of Orissa mourn the demise of Mr. Caine, the Member of Parliament, who did so much for the cause of temperance in the United Kingdom and who fought for the interest of the Indians against an overwhelming majority in that august assembly.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.
Mar. 18th, 1903.

96. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 18th March, which is accustomed to criticise the actions of the Balasore Municipality in a carping spirit, makes, in view of the impending elections in that Municipality, the bold assertion that the principle of Local Self-Government as illustrated by the actions of the Balasore Municipality has proved an entire failure and that the Municipal Commissioners should, in future, take the District Collector or some other high Government officer for their Chairman.

UTKALDIPAKA.
Mar. 21st, 1903.

97. The *Utkal Dipika* [Cuttack] of the 21st March states that the Puri Raja's case in Cuttack is creating a great deal of interest and that the court of the Maulvi, who is trying it, is crowded to suffocation.

UTKALDIPAKA.

98. The same paper draws the attention of the Police Commission to the valuable note, presented to that Commission by Babu Jagamohan Lal, a pensioner in Cuttack, who is said to have pointed out not only the defects of the Police Department, but the remedies by which those defects might be removed.

UTKALDIPAKA.

99. In drawing attention of the public to the proceedings of the annual prize distribution meeting of the Mahakali Pathsala in Cuttack, the same paper observes that the authorities of that girls' school have deserved well of the Hindu public by making the girls go through a course of instruction, essentially Hindu in character, and suggests that each district in Bengal should have a model girls' school of the same type.

UTKALDIPAKA.

100. Referring to the addresses presented to His Honour the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor at Cuttack by the Cuttack Municipality, the Cuttack District Board and other public bodies and the replies given to the same, the same paper feelingly observes that the promise of His Honour to remember Orissa wherever he may be stationed in the wide British Empire was the best portion of his reply as it went straight to the heart of the large audience that received it with approbation. His Honour's promise to prefer the claims of the natives of Orissa in the distribution of Government patronage in Orissa

was also received with general applause. The writer hopes that His Honour will do something to remove the wants of the Ravenshaw College and the Cuttack Survey School.

101. The same paper notices the reception of the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj by the Cuttack Union Club, the Cuttack native community, headed by Mr. M. S. Das and in Cuttack.

The Maharaja of Mayurbhanj, native community, headed by Mr. M. S. Das and the Cuttack *Alochana Sabha*, which formed an interesting supplement to the public ceremonies observed in that town in honour of the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor to meet whom the Maharaja had come over to Cuttack. The Union Club through its President, Mr. B. C. Mitra, was successful in inducing the Maharaja to promise to do something to strengthen the position of that social institution. The meeting of the prominent members of the native community at Mr. M. S. Das's house was a patriotic demonstration and it made the Maharaja declare that he would always try to serve the interests of the Uriyas as far as that lay in his power, and that he would always patronise the most competent among them whenever there was an opportunity to do so. Mr. K. G. Gupta, who happened to be present in the meeting, attempted to vary the provincial character of the meeting by urging that the sympathies of the meeting should be broad enough to embrace the whole of India for they were all Indians, and were as such bound to help the whole of India in the cause of her social and material advancement. The *Alochana Sabha* impressed on the Maharaja the necessity of cultivating the Uriya literature, and the Maharaja promised to help the Society as far as it was in his power to do it.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 4th April, 1903.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

UTKALDIPAKA,
Mar. 21st, 1903.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 14 of 1903.

REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 4th April 1903.

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

300. If there is anything in which the police of this country is hopeless-
ly inefficient, writes the *Weekly Chronicle*, it is
The Karimganj police. in the detection of crime. Their deplorable
inability even to prevent the frequent occurrence of theft and burglary in a
particular locality is not less striking.

Such is the case in the Karimganj subdivision where six cases are reported to have taken place within the last fortnight. That persistent attempt's of this kind should have been made in the very neighbourhood of the police-station is a sad commentary on the watchfulness and detective ability of the Karimganj police. But is not this to be expected? The men who join the force are for the most part a set of dullards who never bother their heads about matters in which success and personal gain are uncertain!

In justice to them, however, it must be said that owing to the present organisation of the police, they have not the time to devote exclusive attention to any particular class of crime. Besides quantity and not quality is wanted by their superior officers.

Now, concludes the *Chronicle*, in view of the fact that thefts are becoming more and more frequent in places near the railway line, it is of the utmost importance that more men should be taken on for dealing exclusively with such crimes. As regards the Karimganj subdivision, however, the authorities might well consider the advisability of establishing a Union Committee for the general security of the town and suburbs.

301. The Darbhanga correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* communicates the facts relating to the arrest of Babu Chandi Prosad, a big and respectable zamindar, by The Darbhanga case. the District authorities for merely holding out certain alleged threats to a European employé of the Hathowri Indigo Factory.

The detention of the accused in *hajat* when it was allowable for him to have been released on bail, shows the *Patrika* that there is practically no one at the head of the Local Government. It does not blame the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor for the apathy he displays in the doings of his subordinates, for he can have no abiding interest in Bengal; but nevertheless the result is an irresponsible Magistracy and a widespread sense of insecurity.

302. In this connection the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes as follows:—

Ibid. “Where is the safety of the King's subjects if, on the mere complaint of a man to the police, one is arrested, dragged to court under a warrant, and sent to jail? In the present case, Babu Chandi Prosad is a respectable zamindar; it is therefore atrocious that he should be dealt with in this outrageous manner. We must say, we are very much grieved at the utter indifference of the Hon'ble Mr. Bourdillon with reference to these highhanded proceedings of District Magistrates.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

303. Sir Comer Petheram's resolute and successful defence of the Judicial functions of his subordinates from any Executive The High Court, then and now. interference whatever, and notably in the case of Atool Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate, the central figure in the historical Barisal case, has led the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* to make the following observations on the High Court then and now:—

- (1) District Judges used formerly to seek refuge in the power of the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court from the attacks of the Local Governments; but they do not do so now because they get none.
- (2) The High Court under Sir Comer Petheram was not bound to afford protection to Atool Babu or to protest against Executive interference with Judicial independence. However the Hon'ble Judges did it and fought a pitched battle with the Government. But now the Chief Justice is seen recommending the suspension of his subordinates at the instance of the head of the Executive! In this connection the case of Mr. Pennell stands out conspicuously.

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
24th Mar. 1903.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th Mar. 1903.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
3rd April 1903.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th Mar. 1903.
30th Mar. 1903.
31st Mar. 1903.

INDIAN MIRROR,
29th Mar. 1903.

304. The *Indian Mirror* is glad that the policy of rigidly reserving prize-appointments for European barristers to the exclusion of qualified Indians has at last been broken through in the officiating appointment of Mr. Shelley

Bonnerji as Receiver of the Calcutta High Court. Indian public opinion on this point has at last triumphed and a precedent has been created which will pave the way for more appointments of a similar kind.

The *Mirror* thanks the Chief Justice for the important concession he has made to one of the most legitimate demands of the people.

BENGALEE,
31st Mar. 1903.

305. Referring to the *Englishman's* comment on the frequent delays and postponements in the Calcutta Police Court, owing to the weakness of the Stipendiary Bench and the inadequacy of the ministerial establishment, the *Bengalee* writes:—

"The matter was carefully considered by the Government some two or three years back, and they came to the conclusion that the present number of Stipendiary Magistrates for the Calcutta Police Court is sufficient and the work is satisfactorily done. Public opinion endorses this view. There can be no comparison between Calcutta and Madras and Bombay in this matter. Calcutta, unlike Madras and Bombay, has a strong staff of Honorary Magistrates who bear their full share in the work of the Police Court. Occasionally, there may be a case of unnecessary postponement and delay. But who will say that such cases will not occur when there is third Stipendiary Magistrate or that such cases do not occur even now in Bombay and Madras with their four Stipendiary Magistrates? We trust the Government will not afford the public another opportunity of saying that it is under the thumb of the Chamber."

(d)—*Education.*

BENGALEE,
31st Mar. 1903.

306. The *Bengalee* continues to ventilate the grievances of the boarders of this hostel against the way in which it is managed by the Superintendent. From the numerous complaints received, it would appear that the drains are never flushed and the food supplied is deficient both in quality and quantity.

Will not the Principal make a personal enquiry into the matter instead of relying on the reports of his subordinates?

BENGALEE,
31st Mar. 1903.

307. Why did the Viceroy's reference to the education problem in his Budget speech have a ring of disappointment about it asks the *Bengalee*? Does His Excellency think that two years ago the cry of the educated community for urgent University reform was heard above all others, and now when that reform is going to be introduced it has been strenuously opposed? If this is so, says the *Bengalee*, Lord Curzon has not been able to look below the surface of things. It is true that the system of the Indian Universities is capable of improvement; but no one for a moment expected revolutionary changes which aimed at the restriction of higher education! The report of the Education Commission of 1882 was welcomed with a genuine sense of gratitude, and if the report of the recent Commission has not met with the same reception, it is the fault of those who framed it. If the proceedings of the Universities Commission were not far too sweeping, why did the Government of India veto its proposals regarding second-grade colleges and the Law classes?

It is then not very surprising, concludes this paper, why the educated community should allow things to remain as they are rather than that their educational system, which, despite its defects, has been of such immense service to them, should be replaced by one whose object it is not difficult to discern.

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

BENGALEE,
31st Mar. 1903.

308. The *Bengalee* thinks that the arrangement made by Mr. Greer regarding the hearing of assessment appeals in respect of wards 13 to 25 by the Deputy Chairman is open to grave objection, as Mr. Duval has very little knowledge of the value of house property in Calcutta. It would therefore be unfair to the rate-payers to entrust the hearing of their appeals against increased assessment to one lacking in the only qualification for the satisfactory discharge of so difficult and delicate a task. If the hearing of appeals takes up too much of

the Vice-Chairman's time, why not relieve him of some of his purely routine work? It is absolutely necessary that the appellate authority should be one in whom the public have full confidence.

309. The omission of Lieutenant-Colonel Cobb's name from the list of Constitution of Municipalities and District Boards. nominated Commissioners for the Barisal Municipality has caused great discontent among the rate-payers, writes the *Bengalee*, who have memorialised the Lieutenant-Governor protesting against it.

They point out that since the creation of the Municipality, the Civil Surgeon has always been one of its members, and submit that one of the principal concerns of a municipality being to promote sanitation, the presence of the Civil Surgeon on the Board could not be dispensed with consistently with public advantage.

Dr. Cobb's connection with the Barisal Municipality has been of immense advantage to the rate-payers and the omission of his name from the list of Commissioners is only significant of the furtherance of a policy which has recently been inaugurated, of excluding men of independence and public spirit from municipalities and District Boards.

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

310. As things go at present, writes the *Behar Herald*, Indians are not employed in the superior branches of the Railway

The Delhi Railway Conference. service, and yet it has been secretly planned to deprive them of the little they possess. But what is the most surprising part of the Conference is the support Government has given to its resolutions by asking Managers of State Railways "to consider and report on the most effective manner of securing the desired result." This most injudicious conduct has placed the Indian Government in an awkward position. Is it at all in keeping with the Queen's Proclamation of 1858? After this the poor children of the soil may expect anything. The Government should have repudiated all connection with this "Secret Society;" but have they done this?

The crusade against the natives has begun, and in a few years more the Anglo-Indians will carry everything before them, so that the time is not far distant when the former will "wander in trouble over the face of the earth and the land which gave them birth will know them not."

311. In this connection the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—

Ibid. "The demi-official Railway Conference at

Delhi shows how subordinate officials are losing all their respect for those who are responsible for the Government of India. The Viceroy, in reply to the questions of the Hon'ble Rai Sree Ram and Professor Gokhale, declared that the proceedings of the Conference had not been submitted to the notice of the Government of India and that no action had been taken in the matter. And yet the officials who took part in the deliberations of the Conference were officials of high position, who not only passed resolutions for the benefit of a particular community by trampling under foot the established policy of the Government and the terms of the Royal Proclamation of 1858, but actually wrote to the Managers of the different State Railways to find employment for the 'poor Whites.' Surely their unwarrantable action did not put the Government in a very enviable position, and conduce to the contentment of the people of the country. Indeed, the proceedings only sought to prove that Lord Curzon was a hypocrite."

312. The *Bengalee* writes that the Hon'ble Mr. Arundel's reply to the questions of the Hon'ble Messrs. Sri Ram and Gokhale

Ibid. was as evasive as it was unsatisfactory. So far every step taken in the matter has been taken by the Government of India. The Conference was the outcome of a representation made by the Anglo-Indian Association so it is obvious who convened it. On the same authority were the Managers of State Railways asked to attend and the resolutions communicated to them with a view to estimating the cost they would incur. Further, the latter bore the signature of the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department himself! But from the reply of the Public Works Minister this must all be false. Are we then to conclude that Assistant Secretaries are in the habit of acting quite independently of their official superiors and that they can issue letters of such moment on their own authority? No, the Government of India have been caught in the surreptitious

BENGALEE,
31st Mar. 1903,

BEHAR HERALD,
28th Mar. 1903.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th Mar. 1903.

BENGALEE,
29th Mar. 1903.

commission of a questionable act and having no defence whatever, have not even the courage to accept the responsibility of their action ; but have sought to cover their discomfiture by tendering an explanation which does not explain.

BENGALEE,
28th Mar. 1903.

313. The maltreatment of Indian passengers by railway underlings seems

Alleged assault by a ticket-collector. to be on the increase, writes the *Bengalee*. A case has just come to light in which one Hari Das Banerji was causelessly assaulted by a ticket-collector on the Howrah station platform.

Indians are essentially a law-abiding race, writes the *Bengalee*, and would fain avoid engaging themselves in an unequal contest in a Court of law. But there is a limit to human patience, and it must not be wondered at if the native some day returns blow for blow.

BENGALEE,
31st Mar. 1903.

314. In drawing attention to the outrageous conduct of the head ticket-collector at Howrah and his assistants, who are constantly perpetrating assaults on unoffending passengers,

the same journal cites the case of Babu J. N. Banerjee who was assaulted without giving any provocation, handed over to the Police and his monthly ticket snatched away from him.

If this irresponsible staff are not reminded of their duty by their superior officers, the task might devolve on the suffering public.

(h)—General.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
28th Mar. 1903.

315. The Government were in a formal representation, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, requested not to discuss the caste question and the census.

caste question in the Census Report ; but they have done it freely and in so doing insulted a most

respectable community of Bengal by their "venomous" remarks.

Before the census was taken, a representative committee of the principal castes in Bengal was formed in Calcutta for the purpose of deciding which of the two castes was superior, the Kayasthas or the Vaidyas. This committee in all its wisdom frankly admitted that it was a matter on which it could arrive at no clear decision ; but the census officers who know nothing of the customs of the country have boldly asserted that the Kayasthas are not only Sudras but servants of the Vaidyas !

If these and other false and defamatory remarks, concludes the *Patrika*, which pervade the reports are not expunged, it is likely that the offended communities will seek redress in the law.

BENGALEE,
29th Mar. 1903.

316. The Viceroy in his famous Budget speech, writes the *Bengalee*, has made two welcome departures from the lines

The Budget debate. on which such an address is usually cast—he has invited the freest public criticism of the measures enacted by his Government and invited comment on its foreign policy.

Under these circumstances, says the *Bengalee*, it would not have been out of place for the non-official members to have referred to the abdication of the Maharaja Holkar which made such a profound impression upon Indian public opinion and asked whether it was not intended to improve the dignity of the Native Princes by associating them in the Government of the Empire.

The feeling that the prestige of the Feudatory Princes has been lowered by Lord Curzon is, rightly or wrongly, a very widespread one. Doubtless there are facts in connection with the Delhi Durbar which justify such a feeling and at the Debate occasion should have been taken to find them out. But unfortunately it was let slip. Nevertheless this journal hopes that the non-official members will follow the excellent example of their President and call for information on every question in future.

The *Bengalee* next speaks of the moral benefits Lord Curzon is certain that the Durbar will confer upon the children of the Empire. The question is, has it diffused contentment far and wide ? No, for "most of those who went from Bengal came back thoroughly dissatisfied," to say nothing of the Feudatory Princes above-mentioned. Further the incorporation of the Indians with the Empire which this "great State ceremonial" was to exhibit to the world is all a myth ; for they are in reality not the children of the Empire. They are as strangers in the land of their birth and helots in the colonies of the mother country.

BENGALEE,
2nd April 1903.

317. Referring to the conclusion of Lord Curzon's Budget speech which arouses the people of India to the fact that a serious political struggle is raging beyond their frontier

and which imposes on them the duty of incessant watchfulness and preparedness, the *Bengalee* writes :—

" We do not press for the reduction of the British forces in India. That is a matter to be determined largely by imperial considerations ; but we hold that the Imperial Government has no right to force upon us the maintenance of an army for imperial purposes, without contributing for it out of imperial funds. To refuse an imperial contribution for an imperial army, maintained in India for imperial purposes, would be an act of melancholy meanness, which would produce a painful impression on the public mind of India."

Nor is this all. Lord Curzon has also said that the present situation in India demands a feeling of solidarity and unity among those whose interests are wrapped up in the preservation of the Empire. In reply, the *Bengalee* repeats that such a feeling can only be possible by the practical recognition of the claims of the natives of the soil to a just and equitable treatment and to their free and full participation in the rights of British citizenship.

318. From the Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson's statement in the Budget

The Budget debate. speech it would appear to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* that he is not at all in touch with Indian public opinion when he says that both measures enacted by Lord Curzon's Government for the remission of taxation were coincident with the wishes of the people. Of course the raising of the limit of non-taxable incomes has been universally accepted as an indication of the benevolent intentions of the Viceroy, but as far as the salt-tax is concerned, perhaps His Excellency could not see his way to do anything more than reduce it partially. The people are truly grateful for these benefits, and the *Patrika* is heartily sorry that it has had to undertake the ungracious task of opposing the partial remission ; but it adheres to the opinion that the immense revenue that Government is thus surrendering unprofitably, should have been devoted to the regeneration of India.

319. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* congratulates the Financial Secretary to the Bengal Government on the satisfactory

Ibid. Budget he has presented, and is sincerely thankful

for the provision which has been made for the hard-worked members of the Subordinate Judicial and Subordinate Executive Services. But what of the other Public Services and especially the Statutory Service ? Two years ago the salaries of the Civilian District Judges were increased. Why should a different treatment be accorded to Statutory Civilians who belong to the very same service, do the same work and hold the same position ? Did not the Public Service Commission lay down that there should be no distinction as regards pay between a home civilian and one appointed under the Statute ? The *Patrika* trusts that this matter will engage the serious attention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

The journal concludes the article by commenting on the enormous amounts which have been expended from the Provincial Exchequer on the Presidency General Hospital and other hospitals in Calcutta. Why should the tax-payers of Bengal pay for the luxury of European patients when there are millions in Bengal who do not know what medicine is ?

320. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* relates two stories in each of its

The Indians and the Government. leaders of the 3rd and 4th instant, to illustrate, first, that, in order to obtain their dues from the Government, it will be necessary for the Indians to resort to force. In one of the stories the character which is represented as the Government, invites in fact his creditors to take what is due by force, as there is no other means of obtaining payment. Such is the way the Irish people are described to have got their rights.

The second series of stories describes the avarice of the Government. In spite of promises to the children of the soil, it continues to appropriate all the high and low subordinate appointments for the benefit of " poor whites."

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

321. The rumour that the Commissioner of Bhagalpur has ordered the dis-

Plague measures. infection of houses in spite of the opposition of the people has led the *Behar Herald* to make certain observations on the highhanded way Government are pursuing their plague measures.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
3rd Mar. 1903.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
1st April 1903.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
3rd and 4th April
1903.

BEHAR HERALD,
1st April 1903.

The *Herald* thinks it would be a wiser policy for them to take the village headmen into their confidence for the purpose of discussing preventive measures. This might secure the active co-operation of the people; but as things go at present nothing but opposition can be expected. No Government can succeed in such cases without taking into consideration the *idiosyncrasies* of the people; for it cannot be expected that the nostrums of the West, however good and beneficent, will be accepted unhesitatingly by the East. Nine-tenths of the miseries of this world would surely be averted if those in power were only conversant with the temperament of the masses they ruled.

Let the masters of India therefore cast away their official arrogance and mythical infallibility and consult the feelings and traditions of an alien race before they issue such orders.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS.

MOSLEM CHRONICLE,
1st Mar. 1903.

322. In this connection the *Moslem Chronicle* writes:—

The Harrison Road affray.

"We are afraid the manner in which certain Hindu newspapers are writing regarding the affray in Harrison Road between the Hindus and the Muhammadans, can only tend to set up the former against the latter. This sort of writing is hardly commendable and ought certainly to be stopped in the interests of peace. We can only contemplate the unhappy incident in one light: if these be the principles of justice with these embryo politicians of the Press, one shudders to think if life would be worth living in India, if by a Charter of Grace England were, as a tribute to the Congress, to transfer the administration of the country into the hands of the Bengal Nationalists."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
30th Mar. 1903.

323. Seeing that Indian Conferences have hitherto shown no signs of success and prosperity owing to the defective lines on which they have been worked, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* advises the promoters of the Berhampore Conference to follow new principles in waking the masses up to the duty they owe to themselves and to their country.

The main object of the Conference should be the political, agricultural and industrial education of the rural population. Big political questions should be eschewed and only subjects which directly concern the millions should be discussed. The sympathy of the masses cannot be enlisted by long speeches in English, for this does not appeal to them; but committees should be organised at different centres of a district with a view to ascertain the opinions of the raiyats, through their representatives, on such burning questions of the day as the chaukidari tax, police rule, water scarcity and the insanitary condition of villages.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
31st Mar. 1903.

324. Since it is not within the scope of Provincial Conferences to deal with imperial questions but provincial matters only, such as the urgent demands of the people which can in most cases be met by the Local Government or even the District Magistrate, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* suggests two subjects which may worthily occupy the attention of the members of the Berhampore Conference, viz., Road Cess and the Chaukidari tax.

Road Cess, continues the *Patrika*, was imposed for the specific purpose of meeting local needs generally. Yet people are "dying by lakhs" for want of drinking water and medical aid, and the Government in order to avert these calamities threaten fresh taxation! The object with which the chaukidari tax was introduced no longer exists, yet it is wrung from the poorest of the poor without their benefiting in any way which can be named.

It is the duty therefore of the Berhampore Conference not only to pass some effective resolutions on these subjects as well as on police rule which is emasculating the country, but also to appoint a strong committee for carrying on a systematic and sustained agitation against them.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
2nd April 1903.

325. Reverting to this subject the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* shows that it is not at all necessary to go up to the Government for the boon of Local Self-Government. Indians can establish it at once if they are less selfish and more patriotic and if they understand their interests and act accordingly. Let Murshidabad therefore

take this opportunity to reconstruct its District Association on a firm basis and on more liberal principles.

With regard to the subjects to be taken up by the Conference, road cess and the chaukidari tax should be the foremost and most important. As there is a proposal before the Police Commission to increase the latter, the *Patrika* trusts that the agriculturists will move either for the entire abolition of the tax or for the application of its proceeds to meet the diverse needs of the rural population.

326. In advocating the political union of the Eurasian community with the native communities of India, the *Indian Empire* writes:—

“In this mock-heroic style Dr. Wallace making a virtue of necessity extends his friendship to the natives of India whom he had all along shunned as people beneath notice. We had advised the Eurasian community many times before to adopt this very course, but no, with an exaggerated idea about themselves they would not take our advice, but would behave themselves as the dwarf in the fable who made friends with the giant. But it is never too late to mend, and now that Dr. Wallace and his community have found out their mistake, we hope the other native communities of India will welcome this new accession to their ranks.”

INDIAN EMPIRE,
31st Mar. 1905.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL
OF POLICE, L. P.,
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 4th April 1903.

H. B. ST. LEGER,
Asst. to the Inspr.-General of Police, L. P.

