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## REPORT

ON

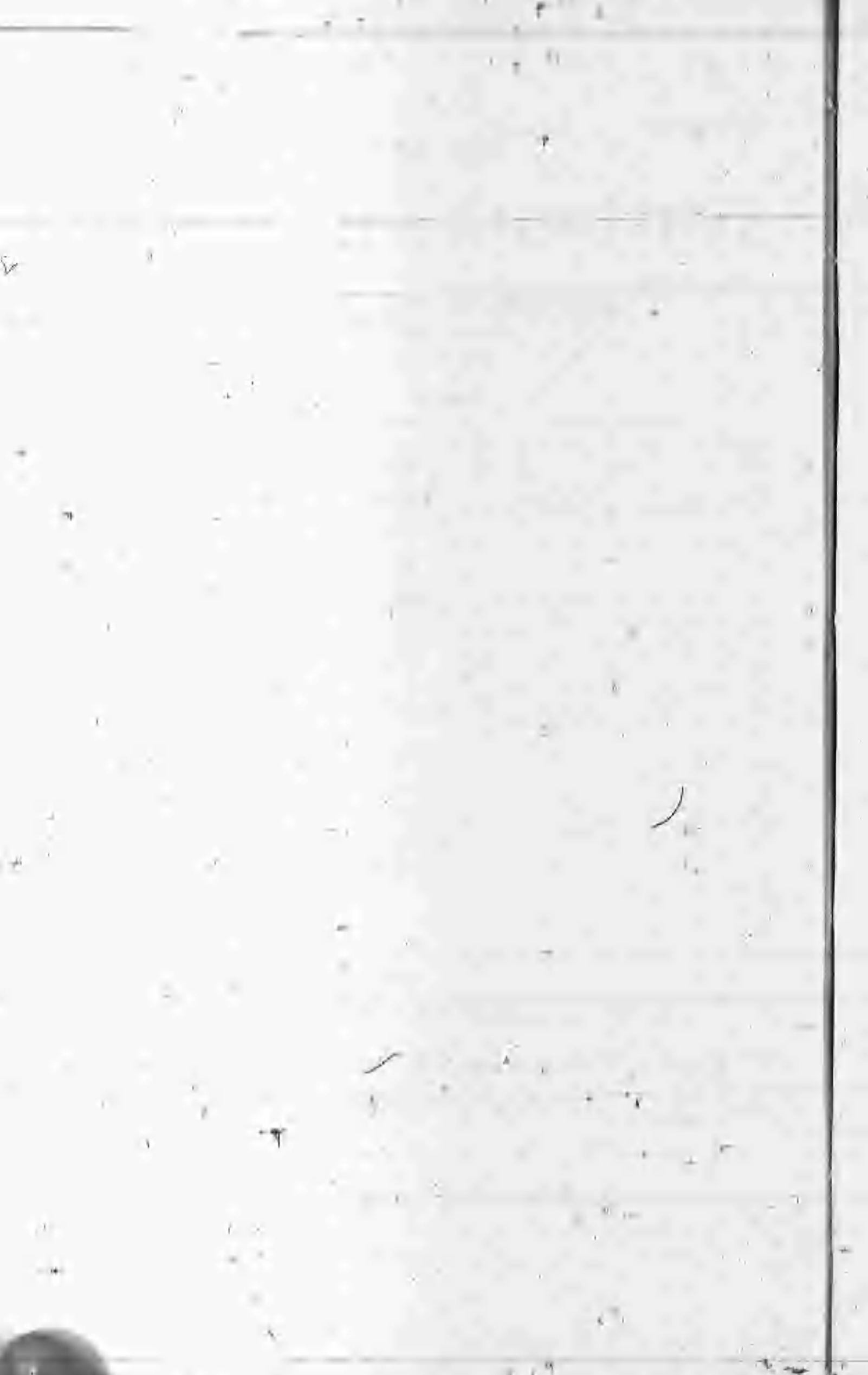
# NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

**FOR THE**

Week ending the 28th July 1900.

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 16th July publishes the telegraphic communications which are being interchanged

HABLUL MATEEN,  
July 16th, 1900.

Contemplated strike among Persian merchants. among the merchants of Bushire, Teheran and Bombay, to the effect that they will cease to carry on trade in Persia if the Customs Officers, who are mostly Belgians, show any indication of highhandedness in collecting duties from Persian merchants.

2. The same paper says that as it is evident that learning brings all sorts of comforts to a nation, it is high time that Musalmans tried by all means at their command to

HABLUL MATEEN.

Learning among Musalmans. spread learning among themselves. The people of Central Asia ought to undertake, as zealously as their ancestors, to reform their system of learning. Ignorance, barbarism, and prejudice have ruined the cause of Islam. They have brought about so great a misfortune upon Islam that the brotherhood, preached by its founder as the first principle of that faith, has disappeared from among the followers of that faith for ever. For some time they did not hesitate to sell even their co-religionists in the market like goats and sheep, and treat the slaves so cruelly that even the aliens were moved by pity for them. This has often been the case in Central Asia. Its people have been bought and re-bought more than once. Now it has pleased God to sell them cheap to a people from whose hands there will be no rescue till the Day of Judgment. The people of Central Asia should spread learning among themselves, so that they may, in time, become a nation.

3. A correspondent of the same paper is sorry to hear that the Persian Government is going to enter into a contract with

HABLUL MATEEN.

The Persian customs contract. a European company for the collection of the export and import duties with the object of increasing the revenue. Many Persians say that this step is very much like the handing over the key of one's house to the enemy. In the report which the commercial authorities of Persia have submitted to the Government, it is stated that the measure is opposed to the practice of all civilized countries, but in Persia it will be beneficial, as it is evident that foreign employes will do their work diligently and faithfully, while it is doubtful whether the Persians, who do not hesitate to take and give bribe, and who entertain a fear for foreigners, will be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily. For the above reason it is indispensably necessary to procure the services of a foreign people who are politically neutral.

4. The same paper says that it is true that the Khedive has been received by Her Majesty at Windsor with great

HABLUL MATEEN.

England's reception of the Khedive. pomp and ceremony, and that such has been the case with all other potentates. Such was also the case with the King of France. Perhaps the courtesy shown to the King of France by the King of England was much greater than that shown to the Khedive. But no sooner did the King of France return home, than England made an alliance with Germany and declared war against France. It is to be seen what treatment the Khedive receives at the hands of England when the former returns home.

5. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th July has the following with reference to the Boxer rebellion:—

HITAVADI,  
July 20th, 1900.

The European Powers defeated by the Boxers. The inability of European troops to suppress the Boxer rebellion has been proved. The Boxers are peaceful subjects. They are not professional soldiers led by able Generals. When in South Africa, the British troops were defeated by the Boers the European Powers did not hesitate to blame them. But now their disciplined troops have taken the field against the Boxers, but what have they been able to do? Have the European troops maintained their reputation by allowing themselves to be killed and defeated by the Boxers, who are not armed with modern weapons of warfare? On one side all the European Powers, helped by Japan and the Chinese Government, and on the other the undisciplined Boxers—what a strange spectacle this! In this contest the disciplined and powerful European troops have been defeated. This is, indeed, a great discredit to the European Powers, which history will always proclaim to the world.

BANGAVASI,  
July 21st, 1900.

6. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July has the following:—

The awaking of China.

Man proposeth, but God disposeth. European Generals and strategists had come to the conclusion that China had become worthless and the Chinese people had lost their physical stamina; that, as a result of opium eating, the Chinese army were dozing perpetually; that the sword and shield and the bow and arrow were the only weapons with which the great majority of the Chinese troops were armed; and that the task of destroying the Chinese race could not possibly occupy much time. It was said that if five thousand trained European soldiers with five guns entered into the Chinese empire, the Chinese would be unable to successfully oppose the invaders, and that if a European General at the head of those five thousand soldiers were to traverse the Celestial empire from north to south and again from east to west, he would be able to easily baffle any opposition which the Chinese might offer to his progress.

It is only during the last six years that the European Powers have come to form such an opinion regarding the military strength of the Chinese empire, and that the leading English newspapers have given expression to it. It is only six years that in the war between China and Japan, tiny Japan defeated her vast and immense foe. The result surprised the world, and was received with a slight smile by not a few European sovereigns. Why should they not feel delighted to find that China, which had been regarded before with something like fear by all the sovereigns in the world, was now proved to be weak, inefficient and powerless for mischief? Nearly fifteen years ago China once defeated France in Tonquin. The commentary that was made by the European Powers on that Chinese victory was that it was purely accidental and was due to the fact that Fate was at that time unpropitious to France. Indulging in such speculations the European sovereigns were so long free from all anxiety on account of China and cherished the expectation that they needed only to visit China in order to strangle her. But the grim and dreadful appearance of China at the present moment when she is bent on destruction and bloodshed has staggered Europe and America and startled victorious Japan. Alas! how is this? Whence has opium-eating China derived so much strength? Who has taught uncivilised and barbarous China such military skill? Such are the questions which in their perplexity some of those Powers are most piteously asking themselves. How China, whom they had expected to puff away, has come to be as heavy as the Himalayas, is also a question which many at this moment find it hard to solve.

The real truth is, China, long asleep, has at last awoken. When she fought against Japan six years ago, she fought sleeping and dozing. In her war with Japan not even a hundredth part of her immense body was roused into activity. China has now shaken off her sleep, girded up her loins and stands proudly, roaring and hurling defiance. There is no hope of escape. See, if you can confront China.

The population of the Chinese empire is twenty-four crores. No other country possesses so large a population, and almost the whole of this large population are now seized with something like madness.

Military operations cannot be efficiently and successfully conducted if they are directed and controlled by more than one General. As was to be expected, there has been already some misunderstanding among the leaders of the allied forces. What the outcome of the war will be no one can predict. Some think that the war is the prelude to a universal cataclysm. Some say it is the beginning of another Kurukshetra war and will denude the earth of all heroes.

In this war with China we see the snake acting in concert with the mongoose. France is fighting side by side with Germany, her eternal enemy. The war has brought about unity between England and France, Russia and Japan. This makes people say that Tientsin has come to acquire the virtues of the Mount Kailas, the abode of the god Siva, where the lion and the lamb, the tiger and the deer, the snake and the frog live and play together.

It was only once before that the different Christian nations combined and fought against a common foe. That was done during the Crusades and for the recovery of Jerusalem from the hands of the Moslem. History does not record another instance of such union of Christian armies for the prosecution of a war against one nation.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION

## (a)—Police.

7. A correspondent complains in the *Som Prakash* [Calcutta] of the 9th July that there was lately a dacoity in Korhala, a village in the Howrah district. The dacoits, on their way back, broke into the shop of a petty sweetmeat seller near Korhala, severely thrashed the sweetmeat seller and his wife, and ate all his sweetmeats. The police has not yet been able to trace the offenders. There has also lately been a daring theft in the village, but this theft also has not been traced.

SOM PRAKASH,  
July 9th, 1900.

How European oppression of natives should be dealt with.

8. The *Rangpur Vartavaha* [Rangpur] of the 13th July has the following with reference to the case in the Madras Presidency, in which a European was fined Rs. 30 for accidentally killing fifteen natives:—

RANGPUR VARTAVAHA,  
July 13th, 1900.

Does our cry against European oppression reach the ears of haughty and insolent Europeans? Why should they listen to our cry? They see that they are let off scot-free or are fined two or three rupees for killing a native. The European, in the case under notice, was let off with a fine of thirty rupees for killing fifteen natives. Let the school boy find out from this how much a native life is worth. The value of a native life has been fixed at Rs. 2 in this case. The Magistrate, who let off the accused with such a light punishment, is certainly ignorant of law, and should not be fed at the cost of India. Lord Curzon, who is always for justice, should soon send this foolish Magistrate home. We do not like to see a stain cast on the administration of justice under British rule.

Is this a clever or a foolish Magistrate? Only a foolish Magistrate could fine a man thirty rupees for killing fifteen people. The Magistrate may be a clever Magistrate after all. For it is only a clever Magistrate who does not fear anybody, and is guided solely by his own inclination. He is not the man to desist from helping his European countrymen. He does not even hesitate to throw dust in the eyes of the authorities. Is he a foolish or a clever Magistrate who, for the sake of his countrymen, does not hesitate to cast a stain on the British administration?

Indians, you always see how Englishmen do not shrink from doing something impossible or reprehensible for the sake of their countrymen. In this way they are preserving their nationality. Can you do any such thing for your countrymen? The European killed fifteen natives and you remain dumb. The Hindus say:—"The European has killed Musalmans, why should we unnecessarily court danger by quarrelling with him?" The Musalmans say:—"It is the Hindus who have been killed, why should we incur any risk for them?" Hindus and Musalmans of India, when will this delusion be dispelled from your mind? Let Hindus and Musalmans unite, if they want to protect themselves against oppression committed by foreigners. Let them learn to help one another in distress. You have acquired the vice of drinking from Europeans. But will you ever have that courage with which a European killed fifteen natives? Will you have the courage to take vengeance? The European Magistrate sympathises with the European murderer. Hindus and Musalmans, have you such sympathy? Let this European Magistrate teach you to love your countrymen. You will then be able to teach a lesson to your enemies. We do not advise you to be as insolent as the Boxers. Unite in distress, help and sympathise with one another, and seek the protection of the law. You may say that the relatives of the deceased in the case under notice have got only Rs. 2 for each life, even after going to law. This is true. But the law is not to blame. All are equal in the eye of the law. Miscarriages of justice are brought about by high-handed Magistrates. Appeal to the High Court, go to the Viceroy, go to the Queen, and insolent Magistrates will be kept in check. Take courage, take heart, or you will have to suffer for ever.

9. The *Hitakari* [Kushtia] of the 15th July draws attention to the prevalence of gambling in Kushtia, Jagati, Talbaria, Kumarkhali, Etmampur, Chaprha, Hirimdia and Chandipur in the Nadia district. The recent introduction of the Gambling Act into the Kushtia Municipality and the punishment of some gamblers

HITAKARI,  
July 15th, 1900.

seem to have had no deterrent effect. In several of the above places, gambling has become a profession with some respectable men.

KASIPUR NIVASI,  
July 13th, 1900.

10. The *Kasipur Nivasi* [Barisal] of the 18th July draws Mr. Weston's attention to the fact that though the number of prostitutes in Barisal town is already very large, fresh importations of girls of a tender age, are taking place every day. When Mr. Nanda Krishna Bose was the Magistrate, he did not allow these women to go about the public streets by day with shoes on. Now they have grown bolder. Everybody in Barisal can see many of them driving in open hackney-carriages on the riverside road in the evening. This is extremely unpleasant to gentlemen of character and a danger to the morality of school boys.

The broad road on the west of the jail premises is infested by a large number of these women after 8 or 9 P.M., every night. Respectable people passing by that road at a late hour, are often insulted by them.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
July 20th, 1900.

11. A correspondent of the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 20th July writes as follows:—

The Patuakhali case.

What do I hear! What do I hear about Patuakhali in the issue of this paper for the 8th *Asar* (22nd June)! Does the perusal of an account of that harrowing and heart-rending incident keep the Muhammadan blood as cool and inert as it is nowadays, or does it make it a little hot? Brutal outrage on women! A horrible outrage on Musalman women in particular! Does it excite no emotion in the mind of a Musalman? If the alleged outrage was actually committed on two helpless respectable women, is there no means of getting redress for the same? It makes one's head giddy to think that such an inhuman outrage was perpetrated within British territory.

In the religious books of Islam more respect and honour is shown to women than to men. This shows the intention of the all-merciful God. That the Almighty wishes women to be treated with love and respect is clear from His manner of creating woman. The society that does not love women and show due respect to them is destined to become degraded and demoralised.

Will the inhuman outrage committed in the present case on two respectable Musalman women by Government servants, nay, by keepers of the public peace, go unredressed? If the charge be true, is there no place in this country where a fair trial of the accused may be had? It is by no means probable that in the dominion of Her Most Gracious Majesty Empress Victoria, herself a woman, those miscreants, who could commit such a diabolical outrage on women, will not be properly dealt with.

Dear brothers of Patuakhali, who can say that outrages similar to those alleged to have been committed by certain police officers on Dhani Bibi and Sadi Bibi will not be committed again? What is there which those, who are entrusted with the protection of our life, property and honour, cannot do if they abuse the power with which they are vested by the Government? What wonder if what has happened in Patuakhali to-day, happens in Barisal to-morrow? It is necessary that everybody should do his best to get justice done in the case. Justice will certainly be done if the outrages to which Sadi Bibi and Dhani Bibi were subjected are brought to the notice of the Magistrate, the Commissioner, the Lieutenant-Governor, and, lastly, the Viceroy.

SANJAY,  
July 20th, 1900.

12. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 20th July complains of the prevalence of theft and dacoity in some villages within the jurisdiction of the Baliakandi thana. Thefts become rife, especially in dark nights. Of late, the following thefts and dacoities have been committed:—

Theft, &c., in some villages in the Faridpur district.

- (1) Dacoity in the house of the Bardhans, of Dakshinbari.
- (2) Dacoity in the house of Beni Madhav Sikdar, of Sonapur.
- (3) Theft in the house of Krishna Chandra Sarkar, of Trilochanpur.
- (4) Theft in the house of Nibaran Chandra Ghosh, of Dakshinbari.

Many cases are not reported to the thana, and in but few of even these which are reported are the police successful in tracing the offenders. Most of the village *badmashes* are members of a gang, and the gang should be held responsible for these crimes.

HITAVADI,  
July 20th, 1900.

13. A correspondent writes as follows in the *Hitaradi* [Calcutta] of the 20th July:—

European oppression of natives  
in tram cars.

On the 9th July last I was going to college by a Kidderpore tram car. I had occupied a corner seat. On the way a European soldier got into the car, gave me a push, and said:—"Move off, you black Bengali!" My mind was pre-occupied, and thus disturbed, I looked vacantly at him. At this he struck at my shoes with his stick and said:—"What are you looking at? Don't you know I am a European?" He then pushed me off and occupied my seat! I did not remonstrate with the free European, fearing lest I, a Bengali, with "heart disease," should be killed with blows from his fists.

Two days before this, a relation of mine was coming back from office by a Kidderpore tram car. The bench on which he sat was occupied by a Sikh and three Bengali Babus. The opposite bench was occupied by a European, who, as I afterwards came to know, was a police officer. The European stretched his leg, and placed his foot on the opposite bench between my relative and the Sikh. This was against tramway rules, but tram-conductors do not dare to object to such practices on the part of Europeans. My relative humbly requested the European to take down his leg, which so much enraged him that he pushed my relative's head against the wall of the car. "What's that?"—exclaimed my relative. The European pointed to the Sikh, and asked him—"Do you know this man, who is he?" My relative, of course, answered that he did not know him. The European, in the manner of the wolf in the fable, said:—"You are a native—he is a native; you must have kindness for him." He then again pushed my relative, whereupon he was compelled to remove to another compartment. Some European gentlemen in that compartment comforted my relative. "Don't mind," said they, "what that man has done to you. He is an illiterate and low-class European. You ought to have come away long before." There were many Bengali Babus in the car, but they did not utter a word of protest; none of them came to the rescue of my relative. Bengalis would not be trampled upon in this way if they had courage.

Sarat Chakravarti's death has caused a panic. I may be insulted, I may be beaten to death, my heart may become enlarged all of a sudden—this is in everybody's mind, and this is why no one comes to the help of an oppressed countryman.

14. A correspondent of the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 24th July complains that the number of prostitutes in Nabinagar, in the Tippera district, has become too large for so small a place. The District Board

TRIPURA HITAISHI,  
July 24th, 1900.

Prostitutes in Nabinagar in the  
Tippera district.

road on the south of the market-place is the only good walk for gentlemen, but it has become a haunt of these unfortunate women.

The town police of Comilla.

15. The following letter in English appears in the same paper:—

TRIPURA HITAISHI.

TO THE EDITOR, "TRIPURA HITAISHI."

SIR,—Please insert the following letter in your esteemed journal and oblige:—

You deserve our heartfelt thanks for taking up in your last issue the question of reform of the town police, at such an opportune moment. When administration of the district in other departments is improving under our worthy Magistrate, we don't see why this crying evil should be left untouched. Every sensible and thoughtful man in the town is conscious of the evils of the system.

Many of the town chaukidars being local men, it is but natural for them to devote much of their time in the management of private affairs, and necessarily public duty suffers. Then, again, the permanent nature of their posts renders them easy prey to corruption. There is a strong impression in the minds of the public here that most of them systematically levy blackmail upon the bad characters and connive at the offences committed by them.

In connection with this, I request you to draw the attention of our District Magistrate to another fact. From our experience in previous years, we know

that the number of theft cases in the town increases as the Puja holidays draw nearer. And generally theft cases are of more frequent occurrence in this town. This may be attributed to the existence of many Muhammadan families in the town without having ostensible means of living. One will sell betel, another will sell tea, but each has to maintain a family consisting of seven, eight or more members. These Muhammadans generally belong to cultivating class having no culturable lands. The living in the town is dearer than in the mufassal, and in order to keep pace with the society in which they live, they are required to be better fed and clad. Thus their want increases, but not their means, and hence they are driven to resort to evil ways. If they may be persuaded to leave the town, it would be better for them as well as for the public. If I remember right, Mr. Radice made an effort in this direction. Many bad-livelihood cases were instituted, and it had produced very wholesome effect, but owing to his short stay here, he could not carry out his object.

Yours, &c.,

A. B. C.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
July 18th, 1900.

16. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 18th

Mukhtars as sureties for accused persons.

July says that it has been an immemorial practice for mukhtars to stand as sureties for accused persons in the law courts, and none has ever objected to this practice. Recently, however, the Subdivisional Officer of Madaripur, in the Faridpur district, called upon a certain person to give security for good behaviour or to go to jail for three years, and, refusing to accept the mukhtar sureties offered, sent the man to jail. In his order the Deputy Magistrate wrote:—"I will not accept mukhtars as sureties. They take remuneration for acting as such, and it has become an occupation with them to act as sureties. They make no attempt to improve the character of the man they stand sureties for, and keep no eye on his movements. None but those who can exercise control over the man for whom they stand sureties ought to act as such."

The accused made an appeal to the District Magistrate, and the latter upheld the decision of the Subdivisional Officer. The High Court was then moved in the matter, with the result that the Judges rejected the accused's prayer for setting aside the orders of the lower courts. The reason given by the High Court was that the Subdivisional Officer's order related not to all mukhtars, but to the particular mukhtars who had been brought forward as sureties in this case, and that, this being so, the case fell under the purview of section 122 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The High Court's decision is a dangerous one; for it will have the effect of preventing all mukhtars from acting as sureties for accused persons. And the precedent created by this case may be taken advantage of by any Magistrate to refuse the suretyship of mukhtars, with the result that accused persons will henceforward be invariably sent to jail, no other respectable man being likely to come forward to stand as surety in the law courts.

SANJIVANI,  
July 19th, 1900.

17. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 19th July says that Mr. Hamilton,

Mr. Hamilton's punishment.

Magistrate of Khulna, has had his promotion stopped for one year by way of punishment for the oppression he committed. The Lieutenant-Governor is to be thanked for taking this step.

HITAVADI,  
July 20th, 1900.

18. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th July writes as follows with

The mukhtar as security for good behaviour.

reference to the decision of the Calcutta High Court in the case in which the Subdivisional Officer of Madaripur refused to accept a mukhtar as a security for good conduct:—

The High Court has not done well by supporting the Subdivisional Officer. The Magistrates will henceforward be at liberty to accept or to refuse to accept a mukhtar as a security for good behaviour. Many released prisoners and many people who have incurred the displeasure of the police, will have now to rot in jail without committing any offence. A surety for good behaviour is responsible for the amount of money for which security is offered.

If a Magistrate were to take rigorous steps to realise this amount from the surety on the failure of the accused to keep his behaviour good, there would be some justification for him. But how can we say that it is reasonable to refuse to accept a security? The accused in the present case had to go to jail for three years because the security offered by him was refused. But this is not the only cause of regret. The police will send up many people as persons without any ostensible means of livelihood. The Court will demand security, but these poor people will not be able to offer any, and will be sent to jail. There can be no doubt that this decision will create new opportunities for oppression. The High Court has not, indeed, passed any opinion about the mukhtars as a class, but it is almost certain that no mukhtar will be accepted as a security for good behaviour.

BANGAVASI,  
July 21st, 1900.

19. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July has the following with reference to the conduct of Mr. Crump, Sub-divisional Officer of Meherpur, who compelled a native gentleman to come down from his horse and salaam him:—

We are only thinking what steps the Lieutenant-Governor will take in the matter if the complaint is proved to be true. If a European Civilian insults a gentleman in this way, no harm is done to the insulting Magistrate; but the Government suffers. The people look upon every European Magistrate as a representative of the Government. The conduct of the Magistrate has no doubt surprised the people of Meherpur, and many of them undoubtedly believe that the Subdivisional Officer has only carried out the order of the Government. In a case like this, the conduct of the Magistrate creates discontent in the public mind, not against the Magistrate, but against the Government. We do not like to see such discontent created in the public mind, and that is why we notice this case. The matter, though not serious, ought, nevertheless, to draw the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor. The public ought to be convinced that the fault committed by the Magistrate is his fault, and his alone, and that the Government is not responsible for it. If the complaint is true, the Lieutenant-Governor should take Mr. Crump to task.

20. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July says that one Amjad Ali, who was charged with assaulting a European, was convicted and fined Rs. 125 by the Deputy Magistrate of Chandpur, in Tippera, and the Deputy Magistrate said in his judgment that the punishment was very light. Is the Deputy Babu so highly paid that he considers Rs. 125 to be a very small sum?

BHARAT MITRA,  
July 23rd, 1900.

(c)—Jails.

21. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 22nd July condemns the practice of lodging prisoners, who are mutual enemies, in the same room. One Muhammad was imprisoned in the Dacca jail for a long time for murder. Abdul Aziz Mian, an employé of the nephew of the Nawab of Dacca, who was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and was lodged with Muhammad in the same room, had conducted the case on behalf of the prosecution in which Muhammad was convicted. Muhammad looked upon Aziz as his mortal enemy, and one night he broke his leg with an iron rod and a hammer. In the same jail one Sarat De killed one Ledu with a knife.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
July 2nd, 1900.

(d)—Education.

22. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 20th July says that Samsuddin Ahmed, teacher of the Faridpur Zilla School, slapped a boy, Makhan Lal Dhar, of the fifth class, so severely on the cheek that he instantly fell down insensible. The boy was removed to the hospital, where he regained consciousness after forty-eight minutes, and is till under treatment. The teacher should be warned not to beat his pupils in this dangerous manner.

SANJAY,  
July 20th, 1900.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
July 23rd, 1900.

23. Referring to the order issued by the Head-master of the Fyzabad Zilla School, under the direction of the Deputy Commissioner of that place, that the school boys should enter the school-room barefooted, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July observes that the Head-master made a great mistake by carrying out the order which was against the growing habit of the people, specially as it would cause a great inconvenience to the students of the school. They will have to wash their feet before entering the school every time they go out and come back, and the services of a water-carrier must be secured to supply water for this purpose. Moreover, if the boys have to remain barefooted the whole day, they may catch cold. If the students come into the class-rooms, leaving their shoes outside, they will experience some difficulty in finding out their respective shoes when going out.

PRATIVASI,  
July 23rd, 1900.

24. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July complains that Mr. Lea, District Magistrate and Collector of Chittagong, who officiated as Commissioner for some time, has upset the Commissioner's decision in regard to the grant-in-aid to the Visweswari School in the Chittagong district. The District Board reduced the grant to Rs. 15 a month. The Secretary applied to the Commissioner who ordered its enhancement by five rupees a month. The District Board procrastinated in carrying out his order. He contemplated reporting against the District Board to the Government. But he went away on leave and Mr. Lea, who was the Chairman of the District Board, came to officiate for him. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor will not approve of what Mr. Lea has done.

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

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
July 18th, 1900.

25. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 18th July complains of the bad condition of the lanes and bye-lanes in Berhampore town. These have not been repaired for a long time. The metal in most of them is worn off, and they have become almost impassable in the rainy season. It is not right that municipal money should be entirely spent on the repair of the larger streets.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
July 18th, 1900.

26. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 18th July has the following:—  
Government's action in regard to malaria. We have already discussed the measures adopted by Government to check the ravages of malaria which depopulated the prosperous villages of the Presidency Division before the year 1874, and the result which attended their adoption (*vide* Report on Native Papers for 16th June, paragraph 30). After 1874, the virulence of the disease gradually decreased, wailings became fewer and fainter, villages, once full of life and activity, became the haunts of jackals and other wild beasts, and art, agriculture, trade, and commerce languished. Having in this way spread the gloom of death over the country within a few short years, malaria slowly lost its virulence. Government failed to save the country from this preventable calamity, and will certainly get a tarnished name in history for neglecting to do its duty.

Since 1874 Government has always done something or other, according to the light it possesses, to check the ravages of this disease. Surgeon-General Harvey, Major Dyson and Dr. Gregg have worked in this view. But the country has, unfortunately, benefited by the efforts of none of them.

KHULNA,  
July 19th, 1900.

27. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 19th July has learnt from a trustworthy correspondent that cow-pox has been extremely prevalent in Masui, within the jurisdiction of the Morelganj thana, in the Khulna district, and that the carcasses of cows are being thrown into the narrow *khal*, the water of which is used by the village people for drinking purposes. This is likely to cause a serious outbreak of cholera or other epidemic disease in the village.

28. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 19th July writes as follows:—

SANJIVANI,  
July 19th, 1900.

Sanitation of Calcutta under the new Municipality.

The Commissioners have no longer any power in the Calcutta Municipality, and the town is now entirely at the mercy of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, and the other big officers. The Chairman is now the Lord Mayor. Government assured the public that under the undisputed rule of the officials there would take place an improvement in the sanitation of the town, and the streets and roads would become cleaner. But we do not see any fulfilment of this assurance. In this rainy season the streets and roads, including the foot-paths, are simply impassable on account of the mud lying on them. Not to speak of lanes: heaps of refuse, sweepings, and mud may be seen deposited on the sides of even the larger roads. The road inspectors pay no heed to all this. Disease is rampant in the town just now, and the municipal authorities are doing their best to extirpate mosquitoes, believing them to be the cause of malaria, but are doing nothing to remove refuse and filth or to enquire if the fever epidemic which is raging is not due to the decomposition of the matter lying in the streets. This is the condition of the "nasty native quarter," not of the European quarter. Indeed, heaven and earth would have been moved if the European quarter had been in such a condition.

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

29. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 18th July writes that there is a road from Nalchhiti to Manpasha and a road from

BARISAL HITAISHI,  
July 18th, 1900.

Wanted a metalled road in the Backergunge district.

Sahebganj to Syampur, in the Backergunge district. The two miles between these two roads still remain

unmetalled. The metalling of these two miles is badly wanted, and can be done at a very small cost.

30. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th July complains against the station-master, signaller, and booking-clerk of the

HITAVADI,  
July 20th, 1900.

Railway complaints.

Jagannathganj station on the Dacca-Mymensingh

Railway. The booking-clerk and the signaller are in the habit of extorting money from the passengers, from which they pay eight annas to the station-master every day. On the 9th June last the signaller kept one Hriday Paramanik, of Kasinathpur, in the Pabna district, confined at the station, and extorted four annas from him under the excuse that he was carrying a saw. The same day they extorted eight annas from another passenger who was carrying a parrot in a cage. Another passenger, Jelim Saikh, says that the booking-clerk took one anna and nine pies, but did not give him a ticket. He had to pay a fine of one anna and six pies at the station at which he alighted. He had also to pay five annas to the station-master.

(h)—*General.*

31. The *Hitakari* [Kushtia] of the 15th July draws the attention of the postal authorities to the advisability of raising the

HITAKARI,  
July 15th, 1900.

A postal representation.

Janipur branch post office, under the Kumarkhali sub-post office, in the Nadia district, to an independent sub-post office. Janipur is only two or three miles from the Khoksa station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway, and at present all postal articles are carried to Janipur from Kumarkhali by a runner, causing delay in transmission. No additional cost would be incurred by the Government by the carrying out of the suggestion made above, whilst the step would conduce to public convenience. A telegraph office should also be established in the post office.

32. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 18th July writes that a post office is badly wanted at Syampur, a village in the

BARISAL HITAISHI,  
July 18th, 1900.

A postal complaint.

Backergunge district. An application was made

long ago, but it still remains undisposed of.

33. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 19th July has the following:—

SANJIVANI,  
July 19th, 1900.

The Head-clerk and the Personal Assistant to the Director of Land Records, Bengal.

We had occasion some time ago to write about the arbitrary conduct of Babu Nibaran Chandra Ghose, Head-clerk, and Mr. Roland Nogendra Lal Chandra, Personal Assistant to the Director

of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal. We will bring to public notice

another instance of their highhanded conduct towards an assistant in the office. Lately, a post became vacant in the office, to which the foremost claim was that of Babu Aditya Gopal Gosvami, an apprentice of eighteen months' standing and senior to all other apprentices. But, for some secret reason, both the Head-clerk and the Personal Assistant recommended for the post a junior apprentice, Babu Prabodh Chandra Rai, who had become an apprentice only in April last. And this junior apprentice was recommended as being "senior by status." Fortunately, the Director has paid no heed to this recommendation, and given the post to Aditya Gopal, conveying at the same time his displeasure to the Personal Assistant for making an improper request.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,  
July 20th, 1900.

34. In noticing the death of Rai Suryya Narayan Sinha, Bahadur, the leader of the Bhagalpur bar, the *Education Gazette* [Chinsura] of the 20th July, says:—

The closing of the public offices in Bhagalpur for the death of Rai Suryya Narayan Sinha.

Our readers will be glad to learn that on receiving the sad news, Mr. Williams, the generous and sympathetic Commissioner, and Mr. Shirres, the able Magistrate, of Bhagalpur, closed their respective offices, viz., the Commissioner's office and the local Criminal and Collectorate offices for one day. One cannot adequately express the pleasure and gratification which the natives feel when they see high European officials doing such honour to their distinguished countrymen.

SANJAY,  
July 20th, 1900.

35. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 20th July contains the following English article:—

The Lieutenant-Governor's reply to the Faridpur addresses.

We promised to notice the reply which His Honour gave to the four addresses. The reply is no doubt a diplomatic treat; for it neither satisfied nor offended any one. In graceful and courteous language His Honour dispersed to the four winds the humble yet reasonable prayers of his memorialists. Regarding the jury-trial, His Honour remarked that the people of Faridpur could not deserve the boon until the great bulk of the people, who were Muhammadans, had become educated. He said in effect:—"Trial by jury cannot prove successful until you have good jurymen. The great bulk of the people are steeped in ignorance, and hence you cannot expect the boon." But how many jurymen we actually require—not more than one hundred. Cannot this district supply this small number of educated men? Are we really savages like the Sonthals living in jungles? Regarding the extension of the Rajbari-Faridpur line to Madaripur, His Honour said to the effect:—"I admit it is a want, but other great schemes are in view, and I cannot promise the line just now." Regarding model farms and technical schools, his opinion is that they have not worked well in other places, so we must give up this idea. We spoil the tank-water by steeping jute, so we cannot expect to get tanks. A few wells will do which the people can dig, with a little expenditure. No Government help is needed. Regarding sanitation, His Honour's advice is "keep your houses and drains clean. It is a work for the people, not for the Government." Regarding the prayers of the Muhammadans, His Honour gently laid the cat-o'-nine tails on the bare back of the Muhammadan memorialists. To make his words more impressive, he addressed them in their own language. We were taken aback when he spoke in Urdu very fluently, though not correctly. He said in effect:—

"Government cannot inaugurate special innovations to suit your slow progress in the race of life. You must compete with the Hindus in open field. If you want rapid progress, you must train your sons as the Hindus do, "&c., &c." These sage counsels fell flat on the Musalmans, who aspired for some special privileges.

We have hitherto held up the dark side of the shield, but there was a bright side also. His Honour promised a substantial aid to the District Board, as their income was inadequate to meet the growing demands on their purse. He would remove the defects in the construction of the Rajbari-Faridpur line, and consider the proposal to make Rajbari a Municipality.

HITAVADI,  
July 20th, 1900.

36. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 20th July writes as follows:—

Dr. Fink's punishment.

Dr. Fink, of Sibsagar, has made himself notorious by ill-treating his servants and not paying them into the bargain, and by insulting Babu Harendra Nath Sen,

a local pleader, for his pleading in Court on their behalf. Harendra Babu had prosecuted Dr. Fink, but Colonel Calthrop has, in a very courteous letter, requested him to withdraw his case. He has also characterised Dr. Fink's conduct as highly reprehensible, and has transferred him to the Lushai Hills as a punishment for what he has done. We cannot praise Colonel Calthrop too highly. He has not tried to screen a guilty subordinate, or to conceal the truth under the pretence of maintaining the prestige of the service. He has shown himself a large-hearted official, and his extremely courteous letter to Harendra Babu has raised him, as well as the Assam Government, in the estimation of the public.

37. A correspondent complains in the same paper against the toll-collector of Sarupganj, in the Nadia district. This European, his sons, and his dogs have all combined to make things too hot for boatmen, who find it too difficult to get passes for their boats. The toll-collector is also levying a subscription to the Gungapuja Fund. The editor hopes that the authorities will enquire into these complaints which have been confirmed by many other correspondents.

38. The same paper has the following on the case of Babu Mahananda Singh, of Dumka, in continuation of what appeared in its previous issue (*vide* Report on Native Papers for the 21st July, 1900, paragraph 38):—

Dr. Kelly is never in the habit of passing written orders. All his orders are verbal, and it is owing to this that Babu Mahananda Singh has been harassed again and again. We shall cite a few more instances to show how Mahananda Babu is being oppressed. Babu Kshetra Mohan Chatterji, a teacher of the Dumka School, had a privy in a filthy condition. This came to the notice of Dr. Kelly, and he reported to Mr. Stark, Subdivisional Officer of Dumka, against Babu Mahananda Singh, whose house is close to that of Kshetra Babu. Mahananda Babu was consequently served with a notice, calling upon him to demolish the privy in question and reconstruct a new privy on an approved plan. It was stated in the notice that the privy to be demolished belonged either to Mahananda Babu or Satya Babu, a clerk in the Dumka post office. Mahananda Babu and Satya Babu live in different houses and use different privies. Mahananda Babu petitioned the Subdivisional Officer, informing him that his privy was always kept clean and was in a good condition. No order was, however, passed on the petition, and Mahananda Babu was called upon to show cause why he should not be prosecuted for contempt of court. Mahananda Babu submitted another petition and prayed for a copy of Dr. Kelly's report. The following order was passed upon this petition:—"He cannot have a copy of the Civil Surgeon's letter. There is no other report on the record." It appears that the Subdivisional Officer has combined with the Civil Surgeon to harass Mahananda Babu. His application for permission to repair his house has not yet been disposed of. Dr. Kelly has passed verbal orders directing him to leave six feet of ground on three sides of his house, unbuilt upon. This will cause great loss to Mahananda Babu.

39. The *Navayug* [Calcutta] of the 21st July complains that Mr. Ryan, Officiating Deputy Postmaster-General, Dacca, is showing partiality towards one Mr. [?] Sessor, who was an Assistant Superintendent, Railway Mail Service, and who has, through Mr. Ryan's favour, thrice officiated as Postal Superintendent, and is still officiating as a Superintendent in Dacca. Mr. Ryan's predecessors, however, declared the man incompetent, and did not permit him to appear in the examination for the Superintendentship. In doing favour to this man, Mr. Ryan has ignored the superior claims of Babu Devendra Nath Chatterji, Postmaster of Chittagong, Babu Ajodhyanath Chaudhuri, Senior Inspector, Dacca, and the Postmasters of Comilla and Noakhali. The Superintendentship of Tippera has temporarily fallen vacant, but Mr. Ryan is waiting for his favourite and has not yet made arrangements to fill up the vacancy.

40. The *Bargavasi* [Calcutta] of the 21st July notices the case of Babu Nabin Chandra Chakravarti, Head-clerk of the Commissariat Department. According to Nabin Babu's version, no reason has been assigned for his dismissal. He had been serving in the department for twenty-five years,

HITAVADI,  
July 20th, 1900.

HITAVADI.

NAVA YUGA,  
July 21st, 1900.

BARGAVASI,  
July 21st, 1900.

and he does not know why he has been dismissed. The police tried its best to prove his guilt, but in vain. His house was searched, and he was harassed and insulted. He appealed to the Viceroy and Lieutenant-Governor, but in vain. He says that the nature of his duties is not such that he can be suspected of embezzling public money. He is of opinion that his dismissal is most probably due to a mistake. A serious charge was brought against one Babu Nabin Chandra Chakravarti, of the Commissariat Office at Jhelum, and the Head-clerk Nabin Chandra Chakravarti has most probably been mistaken for that man. Nabin Babu's story reads like a romance. The case is certainly mysterious. But we have no doubt that the mystery will be unravelled in course of time.

BHARAT MITRA,  
July 23rd, 1900.

41. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July hopes that the Lieutenant-Governor, who is expected to visit Ranchi in the course of his tour, will be pleased to take

the case of the Mundas into his consideration. The poor people are rotting in jail and dying like cats and dogs, while those who shot them are living a comfortable life. The case will certainly excite His Honour's compassion.

PRABHAT,  
July 25th, 1900.

42. The *Prabhat* [Calcutta] of the 25th July has the following:—

No distinction is made between a native and a European Civilian when they enter the service; both are appointed Assistant Magistrates. In course of time, native as well as European Civilians become District Magistrates and District Judges. But a little observation will show that a distinction is made between a native and a European Civilian from the very first. There are now about thirty natives in the Covenanted Civil Service, but no native Civilian has ever been appointed a Secretary, an Under-Secretary, or a Resident. Mr. K. G. Gupta was once appointed Junior Secretary in the Revenue Board, but the Revenue Board has nothing to do with the secret working of the administration. The post which Mr. Gupta filled is generally filled in other provinces by Statutory Civilians. Is no native Civilian fit for a Secretaryship or an Under-Secretaryship? The Government cannot answer this question in the negative.

The Government cannot expect that this invidious distinction made between a native and a European Civilian will pass unnoticed. Native Civilians do not and cannot complain; they are gagged so long as they remain in the service. But there are people intelligent enough to perceive that the Government willingly keeps native Civilians off the Secretariat and the Political Departments. The Judges and Collectors only carry out the orders of the Government; they have nothing to do with, and are quite ignorant of, the inner working of the administrative machinery, by which their conduct is regulated. At present there is no agitation about this invidious distinction between native and European Civilians. But when the number of native Civilians will increase, how will the Government keep them off the high posts in the administration?

Injustice is done to Bengali Civilians in another way. No Bengali Civilian has ever been appointed a Magistrate or a Judge in a Bihar district. As a Commissioner, Mr. R. C. Dutt was never posted to Bihar. It has been almost decided that a Bengali cannot be entrusted with the charge of a Bihar district. How can we then say that no distinction is made between a native and a European Civilian?

PRABHAT.

43. The same paper writes as follows with reference to the case of Nabin Chandra Chakravarti:—

Nabin Chandra Chakravarti's case.

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is not well advised in writing so much about the case of Nabin Chandra Chakravarti. If a commissariat head-clerk is dismissed on the charge or suspicion of bribe-taking, no outsider should have anything to say about the dismissal. No agitation should be made over the matter in newspapers. We lived for a long time in the province about which the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is writing; but we never made the grievances of commissariat employes the subject of discussion in a newspaper. The facts of the case stated in the *Patrika* do not justify its becoming the subject of discussion in the press. Nabin Chandra has endorsed a currency-note for a thousand rupees. He owns two houses in a place like Sialkot, one of which he sold to a commissariat contractor. The police may not have been successful in proving his

41. The document [shown] on the 10th July was that although the  
document is a representation by the Slave Division  
the fact is that the Slave Division was made long after  
the passing of the Court's report on the subject  
and the power of the representative has not yet been published in the  
Public Order. It was found that the Adjustment Division has received  
the report submitted with the document in the Young. The fact is that the  
only one involved has not been served with the report. The fact is that in  
view of the result of the election.

(7) *Thyridia* (Pallas) Juss. = *Thyridia* (Pallas) Juss. —

[illegible][illegible]

14. The *Atlantic Observer* of the 20th Inst has the following:—

The House of Representatives has passed a bill to provide for the relief of the people of the United States who are suffering from the effects of the drought in California. The bill provides for the payment of \$100,000,000 to the State of California to be used for the relief of the people who are suffering from the effects of the drought.

reasonable to cut down the daily wages of those weak and famished labourers who fail to show much smartness in such hard work as the breaking of stone?

The policy which the Government is following in realising the land revenue cannot but be called oppressive. The authorities, the Famine Commission's Report, the resolutions of Government, all unanimously declare that it is not right to trouble the raiyats for the land revenue during a famine. In reply to the address of the Poona and Deccan Sabha, Lord Northcote plainly stated that the land revenue would not be realised, where it could not be realised, without causing serious hardship to raiyats. Lord Northcote's assurance, however, has not been fulfilled. Even at this time of dire distress more than half the land revenue due from the raiyats has been realised in most parts of the Bombay Presidency. The piteous appeals of the people have not been heard.

Even the officials have been compelled to admit that the present famine is the direst and most acute that has ever visited India. They have not also been able to deny that the people are unable to pay the revenue. The public are, therefore, naturally at a loss to understand how more than half the revenue due is being realised even during this dire distress. It is superfluous to say that great oppression, great *zulm*, is being committed in realising the revenue. Here are a few cases of oppression:—

A raiyat belonging to the Choprê taluk, in the Khandesh district of the Bombay Presidency, has been regularly and punctually paying the land revenue. This year the famine has reduced him to straits and he has failed to pay the land revenue. For this default, his estate paying an annual income of about Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000 has been attached by the Government. Lord Northcote says that this raiyat and some other raiyats have been punished in this way, because they had conspired not to pay land revenue to the Government. How can we believe that those who had been willingly and punctually paying the revenue so long, should refuse to pay it though able to pay?

It is well known that many raiyats borrow money from the *mahajans* on the mortgage of their lands. It is complained that the Government is realising from the creditors or *mahajans* of the raiyats what is due to it from the raiyats themselves. We are told that such a highhanded procedure has been adopted in the Parale taluk, in the Khandesh district. In this district the immoveable property of *mahajans* has been attached and sold by public auction for the default of their debtors. Such a highhanded procedure cannot be justified by any section of the Land Revenue Code. If it is justifiable to attach the property of a person for the default of his debtor, why should it not be justifiable to hang Syam for the offence of Ram? It is strange that such an illegal and highhanded procedure should be adopted under British rule.

A correspondent of the *Times of India* writes about oppression and highhandedness in connection with the realisation of the land revenue. What he writes is simply astounding. He says that where the dues of a raiyat cannot be realised, even by attaching or selling his immoveable property, the Revenue Officers do not hesitate to sell his wearing apparel and stock of grain. Cases are not rare where the Revenue Officers have gone the length of attaching the trinkets on the person of the raiyat's wife. In one instance, the tax-collector forcibly took away an eight-anna piece which was tied in the cloth of a woman. This eight-anna piece was perhaps her last resource, but even this was carried off to the exchequer. What could be more regrettable than that such oppression and highhandedness should be committed under British rule?

The same correspondent gives more painful details of the above-mentioned highhanded procedure. It is alleged that, after taking off the eight-anna piece from the woman, the Revenue Officers made her change her cloth in their presence, on the suspicion that more money might be concealed in her cloth. In another case, the Revenue Officers came to know that something was due to a raiyat from some person. They at once arrested that man and made him pay, although he repeatedly denied that he owed anything to the raiyat.

But this is not all. Cases have come to the notice of the correspondent in which the Revenue Officers, failing to realise revenue from the raiyats of a village, ejected them from their houses and barred the doors. The raiyats were told that they would not be allowed to enter their houses if they did not pay the land revenue. They appealed to the Commissioner, and the order of the Revenue Officers was cancelled. In some villages where the raiyats failed to

pay the revenue, the Revenue Officers prevented them from using the water of the well.

These painful incidents almost break one's heart, and lead one to suspect whether one is living under British rule. It is the desire of the authorities that the people should live happily, but their object remains unfulfilled through the fault of the officials. It is strange that the Bombay Government should express its inability to interfere in the matter. What could be more regrettable than that the authorities should not be prepared to enquire whether the raiyats are being harassed or not by the tax-collector?

Lakhs of people are dying from starvation. The Government stands at the door of every country in the world as an applicant for alms. The Viceroy has held up before the world a heart-rending picture of famine, and is thereby trying to excite its sympathy. At the same time, however, the innocent, starving, Indian people are being cruelly oppressed. We bring this to the notice of Lord Curzon, and hope that he will not fail to make an enquiry, though the Bombay Government has failed to do so. These sickening details of oppression have been published in a European paper, and furnished by a European correspondent. Still one hesitates to believe them. It is a great discredit to British rule that in the beginning of the twentieth century and during Lord Curzon's rule, such oppression should be perpetrated.

47. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 23rd July has the following:—

The famine in India—its cause.

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Raghunath Rao says that the people of India are dying from poverty nowadays, but the Government is doing nothing to remove their poverty. When a famine breaks out in India, the Government, as a matter of course, is compelled to save the Indians from dying of starvation by giving them relief. The Settlement Officers assess the revenue so heavily that the people cannot pay rent without being impoverished. In this way the seeds of famine are sown in India.

BHARAT MITRA,  
July 23rd, 1900.

48. The same paper has the following:—

The famine in India—its cause and prevention.

India, which was once in a position to support for six months the entire population of England, is now a street-beggar. What is the reason of this? Has India become unfertile? Certainly not! Then why is it unable to support its people? The fact is India is not poor in its food-supply. It is poor in money. The country's manufactures have disappeared and their place has been taken by European manufactures. The people of India are daily losing their habit of living economically. They have, therefore, to depend very much upon Europe. In this way all the gold and silver of the country is going out to Europe. In course of time India has become so poor that it has not money enough to undertake manufacturing industry. Lord Curzon is trying his best to check the outbreak of famine in India by encouraging Indian manufactures. It is, therefore, the duty of the Indians, who have the good of the country at heart, to co-operate with His Excellency in his noble attempt.

BHARAT MITRA.

## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

49. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's late visit to Bogra, a correspondent of the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 19th July writes as follows:—

The Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Bogra.

His Honour's appearance convinced everybody that he possesses a kind and generous heart. He returned the salutes of the public with both hands and promised to give his consideration to the wants and grievances that were brought to his notice.

Though the arrangements which had been made for His Honour's reception were otherwise extremely satisfactory, the manner of issuing invitation cards for the darbar was not as it should have been. Cards were issued to persons who ought not to have been invited, whilst many educated and respectable people received no cards. To the evening party, which was given in the house of the Nawab Bahadur, only the neighbours and the friends and relatives of the Nawab Bahadur's amla were invited.

SANJIVANI,  
July 19th, 1900

The Magistrate should make over the large surplus of the reception fund to the Indian Famine Fund.

SANJAY,  
July 20th, 1900.

The preparations for Sir John Woodburn's reception at Faridpur.

50. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 20th July says that the phaetons and horses which were brought to Faridpur on the occasion of the Lieutenant-Governor's recent visit to that town belonged to certain zemindars. One of the carriages with its horses belonged to Srimati Barnamoyi Dasi, a resident of Bhowanipur in Calcutta, possessing extensive zamindaris in this district. When the equipage was asked for from her either by Mr. De himself or by some protégé of his, she refused, saying that her horses were sick. But she was in spite of this made to send the phaeton and horses to Faridpur at her own expense.

No horses or carriages were requisitioned from zamindars on the occasion of the visit of either Sir Charles Elliott or Sir Alexander Mackenzie. A carriage, it is true, was borrowed from a zamindar when Sir Steuart Bayley visited Faridpur, but, so far as the writer knows, the carriage was not accepted. But Mr. De carried the Lieutenant-Governor all round the town in another man's carriage, without letting His Honour into the secret. His Honour would not certainly have used the phaeton if he had known to whom it belonged. Could not Mr. De bring a phaeton and pair from some livery stable-keeper in Calcutta at his own cost?

Mr. De has since been promoted. But what of the complaint that was made against him in this paper? Sir John Woodburn should keep an eye on Mr. De, or his arbitrariness will receive no check.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

SAMBALPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
July 4th, 1900.

51. Referring to the conviction of Ramkrishna Pasi, of Deogram, in thana Aurangabad, in district Gaya, and the infliction of capital punishment on him by the Sessions Judge of that district, the *Sambalpur Hitaishini* [Bamra] of the 4th July observes that the Judges in India should take note of the fact that no greater provocation to a Hindu exists in life than the commission of adultery by his wife in his presence. Viewed in this light, the capital punishment inflicted on Ramkrishna ought to be commuted to a lighter one.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
July 4th, 1900.

52. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 4th July approves of the selection of Babu Jagadish Chandra Bose to represent India in the International Congress of Scientists, shortly to be held at Paris, and observes that no better selection could have been made.

SAMVADVAHIKA,  
July 5th, 1900.

53. The *Samvadvaika* [Balasore] of the 5th July is sorry to state that the forecast of the weather as published in Government *Gazettes*, is creating great uneasiness among those who have agricultural interests at stake. That the monsoon will fail is evident from the fact that the distribution of rain over different areas is very irregular.

UTKALDIPIKA,  
July 7th, 1900.

54. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 7th July is glad to learn that the Madras Government has been pleased to withdraw the restriction imposed on teachers, secretaries and managers of aided schools in that province, prohibiting them to join any political association in that Presidency. The writer adds that the order to withdraw from associations that advocate rebellious or disaffected principles is quite unnecessary, as the law already provides for such a contingency.

UTKALDIPIKA,

55. The same paper points out that the contributions to the Famine Fund fall short of the required amount, and hopes that every district in India should try its best to contribute a handsome and decent sum to that fund.

UTKALDIPIKA.

56. The same paper quotes Dewan Bahadur Raghunath Rao in support of its opinion that the settlement of high rents has much to do with the periodical visitation of India by

famine; for each recurring settlement increases the burdens of both the landlord and tenant and thereby sows the seeds of future famine.

57. The same paper approves of the order of the Commissioner of the Orissa Division calling upon all persons who have any occasion to submit vernacular petitions to his office to write Uriya legibly, clearly and correctly, and observes that similar orders should be enforced in other Courts, receiving vernacular petitions, &c., from parties or their pleaders. The writer regrets that the Uriya of the Courts should be notoriously illegible, indistinct and incorrect, thereby forming a striking contrast to the Uriya of the schools and colleges. The writer hopes that the order of the Commissioner, if enforced strictly, will save the time of the *amlas* on the one hand and encourage the entertainment of the services of educated men on the other.

UTKALDIPKA,  
July 16th, 1900.

58. The same paper gives a short account of the Car festival at Puri, showing that the ceremonies in connection therewith were managed ably and satisfactorily by Mr. Price, by whose re-appointment as manager of his estates the Raja hopes to better the condition of his affairs. Though the number of pilgrims was 50,000, and though the construction of the cars was proceeding very slowly before his arrival, Mr. Price managed to make the three cars reach the *Gundicha Mandir* in four days, which was a matter of great pleasure to the pilgrims. The writer learns that the public of Puri are much pleased to see Mr. Price return to his post in proper time.

UTKALDIPKA.

#### ASSAM PAPERS.

59. The *Silchar* [Silchar] of the 15th July has learnt from its Karimganj correspondent that the Assamese students, who are in receipt of Government scholarships and are prosecuting their studies in the Presidency College in Calcutta, are not paid their scholarships regularly every month. Living, as they do, in a place where they are perfect strangers, this causes them extreme hardship.

SILCHAR,  
July 15th, 1900.

60. The *Paridarsak* [Sylhet] of the 16th July fails to see why competent teachers, who teach in classes below the third in high schools in Assam, are not appointed examiners in the Vernacular examinations in that province, when head-masters and head-pandits of middle schools, and even the head-pandits of upper primary schools, are thought eligible for appointment as such examiner. Among the teachers in question there are many graduates and under-graduates who, poorly paid as they are, ought to receive encouragement from the Director of Public Instruction by being appointed examiners. It is not also right to appoint middle school teachers examiners in the upper primary examination, not only because many middle school boys appear at that examination, but also because in many places middle schools and primary schools are situated close to each other, and there is often an intimacy among their teachers.

PARIDARSAK,  
July 16th, 1900.

61. The same paper draws attention to the heavy pressure of work to which clerks in the Assam Secretariat have been subjected of late years. They have to attend office at 10 A.M., and they cannot leave it before 8 P.M., and they are refused leave of absence whenever they apply for it. When Mr. Kershaw was appointed Officiating Secretary, he said that the Secretariat did not contain one-fourth the number of clerks that the Deputy Commissioner's office contained. During his incumbency as Officiating Assistant Secretary, Mr. Ghose, too, wondered how the work of the Secretariat was carried on by so few clerks. Mr. Cookery has created four reference clerkships for the four departments of the Secretariat. These posts should be given to new men, as otherwise the work done by many of the clerks will increase.

PARIDARSAK.

in pressure. It is strange that while Mr. Cookery has sanctioned additional clerks for other offices, he has done nothing to reduce the burden on the clerks of his own office.

Lord Curzon is just now making enquiries with a view to lessen the hardships of clerks in Government offices, and his attention is drawn to the condition of the clerks in the Assam Secretariat.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,  
*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
*The 28th July, 1900.*

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