

THE Hindu Message

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from the Hindu Standpoint.

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THE HINDU MESSAGE stands for

- (1) Self-Government for India within the British Commonwealth,
- (2) Co-operation with the different communities of India without prejudice to Hindu Dharma,
- (3) Education of the Hindus as an integral part of the Indian Nation,
- (4) Advancement of Material prosperity on a spiritual basis and
- (5) Dissemination of pure Hindu Culture.

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A Vision of India.

THE INDIAN VILLAGE—III

By K. S. RAMASWAMI SASTRI, B.A., B.L.,

The artisans their labour contribute

By their harmonious work the village life

To perfect well. Unknowing hate and strife,

They barbarous unripe life can slow transmute

To culture's soft and sweet and mellow fruit

By labour's magic touch. The cutting knife

Of envy doth not strike their hearts, though rife
Is passion in the towns begrimed by soot.

The village pandit versed in life's bright page

And also in the ancient spiritual lore

Doth link the humble lives of men to God.

The priest in daily worship doth engage

And blesses all come to the temple door.

Who will not such a village life applaud?

Dreams of the Soul.

BY AN INDIAN DREAMER.

XC.

Love is Truth in its incandescent glow of
lustrous glory.

The Consecration of Love and Concentration of
Truth are but two aspects of the same power.

My God is Truth and Love. He is in me,
of me, and above me.

Faith is my inner buoyancy bearing me
through the ocean of doubt and sorrow and hate
and strife into the sunshine of trust and joy and
love and peace.



XCI.

The only all-powerful revolution is that of love.
It alone removes evil for ever.

We want the heroisms of love, not the hero-
isms of death.

I love and worship not the marble beauty of a
well-fed thoughtless life but the mobile beauty of a
life which rises through travail and suffering into
peace and happiness.

The soul self-redeemed by love will achieve
the redemption of the world

Love everybody at all times and in all places
till they catch fire from our love and glow with
answering love divine.



Events of the Week.

British policy in regard to Egypt seems to have taken a decidedly statesmanlike course, instead of the calamitous blundering that had characterised it there till lately quite as much as in Ireland and in a lesser degree in this land today. In the course of the declaration to the Sultan, wired out to this country by Reuter, the Government state: (1) The British protectorate over Egypt shall be terminated and Egypt declared an independent Sovereign State, (2) As soon as the Egyptian Government passes an Act of Indemnity applying to all Egyptian inhabitants, Martial Law, as proclaimed on November 2, 1914, shall be withdrawn. (3) The following matters shall be absolutely reserved to the British Government's discretion, until it is possible to conclude agreements on them between the British and Egyptian Governments, namely, the security of the Empire's communications in Egypt, the defence of Egypt against all foreign aggression or interference, either direct or indirect, the protection of foreign interests in Egypt and the protection of the minorities. As regards the Soudan, pending the conclusion of agreements, the *status quo* in all these matters shall remain intact. It will be noticed that the declaration makes no mention of Britain's right to garrison Egypt indiscriminately with troops which had rendered the earlier attempts at settlement so disastrously abortive. Lord Allenby is being congratulated on all sides for having been instrumental in bringing about this welcome change in Egyptian policy.

Writing on the Report of the Select Committee on the bill to repeal the Press Act, the *Madras Mail* writes:—Oscar Wilde was once asked by a lady in whose house he was staying, "and have you worked hard to-day, Mr. Wilde?" "Very hard, madam," was the reply: "in the morning I inserted a comma and in the afternoon I took it out again." The Select Committee appointed to report on the Bill to repeal the Press Act appears to have been almost as painstaking. In response to the nearly unanimous expression of disapproval regarding the proposal "that in the case of all newspapers the name of the responsible Editor should be clearly printed on the front sheet of the paper," the Committee suggests the deletion of the words "the front sheet of," and imagines itself stupendously clever. In our opinion the suggestion is merely insane. If Editors are to be compelled to blazon their names like the advertisers of pink pills and glutinous hair restorers throughout the length and breadth of the land, for heaven's sake let them do so openly, manfully and with becoming dignity in as conspicuous a place as the enforced celebrity (or notoriety) demands.

His Excellency the Governor has appointed an Advisory Committee for public health administration with the Hon'ble Mr. P. Ramarayanigal, Minister for Local Self Government as President and the following gentlemen as members:—M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur Dr. C. B. Rama Rao Ayl., M. L. C., M. R. Ry., C. Natesa Mudaliar Ayl., M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu Garu, M. L. C., Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Bhaskara Raja Rajeswara Setupati *alias* Mutturamalinga Setupati Ayl., Raja of Ramnad, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., C. Ramalinga Reddi Garu, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar Ayl., M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Diwan Bahadur T. Desika Achariyar Ayl., M. L. C., M. R. Ry., W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliar Ayl., M. L. C., and Mr. F. J. Richards, M. A. I. C. S., M. L. C. Mr. F. J. Richards will act as Secretary to the Committee.

His Excellency the Governor has appointed an Advisory Committee for local and municipal administration with the Hon'ble Mr. P. Ramarayanigal, Minister for Local Self Government as President and the following gentlemen as members:—M. R. Ry., O. Tanikachala Chettiyar Avergal, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar Avergal, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju Garu, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu Garu, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., B. Muniswami Nayudu Garu, M. L. C.

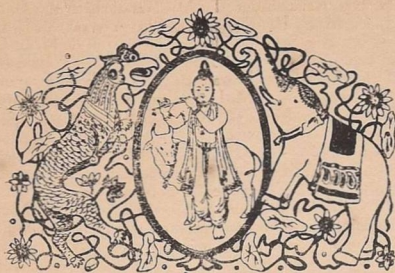
M. R. Ry., Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu Garu, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., K. Sadasiva Bhat Avergal, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar Ayl., M. L. C., Khan Sahib Saiyid Diwan Abd-ul-razaq Sahib Bahadur, M. L. C., M. R. Ry., Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayana-murthi Nayudu Garu, M. L. C. and Mr. F. J. Richards, M. A., I. C. S., M. L. C. Mr. F. J. Richards will act as Secretary to the Committee.

Col. Gidney's speech at the annual meeting of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association is a welcome sign of a new spirit that is coming over that community. The Colonel said that India was their motherland, they had to live and die in India, and they must ally themselves with those classes in India who were to-day helping the Government in making the Reforms Scheme a success. The Indian realised his strength and the Anglo-Indians their weakness, and he could assure them from the experience he had had with the leading Indian politicians—his Indian colleagues in the Legislative Assembly—that the Indian did not look askance at the Anglo-Indian. The Indian realised that the Anglo-Indian community was a unit of great potential value and he wanted the community to join and share with him in the development of their motherland. They must therefore take time by the forelock and realise that they had to live "en bon camaraderie" and goodfellowship with those Indians who were out for a constructive Government, who were striving to obtain swaraj by a process of evolution and not by a process of revolution who were out to help the present Government to obtain a stable, representative democratic government, and as Indian citizens he (the President) asked his audience to think of that first.

It is anticipated that no less than Rs. 150 crores will be spent during the next five years on railway development in India. India, as we know, is already manufacturing railway material on a moderate scale and a number of projected steel and iron foundry and factory schemes indicate great developments in that direction in the near future. But no one can pretend for even a moment that such development will proceed apace or unhampered in the face of unlimited competition from abroad. The motion of Sir Vithaldas Thackersey therefore, to which has been added an incongruous addition, urging that a committee be appointed to consider what steps should be taken to encourage the establishment of the necessary industries so that as large an amount as possible of the Rs. 150 crores be spent in India, is eminently understandable and practicable. The question of purchasing in the cheapest market will, we hope, not be brought in to prejudice the interests of the country.

The programme of temporary loans to those who have suffered by the Malabar disturbances is a very timely one. The objects for which loans may be granted are reconstruction of houses, purchase of cattle and relief of distress. The period of the loans will be one year in the first instance and will perhaps be extended in cases of special hardship. The limits up to which loans may be granted in each case for each purpose are reasonable, and no interest will be levied for the first year except in the case of loans for the relief of distress when the sum exceeds Rs. 200.

Mr. Rainey, Democratic member of the House of Representatives, from Chicago, has introduced a resolution providing for the appointment of an "Ambassador and Minister" to the Irish Free State. "Great Britain having granted self-government to Ireland," the resolution reads, "the people of the United States, bound by ties of kinship of the people of Ireland, are anxious to show their friendship, and direct diplomatic relations between the two countries will be mutually beneficial." The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House is considering the enactment of the necessary legislation authorising the President to appoint Ministers to Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. If American Ministers are appointed naturally the Dominions would have to reciprocate. With a British Ambassador and five Ministers from the Dominions, each maintaining his separate establishment, Washington would be an interesting place in a diplomatic sense.



The Hindu Message

The Indian Budget.

Sir Malcom Hailey's financial statement presented to the Assembly last week has well been called a calamity budget. It shows a deficit of 34 crores as against an anticipated surplus of 71 lakhs. For the ensuing year the expenditure will be 142½ crores, of which the military expenditure alone amounts to 62.18 crores. The revenue against this will be only 110½ crores. It is proposed to make up the deficit by additional taxation to the tune of 30 crores. The Loan Programme lays down a 25 crores rupee loan and a 26.4 crores sterling loan, of which 30 crores will be applied to railways, 9.8 crores as loans to provinces and 7.9 crores for discharge for debt. Such is the budget at a glance.

No criticism of the budget proposals can ever be other than academic so long as the power of the purse is withheld from the people. And the present budget, though it is a tale of deep financial tragedy, proceeds on a fundamentally wrong basis altogether: and we shall be surprised if it does not present an altered appearance as it finally emerges from under the fires of debate. We have no desire to grudge the Finance Member the congratulations of a contemporary for unflinching and uncompromising courage. But we should think his courage would have been more valued if he had gone straight to the root of the evil. The scandalous, accomplished fact of enormous pay and allowances to the services is a heavy incubus on our finances; and though there are rumours of mopping at the waves in Partingtonian fashion, the conscience of the Indian Treasury seems to be dormant here as in other things more vital. Secondly the monstrous proportions to which military expenditure has reached ought seriously to be curtailed. This has not been done, though we are assured on the highest authority that the Army is in favour of economy and retrench-

ment. The third and by far the most important defect in the budget proposals is that they are based altogether on the wrong notion of increasing revenue to meet expenditure, instead of cutting down the latter rigorously to bring it under control.

The "Smashers" of the budget will first turn their attention naturally to the military expenditure, which has been termed a scandal of first class magnitude. It amounted in 1920-21 to 71 crores as against 64 crores in 1918-19, and even now it is gaily mounting up in spite of the reduction in its strength. Even in the matter of enhancement of salaries, the Indian soldier gets less generous treatment than the British soldier. We are not of those who think that the military expenditure ought to be curtailed remorselessly, but we certainly maintain that it is wasteful finance and that the expenditure is distributed in the most unfair manner between the British and the Indian units. Army Finance ought to be placed on a sounder footing, somewhat on the lines suggested by us last week: and the sons of the soil must come into their own in the matter of pay and other allowances. This, we think, will entail a heavier expenditure than at the present day, but we grudge it at our peril. The growth in administrative charges is a greater scandal and the legislature is impotent in the matter, especially in view of the recently ascertained opinions of the Law Officers in regard to Mr. P. P. Ginnwala's motion in the Assembly. There ought to be no doubt in the minds of our legislators that the present portfolios of Education, Agriculture and Revenue are encumbrances that ought to be done away with, and as the *Times of India* says the Secretariat could be largely reduced and the way cleared, without extra expense and quite possibly with economy on the contrary, for a member for communications and a civil member for defence. These are, we are afraid, counsels of perfection: so long as India's Dominion status much lauded is only a camouflage for the thing that is not. The new budget proposals therefore proceed on radically wrong lines and we should expect there will be a deal of wordy warfare of impotent rage in the councils before it emerges into final shape.

As regards the Finance Member's proposals for raising additional revenue, we are sure the country will set itself against the new impost on salt and matches and kerosine oil; and the restoration of last year's proposals in regard to postal rates. An increased excise duty on cotton goods may or may not find, in the face of the Khadder movement,

much support. Around these impositions there is bound to be a large volume of protest. The increase in railway fares is another point of contention. The vast majority of the users of railways derive no benefit or comfort at all from these enhanced fares: while cheapness of communications ought to be a vital consideration in a country like this. Strong voices, we are sure, will be raised in the Councils against this "lucky bag" theory which induces the State to push up railway revenues to draw upon for meeting the demands of other departments. This is a very bad expedient and will work the greatest hardship on all ranks of the people. We do not think much exception can be taken to the other impositions of customs duties. The apprehension that a high duty on iron and other machinery will destroy all chances of an early industrial development in the country would, when we look at the evidence before the Fiscal Commission tendered by the representative of the Iron industry, seem to be exaggerated.

Indian Defence Problems.—II

By S. P. THIAGA RAJAN.

The very first thing that strikes us on a glance at the map is the length of our undefended sea-coast, which easily keeps us at the mercy of a strong naval power. Then there is the North-West Frontier, through which have poured into the country countless hosts of invaders, and the North-Eastern frontier. It might indeed be said that the nations on the North-Eastern frontier give us no need to worry for the present; it cannot however be contended that this will always be so. In spite of the Washington Conference, rather in our opinion because of its curious denouement, we must reckon with the possibilities of Japan organising China and the combined powers proving a threatening danger to India from the East. Thirty years or even less will take our eyes eastward for certain. And British foreign policy is not calculated to make us optimistic in regard to that possibility. It has been said, and not without a show of justice, that British encroachments in China are a menace not merely to China and Japan but to Asiatic freedom itself. And the Quadruple Entente has in fact put its seal of approval on Britain's control of practically one-third of China. "Britain has established a continuous sphere of influence through Tibet, Szechuan and the Yangtse Valley, dividing Northern China from Southern China. Britain is building a large naval base in Singapore against Japan." Siam and portions of Indo-China are undoubtedly Chinese territory. China will not lie low for long; nor is it to Japan's interest that she should: and there are other complications in international politics, often referred to in these columns.

And this brings us to the point of view from which the Esher Report was written. We shall state the Government point of view, as we take it, in as few words as possible. The problem of India's defence can never be solely hers, it must be Imperial to some extent. The freedom of India from invasion which she at present enjoys is not secured by the presence of an Army in India alone, but rather, it is contended, by the knowledge that any action against India would result in all the other component parts of the Empire coming to her aid. This very knowledge of the solidity of the British Commonwealth of Nations is an asset that saves enormously in military expenditure. If however, India expects help from other members of the Empire, she in her turn will equally render help. It is thus we get the idea underlying many of the Esher Committee's recommendations. It was admitted by Sir Goldfrey Fell to have been badly worded, and all intention was disclaimed to make over the Indian Army to the virtually unfettered control of the British War Office. It is thought solely desirable for purposes of Imperial defence that the armies of the Dominions forming the Empire should be homogenous in organisation, equipment and training, with of course modifications to suit local necessities, so that the Imperial Army should not in times of war be hampered by the administrative difficulties with which it was faced during the late war. India, like the rest of the Dominions, is jealous of interference from outside, but if all can be brought to see the reasons for a similarity in training, equipment and organisation and for the solution of military problems from an Imperial standpoint, without in any way, endangering the freedom of each of the Dominions in the control of its own affairs, we shall have advanced a large step on the road to economy in military expenditure. Combines have been most successful in business. The recommendations of the Esher Committee are an effort to apply the same principles to military problems, which would assuredly meet with like success here also.

That is the Government view, as accurately as we can gauge it and who can deny there is much to be said for it?

To be Continued.

Madras Finances.

There is little ground for congratulation in the financial statement presented on Saturday by the Hon. Sir Charles Todhunter. The total anticipated expenditure next year is Rs. 1,774 lakhs, against an income of Rs. 1,564½ lakhs. After making various adjustments, there will be an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 105½ lakhs. This is in spite of the fact that the budgeted expenditure for 1922-23 is less by Rs. 18 lakhs than in the year just closing. The deficit will be met by increased charges under stamps, court, and registration fees, which are

estimated to bring in Rs. 77½ lakhs. This leaves still a sum of Rs. 28 lakhs which has got to be met by taxation or by borrowing. It has been decided to abandon the proposed amusements tax, and the reimposition of the village cesses has, as the reader knows, been already rejected by the Legislative Council.

We should be thankful for small mercies and be glad that the deficit is less than was at one time feared it will be. Sir Charles' indignation at the injustice done to Madras in the matter of the provincial settlement, though it is somewhat the result of past financial parsimony, is very natural. It is well however not to lay much store by what the Central Government may do next year or in the years following. No further taxation is possible: and we do not think the present state of the money market is sufficiently reassuring to justify the floatation of a loan. To say that the position might have been worse for our finances and that we must hope for better times to come is rather womanish.

So we hark back to retrenchment and economy as the only way out of our woeful financial situation. We think we may pay far too high a price for efficiency: and that what is really needed is something like the Super-axe laid at the timbers in the field: and not the nibbling of a mouse at the mountain of our administration, resulting in the abolition of the posts of a few peons or clerks. The accredited organ of the ministerialists says on this, "If any one has worked out a scheme of retrenchment without impairing the integrity and usefulness of the administration, we for our part would have been very pleased to advocate its adoption. We also take it that the party now in power would not have hesitated to give such a scheme their hearty support." A more pitiful misconception of the functions of the party in power we have never seen. It is not for the opposition members, adhering for the moment to our contemporary's terminology, to produce a scheme. It is for the ministerialists, the party in power as they call themselves, to produce a scheme and stand by it. To talk as *Justice* does is to indulge in puerilities and to disown responsibilities. May we by the way remind our contemporary of a resolution of the house itself recommending the reduction in the number of executive councillors and in other head quarter staffs. Homage has been paid by the Finance Member in abundant measure, enlivened by invoking the aid of sage Kautilya, to this principle resulting practically in nothing. We shall watch with interest how our "representatives" deal with the budget.

Literary and Educational.

The Artist's Apologia.

At the Manchester Houldsworth Hall Mr. John Drinkwater spoke on "Poetry and the drama." The chief thing he did was to consider in some detail what it was that had happened when a work of art came into being. Could devotion to art, he asked, rightly be held, in so far from a world, a meet occupation for all the resources of a man's mind? Was a man justified in presenting to society the things he had created in art and saying that was all he intended to do, his sole contribution to the things society needed?

One of the great troubling things to the human mind, Mr. Drinkwater contended, was inability to make a synthesis of the confused, chaotic, abounding experience of life. He illustrated his point by a story of an officer, naturally of a cheerful and good-humoured temperament, who, in action in France, was roused to unaccustomed anger by seeing a soldier doing something that imperilled the lives of his comrades. In the moment of the anger's insurgence, and before it could be discharged, a shell exploded. The officer lost his memory, became morose, bad-tempered, altogether a different man. Under hypnosis, a doctor helped him to reconstruct what was happening when the shell exploded. The occasion of the anger was recalled; the arc of the emotional experience was completed, and the man was cured. The arc of emotional experience, Mr. Drinkwater's case went, was unresolved in many people in most of their life's affairs, and there was a great hunger that the resolution should come. The artist, more commonly than most people, achieved the resolution, the completion of the arc of emotion and experience. He isolated experiences from their chaotic environment, gave them a concrete shape and form of their own, set them, as it were, in their own atmosphere, where he could see all round them—could, in fact, understand them. Every time a human mind did this, went to its own experience and gave it a self-dependent shape and being, a work of art was created.

SETTLING OUR OWN PROBLEMS.

An Artist did not achieve this completion of the emotional arc for anybody's satisfaction but his own; though, once it was done, there was no reason at all why he should not take an interest, even a commercial interest, in the career of his work. He was as much entitled as anybody else to go to society and say this was the best thing he could do and he wanted so much for doing it.

Having dealt with the way in which, in his view, art came into being, Mr. Drinkwater went on to speak of certain misconceptions concerning the functions of art. And notably, the function of art was not to settle people's problems; its work of settling problems ended when it settled the artist's problem. Mr. Drinkwater spoke with some impatience of the banking of people to have their problems settled by somebody else instead of doing their own jobs. A man's problems could only be solved in terms of his own spiritual experience; it was idleness to go for a solution to Shakespeare or Milton or Wordsworth. A man should go to an artist, not because some philosophic or moral handling of a matter appealed to the man's own outlook; he should go to the artist in order to see how lucidity and form could be given to one person's solution of confused experience. That would brace the faculties and give one a better chance of achieving like lucidity of form in dealing with one's own confused experience. "It is the shaping, the lucidity," said Mr. Drinkwater, "that is the valuable

thing for us, not the thing that is shaped. That is the poet's concern—not ours."

In looking about the world to-day, Mr. Drinkwater said, he saw two sets of men struggling everywhere for mastery—the men who sought to dominate their fellows and the men who sought to understand them. The hope of the world was that those who sought to understand would win. He believed they would, because they were the stronger. They were the stronger because they did not know fear. Men sought to dominate others only because they feared them. The work of artists, Mr. Drinkwater claimed, tended to strengthen those who sought to understand, because artistic work tended to the understanding of experience, and complete understanding was love. Shakespeare was able to create a Rosalind and an Iago because he understood them both; and because he understood them both so thoroughly he loved them both.

Reviews.

Non-Co-operation by Mr. C. F. ANDREWS. Ganesh & Co., Madras. As. 8.

This is a reprint of Mr. Andrews, four letters to an English friend, explaining the genesis and the justification of this movement and which appeared in the press of this country. It is a revolt against the barren foreign culture India had so long been imbibing. "Now she is realising that to go forward any further along that course is to follow the path of suicide and destruction. Therefore she is making the Great Refusal, which is Non-Co-operation."

The Claim for Independence, By the Same. Ganesh & Co., Madras. As. 8.

In this book Mr. Andrews gives his view, arrived at after deep searchings of heart, that, in the face of the prevailing Imperialism and the apothecosis of the white race in the British Empire, India "can never have an honored seat and place of welcome within the colonies of the British Empire."

Dozen Weapons, by K. S. Seshagiri Iyer, Price 8 Annas, to be had of Mr. Vasudeva Sastri, Sanskrit Teacher, Tiruvannamalai.

The weapons are Spiritual, Kshama, Ahimsa, Sarva-Bhaua Daya, Dharma, Dhairya, Indrya-Nigraha, Suddha, Satya, Thapas, Thyaga, Santhi, and Dhyana. In the introduction, we read that if the successful wielder of these weapons could conquer death and control his mind itself, it is unnecessary to talk of his other powers.

Indians in South Africa, by C. F. Andrews. Ganesh & Co., Madras. As. 8.

Mr. Andrews writes with authority on the issues raised by the Asiatic Enquiry Committee and White Imperialism and gives his view that repatriation is no remedy. What is urgently needed are better prospects of education for the Indian labourers over there and advocates the sending out of teachers in large numbers to South and East Africa.

Nityanhikam, The Daily Rites of a Brahman. R. Subrahmanya Vadhiar, Bookseller and Publisher, Kalpatthi, Palghat. As. 8.

We have often put forth in these columns the view that the ordering of the daily life of an *asthika* Hindu, if rigidly followed, the surest way to an

abiding peace and vitality; and have often regretted that in these degenerate times our daily rites are not attended to by most of our generation. Even the revivalist fervour induced by our new nationalism is very often only a thin veneer. We welcome this small sanskrit publication, and a very cheap one too, inasmuch as it brings together in a handy form the daily sacrifices enjoined on Brahmaṇas. It is as rare a publication as it is well got-up and we wish it is bought and the practices therein given adopted by every one of our educated Brahmaṇas.

Thoughts upon Democracy, by JOSEPH MAZZINI. Ganesh & Co., Madras. As. 4.

This is a beautifully got-up reprint of Mazzini's essay on "Democracy the outcome of the Law of Progress," and covers over 40 pages. The brochure has an introduction by Mr. F. E. Wodland which gives the outstanding facts of Mazzini's life.

The Temple of Freedom, by MRS. SAROJINI NAIDU. Ganesh & Co., Madras. As. 4.

This is a reprint of Mrs. Naidu's address at the All-India Students' Conference during Congress week at Ahmedabad.

The Indian Problem, by Mr. C. F. Andrews, G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras. Re. 1.

This is a collection of Mr. Andrews' various essays and addresses on the many questions now engaging the attention of the country, and has a handsome frontispiece. It opens with his famous essay on "Indian Independence," followed by his articles on 'India and the Empire,' "Letters on Non-co-operation" and other papers on Swadeshi, National Education the Driek Evil and the Opium trade. Many of these have already appeared in the periodical press in this country.

Miscellaneous.

The Idler.

on

Some Schoolboy Howlers

"Howlers" good or bad are always amusing and questions on history seem to supply the largest number of these delightful things. "When the South Sea Bubble was drawn up in the reign of Charles," a boy wrote on his examination paper, "the men placed it on the table and sending for Cromwell, asked him to sign it. Cromwell when he saw the document put on a stern look, and swinging his hand in the air, shouted, Take away that bubble!" The following gems are from other examination papers. "The Three Estates of the Realm are Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and Balmoral." James the Second gave birth to a son unexpectedly and so they turned him off the throne." "Henry Eight was the greatest widower the world has ever seen." "Julius Caesar was renowned for his great strength. He threw a bridge across the Rhine." "John Bright was the inventor of a terrible disease called by his name." "Gibbon wrote a work called the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." "A vacuum is where the Pope lives!" The best for terseness however is that of a boy who when asked to give particulars of the last address of the Great Earl of Chatham wrote the simple reply "Heaven."

Red Letter Days

The phrase means just what it says—a day so important that it is recorded in red letters on the memory. It originated in the custom of the Bank of

England of recording all saints', holidays and other times when no banking was done in red ink on the calendars.

Cats

All sorts of ideas are held about cats. It was Charles I who told Strafford that "Parliaments are of the nature of cats, they grow cursed with age." Lovers of cats should read Miss Repplier's "In the Dozy Hours" or grow sentimental with Pierre Loti in his sketch of his two cats. Edgar Allan Poe's "Black Cat" is eerie; but Swinburne who drank the wine of life, has his—Stately, kindly, lordly friend, Condescend

Here to sit by me and turn
Glorious eyes that smile and burn,
Golden eyes, love's lustrous mead,
On the Golden page I read.

It is George Wither, not always the most gay and debonaire of poets, who sings—

Hang sorrow ! Care will kill a cat,
And therefore let's be merry !

Kemble as Othello

* Kemble, the great actor played his Othello in London in the full uniform of a British General and continued to appear in Macbeth with a hearse like plume in his bonnet, until Sir Walter Scott plucked it out and substituted a single eagle's feather.

The Doggy Premier.

Mr. Lloyd George's fondness for dogs is very marked; he can never be really happy where they are not. Some that used to be at criccieth now find a delightful hunting ground at Chequers, others make their headquarters at 10 Downing Street and travel when the family travels. When Mr. Lloyd George goes out he takes a dog if it is at all possible; when he is indoors a dog frequently lies on his knee even when he is working. Recently the animals in his possession included a sheepdog, a Welsh terrier, a Pekinese and two Highland puppies.

Tree and a diner

Mr. Hesketh Pearson's "Modern Men and Manners" has this story about Sir Herbert Tree. When lunching at a restaurant one day, Sir Herbert Tree twice sent a waiter to an unknown person sitting alone at another table with a message for "Mr. Henry Arthur Jones." The solitary gentleman finished his meal before the others and on his way out stopped at Tree's table. Addressing Tree with some little heat, he said: "I don't see why you should insist on knowing me. Surely it was enough to point out your mistake once? My name is not Jones." "Do you mean to tell me quite seriously that you are not Mr. Henry Arthur Jones?" queried Tree.

"I do, Sir!" shouted the other. Then you are quite right to deny it," mildly returned Sir Herbert as he continued his lunch.

Famous Men's Servants

The prominence given, in photographs and so on to the cook and housemaids who came over with the Irish delegates for the Conference some months back on the Irish situation is not after all, out of line of tradition, for the servants of notable people have their place in all true surveys of their masters' lives and acts. Dumas judged rightly when he gave Charles I's Parry his due place in "Twenty years After." "Mr. Housman judged well when he made John Brown (John Brown who dared to call the Empress Frederick "woman") a leading character in his Queen Victoria play; and we owe the rounding off of the Character of George IV. to what one of his valets had to say of his private life, trivial disclosures which yet gave the true value of human meanness.

Disraeli, in his private letters, made many pleasant references to his own personal attendant; we like to watch Macaulay, in the intervals of his history making provision for the comfort of his two servants and the father of one of them. There was the old keeper at Windsor who thought very little of the Prince Consort's shooting and did not hesitate to express his opinion of "the farmer," as he called him, a good deal to the embarrassment of the rest of the party.

"Lord Hamilton's Story"

Lord Frederic Hamilton tells the following story concerning an inexperienced motor owner who had a number of casualties to his discredit and remarked to his chauffeur that he hated more than anything else to run over a baby. "Yes sir," was the reply, their feeding bottles does play havoc with the tyres.

The Indianisation of the Services.

The behaviour of Mr. Jamnadas on the question of the Indianisation of the Services is in strict keeping with the character of a convenient easer of Government position which he has lately developed and will hardly surprise any one. That living gramophone of Mrs. Besant seems to have entered the Legislative Assembly merely for the purpose of moving pompous resolutions on important matters and then for hastily beating retreat as soon as the Government spokesman has represented its side of the case and to devote what little time may be spared from it in ventilating his *guru's* immeasurable dislike of Mr. Gandhi. And if any doubt had existed as to his proper role as a representative (!) of the people from his past conduct, it will inevitably be set at rest by his behaviour on the above question. He moves a resolution demanding the recruitment of all but technical Services in this country alone and an early and full provision of facilities for higher technical studies in this country with a view to ultimately bring them in the former category. However, the Home member rises and delivers himself of a long tirade against the injustice of the demand and lo! Mr. Jamnadas is so convinced of the untenable nature of his case which he had the audacity to argue out in a pretty long speech only a few minutes back and of the utter reasonableness of the line of action taken up by Sir William Vincent that he at once consents to an amendment moved by so eminently reasonable a being as the Home member himself requiring the Government of India to consult the Local Government on the question and to send a despatch to the Secretary of State on the question. Now it is a matter of common knowledge that the Services question is not only a most important question that has agitated the minds of all politically minded people in this country since a long time past but, which, with the passage of the Reforms, has assumed an importance which is almost vital and if the anomalous nature of the position created by it is not soon rectified, it will be found capable of bearing the most disastrous consequences. The point at issue, however, is fairly clear and what is demanded is a scrapping of the powers possessed by the Secretary of State to lay down rules governing the recruitment, pay and pensions of the Imperial Services and a transference of that power to the Government of India. The Secretary of State has the power under the new Act to effect that transfer and if that simple procedure were adopted and the responsibility transferred to the Govern-

ment of India, the latter in its turn transferring it, for all practical purposes, to the Indian Legislature, the whole problem would be easily solved. Instead however, of insisting straight on it, that weather-cockish gentleman of a Mr. Jamnadas has the temerity to consent to a course which is practically tantamount to shelving it, at least for a considerable time to come. Much is being said to-day of gaining political power by building up conventions. Now it cannot be gainsaid that within certain limits that is a most expeditious and comparatively easy way of doing it. But the question is, who is going to create conventions and how? Is it Messrs. Jamnadas & Co.? And by the way in which they go about their business at present? We wish some answer to these questions will be forthcoming.

—The Gujarati Punch.

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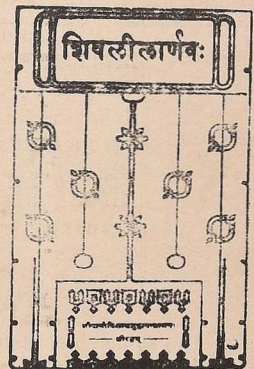
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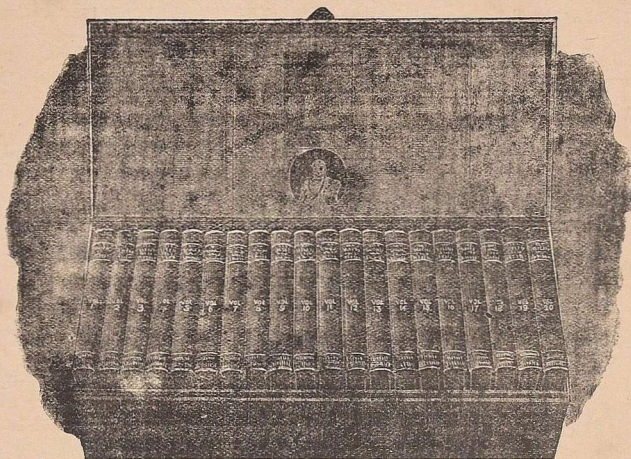
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