

India

FOR THE

WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1901.

No. 167. New Series.
No. 261. Old Series.

REGISTERED AS A PRESS...
NEWSPAPER...
No. 27 Post, &c.

Notes and News	1	Letter to the Editor: Max Müller's	8
The Lahore Congress	4	Memorial (Sir W. Wedderburn)	8
General Sir Arthur Cotton	5	"Rhoda" (Max Müller: More Indian	8
Our London Letter	6	Tributes	9
Notes from Bombay	7	Lessons from a London Workshop	9
The Indian National Congress	8	(Mr. N. B. Wagle)	9
The Famine in India	8	Public Meetings on Indian Questions	11
The Madras Home Fund	8	Mr. Naoroji's Engagements	11
The Investors' Review Fund	8	Advertisements	12

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE last telegram from the Viceroy on the subject of the famine was dated December 4. The discontinuance of the weekly information as to the numbers of people in receipt of relief naturally suggested that the famine was over. But, as we subsequently pointed out, the distress arising out of the famine is by no means over. And the outlook may be dimly inferred from the following extracts from the weekly review in the *Bombay Gazette* of December 15:—

The continued absence of rain in the Bombay Presidency is causing great anxiety. Gujrat is still in a serious plight; autumn crops are withering in Ahmedabad and Surat, while in Ahmednagar and other parts a similar condition prevails. . . . Rain is also needed in the north-western Provinces, particularly in Dehra Dun, Garhwal, Budaun, Barabanki and Jalaun. . . . In Berar the winter dews more moisture, and in Hyderabad the situation has improved. . . . No rain fell in Rajputana, and in Central India the general outlook is unsatisfactory.

The end of the famine must not be allowed to excite the British public into the complacent fancy that the famine is "over."

The description of the celebrations at Sydney on the occasion of the Australian Commonwealth on New Year's day, we read this:—

The procession, in passing through the various streets, was greatly admired by the Indians, 21st Lancers, Household Cavalry, Foot Guards, and others being the recipients of an especially warm welcome. The strikingly smart appearance and brilliant uniforms of the British and Indian troops awakened the highest enthusiasms and admiration.

The spectacular and sentimental side, and all very well in its way. So far as concerns the Indians, the practical side—will be found described in our articles of ours on "The Indian in Australia."

(November 25, 1898; *INDIA*, vol. x., p. 277) and "Our Indian Subjects" (December 16, 1898; *INDIA*, vol. x., p. 317). Apparently, for the moment, the Sydney demonstrators forgot the Coloured Races Restriction and Regulation Act, 1896, which applies the provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act, 1888, to all persons belonging to any coloured race inhabiting the continent of Asia or the continent of Africa.

When shall we see an Australian military deputation returning the visit on the celebration of the inauguration of the Indian Commonwealth?

The *Manchester Guardian* (Dec. 31) recalls the fact that the last day of last year marks the lapse of three centuries "since the East India Company received its charter from the hands of Queen Elizabeth, and so laid the foundations of our rule in the immemorial East." Our contemporary is of opinion that "there is still too much ground for the complaint which Sir Henry Maine made in 1886—that the chief difficulty of Indian Government was "the practical impossibility" of getting the English people, with whom lies the ultimate power over India, to understand the very foreign psychology of the Indian races. It continues:—

With his usual "heightened and telling way" of putting things, Macaulay pronounced in 1833 that a broken head in Cold Bath Fields produced a greater sensation in the House of Commons than three pitched battles in India. That is no longer true, but the apathy with which the late Indian famine was regarded by too many people may be compared with the keen interest taken in a war that has slain far fewer victims. The greater knowledge of Indian life which the present generation possesses is due rather to Mr. Rindyard Kipling

than to Sir William Hunter, and the treatment of the plague, which so nearly led to a second and larger Mutiny, shows how much truth there is still in Sir Henry Maine's taunt. Perhaps the anniversary of to-day will inaugurate a century in which we shall measure our study of Indian problems by our pride in our Indian Empire, which most of us may regard, with De Quincey, as "the superbest monument of demoniac English energy," even though we make Carlyle's reservation of preferring Shakespeare.

One would like to hope so. The *Manchester Guardian*, anyhow, has set a striking example to the British Press, with which, in the last resort, lies the prescription of the public measure of attention to Indian affairs.

Writing in the *Manchester Guardian* (Jan. 1) on "The Empire," in a series of retrospective articles on the Nineteenth Century, Mr. William Clarke says:—

England's real Empire, or "imperium," in the proper sense of the word, lies in India. Since the dominions of England in India have been consolidated, the rest of the Empire has been administered with a view to India. Whether it has been Afghan wars, relations with Russia, intervention in Egypt, control of the Suez Canal, preservation of supremacy in the Mediterranean, or control of the Cape, Indian interests have been the real objective. This has been perhaps the most important outcome of British Imperialism during the century.

In his "History of England" Mr. Spenser Walpole says of the Indian Empire: "It has inspired British statesmen with the jealousy of Russia which was the true cause of the Crimean War; it has induced them to support the worst Government in Europe; it has driven their two expeditions in which they have expended blood and treasure without obtaining any compensating advantages." One's opinion as to these undeniable facts will depend on what judgment one makes on the value of our rule in India to ourselves and to the peoples of that country. But it cannot be denied that India has revolutionised our policy.

"Undoubtedly," Mr. Clarke concludes, "the rule of England in India has developed a policy founded more and more on 'reasons of State.'"

The Empire was taken from the East India Company after the Mutiny of 1857; promises of modified self-government made then have not been fulfilled; indeed, the tendency has been to more rigid despotism and more suspicion of the Natives, with whom the English are not one whit more *en rapport* than in the days of Clive.

Let us hope, however, that the recent professions of Lord Curzon are of better augury for the new century.

In another column to-day we quote in outline Mr. Nilkanth B. Wagle's "Experiences in an English Glass Factory" as set forth by him (December 17) to the National Indian Association. The reader will be struck with the splendid pertinacity of Mr. Wagle no less than by the extraordinary recital of difficulties that he had to encounter. The first reception he met with at the hands of both proprietors and workmen contrasts remarkably with the cordial and helpful relations eventually established between them. The manly action of Mr. Bibbey will go straight to the heart of every generous reader in England as well as in India; and the womanly tact and sympathy of Miss Bibbey will not be overlooked in the apportionment of gratitude. The story carries a weighty political moral. Who shall estimate the moral and material advantages of a frank mutual understanding between British and Indians, in place of the diabolical scowling at each other across a "widening gulf" of dark distrust, dislike, and contempt? Let other Indians take a lesson from the masterful persistence of Mr. Wagle.

Sir William Wedderburn contributes to the January issue of the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* an opportune article on "Renewed Consideration of Agricultural Banks for India." Sir Edward Law, it will be remembered, in the course of the recent debate at Simla on the Punjab Land Alienation Bill, announced on behalf of the Government that a Conference will shortly be held in Calcutta to consider the question of Agricultural Banks as a remedy for excessive rural indebtedness in India. Sir William welcomes the intimation, and, in view of the examination of the matter in every aspect during the past quarter of a century, trusts "that something will be done

beyond mere consideration of the subject." For "in the meantime the unhappy peasant lies crushed and paralysed by his load of debt, while two terrible famines have passed over India, finding in him a ready victim." Accordingly, he very naturally asks: "When will something practical be done?"

There is nothing to show on what lines it is intended that the Conference shall proceed. Sir William, however, presumes that "they will in the main be guided by two important documents in which official experience has been embodied after very exhaustive enquiry"—namely, (1) the despatch of May 31, 1884, from the Viceroy in Council to the Secretary of State for India, in which the establishment of a pioneer bank was proposed, and (2) the reports of Mr. Nicholson, of the Madras Civil Service, who in 1892 was placed on special duty for the purpose of enquiring into the possibility of introducing a system of agricultural and other banks. Sir William, therefore, sets forth the conclusions already arrived at and the existing material for the foundations of the constructive work that is to be expected at the hands of the Conference.

The key-note of Mr. Nicholson's reports of 1895 and 1896 was *Solvere ambulando*—Find out by practical experiment what will work in the different provinces. On this Sir William writes:—

I trust, therefore, that the approaching Calcutta Conference will take warning and not entangle itself in any out-and-dry schemes of an all-embracing kind, nor concentrate any further general enquiry for the discovery of such. What is wanted is to stop academic discussion and to begin practical work at once, directed to actual needs. He cites the example of the Madras *Nidhis* (Local Loan Funds), of which Mr. Nicholson says that "had a favourable law and due supervision been in existence during the last twenty years, these Nidhis would have attained a tenfold development." The initiative, Mr. Nicholson holds, must come from reforming and enthusiastic Indians; the part of the Government is to give sympathetic and effective support to native efforts.

The practical recommendations of Mr. Nicholson amount, therefore, to this:—In each province find pioneers for the work among Indians of experience and public spirit; get them to establish experimental banks suited to the local needs of the cultivators, and give to these pioneer enterprises all reasonable State support, whether legislative, administrative, or financial.

Turning then to the Despatch of May, 1884, Sir William finds that "the course indicated was followed, almost to the letter, by the Viceroy in Council of that day," and he points out that "although, on account of difficulties raised in London by the India Office, the project was not carried out, it still holds the field as the most complete expression by the Government of India of its views regarding Agricultural Banks." Sir William re-states the essential elements of the project and outlines its history:—

The proposal was that a pioneer bank should be established by private enterprise in the Binbay Dakhkan, the locality selected being the Purnadhar Taluka of the Bombay Collectorate. . . . An influential committee was formed, comprising the leading landholders, bankers, and pensioned Government officers, having for their object to frame a suitable scheme for the establishment of an Agricultural Bank. . . . At last all was ready. The rayats gladly welcomed the proposal; the village moneylenders agreed to co-operate; and the Native bankers were ready to provide capital. A public meeting was then held at Poona, with the Collector of the district in the chair, and resolutions were unanimously passed for the establishment of an Agricultural Bank. . . . Subject to certain minor conditions, the Government accepted the Poona proposals. They were willing to appoint a Commission for the liquidation of the rayats' debts within a limited experimental area; they would advance in the first instance the cash (some 5 lakhs) necessary for the composition of the debts; they would, as regards the bank, remit a part of the stamp duty on documents, and the court fees in suits; and they would concede to the bank the privilege of recovering its advances through the revenue officers as arrears of revenue. . . . After no little labour and negotiation, every interest and every authority in India had been brought into substantial agreement as to the merits of the scheme.

Here, then, is a most solid foundation for the Conference to base a strong and effective scheme upon, so as at last to get at least a step nearer to the removal of "the excessive and paralyzing rural indebtedness," which "is a question of life and death to the peasantry."

The question of the separation of judicial and executive functions again engages the attention of the *Pioneer*. Our contemporary is keen to confute an argument by which the defenders of the present confusion of functions set match stores. It is argued that if the District Officer were to lose

his power as a first-class magistrate of trying and sentencing criminals, "the halo would drop from his brow and the ordinary Native would recognise him no longer as the *Dara Sahib* of the district." This, our contemporary maintains, is a delusion. His success depends much less on his work as a magistrate than on his plague or famine work, on his zeal for sanitation, or on his District Board administration. As Chief Constable, he has within his sphere of duty the provision and prevention of riots, the detection of fraud against any department or by any subordinate officials, and generally the prevention of offences. If the *trial* of the District Officer depends on his possessing certain judicial powers, Commissioners and Heads of Departments must feel the want of public respect.

So much for the argument on the supposed fall of the District Officer in public estimation if he ceased to be a magistrate. The real question, as put by the *Pioneer*, is "whether we are likely to be more successful under another system than we are under the present," and, if so, then "what are the minimum changes to be made, and what is the attendant cost?" Though our contemporary looks on the matter as only of academic interest, it not only admits that the present system is theoretically imperfect, but even says:—

Anyone can see that a Chief Constable may be so filled with the zeal of his condescension that it may be impossible for him in such a case to act with dispassionate fairness as a judge; and in cases of importance it is undoubtedly more important that he should devote himself with all his energy to the work of the judge's instructions rather than of the ordinary magistrate.

The opponents of the separation of the functions never seem to realise that excess of zeal may bias an official over whom baser motives would have no influence.

By this week's mail we have another instalment of evidence taken in the Gujerat Revenue Enquiry reported at some length in the *Times of India*. Most part it consists of the narratives already collected by Mr. Parekh and made public. These are now in the witness-box, and are for the most part a under cross-examination. Thus Lala Maya, whose arrears his uncle's bullocks were seized, and whose wards was kept for half-an-hour stooping down a mill-stone on his back, was asked why he had not complained, to which he answered that "he could not do it; he had not even the means of supporting himself." In the case, too, of the witnesses from Bal Mahalkari always put the question: "Why did you inform me of your hardship when I visited your village? Only one of the rustics had a reply ready, but that was fairly complete: "I did not complain to you because attachments were made by your sanction. It is not appealing to you."

On the other hand, the officials met all this evidence with strenuous denials. Some admissions, however, may be noted. Though it was allowed that it was very desirable that attachments should be executed in the presence of the *panch*, this seems to have been seldom done. Harilal, the *talukdar* of Ohia, admitted that he never reported to his superiors his seizures of bullocks, jowari, hay, women's ornaments, and agricultural implements. He added that his superiors never enquired into the matter.

His once attempted to seize a calf while executing an attachment, but the owner rebuffed at him with a hatchet in his hand, and the witness and his assistants hurriedly left the place. Did he complain to his superiors about this? No. They could not do it without exposing themselves to insult.

A blacksmith deposed that he had supplied a ring to the *talukdar*, apparently for the purpose of making fast the door of a hut so that the evicted could not return.

Harilal gave as a reason for the difficulty of collecting the assessment in the village of Ohia that it was a *bhayshari* village—a village held in shares. The principal sharers, who sublet their shares, delayed payment from fear that they would not be able to recover it from their tenants. Thereupon, all parties hastened to disclaim any approval of the *bhay* system. Mr. Parekh said that he had always opposed it and urged the Government to do away with it. Mr. Jirajji declared that the people of the district had "once represented to the Collector the desirability of abolishing the 'part' system." And Mr. Maconochie insisted that it had not been kept up in the interests of the revenue, the object rather was to preserve an old

aristocracy; nor could the Collector abolish it, unless all the sharers approved, without a single exception.

Some striking narratives were given by the village witnesses. Thus, Bai Coover, a decrepit old woman who had paid her assessment regularly in previous years, at last made default. All that was in her hut was attached. It did not amount to much, two or three maunds of jowar, a cot, and a broken box. As this was not enough to pay her assessment she was turned out of her hut, and the door was fastened. Four days later she managed to borrow twenty rupees, and having paid this over she was allowed to return to her hut. She added that during the famine she only managed to keep alive by the help of her relatives. Another witness deposed that the floor of his hut was dug up, presumably on the suspicion that something of value had been concealed beneath. A similar complaint was made by a woman, Bikhki, who also said that the village havildar visited her a few days after she was allowed to return to her hut and insisted on her giving him, as payment for his having advocated her cause, a maund and a half of jowar, all that remained of the year's crop.

But perhaps the most startling evidence was that of Ranchod Kala, formerly patel of Ballota. Ranchod Kala on one occasion accompanied the *talati* to make an attachment. All the property of the defaulter was seized, his children turned out of the hut, and the door locked. Now excessive compassion is not usually a failing of the police officer; yet this ex-patell was so pained by the crying of the children that he declared he would never accompany an eviction party again:—

The *talati* threatened to arrest him. But he did not care. The *talati* might report and report, but, he said, he could not shut out children from their home. That was the last time he took part in such proceedings.

So that it seems, if this witness's evidence be true, that even the feelings of a policeman have been outraged by what has been taking place.

Our readers may remember the extraordinary charge of attempted poisoning which Colonel Wray, the Resident at Kolhapur, brought against Mr. Fernandez, who was acquitted, and has since tried to bring an action for false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. This, however, has turned out to be no easy matter. According to the *Mahratta*, it being thought likely that Colonel Wray would leave Kolhapur after the poisoning fiasco, Mr. Fernandez decided to hasten his suit, and accordingly made his way with his lawyer to the Residency Civil Court to file his action. The Clerk of the Court refused to speak with him or to let him know when the Court would sit; nor was he allowed to approach the Colonel, though the latter was in the court house. A prepaid telegram asking for the date of the sitting of the Court received no answer. The same week Colonel Wray left Kolhapur on a long furlough, and it seemed that Mr. Fernandez was effectually foiled.

But the Colonel stopped for a few days in Bombay before starting for Europe and Mr. Fernandez seized the opportunity to serve a summons. The question then arose as to whether the defendant had any legal residence in Bombay. This Mr. Justice Russell decided in the negative. But an appeal was lodged; and the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Tyabji reversed the decision. They held that Colonel Wray, when he left Kolhapur, had given up his residence there and had no intention of returning; and therefore the summons might be served on him in Bombay. So the case will proceed.

An Anglo-Indian correspondent writes:—"The *Bombay Gazette* states, evidently on good authority: "The Government of India have decided to bear all charges connected with the despatch of the Indian contingent to the Australian Commonwealth celebrations." Now, firstly, such decision would not be left to the Simla authorities; secondly, noticing the little word 'all,' may we not trust that the Indian Government had just sufficient 'shred of independence' left to permit of its reconstituting, on behalf of its taxpayers, against the unfairness of making them 'bear all the charges' connected with this extraneous Imperial *tamasha*? And, thirdly, are we not compelled to assume that this 'decision' to make India pay 'all' is that of the Secretary of State in Council, who by the Act of 1858 are appointed guardians of the finances of India,

though in this instance, as in scores of others, that secret concave have weakly or wantonly disregarded that duty? We pause for a reply.

"It may be urged in extenuation that this being an Imperial function India might fairly be asked to bear some share in the grand display. Well, allowing all the weight due to such excuse, the Indian Government may have expressed its readiness not only to spare this *corps d'élite* of its Native garrison, but also to refrain from asking to be reimbursed the cost of pay and 'ordinary' charges, leaving Great Britain and the new Commonwealth to defray the extra pay (*batta* for foreign service) and the cost of transport, this last being a large item in 'all' the account which the Indian Controller-General will audit, though he contracts nothing whatever. This incident, however, may be made useful to large purpose. Thus, why might not the new Commonwealth, so obsessed as it is just now with the idea of militant Imperial glory, be asked to entertain and pay, as does India always, for some considerable portion, say ten or twenty thousand, of the reserve forces of the British army? The climate of Australia is far better than that of India for European troops; and, as our new Imperialists are drifting us into illimitable engagements in the Far East, the stationing of some of our active reserves on the Southern Continent would sooth the feelings of our chronic alarmists of sorts. Then think of what a grand field the wide places of Australia would provide for mimic strategy and camps of exercise!"

An Indian poet, Syed Abdul Aziz, sends us (says the *Times*) a remarkable production of his own in the Urdu language, accompanied fortunately by a translation into English. In Urdu each letter stands also for a figure, and the poem is so written that the date 1900 is prominently introduced when certain words are read according to the numerical value of the letters which compose them. This we take on the authority of the poet. He calls his poem an 'Ode showing the date of the conquest of Transvaal by Her Most Exalted Majesty Queen Alexandrina Victoria, the generous Empress of India, the just Sovereign of British Empire, may her Empire and Reign last for ever.' The striking translation into English reads as follows—no mere extract could give an adequate idea of it:—

1. The English in their struggle with the Boers came out triumphant, while the latter were overcome.
2. Their miraculous skill struck wonder even in the magicians.
3. The news of the victory of the brave soldiers is continually coming from the seat of war.
4. The reign of Queen Victoria is very benign and welcome; in her reign the oppressors have been overthrown.
5. And those who were known as disobedients have come to bow before her throns.
6. The oceans are so completely mastered that it seems as if they have come to offer her pearls as their presents.
7. The sword and bravery of Lord Roberts, who may fily be styled as the World Conqueror, is transcendent above all. He vanquished the Boers, who have fled.
8. Defeat fell in the lot of Kruger, the vanquished officers of whose army got nothing but loss.
9. All great men have been surprised to see such a great rise of the Empress.
10. The fall of the Boers has frightened the neighbouring monarchs.
11. Blessed is the time and luck of the Crown Prince, to which it is mainly due that the trodden-down oppressors have repented.
12. Blessed is Lord Curzon that every destitute person patronised and helped by him lacks no good.
13. Sir Antony's time is very blessed for his permissive and prohibitive orders.
14. In my meditation for the date of conquest, O Aziz! I heard a proclamation that the Boers have been utterly crushed out.

Remittances on India for 50 lakhs were on Wednesday offered for tender by the India Council, and applications amounting to Rs. 4,33,50,000 were received at prices ranging from 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 4¾d. The following amounts were allotted—viz, in bills, Rs. 32,61,000 on Calcutta and Rs. 10,60,000 on Bombay at an average of 1s. 4-032d., and Rs. 9,48,000 on Madras at an average of 1s. 4-031d.; and in telegraphic transfers, Rs. 7,31,000 on Calcutta at an average of 1s. 4-004d. Tenders for bills at 1s. 4½d. and for transfers at 1s. 4¾d. will receive about 13 per cent. Later, the Council sold bills for Rs. 22,250 on Madras at 1s. 4¾d. Last week remittances for Rs. 53,50,000 were sold for £253,709, making the total disposed of from April 1 to Tuesday night Rs. 10,88,12,409, producing 27,242,247. Next week 60 lakhs will again be offered.

THE LAHORE CONGRESS.

THE Indian National Congress this year has met in the Punjab. From the London Press, always excepting the enterprising and discriminating *Morning Leader* (whose telegrams we have the pleasure of reproducing in another column) it has received the very scantiest notice. Time was when we were treated year by year to long telegrams to show us how malign were its intentions and how trivial its influence. But apparently that stage has been left behind. This is the sixteenth meeting of the Congress, and whether its power is great or small, good or evil, it has exacted recognition as a permanent institution. It has survived the enmity and abuse of its foes; and it will certainly not be killed by their new policy of silence. In itself it is a proof that the Indian character is not wanting in steadfast perseverance, that the aspirations to which it has given utterance during half a generation are weighty and permanent, and that the grievances of which it has complained are really felt, since they are reiterated—unless removed—year by year without intermission or faltering. No vicissitudes of fortune have interrupted the annual gathering. When the Congress first met, India was entering on a period of hope. That period has been succeeded by a spell of reaction and repression, which in its turn is giving way slowly and fitfully to conditions in which progress may again be made. But whether the times were good or bad, whether war, plague, or famine overcast the sky, or some gleams of a brighter future shone through the clouds, still the Congress has met, giving courage to the weak by the spectacle it presented of union and devotion, and making the strong still stronger by enthusiasm and mutual sympathy. In whatever else they have failed or succeeded, the Congress and its supporters have at least done this great thing—they have shown to friend and foe alike a visible symbol of the unity of India.

The present Congress, the sixteenth of the series, has had some special difficulties to contend with. Representing both Moslems and Hindus, the total number of delegates has fallen short of that which assembled in Lucknow last year. For this there are at least two very obvious reasons. First, a large part of India has experienced a terrible famine, from which it is still very far from having recovered, and from which some districts may not completely recover till several generations have gone by. Last year the Congress took place long before the famine had reached its full intensity. This year, after twelve months of misery, when the rich have found their riches all too small to render effective help to the poor, and when the great problem of restoring the multitudes impoverished by the famine has to be faced, it is obvious that many who in other years have attended the Congress have been forced, if not by necessity, then by their sense of immediate duty, to remain at home. In many cases that very public spirit which in former years urged them to attend the Congress now has required them to remain in the districts so lately stricken by famine. Nor is it to be forgotten that to most supporters of the Congress the distance to be traversed and the expense of the journey were unusually great. And this, indeed, is a second substantial reason for the somewhat thinner attendance of delegates. This year the Congress was held in the Punjab, the extreme Northern Province of India. Lahore, the town chosen, is twice as far from Calcutta as was Lucknow, the meeting-place of the Congress last year. Lucknow itself was too remote from Madras for any large delegation to attend from that city, but Lahore is further still. Now it is in the large centres of population, especially in the Presidency towns, that the Congress finds its most ardent supporters; for there those educated in the Western learning are most numerous and most ready to accept their true position as the natural leaders of their fellow-countryman under the new circumstances introduced by British rule and the peace it has established throughout India.

The Congress this year had as its President the Hon. Mr. Chandavakar, a member of the Legislative Council and an eminent lawyer of Bombay. In the brief report of the main heads of his speech which has reached England, two points stand out clearly. The first is one that is certainly not peculiar to India or even to the British Empire, but may rather be said to characterise every Government of the civilised world at the present moment.

"The Empire," said Mr. Chandavakar, "appears to be drifting." But though this want of prescient statesmanship, this unreadiness to face serious problems and grapple with admitted evils, is generally prevalent—though in China, in South Africa, or in Europe, there is little sign of foresight and definite policy—yet this is nowhere more clearly shown than in India. "Statesmanship," said the President, "is wanted to solve the problem of the poverty of India," that poverty which he rightly assumed as the root cause of Indian famine. But of prescient statesmanship how little is too often to be found among Viceroy and Secretaries of State! India is at present fortunate in having received a Governor-General who refuses to be the mere tool of his subordinates, and has exhibited a determination to examine things for himself with an open mind and a readiness to put aside his most cherished convictions when public policy and the facts of the case require him to do so. But even Lord Curzon has yet to show whether he is strong enough and wise enough to deal successfully with the urgent question of the poverty of India. How far he will be able to carry the Home authorities with him remains yet to be seen. It cannot, however, but be feared that British statesmanship in its relation to India is all but hopelessly committed to the policy of drift. Are we not instructed to regard it as a truism that famine must periodically occur, whenever the rains fail? Is it not insisted on that the whole duty of the Government, after constructing railways with borrowed money, and doing a little in the way of irrigation, is to feed the famine-stricken and pray for a good rainfall next year? Let the land-tax press more and more heavily on the cultivator at every reassessment; let India bear far more than her just share of the expenses of Empire; let the Annual Tribute of twenty millions sterling or thereabouts still be shipped home, till India bleeds to death. These are matters which—strangely enough—seem to be beyond the capacity of modern statesmanship to remedy. Apparently it can only drift on to economic ruin and disaster.

But it must not be thought that the President's Address was occupied only with criticism, however well deserved. That would, indeed, have been unworthy of his judicial mind. He bore generous testimony to the benevolence of the British public and to the exertions of British officials in aid of the famine-stricken. None know better, or feel more grateful for, the devotion that so many officials have shown in struggling against the famine than do the leaders of Indian opinion. Nor are they ignorant that the fund raised for the relief of distress in India does not represent all that the British public wished to do. They know that the people and the Press were anxious for a liberal National Grant; and that it was the Government alone which prevented such a grant being made. The Indians are grateful for the charity that England gives, but they all will re-echo with the President of the Congress the sentiment of John Bright that it is justice and not charity that India requires. England gives her thousands or even her hundreds of thousands, and meanwhile India bleeds by millions—millions in produce that has to be transmitted to Europe to pay her Tribute, millions that have to be paid in India to support the most expensive government in the civilised world. Is it not time that to the charity of England should be added some reasonable modicum of justice?

Of the further proceedings of the Congress we gain only fragmentary information from such rare and scanty telegrams as have appeared. A list is given of some of the reforms demanded, but this does not profess to include all. Even as it is, however, there are several of great interest. First and foremost we find a request for an enquiry into the general economic condition of the people of India. It is one of the almost incredible instances of the disinclination of the Indian Government to look facts in the face that such an enquiry should have to be asked for. It might have been expected that the Government itself would be the first to insist upon such an investigation. Still less could it have been imagined that the Government, having decided to appoint a Commission to enquire into the late famine, should limit its scope to the administration of famine relief while debarring it from taking cognisance of the fundamental question of the poverty of India. Yet this seems to be the intention of the Government.

Two other important and far-reaching reforms are also mentioned as having engaged the attention of the Con-

gress. They are neither of them new to the Indian public. The first is the separation of judicial and executive functions—a question agitated throughout the last century. The second, to which we have also referred frequently, though not so frequently, is the granting of commissions in the army to qualified Indians. And this resolution has an importance quite apart from the desirability of the reform itself, for it is a striking testimony to the solidarity of India. The leaders of the Congress have been twitted by their Anglo-Indian critics with not being truly representative of the whole nation, with being a class apart, alien alike to the military chiefs, powerful in their traditional prestige, and to the peasantry, worthy of every respect and consideration by reason of their vast numbers. The argument, even if valid, comes with ill grace from men that are alien by birth as well as by training. But it is not valid. The educated Indians have sprung from all sections of the population. It will not be forgotten that the one Indian who has been Senior Wrangler at Cambridge, though a Brahmin, is the son of a poor farmer of the Dekkhan. And is it not a sufficient answer to those who would gladly exploit any diversity of interest or aims between the warriors and the leaders of thought to point out that the National Congress, the representative assembly of educated India, has put among the chief items of its programme the claim of the military class to an honourable career in the profession of arms?

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR COTTON.

THERE is a marked opportuneness in the publication of a biography of Sir Arthur Cotton on the morrow of a cruel and devastating famine. How far the great engineer's ideas are workable within the immense tracts that have been ravaged by the last and the preceding famine is a question for experts to decide, but it is a question that presses for solution. In those districts where he was enabled to realise his projects famine is no longer known or feared; on the contrary, there prevail prosperity and plenty. His biographer, indeed, does not claim that a widespread imitation of Sir Arthur's achievements on the east coast of Madras would absolutely and finally abolish famine in India. She recognises that there are mischievous economic causes that demand speedy remedy. Still there remains, undoubtedly, large scope for the promotion of irrigation as a means to the prevention of famine. So much is painfully demonstrated to the eye by the coloured map annexed to the volume, to say nothing of the experiences of the recent famines. The only questions seem to be: What precisely is capable of being done effectively? and where is the initial expenditure to come from?

In spite of vices of form and taste, the volume is exceedingly serviceable, especially at the present time, and the career of Sir Arthur Cotton must always form a great example to the rising generation, whether Indian officers or not. He was the tenth son of the tenth son of a baronet, a scion of a very old family, with pure bright blood in every vein. His life all but spans the century—1803-1899. And a strenuous life it was. At the age of fifteen he obtained a cadetship for India and went into training at Addiscombe, and eighteen months later he obtained an appointment in the Royal Engineers—without examination. Another eighteen months at Chatham and he embarked for Madras in May, 1821, when he was just eighteen. After some survey work in the south of the Presidency, he served throughout the first Burmese war with distinction, and then returned to Madras engineering. With eight years' service he attained the rank of captain. His conspicuous achievements were the bridling of the Kaveri (1827-35), and of the Godavari and the Kistna (1847-53). His minor works—for instance, at the Paumben Pass, at Viz gapatam, on the Madras breakerwater, and in the construction of the first railway in India, from Madras to the Red Hills—need not be enumerated here. Between times there were bouts of illness, with voyages of recuperation to England and to Australia. Sir Arthur's official career closed in 1860, when he received the K.C.S.I. For forty years more, however, he busied himself in his

retirement with a variety of beneficial projects. Yet, in 1859, he went back to India, and investigated the Bihar project of irrigation and navigation in the valley of the Son river, as well as the irrigation possibilities in Orissa; and next year he indulged in his only exercise of controversy, with Sir Proby Cautley, over the Ganges Canal. The account of his appearances before Select Committees of the House of Commons on Indian affairs in 1872 and 1878 is very pitiable reading now-a-days—pitiable for Sir Arthur's opponents. His active interest in India, as well as in many other matters, from religion to tricycles, continued to the last.

On obtaining his appointment to the separate charge of the Kaveri Irrigation, with oversight of the Paumben works, Captain Cotton set to work with his constitutional energy. During 1828-29 his plans were elaborated, and the works were commenced on January 1, 1830. Presently jungle fever drove him to England, and he was absent some three years; but the work proceeded on the lines he had laid down. He shall himself describe the situation of the people in the district of Tanjore, and the attitude of the Government:—

In 1827 I was sent to inspect it [the Coleroon Canal], as the people were stated to be ready in a state of rebellion from its neglect. I found the works in utter disrepair; the Coleroon canal had six feet of silt in its bed, so that when it ought to have had eight feet of water flowing down it, it had two. Thus this work, which had a population of perhaps one hundred thousand and a revenue of £40,000 dependent upon it, had not been allowed £500 to keep it in repair. The Government could not afford it. Is it surprising the Natives thought us savages? I made a small estimate of £3,500 for some immediate repairs, but, knowing what its fate would be, I proceeded to Madras, and arrived just in time to hear, as I expected, that the Government could not squander such sums as this upon the wild demands of an engineer. We had, however, a Governor at that time who was accessible, and I asked the Chief Engineer to go to him and speak about it. He said the papers had never been laid before him, and ordered the expenditure. In my ignorance at that time I thought the point was gained, as orders were sent to the Collector of the district, who had first called for my report on the case and whose business it was, according to the absurd arrangement of that time, to execute the work. Soon after, I left the district, and did not return till 1833, when to my astonishment I found that the Collector had not taken the trouble to spend the money, or the Government to enforce it; a small sum only having been spent, and the people were in such a state of rebellion that it had been feared troops would have to be sent into the district.

We should have liked to find some precise and lucid account of the works. However, some inference may be drawn from the opinion of Colonel Duncan Sim, the Chief Engineer of the Presidency and subsequently Commanding Engineer throughout the siege of Delhi, who declared that he was "astounded" at Captain Cotton's "professional daring." Colonel Baird Smith, too, who immortalised himself at Delhi, wrote some seventeen years after the works were commenced:—

The original merit of conceiving the plan of so grappling with a great river like the Kaveri as to compel it to become an easily controlled agent cannot be impaired, and I may be permitted to express my admiration of the skill and the courage they display both in their design and execution. . . . The permanent prosperity of Tanjore is, without doubt, to be attributed in a large measure to that first bold step taken by Colonel Cotton in the construction of the Upper Coleroon dam, under circumstances of great difficulty, with restricted means, against much opposition, and with heavy personal responsibilities.

On the official figures recorded fifteen and fourteen years after commencement, the annual profit on first cost of the Upper Coleroon ariatic was 144½ per cent., and of the Lower Coleroon ariatic 133½ per cent.; and the aggregate profit at those dates had been £172,713 and £130,876 respectively. One would like to know the figures up to date!

In 1844 the state of the Godavari delta caused uneasiness in the Council Chamber at Madras, and Sir Henry Montgomery was deputed "to make minute enquiries on the spot into the causes of the decline of the revenue and into the general condition of the people. Sir Henry found that the population had decreased from 738,308 in 1821-23 to 561,041 in 1842-43—a decline of one-fourth, or, if the normal expected increase be regarded, then a decline of little short of one-half. He found also "neglect of works of irrigation, inefficiency and corruption of the village revenue authorities, and extravagance by the Zamindars and their mismanagement of their estates." On Sir Henry's recommendation, Captain Cotton was requested to report on the capabilities of improvement by river irrigation. He did so, accordingly.

His chief problem was how to deal with the river and bring it under control. In one sentence his determination may be given.

¹ "General Sir Arthur Cotton, R.E., K.C.S.I.: His Life and Work." By his Daughter, Lady Hope. With some Famine Prevention Studies by William Digby, C.I.E. Portraits, Maps and Illustrations. (London: Hodder and Stoughton.)

He decided to build a masonry dam or anicut, twelve feet high, upwards of two and a quarter miles long, across the river bed, with embankments on the islands, of a total length of 7,300 feet.

Such is Lady Hope's statement. Major Cotton himself says (January 13, 1845) that "the river is here six thousand yards wide, including islands," and "the anicut would be five thousand yards." "A gigantic work," certainly. And though the Governor and Sir Henry Montgomery appreciated him, consider how he was served by the Jacks-in-office he had immediately to do with!

I asked them for six officers, six or eight sappers, and others, telling them I was done up and could do nothing myself but look on. In answer to this I got one young hand to teach and two apprentice surveyors! With scarcely strength to ride ten miles, I started on this expedition to turn the Godavari out of its bed and make it do something for its livelihood, a river only seven times the breadth of the Mississippi at the spot where I am now pitched! However there are many helpful symptoms too. . . . I had to take or help in every line of level that was made, not having got one single level from my surveyors that wasn't altogether false.

Then when he came to the execution, "the river bed was of pure sand, and the islands merely thin alluvial deposits over it, whilst floods upwards of 25 feet in depth swept one and a half millions of cubic feet of water per second past the spot." Still he "was seriously delayed and hindered for want of competent artisans" among his 5,000 workmen. Again he broke down in the midst of the work and had to go to Australia on sick leave. We cannot make out when he came back, but somehow the works got finished. A "hot official warfare" raged round the enterprise from beginning to end—"remonstrances from Colonel Cotton, and replies now wrathful, now panned more in sorrow than in anger," on account of surprises sprung on the authorities in ever-increasing demands for funds." The original estimate for the river works was £47,557 odd, the only final sum we can discover is £1,300,000 mentioned in a despatch of 1832, and including we don't know what. There were, of course, further works in connexion—embankments, irrigation channels, drainage works, sluices and locks, roads and bridges, and the total estimate for this putting the Delta in good order was £120,000. However, we give up the figures, and content ourselves with the assurance of the Committee of investigation (appointed how or when we do not learn) that Major Cotton was the "founder of the cheapest school of engineering in the world," and that, "had the works been projected by any other living engineer their original cost would have been prohibitory." Be this as it may, "the Godavari anicut," says Mr. Morris ("Godavari," p. 109), "is, perhaps, the noblest feat of engineering skill which has yet been accomplished in British India." "Taking all things into consideration," writes the Hon. Alfred Deakin, M. L. A., of Victoria, Australia ("Irrigated India"), "it may be questioned if there is a more beneficent or profitable work in the world." For the population has increased by about 300 per cent. (561,041 to 2,078,782); the revenue has been much more than doubled (Rs. 17,25,841 from all sources in 1843-44; Rs. 60,19,224 from land alone in 1898); the combined totals of exports and imports have increased (from 1845-46 to 1893-94) nearly 1,400 per cent. As to the people, Mr. Morris writes:—

The condition of the rayats has decidedly improved since the great extension of irrigation consequent upon the construction of the anicut and the canals dependent upon it. The prosperity of the rayats is evident to the most casual observer. The gradual substitution of tiled houses for thatched, the better dress which is being worn by the rayats, the more universal adoption of rice as an article of diet, rather than Indian corn and other dry grains formerly in almost universal use, are all silent but certain indications of the improvement of the agricultural and even of the labouring classes.

For the full illustration of the value of Sir Arthur Cotton's labours the reader must go to the book. We cannot do more here than offer a glimpse. Truly his "were imperial works and worthy kings."

The personal, as well as the public, interest in the career of Sir Arthur Cotton is deeply engaging. The volume is full of instructive and useful matter, and it commands respect as an earnest manifestation of filial devotion. All the more is the pity that its just natural effect should have been imperilled by a daughter's noble intensity of admiration and defective control of literary form. In the best sense, indeed, it is true, within limits, that Sir Arthur "was truly an empire-maker." It may be that "he is, without doubt, the greatest benefactor of British birth the Indian people have known;" that "more people have had enough to eat day by day,

have worn sufficient and comfortable clothing, have lived in good houses, have had something to spare for the conveniences of life, because Sir Arthur Cotton laboured for India, than can be placed to the credit of any other man" of whom Lady Hope has read or heard. But one would have liked to learn the great fact, not by direct instruction of his enthusiastic daughter, but by inevitable deduction from her narrative of her eminent father's works. It may be that many of his friends cherished the view "that his remarkable services to India were never adequately recognised;" and that, instead of getting the K.C.S.I., "had he killed in battle but a fish, or a hundredth, of those he saved from suffering and premature death, he would have received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, been made a peer, and have received a large grant from the public funds." Yet one cannot but feel that such remarks are here gravely out of place, if not repellently undignified. What, in the name of wonder, could a peerage be to a man of Sir Arthur Cotton's elevation of mind and greatness of achievement? Mr. William Digby is credited with "devoted ardour" in the arrangement of some of the chapters of the volume and in collecting information in support of the great question of irrigation in India. The collection exhibits diligence in the highest degree. What one regrets is that the ardour of arrangement was not more thorough, and that the life of Sir Arthur has not been made to stand out more distinctly from the masses of useful information. Still the volume cannot be neglected by any student of irrigation in its bearings on the prevention of famine and on the general prosperity of the people.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

*WESTMINSTER, Thursday.

LONDON is likely to make more fuss to-day over the arrival of Lord Roberts than it did on Tuesday over the New Century. The public were then in no mood for festivity. Discouraging news from the field of war had momentarily intensified the irritation with which the slow progress of the campaign is generally viewed. Moreover, the last days of the year were days of devastation on land and disaster at sea. Even the Stock Exchange had contributed to the gloom of the season by choosing Saturday and Monday as appropriate days for the immolation of a baker's dozen of defaulters. The newspaper bills on New Year's Eve were an invitation to despair. On one the affrighted citizen read of anarchy in Johannesburg, on another of the *déchâle* in finance, and on a third of a further reverse to British arms. The weather was in keeping with the moral atmosphere, offering, as it did, the altogether depressing spectacle of a contest between rain and fog with slight hope of the intervention of a gleam of sunshine. Nevertheless, the midnight crowd outside St. Paul's was enormous, and vast quantities of liquor fed the enthusiasm both before and after the clock struck twelve. A distressing feature of those open-air orgies is the extent to which they are supported by very young people, especially young girls. There were far too many Bacchantes among the New Year revellers.

Regrettable incidents in South Africa have ceased to cause excitement at home. They produce a feeling of irritation, more or less acute, but lead to no particular ebullition of feeling. The capture of a British post and a British gun the other day passed almost without comment. If our soldiers are "going stale," we ourselves, so far as our interest in the war is concerned, seem to be in the same plight. Even our heroes are losing their plumage. A few weeks ago it was almost sacrilege to criticise Lord Roberts. Now, though we have reached the appointed hour of his triumph, the veteran soldier has more apologists than eulogists. Even his reputation has not emerged undimmed from the South African miasma. Perhaps Lord Kitchener, who, it is felt, has yet to justify his laurels, will prove more fortunate. Meanwhile, his *régime* has made a somewhat inauspicious beginning.

Sir Henry Colville's recall from his command at Gibraltar has been the event of the week, and if Sir Henry has his way it will become one of the events of the war. The incident, as it stands, is a little mysterious. After the Lindley affair, in which five hundred of the Imperial Yeomanry surrendered to the Boers, General Colville was sent home, Lord Roberts having

evidently thought him to blame for refusing to go to the assistance of the Yeomanry. Curiously enough, however, Lord Lansdowne at once reinstated the officer in his command at Gibraltar. One of the questions to which an answer is now sought is whether this was done with or without Lord Roberts's concurrence. Subsequent events point to the conclusion that Lord Roberts must have been over-ruled and that now, with the assistance of Mr. Brodrick, he is actually reversing one of the decisions of Lord Lansdowne and Lord Wolseley. Sir Henry Colville, naturally enough, sees only the personal side of these alleged plottings and counter-plottings, but to the public the interest of the episode is derived from the light which it throws on the remarkable methods of the War Office.

All roads, nowadays, seem to lead to and from the Stock Exchange. The Prime Minister recruits his Government from Capel Court by appointing a titled stockbroker to the office of Under-Secretary for India, and a few weeks later the world learns with a shock that an ex-Viceroy of India is chairman of a company whose vicissitudes have, in a sense, made it famous. Lord Dufferin resigned his chairmanship of this concern—a course which he would have probably taken long ago but for the difficulties in which the enterprise had become involved and his reluctance to leave it, as it were, in the lurch. However, he has, on reconsideration, withdrawn his resignation, and will now, presumably, see the difficulty through. On other grounds this distinguished diplomatist and statesman commands the sympathy of the country. His eldest son fell in action in South Africa twelve months ago, and now the news has come that the second son has been wounded in the same cause. Lord and Lady Dufferin were, accordingly, about to set sail for the Cape, but their voyage has been postponed by Lord Dufferin's decision to face the unfortunate company's meeting a week hence.

Journalistic London is agitated at present by rumours of an approaching change in the war policy of the leading Liberal journal. The transformation is more likely to be one of proprietorship than of policy, but it may involve some modification of the attitude of the *Daily News* in relation to Sir H. Campbell-Baumerman's slightly veiled hostility towards the cult of Liberal Imperialism. The changes in the proprietorship will probably be found to have been much more complete than was suggested in a statement published a few days ago by another London paper. For the present, however, the editorial control of the journal remains unchanged. Hitherto, the *Daily News* has taken a strong line, not only in urging a vigorous prosecution of the war but in vindicating the justice of its policy. The new proprietors, it is understood, have no intention of converting the paper into a distinctively "pro-Boer" organ, but neither do they pin their faith, as the journal has hitherto done, to the tenets of Milnerism. They are credited with a desire to bring their paper more closely into touch with the official Liberal view on all questions of Imperial policy and to make it an advocate of party concentration in matters of domestic concern.

An event has happened this week to which at least one clause of Dr. Johnson's famous tribute to Garrick might properly be applied. Sir John Tenniel has drawn his last cartoon for *Punch*. If the veteran artist's withdrawal from the sphere which he has illuminated for more than half a century does not eclipse the gaiety of nations, it will certainly diminish the public stock of harmless amusement. One can scarcely imagine *Punch* without Tenniel. Succeeding generations had come to regard him almost as part of the solar system. He was as much an institution as *Punch* itself, and *Punch* is sometimes described as the secret of England's greatness. It is understood that the vacant page will in future be filled by the scholarly cartoons of Mr. Limley Sambourne.

One disadvantage of an overgrown Cabinet is illustrated by the touching announcement that not all its members can be invited to the luncheon party which is being held at Buckingham Palace to-day in honour of Lord Roberts. The guests number fifty, the majority of whom are dignitaries of the Court. If all Lord Salisbury's colleagues were present, the complexion of the gathering would be predominantly political. As the Government won the election on the strength of Lord Roberts's name, Ministers doubtless feel that they have a special right to be represented in the triumphs of their good angel; and it is hinted that some of them, at least, are at a loss to understand the invidious distinctions drawn by the Court between Minister and Minister. Many have been called

by Lord Salisbury, but few are chosen by the Lord Chamberlain. A study of the list of invitations may possibly yield a clue to the identity of the real inner Cabinet. It should show, at all events, the composition of the outer ring.

NOTES FROM BOMBAY.

THE VICEROY'S LAPSES AT MADRAS.

THE CONDITION OF THE PEASANTRY.

THE PROVINCIAL CONTRACT SYSTEM.

[FROM AN INDIAN CORRESPONDENT.]

BOMBAY, December 15.

The Viceroy wound up at Madras his speech-making session which commenced seven weeks ago. He has now gone round the Indian peninsula and visited many places of renown and interest; and yesterday he bade farewell to Madras. So that in another week he will be back again in Calcutta where the ensuing Christmas holidays will give him the needed respite to enable him, like a giant refreshed, to be yoked again to the wheel of Imperial administration, till the dial again points to the end of March and tolls the knell of the parting season, bidding all prepare for the annual exodus.

At Madras, however, his lordship seems to have failed to give that immense satisfaction which Bombay had the unique pleasure of enjoying. No doubt it was the only city where he had to receive more than half a dozen addresses and to make an equal number of replies—a task by no means light, after the scores of harangues of all sorts and degrees he had already made at other places. His lordship spoke with refreshing candour to all the principal deputations, but to nobody was he so frank as to the Mahajan Sabha, which had expatiated at considerable length on the burning problems of the day, Imperial and local. The chief topics to which the attention of his lordship was drawn were the condition of the Indian peasantry and the financial injustice of the existing Provincial Contracts. It seems that on both these subjects the Viceroy gave very unsatisfactory replies, which was indeed surprising after the memorable utterance at Bombay affirming the duty of giving a patient hearing to enlightened Native opinion. Educated Madras is in sulks with the Viceroy. And well it may. For, I am in justice bound to say, his lordship was but imperfectly posted on both the topics, and seems to have handled them with much less than his usual patience and assiduity.

Lord Curzon differed from the Sabha (a distinguished body, the flower of the intellect of Madras) as to the existing condition of the rayat. He admitted the poverty of the masses, but was not convinced that that poverty was of a permanent character. It is surprising that such an opinion should have been expressed at all by the Viceroy, who a few short months ago had visited the worst famine districts of the country, and who, a day before starting on his tour, informed the public from his place in the Legislative Council at Simla that the total agricultural income of the country does not exceed 400 crores of rupees. Why that, or thereabouts, was the income in 1882, when Sir David Barbour made a deliberate computation. Practically, then, compared with that older estimate, the statement is most disappointing. It signifies no progress—if at all, a slow retrogression; and yet the Viceroy light-heartedly, even dogmatically, pronounced that there was no permanent deterioration. Here is a transparent inconsistency. But it is no unusual thing for even the most well-informed of Viceroys to be occasionally found tripping. He has made a mistake, and that of a most egregious character. Probably he had in mind the effect his speech would make on Englishmen at home; for it cannot be denied that almost all Lord Curzon's speeches are pitched in a high key, with the object of attracting attention in England. The *Times of India* has not been slow to detect this mistake. Here are its words, which I take to be perfectly justifiable:—"We should have been glad if the Viceroy had resisted the temptation for the present to pronounce, even partially and tentatively, upon so large a question as the effect of our revenue systems upon the condition of the cultivators." Your contemporary further gives recent concrete instances of revenue matters in Gujerat and the Central Provinces, to show how far the Viceroy erred, no doubt through want of that necessary study so essential to comprehend the question. "Facts," says the *Times of India*,

"discourage a too general confidence in the well-being of the cultivating class." Another such grievous error on an economic subject of the most vital interest to the country, and I am afraid the Viceroy is certain to shatter all his reputation for cleverness, information, and independent judgment. It is plain that here he has allowed himself to be the spokesman of the fossilised bureaucracy with century-old traditions about land revenue settlements, rather than of the impartial judge who delivers judgment after carefully sifting facts.

Equally unsatisfactory was Lord Curzon's reply in regard to the question of Provincial Contracts. Here, too, he was the spokesman of the financial department, which, we all know, has its own opinions on the subject, especially since the days of Sir James Westland. Lord Curzon does not seem to have read the evidence of the Indian witnesses before the Royal Commission, neither does he seem to have benefited by the criticisms of the non-official members of the Legislative Council who said so much on this question last year and this. I repeat that, if on all grave and burning problems his lordship is to speak in that careless and off-hand manner in which he spoke at Madras, his reputation for statesmanship will soon be sealed, and he may leave India no better than an Elgin or a Lansdowne.

But I have faith in him that he will not allow that reputation to be so blasted. He has been hasty and has made another egregious blunder, after the other one touching the Calcutta Municipal Bill. If on all important matters he has hitherto erred—for we must not omit the countervailing duty legislation and the recent Punjab Land Alienation Bill—he has probably erred more through ignorance than from deliberate conviction. But it was time his lordship profited by these errors and tried to be master of his topics before he essayed to speechify on them in public. Can it be that his lordship had the whipcord of the Allahabad journal on his mind when speaking at Madras?

There is a good deal of controversy in the Calcutta papers touching the way in which certain State departments are now introducing to a large extent the Eurasian element. The Viceroy has openly said he knows nothing of the new rules to which those papers draw attention. The papers reply that it is true that no rules have been promulgated; all the same, in the Finance Department and elsewhere the leads go on importing more of the Eurasian element, and this action is an open defiance of the rules for open competition in existence since the days of Lord Ripon. The Calcutta journals are very strong on the subject and write with keen feeling. Can it be that paper rules are one thing and practice another? This is a serious question and demands full enquiry.

I am glad to notice an able and most sympathetic criticism on the manifesto recently issued by the British Congress Committee in the columns of the *Statesman*, which is the only Anglo-Indian paper of independence which has honestly endeavoured to understand the aims and objects of the Congress and gives it praise for its lofty patriotism and ideals of reform. But this was to be expected of a journal inheriting all the noblest traditions of that noble publicist who was deservedly called "The Bayard of Anglo-Indian Journalism"—the late Robert Knight.

THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

The *Morning Leader* of Saturday (December 29) printed the following telegram from its correspondent at Bombay, dated December 28:—

"The annual Indian Congress opened to-day at Lahore. Six hundred delegates were present, including eighty Mahometans, and the proceedings were also attended by 2,000 visitors.

"Mr. Chandavakar, Judge-Elect of the Bombay High Court, who presided, reviewed the general situation, and said that the Empire appeared to be drifting.

"Statesmanship was wanted to solve the problem of the poverty of India which was the real cause of the periodical famine.

"The benevolence of the officials and the English public to the famine-stricken of India was warmly praised, 'but,' said Mr. Chandavakar, quoting John Bright, 'it is justice more than charity that is required.'"

The *Morning Leader* (January 1) gives the following telegram from its Bombay correspondent, dated December 31:—

"The Indian Congress completed a very successful session to-day.

"The Congress expressed its approval of a number of reforms, amongst them being the following:—

"An enquiry into the general economic condition of the people of India was asked for.

"The granting of commissions in the army to qualified persons was requested.

"A separation of the judicial from the executive was demanded. The Hobhouse memorial to the Secretary of State for India was supported.

"The Viceroy was thanked for his action in connexion with the Rangoon outrage.

"It was declared that Indians should be allowed to sit upon the Government committee on agricultural banks.

"The holding of social conferences for the purpose of promoting reforms in caste observances was suggested, and in this regard the caste prohibition of sea voyages was condemned."

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

THE MANSION HOUSE FUND.

At the close of the year the Indian Famine Fund at the Mansion House amounted to £291,300.

THE "INVESTORS' REVIEW" FUND.

We take the following from the current issue (December 29) of the *Investors' Review*:—

At a season of the year when so many home appeals for charitable aid—appeals that, urgent and reasonable as they mostly are, constitute in the aggregate a ghastly satire upon our civilisation and mockery of our Imperial strength—we had almost decided to drop our little gatherings in aid of the suffering, and by the State almost abandoned, Indian poor. Recent events, however, have revived public interest in our fund, and as the need is, over many parts of India, nearly as great as ever, it will, therefore, be kept open for such stray contributions as here and there one may be able to bestow out of his or her fullness. Meantime we cannot close the year or end this note without tendering our most earnest and grateful thanks to those who have recognised the wisdom of our purpose as well as its benevolence. Our money is given direct to the Indian people as the help of citizen to citizen in one and the same Empire, and has thus value in Indian eyes the mere weight of the rupees cannot at all express.

Subscriptions to our little fund, from which not a penny is deducted for advertisements in newspapers or any other kind of charges, may be sent to A. J. Wilson, at this office; cheques to be crossed "Union Bank of London, Indian Famine Fund."

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.	
Last week's total	£922 19 8
Jas. F. Pollar, Esq. 10 10 0
S. D. Williams, Esq., Sutton Coldfields 5 5 0
Total to date	£938 14 8

Remittances should be made to Mr. A. J. Wilson, *Investors' Review* office, Norfolk House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

MEMORIAL TO PROFESSOR MAX MÜLLER.

TO THE EDITOR OF "INDIA."

SIR,—Will you allow me to join in your appeal to the Indian people to raise up to their revered friend a memorial worthy of him and of themselves? In these few lines I desire to refer only to the practical side of the question; and would submit how desirable it is that the funds collected for the general purpose, whether here or in India, should be under one administration, and be managed by one committee. It would indeed be very unfortunate if India were to separate herself from the movement which has been commenced at Oxford under such favourable auspices. Dr. Max Müller's work having been almost solely on behalf of India, and that work having, during 50 years, been carried on at Oxford, it seems fitting that India and Oxford should combine in doing honour to his memory. And there are certain special advantages from such an arrangement. Among these I may mention the certainty that the scheme would be carried out in a business-like manner. Then the fact that the Prince of Wales is supporting the project initiated at Oxford would be an encouragement to Indian Rajas and Chiefs to join heartily in the movement. Also it is important for Indian interests that the British public should realise how fully India can appreciate such services as those rendered to her by Dr. Max Müller; and this will be best effected if, in the lists published here, they see

subscriptions, small and great, contributed by every class in India.

I am assured that there is no desire unduly to localise the memorial at Oxford. The object is to stimulate Indian learning and research, and this can be done equally in India and in England, wherever the men may be found best fitted for the work. A general Committee will be formed, and this should include the names of Indians distinguished by learning and social position; and I feel sure that their advice would carry the greatest weight in determining the form which the memorial should take, for it is fully recognised that it was towards India that Dr. Max Müller's life work was directed.

I have, etc.,

W. WEDDERBURN.

Meredith, Gloucester.

December 25, 1900.

"BHATT" MAX MÜLLER.

MORE TRIBUTES FROM THE INDIAN PRESS.

THE "MYSORE STANDARD."

The sad news of the death of Professor Max Müller, the reputed Oriental scholar of Europe, will circulate in India, and produce such feeling of sorrow that probably no other man, however learned or great, will excite in future or has excited in the past. As a man of vast learning, deep thoughts, India will mourn his loss—the more so because of his scholarship in the Sanskrit language and his great sympathy with the Aryan civilisation and culture of India.—(October 31.)

"THE INTERPRETER AND THE NEW DISPENSATION."

We believe the highest tribute which we could pay to the memory of the deceased is that he was our friend, and a friend indeed because a friend in need. In his death, therefore, we feel a great personal loss. . . . When the present writer was in England he was presented by the Professor with a copy of his translation of Kautilya's "Critique." It was a present, the author writes, "to remind him (the present writer) of a friend" of Keshub Chunder Sen. If the book reminded us of the Professor, no one in Europe reminded us so well of the late Minister as Professor Max Müller himself. If a man's face best expresses his character, nothing so forcibly brought back to our mind the peculiar expression of Keshub Chunder Sen's lips when he talked and that of his face when lit up by a divine smile, as the same things beheld again in another man, and that man was Professor Max Müller. . . . This is not the place to criticise his views on philological, philosophical or religious matters, nor to ascertain his place among the scholars or Orientalists of the day, but this is the place to say that it was the love of truth which inspired him in his labours in the different fields wherein he found that his life-work lay. That gave him his place, almost a unique one, among labourers in the same fields. That made him the cosmopolitan that he was. That made him India's truest friend in Europe. We of the New Dispensation mourn his loss most because we feel most deeply our debt to him. He was our best representative among the nations of the West not because he interpreted our views always correctly but because he loved in his own way the Truth that we love, because he worshipped in his own way the God whom we worship.—(November 4.)

THE "KAISER-I-HIND."

By the death of Professor Max Müller India has lost one of her warmest friends and one of the greatest exponents of her ancient philosophy, literature, and Vedic lore. India owes a deep debt of gratitude to the deceased orientalist for bringing before the West the glories of her ancient civilisation, the beauties of her literature, and the subtlety and the astuteness of her philosophy. The fact that greater appreciation is shown in Europe and America of Indian literature and philosophy is greatly due to Professor Max Müller. The West is also greatly indebted to him for bringing within its reach the glories of a civilisation, literature, and philosophy which at one time occupied the premier place in the world. It must at once be admitted that he knew India from her ancient books. His interest in everything Indian was that of a scientific devotee. . . . He had also proved a very kind and courteous friend to the Indian students studying in England. His literary and philological talents were of the highest order. Even his chosen society at Oxford has issued forth works which will keep his name and memory green as long as his philosophy and literature of the East has any interest for the West. His devotion to classic India had created in him a deep and genuine sympathy for the hopes, aspirations, sorrows and troubles of India of the present day; and he was not unmindful of the significance of the present-day political problems concerning India.—(November 4.)

THE "GUJRAT MITRA AND GUJRAT DARAN."

Among the Orientalists of the world there is no name of such world-wide renown as that of Professor Max Müller. In his death we lose the greatest authority in Europe on the Sanskrit language and philosophy. . . . To us, people of India, Max Müller was a familiar name—a name which shall be recalled ever afterwards with great reverence. Which one of us would be so called as to read without emotion the life of a *strani* who was a friend of Ramachand Rai, Debendranath Tagore, Keshub Chandra Sen, Nilkanth Gore and other Indian worthies? . . . Before the time of Max Müller, Sanskrit literature was a sealed book in Europe. It cannot be denied that great scholars like Bopp and Burnouf and others had preceded him as workers in the field of Oriental studies; but the bitterest opponents of Max Müller will admit that no Oriental scholar

succeeded so well in interpreting Indian philosophy and Sanskrit literature to Europe as that great Professor who has lately passed away from amongst us. There have been Oriental scholars who studied India and its noble literature with a passionate love, but other countries of the East by their hoary antiquity claimed their attention and riveted their interest so that their love for India was not so deep and so abiding as that of Max Müller for India. With Professor Max Müller India was the ideal of his life work.—(November 4.)

THE "GUJRATI."

No short obituary notice can render justice to the life-long labours of a most distinguished scholar, who has laid the East as well as West under lasting and profound obligations by his original works on Indian philosophy and Sanskrit literature and by his essays and lectures on the science and philosophy of language, religion and mythology, and by his fruitful literary activity in various other directions. His edition of the Rig-Veda and his series of the "Sacred Books of the East" will be enduring memorials of the great work he has accomplished in the course of a life which was consecrated to the cause of higher learning and which so much resembled that of an Indian Rishi. It may be that he was not a scholar in the sense our Indian Pandits and Shastris are. Western *savants*, especially if they have had no opportunities of correcting their knowledge of Sanskrit literature under the guidance of competent Indian exponents of literary and philosophical thought, are apt to go wrong in certain directions in a startling fashion. But all the same, some of them like Professor Max Müller are higher scholars than any of our Pandits and Shastris because of their wider culture and knowledge as well as of their larger intellectual horizon. . . . Again, he was not merely a Sanskrit scholar with the philosophical bent of the German. But he was endowed with a large and generous heart and rare power of insight, without which neither historical nor literary judgments on alien thoughts and institutions can ever go near the heart and soul of things. India and her people, their literature and institutions, have been misunderstood in the past. They are being still misunderstood, the more so as they are a fallen and subject people. To Professor Max Müller belongs the highest credit for having tried to remove these gross misconceptions and rank prejudices prevailing in the West about them.—(November 4.)

THE "INDIAN SOCIAL REFORMER."

If the name of any European has become a "household word" in India it is Max Müller's. He was popular with the Hindus, not merely because he has edited the Rig-Veda and was a great scholar and thinker, but he was a "friend of India" and always loved to present to European readers the bright side of Indian literature and of Indian character. Indeed, he says in one of his writings: "I have always held that we must judge of things by their bright rather than by their dark sides." This, it appears to us, was the secret of his popularity. . . . His theories were sometimes more attractive than cautious, but no greater service can be done to the cause of antiquarian research than to make it popular. In the field of pre-historic and semi-historic research, knowledge grows apace, and theories succeed one another with great rapidity. Those who are in search of the latest speculations on a subject have already begun to feel as if Max Müller were a generation old. But his name will never disappear from the firmament of Oriental scholars. . . . He was a friend of Mr. Malabari and was watching the social reform movement, as he was also watching so many other movements, with great interest. A diligent scholar, and an acute and ingenious thinker, he was, what scholars too often are not, a man full of the milk of human sympathy.—(November 4.)

THE "HINDOO PATRIOT."

Where will India find amongst Europeans another such friend as the one it has lost in him, for who, being a European, would so far identify himself with Indians to be what he was—more Indian than European?

THE "RAST GORTAL."

It will be long before India ceases to mourn for the illustrious *savant*. . . . The memory of Max Müller Bhatt, as he loved to call himself, will remain enshrined for ever in the hearts of the people of this country, not only for his herculean labours in connexion with the Sacred Books of the East, but also for the devoted and earnest efforts he otherwise made to raise them in the estimation of the civilised world. Even if he had left nothing behind him to speak of his literary labours, even if he had not left his name connected with such a monumental work, the sympathy he always evinced towards them would have won for him a high place in the esteem and affections of the Indian people.

THE "INDIAN NATION."

To us of this country Max Müller was especially dear for the justice he was anxious to render to its life, its thought and its people. . . . For about half a century his name has been a tower of strength to the weak and aspersed Native of India. He has been our light and hope in the midst of our greatest depression, when we have been covered with insult by the ignorant pride of the dominant race.

LESSONS FROM A LONDON WORKSHOP.

EXPERIENCES OF MR. NILKANTH B. WAGLE.

We now have the pleasure of giving some illustrations of the difficulties encountered and surmounted by Mr. Nilkanth B. Wagle in his spirited attempt to make himself practically acquainted with the methods of glass manufacture in England. We quote from the extremely interesting and instructive paper he read before the National Indian Association on December 17 last.

THE FIRST STEP.

My object in coming to England was to study European industries,

and especially the glass industry, which, from the enquiries I had made in India and in this country since my arrival, I can say is one of the industries which will be of the greatest advantage to introduce into India, as nearly all the conditions required for the success of that industry are most favourable in our country. The first step to take was to get myself apprenticed in some factory or other, and with this object I at once put myself in the hands of the indefatigable and ever energetic friend of India, Sir George Birdwood, the always helpful Sir Manoharji Bhownagare, and the late Hon. Mr. Nsoriji N. Wadia, the true friend and patriot of India. This latter gentleman was negotiating with different glass works through his agent, Mr. Harrower, of Glasgow, and ultimately a meeting was arranged at the Albemarle Hotel, where Mr. Harrower explained that he had approached about thirty-two firms, all of which considered that it was too great a responsibility for them to take a "foreigner" in their works—save one in Yorkshire, who consented to admit me to his factory on condition of my paying £200 as premium, and confining myself to only one department of the factory. The terms, especially as to premium, were beyond my reach; but an answer was demanded from me at once, whether I would accept the offer or go back to India without any results. When we leave India I is with a determination to work hard, with sincerity, diligence, and perseverance. But on this occasion I felt for the first time that I had not done enough. I found that we had to face difficulties of a more serious character with an iron will. Well, an answer in the terms of "yes" or "no" was to be given; but I could hardly give any. I could not say "yes," as the premium was increasingly heavy; I could not say "no," as it would be death to me to go back with my mission unfulfilled. In this perplexity I turned an appealing look to Sir George, whose heart, I could see, was bleeding for me. He interferred, and begged of Mr. Harrower to grant me some time for the final answer, which he agreed to. The meeting broke up with a clear understanding that I had only two courses open before me—either to pay the heavy premium or to go back to Bombay. Things looked very gloomy, especially while I was a perfect stranger to this city.

Sir George Birdwood, however, introduced Mr. Wagle to one of his friends, who in turn sent him to a large manufacturer in the city.

THE FIRST OPENING.

Well, I went to this gentleman, and discussed the possibility of my being admitted into his factory. It was here that I found that there was a "feeling of jealousy in the minds of the workmen, and a fear that my introduction in the factory would directly or indirectly interfere with the interests of their trade." This feeling, as I have since been convinced him, has been based on great ignorance of facts bearing on the question. I bought all the Blue Books containing our trade returns, and showed to him that in the glass trade Austria stands first—and especially as the kind of glass that I chiefly intended to learn the making of was all imported by India from Austria, Belgium and Germany. This country sends to India a very limited quantity of glass, and that, too, of a very superior sort, which the Continental countries cannot produce—such as optical and scientific glass, which at present there is not the slightest possibility of being produced in India. Of course, all this evidence was very effective to convince the proprietor that he would run no risk by my admission into the trade, and all the remaining terms were arranged without much difficulty. And on a Monday, which is a very important day for Indians to begin any work, I went into the factory, and on that day the furnace for more than half-an-hour when I found that about thirty of the workmen left their work and threatened the proprietor with a strike. The proprietor's position now became very difficult, and thinking that I should not be instrumental in putting him to any loss, I at once approached the foreman with a sad face, and explained to him that I was very sorry to cause that annoyance, and that I never intended to do them any harm, either personally or in their trade, and that they should be so generous as to accept me as their friend. To this the foreman replied: "My dear boy! don't you look droopy and crying, for we don't strike just for you, but we hate all gent's the same." He further explained to me that he would have taken the same step had an English gentleman been in my place. Once more all my attempts were foiled, and I was left in my forlorn condition, with a consoling remark from the proprietor that I was a mere slave in the hands of the workmen. After what I had heard and seen, there was not the slightest hope of my being admitted in any other works, and once more gloomy ideas stared me in the face.

Mr. Wagle then copied a list of all the names and addresses of glass manufacturers from the Post Office Directory, and made a point of visiting three or four every day. He gradually came to the conclusion that only about a dozen factories presented even a chance of success. By this time he had made up his mind that his admission would be effected, if at all, through the workmen and not through the proprietors, and sought to ingratiate himself with the workmen.

THE ENGLISH ARTISAN—FIRST VIEW.

Some (proprietors) flatly refused to hear me, some said they could not undertake the risk, some urged the want of any previous precedent, some directly declined the proposal, and some ridiculed the idea in an unbearable way. Only in two cases was I received well. One man, who was a workman, when I told him, after about three-quarters of an hour's conversation, that I should like to go with him to work in his factory, turned and said: "You would like to come with me, would you? and what wouldn't you like? Wouldn't you like to go to Heaven with me?" He repeatedly asked me the question, "wouldn't you?" until I answered it, saying, "Certainly, if you are sure you will get there and nowhere else." After that my only object was to get out of his way. Another man, when I made my request to him as I did to others, broke into an awful rage, and staring at me in such a furious manner as if he was going to swallow me whole, said, "Oh! these foreigners! We have too many of them

here at present," and then without stopping there, began to use his choicest language. Reply in this case was unnecessary. Every day the cloud was growing darker and darker, and even the smallest phantom of hope seemed to be passing from me. Gradually I began to imagine that I should be a successful failure. My patience, my fortitude, and my wits were all exhausted, and then and then again, for the first time in my life, I wished I had not been born. This was how the dozen visits ended. But they were not completely fruitless. They brought me some substantial instruction, which was of very great use to me. These visits gave me an exact idea of the likes and dislikes of an English workman; how he should be approached; how you can make friends with him; and how you can create sympathy in his heart, if heart it may be called. The most important fact I observed in all my wanderings was that there is a great fight going on in this country between two men—the workman and the gentleman.

The habits of a gentleman Mr. Wagle therefore dispensed with, and dressed himself out in a fashion more likely to commend him to the English workman.

BLACKLIARS GLASS WORKS.

At last a favourable wind began to blow. I came across one afternoon a small glass works in one of the slums of Banner Street. I observed on the board, "Blackliars Glass Works," and entered. I saw a number of men working there, but nobody, as usual, took any notice of my arrival. I enquired for the manager, and he was out, but, they said, I could see his daughter instead. When I was asked the object of my visit, I was at a loss to say anything, as I thought I could not possibly explain my object to the girl, and in my embarrassment I said I wanted a dozen bottles of the material she made for me. I was asked to come again the next day to see the manager, but instead of directly withdrawing I loitered in the factory for some time—just to make my face a little familiar to them. The next day I called again, saw the manager, and gave the order for a dozen bottles, and showed a great anxiety to pay him in advance. This last step, though I did not actually pay him, made him a little kindly disposed towards me, and I took advantage of it by asking his permission to have a look round his works. This was consented to, and I spent about three hours in the factory, partly in seeing the men at work and partly in making it known to them that I am an Indian. Then at once followed the usual questions. "Are they all men like you there?" "What do they eat?" "What do they drink?" "Have you got horses like ours?" "Have you any railways?" And when I answered the last question in the affirmative, they doubted it, and one of them asked me, "Do you know what railways are?" Somehow I answered all their queries as best as I could, and I gave them enough information about tigers, snakes, and elephants to make them interested in me—at least, as an Indian curio. Well! I left them that evening with a pleasant adieu, and with the prospect of calling there the next day.

When Mr. Wagle called a second time he reached the works just when workmen for the night shift arrived to relieve those who work during the day—for the work of the glass factory must be carried on day and night in order to save the cost of fuel.

A FRIEND IN NEED.

I had a friendly reception, and began my talk with one of all of them. . . . I could see they all liked to talk to me, whatever they had time for it, and ultimately I felt so much encouraged that I put my usual question to Mr. Bibbey (the owner)—whether he would admit me into his factory as a learner at a moderate premium. I explained to him about my not interfering with his trade, and told him that I was ready to bind myself legally to safeguard his interests. "No," he said, very emphatically. "No; I can't do it." I began to persist in my request, to which he replied: "No; no; no. . . ." He had said "No," and there the matter ended. His daughter, Miss Bibbey, manages the whole office work for him, and that day I had a long talk with her about her father's refusal. I was thinking that it would be of no use to go there any more; but Miss Bibbey passed to me a hint to renew my request again after some time.

Encouraged by this suggestion, Mr. Wagle called almost every second day, and cultivated friendly relations with everybody.

THE DOOR OPENED.

One afternoon I suggested to Mr. Bibbey to go with me to a theatre, and fortunately he consented. Here the fate gave their verdict in my favour, for in all his life he had been only about five times to a theatre. We arranged to meet at seven that evening, and we found ourselves in the pit of a theatre in the Strand, for he would not consent to my spending more money. After it was over we shared a bottle of lemonade, and began to walk towards his house. The day had been at first very wet and a little foggy, but when we came out of the theatre the night was so bright that we were tempted to walk instead of driving. It was about 11.30 when we came to Blackliars Bridge. The river was quite low, and I was looking so pleased that I thought of trying my luck with him for the last time, and I put to him the same old question, but in a different way. I told him I had a friend coming to this country to learn glass-blowing. I added that he was my particular friend, and that he should take him as a learner in his works. He said: "You see it is a difficult job; it is risky. I can't take him." Then I told him: "He is a very nice fellow, and you are sure to be pleased with him." He replied: "Be sure I shouldn't mind taking you; but I can't take him." I knew him. I should have said "I don't know him." "But," I asked, "would you take me?" He said: "I don't mind." I enquired: "Shall I take this as a promise?" "Yes; I promise," he replied. . . . What my feelings were then I cannot tell you. An immense mountain was removed from my heart. New life came to me.

The details of the arrangement were quickly settled, and Mr. Wagle commenced work as a "fashionable" workman. New difficulties arose, indeed, but Mr. Bibbey met them with most creditable fidelity and firmness.

TRADE UNION OBJECTIONS TO "FOREIGNERS."

I had not been working for more than three or four days when Mr. Bibbey received a letter from the Trade Union people, stating that they were informed that a foreign gentleman was learning the trade in his factory, and asking what explanation he had to offer on that point. Mr. Bibbey showed it to me, and he replied to it, saying that there was a gentleman learning, but before he admitted him he had made himself sure that he in no way would interfere with the interests which the Trade Union is supposed to guard. After about ten days he received another letter from the same body, asking him to send the gentleman away or they would have to instruct his workmen to go on strike. This was again the same old tale. It drove me to a desperate mood, and I expressed to Mr. Bibbey my deepest obligation, and requested him not to injure himself in any way on my account, and I told him that I was prepared to go back to India. He said: "Don't you worry, old chap. I must keep my promise, and I will." He then wrote to the Union people that he had guarded all the interests of the trade in taking me into his factory; that he had promised to keep me there, that there was not the slightest necessity for their moving in the matter, and that if they should think otherwise they might do as they chose, but he must stick to his promise. We have never heard anything from the Trade Union since.

Mr. Wagle was now firmly established in the factory, but his difficulties were not yet over.

TRIALS, PHYSICAL AND SENTIMENTAL.

To begin with, Mr. Bibbey gave me a blow-pipe, a pair of tongs, a pair of scissors, and a foot clip, and asked me to begin my operations. It must be confessed that I came to this work as a complete novice, for not very long ago I could hardly tie up a parcel. The nature of the work, besides, is exceptionally trying. The furnace is full of what is called white-heat, all day and night, and I had to work about one yard away from this heat. People can scarcely have an idea of what sort of heat it is. . . . Not a few times I had to stop in my work half-a-day, as it was impossible to do more; and when I came home I was as good as dead for the rest of the evening. Often I had been ill, and often did I think: Why should I worry my flesh so much? . . .

But there were other difficulties as well, which were of a sentimental nature. Perhaps some of them may seem foolish or idiotic to an English mind, but to an Indian who is born and bred in completely sentimental surroundings they are not such as to be trifled with. For example, the very first day when Mr. Bibbey came to teach me how to blow glass, he rolled the metal at one end of the pipe and put the other in his mouth about an inch and a half, and blew it a little, and asked me to do the same. He looked at his mouth—and that was far from encouraging me in my effort! Half the number of teeth had left the company of the other half, which seemed to wear mourning for the departed. Now, from an Indian point of view, this is, for a high caste man, a very repugnant thing to do. My mind shrunk back with a shock, and I could not do it. There was no time to lose, as the glass gets cold—and it did get cold. He has so anger for my spilling the glass, and said, "You must know you should blow it with your mouth and not by your eyes." He hardly knew anything of the struggle going on in my mind. I remember when I was a child I could not use a whist which had been used by my sister or brother. We are bred up in such simple habits that if a glass or metal jug is used by one for drinking purposes, it can never be used by another, though he be a very near relative or a friend. People in this country, who are given so much to kissing at home, railway stations, in carriages, and everywhere—brothers, sisters, mothers, relatives, friends, acquaintances, and all—can hardly understand how difficult it is for us to touch anything by the mouth which has been similarly used by others. . . . Well, this difficulty went on for a long time, but somehow I got over it.

To any "high caste" Englishman the like experience would be "very repugnant" and "not tolerable"; only there would not be the same *avidity* of mental revulsion. However, Mr. Wagle set his teeth together, and came to know both his business and his fellow-workers.

THE GENUINE MR. BIBBEY.

A very great calamity came to pass in the death of my uncle, who stood to me in the relation of a father. It was he who gave me the best gift that a parent can give to his child—a thorough education—and which my aspiration was to express my gratitude to him by showing practically that his expense and trouble in my education had not been wasted. On returning to the factory I met Mr. Bibbey, and I communicated to him my loss. I naturally expected some sympathy, but the first question I had from him was: "Did he leave you any money?" I would not have thought that any man would not feel for my trouble. To make matters worse, he said: "Finish the bottles, they should go this evening." I took the pipe, and affected to work, but I was simply playing with the metal. Soon his daughter came, and, asking me about my loss, said she was very sorry I was gone. I asked: "Who told you that I am sad?" She replied: "Father asked me to go to the bank for him this afternoon, as he said he would take you to Clapton to see some old glass, because you looked very sad." So now it appeared that he felt very much for me; and one day soon after, when I talked about my loss and the drawback it would prove to me in my career, he said: "Don't you worry; you will be all right in this trade while I live."

My relations improved every day with Mr. Bibbey and the workmen, so that when Mr. Bibbey took three weeks' holiday last summer he left the factory in my sole charge, and he has testified to his

satisfaction in the result not only by words but by making a small reduction of my premium. If there is any new sort of work to be done in the factory he always takes me to see it, and if I ask him to do anything for me in the factory line, I can depend on his doing it if it is in his power.

As for the men, they could be gained over "not in any other way or by any other methods than by doing as they did; or behaving as they did—talking, dressing, and even swearing as they did." So Mr. Wagle conformed to the society he was placed in. And the result was this:—

"MY FELLOW-WORKMEN"—AT CLOSE QUARTERS.

When I go now in the factory I am welcomed with the title "old chap," or sometimes "chappie," and one and all of the men try their best to make me comfortable and easy. One gives me a blowing chair, another hands to me a pipe, and the third the tube, and in two minutes all my things are ready for beginning my work. Whenever I do anything wrong, if anyone happens to see it, he will jump at me and tell me how to do it. This saves, and has saved me, a lot of trouble and time. Besides, I can say with perfect truth that none of them have any secret of the glass trade which they either have kept, or have the wish to keep, from me. It is to them of politics, philosophy, poetry, and all sorts of different topics—of course in a different way from what I would do here—and my experience has been far from unsatisfactory. You have only to take away the cloak of abusive language sometimes, and you will find that they are conversant with all the burning questions of the day. Of course, they will not be able to discuss a topic on what is called its principles, as the Prime Minister would do; but I dare say some of them have as keen, as moral, and as noble views and ideas as any leading politicians on the Front Bench of the Houses of Parliament. Some of them have broader ideas than those possessed by the so-called educated middle-classes, who feed or overfeed their brain with all the nonsense that appears in the Press. . . . I can truly say that by the kind and hospitable treatment which I have received from these men, by their broad-minded views, by the unshaken offer of their friendship, and by the course they have taken to keep me cheerful, because of my being so far away from home, they have aroused in me such regard for them, and especially for Mr. Bibbey, that I should be proud of the privilege of shaking hands with him even before her Majesty the Empress of India.

Such is the happy outcome of Mr. Wagle's splendid pertinacity—contemptuous repulse changed into firm friendship, distrust and dislike into mutual helpfulness. And Mr. Wagle's experiences convey a political as well as a social moral.

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON INDIAN QUESTIONS.

THE WORK OF THE BRITISH COMMITTEE.

On December 16 Miss Alison Garland gave an address at the Rev. Moffat Logan's Sunday afternoon meeting for men, Bristol, on "The Economic Condition of the Indian Rajat." There was a good attendance—about six or seven hundred persons. Many questions were put to the lecturer respecting the trade, agriculture, military strength, and currency of India, to all which satisfactory replies were given. Miss Garland's answer to the criticism of Messrs. Coates and Mutton, who took "the other side" of the question, elicited loud applause from the audience.

On December 17, at Bridgwater, Miss Garland gave a lecture illustrated by lime-light views on her visit to India. The Mayor presided. In introducing the speaker, he said from previous lectures he had heard her give he knew there was no one, man or woman, who could explain difficult questions like Bimotalsim, the Local Government Act, Finance Acts, and so forth, as clearly as Miss Garland could, and he hoped she would explain with equal lucidity the abstruse problems awaiting solution in our government of India. A collection was made for the Famine Fund.

On December 18, Miss Garland spoke on "Current Politics" at Exeter. Councillor Stokes presided. The attendance was only moderate, owing to the inclemency of the weather. Miss Garland dealt largely with Imperial affairs and explained the aims and methods of the Indian National Congress.

MR. DADABHAI NAOROJI'S ENGAGEMENTS.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, indefatigable as ever, proposes to deliver addresses on Indian questions as follows:—

January 14.—Penge and Beckenham Liberal and Radical Club, 76, Beckenham Road, Penge, at 8.30 p.m.

January 31.—Toynbee Hall.

February 10.—Hatcham Liberal Club.

February 25.—Mostyn Town Literary and Debating Society.

March 10.—Reading.

Mr. J. M. Parikh, barrister-at-law, addressed the North London Jewish Literary and Social Union at Synagogue Chambers, Post's Road, Canonbury, N., last night (January 3), on "Indian Famines and their Causes."

Open Letters to Lord Curzon ON FAMINES IN INDIA.

By **ROMESH C. DUTT, C.I.E.**

London: **Kegan Paul & Co.**, price 7/6. Obtainable in India through any bookseller.

"Mr. R. C. Dutt's volume is extremely opportune at the present time, and his position, that of an excessive land tax renders the agricultural population unable to face two or three successive years of drought, calls at least for careful examination. Mr. Dutt is on less doubtful ground in pleading for a reduction of the annual duties to England and for the more extended employment of the Indians in civil employ."—*The Times*.

"Mr. Dutt succeeds in showing that, on the whole, areas of recurrent famine have been identical with those of excessive assessment."—*The Daily News*.

"Nothing could be better than the book on Indian Famines which Mr. Dutt has just published in the form of some Open Letters to Lord Curzon. It is thoroughly informed, well-reasoned, and temperate; it tells the engaging man exactly what he ought to know."—*The Daily Chronicle*.

"We would draw special attention to Mr. Dutt's own convincing and eloquent plea, hidden away in the final pages of the appendix, for the creation of such representative institutions as should enable the Government of India to utilize native services and keep abreast of native opinion."—*The Manchester Guardian*.

"His recommendations are that the land tax should be moderated, that irrigation works should be constructed, and that the public debt and the public expenditure of India should be reduced. These proposals he supports with a wealth of detail of all kinds, which proves his mastery of the subject and makes good his claim to the attention of the governing authorities."—*The World*.

"His view that it is inequitable to make India pay for the maintenance of a large army to be used for the general purposes of the Empire has the support of many high authorities who are by no means to be described as Little Englanders."—*Literature*.

THE GRANHAMs, SHELFORD, CAMBRIDGE.

W. A. DOUGLAS RUDGE, B.A., late Scholar and Prizeman of St. John's College, Cambridge, is prepared to take entire charge of a limited number of young Indian gentlemen and to educate them for the University or Public Schools. Special attention paid to Science subjects. Healthy country home four miles from Cambridge. References kindly permitted by Romesh C. Dutt, Esq., C.I.E., and Dadabhai Naorji, Esq., in London. In India to B. C. Ghose, Esq., M.A., Lecturer, City College, Calcutta, who will furnish further particulars.

CONGRESS GREEN-BOOKS.

Nos. I, II, & III. NOW READY.

- I. **THE SKELETON AT THE (JUBILEE) FEAST.**
By Sir **WILLIAM WEBBERBURN, Bart., M.P.** (being a Series of Suggestions for the Prevention of Famine in India). Price 7d., post free; in India, by V.P.P., 7 annas.
- II. **ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN EXPENDITURE.** Evidence-in-Chief of the Five Indian Witnesses. Price 1s. 10d., post free; in India, by V.P.P., R. 1. 4.
- III. **THE PROPOSED SEPARATION OF JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE DUTIES IN INDIA.** Memorial to the Secretary of State for India. With Two Appendices. Price 1s. 2d., post free; in India, by V.P.P., 14 annas.

LONDON: Published by the **BRITISH COMMITTEE OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**, 84 & 85, Palace Chambers, S.W.
IN INDIA: Copies may be obtained from **D. E. WACHA, Esq.**, Presidency Association, Bombay.

DR. T. N. GHOSE'S

PECTORAL BALSAM.

A **SOON TO SUFFERERS FROM ALL DISORDERS AND COMPLAINTS OF THE LUNGS AND CHEST.**

For: Cold in the Head, Coughs, Hoarseness, Asthma, Hooping Cough, Bronchitis, Sore Throat.

DR. W. VENEZ says: "I have used it myself and prescribed it for many patients, and can very strongly recommend it for Bronchitis, Asthma, Indigestion. It will not cure Asthma or Indigestion, but a single dose I have found gives an immediate relief.—31st March, 1888.

P. C. GHOSE & CO., NEW MEDICAL HALL, MUMBAI.



is what its name implies **FEVER DESTROYER**, and Cures Malarious, Intermittent and Remittent types of Fevers, Colds, etc.

I beg to enclose a cheque for the "Jvara-Hari." Both in India and Africa I have found it the **BEST REMEDY FOR FEVER** I know.
"Jvara-Hari" is an efficacious on all fevers, that I now intend upon you for 4/6 each, per value payable parcel. I think there is more than made in it.

FOR INDIGESTION, DIARRHŒA, CHOLERA, etc., etc.

Send orders to the Proprietors' Office. I have much pleasure in stating that your "Omum-Carpool" was found very useful for Cholera if taken in the early stage.
Prices of "JVARA-HARI" and "OMUM-CARPOOL" 6 ans., Rs. 1/8 Rs., 2/2 Rs., and 11 Rs. per bottle. N.B.—1 doz. sent post free. To be had of all Chemists and Dealers, or of the Proprietors,

HERRY'S GREAT INDIAN REMEDIES COMPANY, 43, King William St., London, E.C., and 27, Second Line Beach, Madras



To Political Associations, Literary Societies, Ethical Societies, Etc., etc.

LECTURES AND ADDRESSES ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The British Committee of the Indian National Congress (84 & 85, Palace Chambers, Westminster, S.W.), is in a position to offer to Political Associations, Literary Societies, Ethical Societies, etc., etc., the services of Indian gentlemen, well qualified to place before an audience the facts relating to the condition of India and its people.

No charge will be made for the services of speakers with whom engagements are made through the British Committee.

Associations or individuals desiring to arrange meetings on Indian questions are requested to communicate with the Secretary as below:—

BRITISH COMMITTEE of the **INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**,
84 & 85, Palace Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

"INDIA," JAN.-JUNE, 1900. VOL. XIII.

NOW READY.

Bound in Cloth (post free) 7/6 each net cash.

The following volumes of "INDIA," bound in cloth, can also be obtained:—

Vols. V. (1894), VI. (1895), VII. (1896), VIII. (1897). Price 8/6 each, post free.

Vols. IX. (Jan.-June, 1898), X. (July-Dec., 1898), XI. (Jan.-June, 1899), XII. (July-Dec., 1899). Price 7/6 each, post free.

Remittances should accompany order.

Apply to the Manager, "INDIA,"

84 & 85, PALACE CHAMBERS, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

The annual subscription to **INDIA** (post free) is nine shillings for England and six rupees for India. Subscriptions are payable in advance. Remittances, or communications relating to subscriptions or any other matter of business connected with **INDIA**, should in all cases be sent to the **MANAGER OF INDIA**, 84 and 85, Palace Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W. In any communication regarding copies of **INDIA** circulated in India, it is requested that Subscribers be referred to both by name and by the number printed in each case upon the addressed wrapper.

Cheques and Post Office Orders payable to **W. DOUGLAS HALL**.

Copies of **INDIA** can be obtained from the Office of the Paper; from **MR. ELLIOT STOCK, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.**; and in order at any Railway Bookstall.