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Local & Muni. (1897) Department.

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G.O., No. 475 M

DATED 16. 3-97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bubonic Plague

Appointing a committee to consider the method of the "Serum" treatment of the ——.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government {1897} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Proffered abroad Passed stockette as amended 11/3/97

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 475 M., 10th March 1897.

MARCH.

Bubonic Plague.

Appointing a committee to consider the method of the "serum" treatment of the—.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Minute of the Honourable Mr. H. W. BLISS, dated 6th March 1897:—

On page 6 of the *Madras Mail* of the 4th, there are two articles dealing with the serum treatment of the plague and with the necessary immunization of horses for the purpose. I wrote yesterday to Colonel Moore to ask his opinion as to this, pointing out that it would be a good thing to take this precaution against the possible advent of the plague, that the cost need not be great, as mere tats could be used, and that the doctor we are sending to Bombay should be able to supervise the process. I put up his reply, which encloses a letter from Dr. Nield Cook, the Health Officer of the Municipality.

It seems to me that before entering on such a business we had better count the cost and that for this purpose it will be well to appoint a small committee to work the matter out—consider whether anything should be done in the first place; and if that question is answered in the affirmative, what practical steps should be taken and what they will cost. I am not in favour, in such a case as this, of a purely professional committee. Medical opinion must have its full weight, but this can be secured whether such a committee as I suggest consists wholly or mainly of medical men, or not. The danger in a preponderance of medical men on such a committee is that the purely scientific and curative aspects of the question would be considered, to the neglect of its practical and financial aspects. I think therefore that, if the appointment of such a committee commends itself to my honourable colleagues, two of its members might be the Surgeon-General and Colonel Moore. As to a third member, I am in great doubt. It would be convenient to appoint Mr. Forbes, because that would facilitate the committee's communications with Government; Mr. Crole would be an excellent man to deal with the business questions which must arise. But, in view of the fact that caste considerations may impede the application of the serum treatment, I incline to think that it would be best to request some native gentleman to join the committe. Whom to suggest I cannot say. Perhaps the best plan would be to request the Municipal Commissioners to nominate some native gentleman.

Veterinary Lieutenant Clarke (Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department) might be appointed secretary to the committee. The Lieutenant-General Commanding might be asked to allow Veterinary Captain Hazelton to give the committee the benefit of his advice and assistance. Purely medical advice and assistance would be at the disposal of the committee through the Surgeon-General.

ORDER—No. 475 M., dated 10th March 1897.

Among the published methods of treating the bubonic plague is the "serum" treatment, the "serum" being obtained from horses by a process of immunization. But the process is long and tedious and if the method is to be adopted in the possible event of the appearance of the plague in this Presidency, it is expedient that early arrangements should be made by which an ample supply of the serum may be secured.

2. Before however taking any steps in this direction, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that a committee should be appointed to consider and report to Government whether it is desirable in the first place that anything at all should be done in this matter, and if the committee is of that opinion, then what practical steps should be taken and what they will cost. In other words, the committee should consider not only the purely scientific and curative aspects of the question but also its practical and financial aspects.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is accordingly pleased to appoint as members of this committee the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, and a native gentleman to be nominated by the Municipal Commissioners of the City of Madras, with the Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department as the Secretary.

3. The Municipal Commissioners of Madras will accordingly be requested to nominate a native gentleman to serve on the committee. The Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras, will be requested to allow Veterinary Captain Hazelton to give the committee the benefit of his advice and assistance. Medical advice and help will be at the disposal of the committee through the Surgeon-General.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" ~~Veterinary Lieutenant Clarke,~~ Supt., C. V. Dept.,
through the Revenue Department.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command.

Government {1897} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval

Passed
struck off
as proposed
10/3/97

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

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MARCH.

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" Sanitary Commissioner.
" President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" ~~Veterinary Lieutenant Clarke~~, Supt., C. V. Dept., through the Revenue Department.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, Madras Command. with covering letter.

* This will be omitted in the case of the Compd. Asst in the 4th column

H.M.

To Rev Dept.
Before issue will Rev. Dept. say whether there will be any objection to the employt of Vet. Lt. Clarke, as proposed

8/3
10/3/97

D.D.
10/3/97

To Local Dept

Mr Clarke is reverting to military duty and the appointment of a successor to him is now under consideration. For the words "Vet. Lieut Clarke" in para 2, substitute the words "the Supt." should accordingly be substituted.

Issue as altd
10/3/97

* Read Minute of the Hon. H.W. Bliss dated 6th March 1897

P.S.

Order No. 475 M. dt. 10-3-97

Among the published methods of treating the bubonic plague is the * Serum * treatment, the "Serum" being obtained from horses by a process of immunization. But the process is long and tedious and if the method is to be adopted in the possible event of the appearance of the plague in this Presidency, it is expedient that early arrangements should be made by which an ample supply of the Serum may be secured.

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(From Order)

(Initd) G.S.7
9.3.1897

To
The Surg.-Genl
.. Genl. Comt.
.. Secy. Municipal Comr. Madras
.. ~~Veterinary Capt. Clarke~~ Supdt. C.V. Dept.
Attn: the Revs Dept.
.. Dy. Adjutant-Genl. Madras Command
with covering letter

despatched
Please note that copies without this note to be issued
WB
appears

(1) H.E. the Governor
(2) Hon. Sec. Fire

Minute

On p. 6 of the Med. Mail of the 4th there are two articles dealing with the human treatment of the plague and the necessary immunization of horses for the purpose. I wrote yesterday to Col. Moore to ask his opinion as to these, pointing out that the extreme cold began as we were late could be used, and that the doctor we are sending to Bombay should be able to supervise the process. I got by this reply, which encloses a letter from Dr. Field Cook the Health officer of the Municipality.

It seems to me that before entering on such a business we had better count the cost and that for this purpose it will be well to appoint a small Cmte. to work the matter out — consider whether anything should be done in the first place; & if that question is answered in the affirmative, what practical steps should be taken & what they will cost. Experience in such a case as this, of which professional Cmte. — medical opinion must have its full weight, but this can be secured whether such a Cmte as I suggest consists wholly of medical men, or not. The danger in a preponderance of medical men on such a Cmte. is that the purely scientific or curative aspects of the question would be considered, & the neglect of its practical & financial aspects. I think therefore that if the appt. of such a Cmte. commends itself to my hon. colleagues, two of its members might be the Surgeon General and Dr.

that it would be a good thing to take this precaution against the possible advent of the plague,

I think the proposal is an excellent one, and I have pleasure in approving it.

A.S.H.

10

I too think the proposals are excellent & am much obliged to Hon Mr. Blair for making them.

J.G.
8/3/99

A.S.H.

Moore - As a third member, I am in great doubt. It would be convenient to appoint Mr Forbes, because that would facilitate the Court's communication with Govt.; Mr Cook would be an excellent man to deal with the business question which must arise. But, in view of the fact that caste considerations may impede the application of the Decimal treatment, I incline to think that it would be best to request some native gentleman to join the Court. Whom to suggest I cannot say. Perhaps the best plan would be to request the Madras Govt to nominate some native gentleman.

Lieut. St Clarke (Supt. Civil Vet. Dept.) might be appointed Secretary to the Court. The J.G. might be asked to allow Lieut. Capt. Hazelton to give the Court the benefit of his advice & assistance - Purely medical advice & assistance would best meet the disposal of the Court through the Surgeon General.

R. J. Leslie

March 6. 1897

Circ:

Yes.
R.J.L
8.3.97

5th March 1897

My dear Bliss

This is what Nurse Cook says about it. I quite agree that he ought to be at Madras now, but I think it would have been a good thing for him to go to Bombay, as I fancy he has had the most recent practical experience in bacteriology

Yours sincerely
Edw Moore

H. No.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
Municipal Office,
Madras, ... *189* .

My dear Col. Moore,

With reference to Mr. Bliss' D.O. of today's date I should like to take up the immunization of horses and -- prepare them to yield curative serum. I think it would be advisable to have a veterinary surgeon either Hazelton or Clarke associated with me as he would be more accustomed to recording symptoms & taking temperatures & pulses than I am. I assisted Kanthack in some experimental work in the ----- immunization of animals when I was at home & have very full notes on the immunization of horses for diphtheria, but I do not know what doses of the bubonic toxins a horse may be expected to stand or how often repeated. This a point of practical experience on which successful immunization ---- largely depends. Shall I write & ask Mons. Yersin? I have got the bacillus in pure culture & I think all the ------ apparatus that is required though I am not quite certain whether I can get hypodermic syringes of the proper size here; if not it would be possible to work with smaller ones. We should want a temporary stable somewhere & a farrier to take charge of it. We could probably get some lame unclaimed horses from the S.P.C.A. for a mere song. I should not be inclined to work horses for a few days after their ---- inoculation as I understand they react strongly to the ---

plague toxin and would consequently suffer from fever and malaise for some days after the first few injections. I know nothing about the preparation of the serum, but there is no hurry about that as it takes some months to prepare the horses. For that reason if we are to have serum treatment the sooner we begin operations the better.

Yours sincerely,

J. Rield Todd.

journey in order to obtain sufficient quantities. Dr. Yersin's Laboratory in Annam is financed by the French Colonial Government, while the Pasteur Institute at Paris supplies some of the scientific instruments. This Laboratory is situated on the seashore, at a lonely place named Nyah-Thraag, and there is plenty of space for the numerous horses required for the preparation of immunising serum. The process of immunising horses takes a long time; and on an average eighty or a hundred horses are needed in order to prepare about two hundred doses a year. Dr. Yersin, it should be added, had just been made an Officer of the Legion of Honour by the French Government in recognition of his successful cures of plague.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE SPECIALIST.

Dr. Yersin, the Plague Specialist, to whose discoveries in the course of the career of the pest in China in 1894 so much importance is now being attached in India, and particularly in Bombay and Karachi, returned to Colombo yesterday (28th) in the s.s. *Natal*, having obtained a quantity of his serum from his laboratory at Nyah Thrang, in Annam, for purpose of further experiment in India. The Doctor is a younger man than most people suppose. A disciple of Pasteur, and absolutely the first man to discover the Plague bacillus and what looked like a remedy for the disease, Dr. Yersin we should say, has not yet seen 30. In appearance, therefore, he is a trifle disappointing, nor does a conversation with him quite remove that feeling of disappointment, for the Doctor is modest on the subject of his supposed cure; he speaks of it yet as a thing but little tried and, therefore, doubtful.

A SMALL QUANTITY OF SERUM.

A few days ago we quoted the opinion of Prof. Marmorek—the eminent scientist—to the effect that Dr. Yersin would be able to derive from his horses in Annam, enough serum to treat something like 18,000 cases of Plague. It was, therefore, a little surprising to learn from Dr. Yersin to-day (1st) that he has with him only 700 very small bottles; the whole quantity not being more than sufficient for experimental purposes. To use Dr. Yersin's own words:—"If I cure 50 to 60 cases with my serum I have with me it will be necessary for me to return to Annam to get more—as the quantity I have will not yield more results than that".

"But why should you return?" seemed a natural query.

"Because of a little misfortune that has happened", replied the Doctor. "When I left Annam, I left two assistants to extract the serum from the horses, and to send it on to me each month—as we tap the horses once a month—but yesterday when I arrived here I found a telegram awaiting me saying that one of these men—and he too, my principal assistant—had died. I fear, therefore, that after a short residence in Bombay, if I am successful, it will be necessary for me to send to France for another medical assistant to come there to attend to the cases while I go back to Annam for serum."

WHY ANNAM IS THE SPECIFIC CENTRE.

following pro- Staff Corps and ions to the Staff India :—

Francis, J. W.

ddleton, G. F. , W. R. Yeild- y, and Brevet

, E.R. Morton, Bower, R. M. H. C. Vesey, H. Vickers,

ash, from the ake, from the limo, from the l'Neile, R.A.; gt.; W. J. H. egt.; Second Lancers, and

lowing Second ist :—W. M. ing, L. Slater, and W. P. N.

restoration of y List to the

Staff Corps. he retirement ers :—

W. Walker,

EPARTMENT. orary rank of the great Establish- blishment. e resignation

rps. been made to Hutchinson, Military Edu- t, C.B., V.C., ass district; Staff Corps, W. C. Black, and; Major Assist. Adj.- Capt. F. T. Dep.-Assist. gned; Capt. Dep.-Assist. e, resigned; ers, Aide-de- mmanding a . F. Cooke, p to Major- a first class

J. C. Han-

photos of any size, improving on the latter, and producing very good results and likenesses.

Organs and Harmoniums.

OUR present stock includes Pipe and Reed Organs, suitable for Chapel or home use. Harmoniums by leading makers from Rs. 100.

List and specifications forwarded on application.

MISQUITH & Co.

A Perfect Piano.

NO. 8565, Ruchal's specially constructed full Upright Grand. Latest model, with all recent improvements, extended compass, A. to C., in solid Mahogany ebonized case, with improved sconces and extra pannelled back.

Absolutely as good as new, with case complete, Rs. 1,200.

To be seen at MISQUITH'S.

Auction Sale! Auction Sale!!

THE Madras Stable Co. will offer for sale the balance of Fresh Walers imported by Krcrouse and Madden, ex. *Darius* and *Muttra (first two shipments of this season)* on Saturday, 6th March, 1897, at 3 P.M.

N. B.—Full description in Catalogues.

Auction Sale

Of 88 Cases of fresh Oilmanstores.

Per S.S. "*Mombassa*" and "*Clan Matheson.*"

A. D'Rozario & Co., Ld.

Will sell by Public Auction, at their Rooms, on the Beach, on Saturday, the 13th March, 1897, commencing at 12 o'clock noon, the following, viz:—

CURRANTS, muscatel raisens, milk maid, brand swiss milk, J. T. Morton's macaroni and vermicelli in 1 and 2lb. tins., pearl barley and sago, Mellin's food in large and small bottles, Brown's corn flour in 18 oz. tins., and 4 oz. packs, Lea and Perrins' Worcestershire sauce in pints and ½ pints, Crosse and Blackwell's malt vinegar in pints, sardines, fancy soaps, Beaches' bar soap, bird seed, &c., &c.

After which will be sold,

10 1/2 doz. qts. Australian Claret.
10 1/2 ,, pts. do do.
12 7/12 ,, qts. Graves.
5 3/12 ,, pts. do.
3 6/12 ,, qts. Claret.

And a small quantity of Stower's lime juice, lemon squash, quino lemo, ginger wine orange wine, lime [illegible]

A reasonable mean was all that could be anticipated, and this, we think it will generally be agreed, has been conceded."

THE POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

of Indian Telegraphs falls vacant this week, as Mr. Luke is retiring on pension. The department thus loses one of its ablest officers, remarks the *Pioneer*, for Mr. Luke has Great experience both in practical fieldwork and in the administrative branch. "He was one of the officers selected for the C. I. E. after the Afghan campaign of 1878-80, in which his services with the Kabul field force, more particularly during the siege of Sherpur, won the highest commendation from General Roberts. Last year Mr. Luke represented Indian interests at the International Telegraph Conference [illegible] for Moslem pilgrims, and had contact with residents of those places, and had consented to this temporary measure through sheer necessity. Mahomedans should not therefore leave their homes till the plague is over and the ports are reopened, and should be thankful to Government for this timely information, and should ever pray for the Government's continuance and prosperity.

THE FORTNIGHTLY FAMINE NARRATIVE OF the Anantapur District for the period ending 31st January has been issued with the Madras tions of the Board of Revenue and the Madras Government thereon. From the former we learn that the narrative fully summarises the situation, [illegible] be placed [illegible] Central a [illegible] the defecte [illegible] Famine Act [illegible] effect to [illegible] very [illegible] which had failed to explode the previous afternoon, went off, severely injuring three men, who were removed to hospital in a precarious condition. An enquiry is being held.

The "Kinfauns" Marine Enquiry.

A CONTUMACIOUS CAPTAIN.

A Marine Court of Enquiry was opened yesterday at the Egmore Police Court to investigate the circumstances attending the stranding of the steamer *Kinfauns* off Porenundiog of the 11th December last. Captain Mathews, [illegible] a tropical sunset, [illegible] under on the 11th December last. Captain

A TRAVELLER lately, describing a tropical sunset, [illegible] wrote to a friend in the following words: "The raindrops were extremely large, varying in size from a shilling to eighteen pence."

STAGE MANAGER: "Mr. Heavy, you will take the part of Alonzo." Mr. Heavy: "I have never seen this part play. Do you think I can please the audience in that part?" Stage Manager: "Immensely. You die in the first act."

Miscellaneous.

Telegraphic Information.

MADRAS, 4th March.—Saigon-Bangkok interrupted.

Some Sappers were working in a quarry near the Deccan College when a blasting charge, [illegible] in the [illegible] Central a [illegible] the defecte [illegible] Famine Act [illegible] effect to [illegible] very [illegible] which had failed to explode the previous

The Plague.

DR. YERSIN.

Dr. Yersin, who is expected shortly in Bombay with his anti-plague serum, is an enthusiastic man of science, with a strong love of adventure. The following account of his career gathered from the French papers cannot fail to be interesting to the Indian public. He is descended from an old Huguenot family, which had to quit France owing to the Edict of Nantes. He himself was born at Morgues in Switzerland. His father was a professor of Natural History, and was one of the teachers of M. Paul Bert, the distinguished French Physiologist, who died shortly after taking up the appointment of Governor-General of Cochin China. From an early period of his life Mr. Yersin exhibited a marked taste for chemistry and physics; and even before he took his Bachelor's degree he published a remarkable paper on Ozone. Later on at the University of Lausanne he devoted much attention to the study of Atmospheric Electricity, and wrote a most interesting essay on the subject. He next took to the microscope, and in 1885 went to Paris. Here he was fortunate enough to enter the Laboratory of Dr. Cornil, who is one of the most eminent scientific medical man in France, and it was during his service under Dr. Cornil that he became an enthusiastic adherent of Pasteurism. Dr. Cornil was one of the physicians of the Parisian Hospital, known as the Hotel Dieu, and about this time several Russian peasants, who had been bitten by a mad wolf, were admitted in the Doctor's wards for palliative treatment. One of these died from hydrophobia, and Dr. Yersin conducted the *post mortem* examination. While doing so he was wounded in the finger by a splinter of one of the dead man's bones. He was now in danger of suffering from blood poisoning or hydrophobia; and considerations of fear as well as scientific curiosity induced him to have himself inoculated. He thus came in contact with the famous M. Roux, and was inoculated with the ardour for bacteriological study. M. Roux got Yersin to assist him in his work, and the young medico soon became a proficient. Yersin now devoted himself to the study of tuberculosis and diphtheria, and in conjunction with his master, Dr. Roux, brought out that remarkable work entitled *Toxine Diphterique*—which pointed the way towards the discovery of an anti-croup vaccine. In 1887 Yersin had himself naturalised a Frenchman, for he was still then a Swiss subject, though France had been the original home of his family. In the following year, when the Pasteur Institute was established in the Rue Dutot, Yersin found employment in the Laboratory. Here he soon attracted notice for his zeal and enthusiasm for microscopic research; but all of a sudden he decided on becoming a surgeon on board one of the ships of the Messageries Maritimes. His friends were surprised and did their best to induce him to alter his decision; but nothing would shake him, and in a short while he embarked for Saigon. Even now his scientific instincts got the better of him, and whenever his vessel put into an eastern port, he would make short incursions into the interior of the country with a view to spying out the scientific beauty of the land. Later on he joined the Colonial Medical Service of France and volunteered for all sorts of dangerous missions, which he usually executed alone, mounted on an elephant and accompanied by a guide or two. During these rash expeditions into the interior of Tonkin and Annam. Yersin was in the habit of medically treating the people on his route, and the latter, among whom he was known as the "white sorcerer," seldom molested him. On one occasion, however, he was attacked by pirates and relieved of all his baggage, including his gun, which he always took with him on these journeys. The Doctor had a leg broken in the encounter, and was severely handled by the pirates, who only left him when they thought he was dying. A few months after this adventure he was at Hongkong, making experiments with the plague-stricken Chinese.

During his stay in the Far East, Yersin devoted much study to the complaint believed to be the plague—and as is known, he claims to have isolated the microbe from the glands of those suffering from the disease. In 1895 he returned to Paris, in order to have an anti-plague vaccine prepared in the same fashion as Dr. Roux prepares his anti-croup vaccine, and was returning to Annam, when he was stopped at Colombo and requested to proceed to Bombay. As he had not sufficient vaccine with him he was unable

yielding the serum for this serum to ed it lasts; I can I know till they d matter, as far as horses are when purpose, and the the process—they

EFFE

"When you i body do you ap

"To the side, pain. There is inoculation, nor A person after feel no ill effect

"But you ha lactic, I take it, temperature up

"I know not covery—not ev that with my toms. In most subsidence of t few hours. 24 my experience will be able to

"And how patient, in wh more than 300 present."

TH

Asked what the Doctor sa certainly thou the disease, a flour and rice saw in China he had read s

It is only n an entirely p absolutely wi ests of scie "Natal" yes we join with —*Times of C*

The Wa

The *Spo* lately been the horse t interesting

A little khana Gr of the M In additio business, day aucti horses, w Australia sale. The finest in suited for mortar, at ping tiles, of the In about 12 f the horse The othe six feet quite op roof inte allows a horses, w walls. S that bu likely to a couple The we Hills Re The retic its unlim lost muc years ag built, wash hi of nativ chatter ing their Moodel native Having right to tion of ornamental fountains, and drinking troughs for cattle.

Animated by such an example, other rich native gentlemen have borne the expense of the erection of similar fountains all over the city, till Madras may now fairly be termed the City of Drinking Places—not in the ordinary human acceptation of the term, not for "Master Self," as an Indian would say, but in the best language of Rudyard Kipling's "Jungle Folk"—the tired cattle coming from long, hot, dusty journeys, often-times burdened with heavy loads of bricks, rice, wheat, etc. On each fountain is inscribed the name of the donor. In the event of any cele-

m. It takes about five months develop; but once it has develop go on tapping the horses as far as ie from euthanasia, and it does not I have learned yet, what age the they are first operated on for the ir work is not interfered with by go on working all the time.

CT ON THE PATIENT.

ject the serum what part of the ly it to?" was the next question

as being likely to cause the least absolutely no pain attaching to the any fever or rise in temperature. taking serum can go to work and whatever."

e heard of Dr. Haffkine's prophy and how that sends the patient's

ing at all about Dr. Haffkine's dis what it is. I can only tell you serum there are no such symp cases in which I tried it there was a e disease, and that, too, in a very hours I may say was the length of of the disease in each case."

many cases, then, do you think you treat in Bombay?"

may have to use three bottles on a which case I shall not be able to treat at most with the quantity I have at

E ORIGIN OF PLAGUE.

he thought was the origin of Plague, d he really did not know, but he ght that rats were great conveyers of id a means of infecting food stuffs like

He had judged this from what he in the time of Plague, and from what nce regarding the pest in India.

ecessary to add that Dr. Yersin is on hilanthropic mission. He goes to India thout payment, and solely in the inter ince. His fellow passengers on the terday wished him all success, and them most heartily in that expression. —*Ceylon.*

ler Horse Trade in Madras.

rtsman (an Australian paper) has publishing a series of articles on ade with India. The following is to Madras readers:—

ess than half a mile from the Gym pound and we reach the stables adras Stable Company, Limited. n to conducting a very large livery this Company holds every Satur on sales of imported and other while all the horses landed from are placed there on commission stables themselves are among the the world. They are eminently the climate. Built of brick and d roofed with four tiers of overlap they are impervious to the fierce rays dian sun. The boxes, or stalls, are et square and are quite open in front, being kept in by three slip rails. three sides are built up some high, but from that to the roof is n, only pillars to support said rvening. This mode of architecture breeze to pass over the backs of the ho can also see one another over the fond are "Australians" of company for this contrivance they would be pull or kick down the whole place in of nights.

ater-supply is obtained from the Red ervoir, situated ten miles from the city. ulation is perfect, and Madras, owing to ited supply of pure, fresh water, has h of the deadly character it held a few . In the streets there are fountains here the coolie can either drink, or tired, dusty feet. All day long groups es may be seen at these fountains, g and laughing, and generally enjoying their bath. Rajah Sir Savalay Ramasawmy ar, a very wealthy and popular gentleman, has set a noble example. obtained from the authorities the right to utilise certain wide spaces at the junction of roads, His Highness (*sic*) has had built

Rudyard Kipling's "Jungle Folk"—the tired

Indian Affairs.

BACTERIOLOGY AND THE PLAGUE.

The measures taken by the European nations against the spread of the plague are, in im- and respects, of an unselfish character. R

the preliminary inoculation and the absolute protection secured by the e second inoculation form a brilliant ment of Indian medical science. But the is not one of sensational numbers, h the totals are in themselves impres ting anti-toxic re-agents, and of adapt novel a Western treatment to the ous prejudices, and caste rules of a vast population. The eminent French and an *agents* now on their way to India will e path made smooth for their experiments widely-spread operations of the past ten in that country. But for the softening effect ose operations on popular prejudices and the idence which they have given to the more in ent classes and to municipal bodies in India, would at this moment be little scope for the experimentalists from Europe beyond alls of the moribund ward and the mortuary. scarcely less importance is the growing viction in India that every epidemic, how apparently mysterious in its origin and pricious in its course, proceeds from defi te and discoverable causes, and is capable being subjected to discoverable laws. This, is the result of the bacteriological work e in India during the past ten years. The cognised home of cholera is the Gangetic ley, and the disease was practically endemic Calcutta. The bacteriologists have proved ow and why it is so. They have shown at the cholera bacillus forms a part of he microbial flora of the Gangetic delta; that it is absolutely eliminated from the river water rawn through the municipal filtering-beds; that in over 91 per cent. of the Calcutta drink ng ponds in quarters infected with cholera the oma bacillus was present; that in 81 per cent. of the drinking ponds of uninfected quarters it was absent; while from the drinking ponds of localities which suffered cholera six weeks previously, but got rid of it for that period, the comma bacillus had entirely disappeared. Scarcely important are the discoveries as to the presence of the enteric fever bacillus in the of areas infected with this disease, and chemical means of destroying the minute organism without cutting the people off from their accustomed water-supply. Anglo-Indian sanitation has for the first time reduced the plague to the manageable dimensions of a modern epidemic. It remains to be seen whether bacteriology will supply at once a preventive and a cure.

By a fortunate coincidence a great movement in India for the endowment and extension of bacteriological research took place last year, several months before the plague made its appearance in Bombay. To that movement we called attention on the 15th September. The first part of its programme was "the practical application of bacteriological methods to the prevention and cure of disease," including the preparation and inoculation of anti-toxic ccines for cholera, diphtheria, anthrax, d rabies. Its second object was the syste atic investigation and curative treatment bacteriological methods of certain groups well-defined tropical epidemics, with en ic fever at the head of the list. Its third aim was to provide and thoroughly equip a central bacteriological institute for all India for laboratory research and for the training of officers in the principles and technique of the science. The outbreak of the plague in Bombay, a few months later, supplied a powerful commentary on the need for such an institute and for such research in India. There is little fear that the Government, even amid the pressing demands now made on its pecuniary resources and on its medical staff, will overlook this scheme. It has at its command the services of bacteriologists of the first class Englishmen like Brigade-Surgeon Douglas Cunningham and Mr. Hanbury Hankin, and a foreign expert honoured throughout Europe in the person of the devoted Dr. Haffkine. India has a long memory for good work by whom soever done. The names of Dr. Koch, of Berlin, and of Waldemar Wolff Haffkine, of Odessa, Geneva, and Paris, will long be cherished in the annals of British-Indian therapeutics. Not less honour and not less gratitude, we feel assured, await the devoted men of science who last week set forth on their mission of humanity from Austria and France.—*The Times.*

The Prince Henry of Orleans's Journey.

OBJECTS OF THE EXPEDITION TO ABYSSINIA.

Prince Henry of Orleans and his party left Brindisi on Saturday for Alexandria *en route* for Obock and Abyssinia. Prince Henry on the 5th February was received in audience

General News.

(By the Mail of the 12th February.)

Olive Schreiner's new novel, "Trooper Peter Halket of Mashonaland," will be published very shortly by Mr. Fisher Unwin.

President Faure opened on the 7th February a continuation of the Rue Reaumur in Paris, constructed at a cost of 47,000,000 frs.

The authorities of the British Museum have accepted Mr. R. W. Paul's offer of a series of animatographs to be preserved for future generations as life-like pictorial records of passing events of national interest.

At the London Bankruptcy Court yesterday a meeting was held for the public examination of Major J. W. Gordon (Indian Army, retired). His debts were £588 1*s.* 3*d.* and his assets £63 5*s.* 11*d.* The examination was concluded.

Motor carriages driven by compressed air are to be introduced into New York in April next by the New York Cab Company. Compressed air as a motive power is free from the odour which some dislike in petroleum, and its weight is practfcally *nil*, a fact which gives it an advantage over electricity, as well as gasolene. The dead weight of the air-holder cannot be so great as that of accumulators.

Judgment has been given in the action brought by the Duke of Anjou against the Duke of Orleans. Each of these gentlemen claims, as King of France, the right to use the Royal Arms, and a republican court had to decide which of them was right. No one can complain that the judgement was not decisive, being to the effect, firstly, that one Duke has as much right as the other to use the Royal Arms; secondly, that no one had any right to use the Royal Arms; and, thirdly, that since the Revolution there were no Royal Arms to use. Each Duke therefore has equal right to exercise a non-existent right to use nothing.

Lord Charles Beresford celebrated his fifty-first birthday on the 10th February. Thirty-seven years ago he entered the naval service of his country, and even during the intervals in which he has devoted himself to the pursuit of politics the improvement of the Royal Navy has always been his first consideration. His popularity, whether ashore or afloat, shows no sign of abatement, and wherever courage and candour are esteemed the name of the gallant Captian will long be cherished. Lord Charles has been sojourning in Egypt since Christmas, but it is expected that he will return shortly with a view to re-entering the political arena as soon as a fitting opportunity presents itself.

The formal election of the Hon'ble the Rev. E. Carr Glyn to the Bishopric of Peterborough, vacant by the translation of Dr. Creighton to the Bishopric of London, took place in the Chapter House of Peterborough Cathedral on Saturday morning, the 6th February. After the first lesson "all persons having a voice, vote, consent, or interest in the business of the election" were publicly called upon to appear and proceed to the election in the Chapter House. The proceedings were however only open to the Dean and Chapter and the officials of the Chapter, those present being Dean Ingram, the Bishop Suffragan of Leicester (Dr. Thicknesse), Canon in Residence Dean Macdonnell, Canon Clayton, and Canon Alderson. Her Majesty's authority for the election was read, and the new Bishop was proposed by Dean Ingram, seconded by the Bishop of Leicester, and unanimously approved. The Dean afterwards declared the Hon'ble E. Carr Glyn elected, and the *Te Deum* was sung.

There has been an exciting panic on the St. Petersburg Exchange, resulting in an extraordinary fall in the market value of all stocks and shares. Last night, writes the *Times* correspondent on the 9th February, throughout the town, in the theatres, clubs, and wherever else people met and talked the conversation turned on rumours of war and plague. There is no doubt that the alarming telegrams from Crete, the unpromising situation in Constantinople, and the near approach of the Indian plague towards Russian Central Asia have been made use of by speculators in the usual way. Petroleum shares have fallen especially low in view of the probability that the Caucasus may soon be reached by the plague. It is very likely that the news of a strong military cordon having been placed along the frontiers of Turkestan and Bokhara on the appearance of the disease at Candahar, as also the remarkable speech of Sir Michael Hicks Beach on Egypt, is to some extent responsible for the scare.

Official Gazette.

INDIA OFFICE, *February 5.*

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.—Capt. J. S. Knox, the East Yorkshire Regt., to be an Instructor, vice Capt. W. E. Lascelles, the Rifle Brigade (the Prince Consort's Own), dec.

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY.—Capt. E. M. Percival, R.A., to be an Instructor, vice Capt. A. Crawford, R.A., who has resigned that appointment; Lieut. F. G. Guggisberg, R.E., to be an Instructor, vice Major H. L. C. H Stafford, R.E., who has resigned that appointment.

ARMY MEDICAL STAFF.—Surg.-Lieut.-Col. R. G. Thomsett to be Brig.-Surg.-Lieut.-Col., vice J. Macartney, M.D., retired. The following Surg.-Capts, to be Surg.-Majors:—M. W. Russell, B. F. Zimmermann, A. Stables, M.B., G. E. Moffet, M.B., H. A. Haines, M.D., J. D. Moir, M.B., R. Crofts, G. E. Hale, D. S. O., C. W. Johnson, M.B., A. T. I. Lilly, C. C. Reilly, A. Perry, S. N. Cardoza, A. De C. Scanlan, H. D. James, and W. Turner. The following Surg.-Lieuts. to be Surg.-Capts:—H. V. Prynne, A. E. Master, M.B., G. Dansey-Browning, E. S. Clark, M.B., K. B. Barnett, M.B., M. Boyle, M.B., K. M. Cameron, M.B., C. M. Fleury, A. C. Fox, S.F. St. D. Green, and W. Tribbits, M.B.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

For Sale.

At the Godowns of Messrs. ARBUTHNOT and Co.

Ruinart Pere et Fils Champagne	per doz. Magnums...	Rs.	A. 124 0
Do	do per ,, qts...	62	0
Do	do Impl. pts...	46	0
Do	do pts...	33	0
Ferguson's Blend,	per doz...	33	0
J. Cockburn and Campbell's Whiskey	B. S., per doz...	44	0
Do do	W. S., ,, ...	34	0
J. Exshaw's No. 1 Brandy	,, ...	52	0
Do ,, 2	,, ...	32	0
Page and Sandeman's White Port	...	35	0

Collard's New Metal Upright Piano.
MISQUITH & Co.

Drum and Banjo Heads.
MISQUITH & Co.

Warehousing of Pianos.
On Boarded floors. MISQUITH & Co.

Steam Engine, Machinery,
Pumps, Railings, Gates, Columns, &c.
D. RAJU & Co., Engineers, Madras.

Pianos at Ooty and Coonoor.
Orders registered for hire.
MISQUITH & Co., Madras.

Sheets.
H. A. SAJUN & Co.,
162, Mount Road.

12 Copies Platino Type Photos.
Cabinet size mounted on large sunk mounts Rs. 24 only.
DEL TUFO & Co.

Bromide Enlargements.
12 x 15 Rs. 18. With cut out mount and good frame Rs. 28.
DEL TUFO & Co., Madras and Bangalore.

Bromide Enlargements.
30 x 25 Rs. 50. With cut out mount and large and very handsome frame Rs. 80.
DEL TUFO & Co., Madras and Bangalore.

Music Lessons.
SINGING, Pianoforte, and Organ. Apply to Signor ALOISIO, St. Andrew's (the Kirk), Madras.

Autoharps. Autoharps.
OUR new models enable performers to tune accurately, also to hand the new *Mandoline* Autoharps. Inspection invited.
MISQUITH & Co.

Essence Rhine Violets.
A triumph of art and echo of Nature,
Rs. 2-4 per bottle.
A further shipment just to hand.
ENGLISH WAREHOUSE, Madras & Bangalore.

New Waltzes at Misquith & Co.'s at 1-6 ea.
"WHISPERS and I shall," "Poppyland," "Barcarolle," "Coronis," "Nuit Etoilee," "Patria," "Long Ago," "Evette," "Life's Lullaby," etc.

Mandolines (Cheap Classes.)
OUR new stock includes instruments from Rs. 17-8.
N. B.—These models are correct in scale, and accurately fretted.
MISQUITH & Co.

Del Tufo & Co.
BEG to announce, that they undertake to enlarge in Bromide, from old or faded

A reasonable mean was all that could be anticipated, and this, we think it will generally be agreed, has been conceded."

THE POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL of Indian Telegraphs falls vacant this week, as Mr. Luke is retiring on pension. The department thus loses one of its ablest officers, remarks the *Pioneer*, for Mr. Luke has great experience both in practical field-work and in the administrative branch. "He was one of the officers selected for the C. I. E. after the Afghan campaign of 1878-80, in which his services with the Kabul field force, more particularly during the siege of Sherpur, won the highest commendation from General Roberts. Last year Mr. Luke represented Indian interests at the International Tele[illegible] for Moslem pilgrims, notwithstanding [illegible] sentations of residents of those places, and had consented to this temporary measure through sheer necessity. Mahomedans should not therefore leave their homes till the plague is over and the ports are reopened, and should be thankful to Government for this timely information, and should ever pray for the Government's continuance and prosperity.

THE FORTNIGHTLY FAMINE NARRATIVE OF the Anantapur District for the period ending 31st January has been issued with the Resolutions of the Board of Revenue and the Madras Government thereon. From the former we learn that the narrative fully summarises the situation, but too much dependence must not be placed on the harvests in the Carnatic, the Central and Southern Districts, to make good the deficiencies of the Deccan. In the former, the early dry crop suffered most severely from drought and the chief wet crop was sown so late that a large outturn cannot be expected. Prices will, in the Board's opinion, depend more on the state of the markets in the Bombay Presidency and the North than on those in the South. The Commissioner who visited the Urnvakonda division of Gooty taluq shortly before the close of January found the work was started only just in time. The proportion of men present at the Palthur work was exceptional, and if the majority of these [illegible] Rossi.

Bimlipatam *vs.* Vizagapatam.

FROM OTHER POINTS OF VIEW.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

The rival claims of these ports, the former to be connected with the East Coast Railway, the latter to resist that connection, and to be provided with a boat harbour, are open to some further discussion. The latter port claims that its prospects of a harbour entitle it to debar Bimlipatam from the comforts and conveniences of a branch line; and, by consequence, of the trade which now trends and always has naturally trended to that port. Bimlipatam, on the other hand, strenuously objects to be deprived of her trade, in order that Vizagapatam may be provi[ded] with a boat harbour. These pretensions [of] Vizagapatam are high-handed and requ[ire] ample justification. It is claimed for Viza[gapa]tam that the construction of a harb[our] at that place will benefit not only the to[wn] itself, but also the whole country betwe[en] the Bay of Bengal and the Bengal-Nagp[ur] Railway, and between Cocanada and Calcu[tta] that is to say a country of perhaps 100,0[00] square miles in extent, with a population [of] many millions. The aim is to concentrate a[ll] the trade of this mighty country at one sma[ll] and inconveniently situated port at one corn[er] of it—or say a part of it, for certainly th[e] greater part of the trade will go to Calcutta and not a little to Cocanada. Now, who have been consulted on this question? With the exception of Russia and Turkey, there is not an administ[rative body] sionaires to a [illegible] by a half measure of this sort is quite unworth[y] of the tradition of an administration wh[ich] takes delight in giving every freedom to tra[de] and to competition in trade. Moreover as t[o] Company which the concessionaires have [to] turn into get no financial aid from the Sta[te], it appears that they ought to be allowed [to] choose what kind of a gauge seems best suit[ed] in their judgment to their enterprise.

ASKER (to Fisher, who is returning empty-hand[ed] from a fishing trip, with a dog at his heels): "W[hat] do you call your dog?" Fisher: "Fish." Aske[r:] "Why, that's a funny name for a dog. What m[ade] you give it to him?" Fisher; "Because he w[on't] bite."

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

The Crisis in Crete.

THE COERCION OF GREECE.

LONDON, *3rd March.*—The Collective Note delivered at Athens and Constantinople appeals to the wisdom of Greece not to resist the resolutions of the Powers, who will not hesitate to resort to coercive measures to enforce the evacuation of Crete. It is generally expected that Greece will refuse to comply with the [illegible] by various Mutual Societies which have sp[ecial] in different parts of the country, but [illegible] do not see our way to doing so because the main principle of the Bill is to caus[e] deposits which are compulsory under the [illegible] of the depositors' service. Contributions to those Societies which are wholly uncontrolled, must be regarded as on the no footing as any other voluntary insurances."

Sir James Westland then introduced the Bill to amend the Indian Stamp Act of 1879. He said: This Bill contemplates two small but by no means unimportant amendments in the Stamp Law, and it is the opinion of the Government of India very desirable that they should be given effect to without delay. The first clause proposes to add a new Section to the Indian Stamp Act of 1879 providing that bonds or debentures issued by a local authority need not be separately stamped either in the first instance or on renewal, sub-division, consolidation or otherwise, but that all that is necessary for the local authority concerned to pay once for all *ad valorem* stamp duty (eight annas per cent) on the total amount [illegible] accordingly directed the Collector to collect.

A Quick Piece of Bridge Building.

DEMAGIRI, *2nd March.*—The 200 feet span suspension bridge over the Tegga River in the South Lushai Hills, erected by Captain Piperno, was opened for public traffic on the 1st. The construction was done in 47 days, beating the record for the erection of bridges.

An Accident at Kirkee.

POONA, *3rd March.*—An accident occurred this morning near the Sappers Lines at Kirkee. Some Sappers were working in a quarry near the Deccan College when a blasting charge, which had failed to explode the previous afternoon, went off, severely injuring three men, who were removed to hospital in a precarious condition. An enquiry is being held.

The "Khedive" Marine Enquiry.

A CONTUMACIOUS CAPTAIN.

A Marine Court of Enquiry was opened yesterday at the Esplanade Police Court to investigate the circumstances attending the grounding of the steamer *Khedive* off Porebunder on the 11th December last. Captain [illegible] Master.

A TRAVELLER lately, describing a tropical shower, wrote to a friend in the following words: "The raindrops were extremely large, varying in size from a shilling to eighteen pence."

STAGE MANAGER: "Mr. Heavy, you will take the part of Alonzo." Mr. Heavy: "I have never seen this play. Do you think I can please the audience in that part?" Stage Manager: "Immensely. You die in the first act."

Miscellaneous.

Telegraphic Information.

MADRAS, 4th March.—Saigon-Bangkok interrupted.

Organs and Harmoniums.

OUR present stock includes Type and Reed Organs, suitable for Chapel or home use. Harmoniums by leading makers from Rs. 100. List and specifications forwarded on application.

MISCRITH & Co.

A Perfect Piano.

NO. 8555, Kuchler's specially constructed with all recent improvements, extended compass, A. to C., in solid Mahogany oblonized case, with improved sconces and extra panelled back.

Absolutely as good as new, with case complete, Rs. 1,200.

To be seen at MISQUITH'S.

Auction Sale! Auction Sale!!

THE Madras Stable Co. will offer for sale the balance of Fresh Waler imported by Krouse and Madden, ex *Darius* and *Mathura* (*Just two shipments of this season*) on Saturday, 6th March, 1897, at 3 P.M.

N. B.—Full description in Catalogues.

Auction Sale

OF 88 Cases of fresh Ulmanstores, per S.S. "*Mombasa*" and "*Glan Mathewson*," to be sold by Public Auction, at their Rooms, on the Beach, on Saturday, the 13th March, 1897, commencing at 12 o'clock noon, the following, viz:—

CURRANTS, muscatel raisins, milk maid brand swiss milk, J. T. Morton's macaroni and vermicelli in 1 and 2lb. tins, pearl barley and sago, Mollin's food in large and small bottles, brown's corn flour in 18 oz. tins, and 4 oz. packs, Lea and Perrins Worcestershire sauce in pints and ½ pints, Crosse and Blackwell's malt vinegar in pints, sardines, fancy soaps, Beetches bar soap, bird seed, &c., &c.

After which will be sold,

10½ doz. qts. Australian Claret.
10½ " pts. do do.
12½ " qts. Graves.
5 " pts. do.
3½ " qts. Claret.

And a small quantity of Scower's lime juice, lemon squash, quino lemo, ginger wine orange wine. lime [illegible]

A FEW days ago we quoted the opinion of Professor Metchnikoff—the eminent scientist—to the effect that Dr. Yersin would be able to derive from his horses in Annam, enough serum to treat something like 15,000 cases of plague. To some, therefore, a little surprising to learn from Dr. Yersin to-day (1st) that he has with only 700 ccs. small bottles; the whole quantity not being much better than sufficient to experiment purposes. To use Dr. Yersin's own words:—"If I purchase 50 to 60 cases with my serum I have to get more—as the quantity I have will not be necessary for me to return to Annam for another medical assistant to come there to attend to the cases while I go back to Annam for serum."

WHY ANNAM IS THE SPECIFIC CENTRE.

DR. YERSIN, the Plague Specialist, to whose discoveries in the course of the career of the pest in China in 1894 is much importance is now being attached in India, and particularly in Bombay and Karachi, returned to Colombo yesterday (25th) in the s.s. *Ava*, having obtained a quantity of his serum from the laboratory at Nyah Trang, in Annam, for therapeutic experiment in India. The Doctor is a young man than most people suppose. A disciple of Pasteur, and associately the first man to discover the Plague bacillus and what looked like a remedy for the disease, Dr. Yersin has, however, to his credit much hard work, and a good deal of disappointment, for the Doctor is modest on the subject of his supposed cure; he speaks of it yet as a thing but little tried and, therefore, doubtful.

A SMALL QUANTITY OF SERUM.

A few days ago we quoted the opinion of Professor Metchnikoff—the eminent scientist—to the effect that Dr. Yersin would be able to derive from his horses in Annam, enough serum to treat something like 15,000 cases of Plague. To some, therefore, a little surprising to learn from Dr. Yersin to-day (1st) that he has with only 700 ccs. small bottles; the whole quantity not being much better than sufficient to experimental purposes. To use Dr. Yersin's own words:—"If I purchase 50 to 60 cases with my serum I have to get more—as the quantity I have will not be necessary for me to return to Annam for another medical assistant to come there to attend to the cases while I go back to Annam for serum."

"Because of a little misfortune that has happened," replied the Doctor. "When I left Annam I left two assistants to extract the serum from the horses, and to send it on to me each month—as we up the horses once a month—but yesterday I received a note from them saying that one of these men—and he too, my principal assistant—had died. I fear, therefore, that later a short residence in Bombay, if I am successful, it will be necessary for me to send to Annam for another medical assistant to come there to attend to the cases while I go back to Annam for serum."

"But why should you return?" seemed a natural query.

"Because of a little misfortune that has happened," replied the Doctor. "When I left Annam I left two assistants to extract the serum from the horses, and to send it on to me each month—as we up the horses once a month—but yesterday I received a note from them saying that one of these men—and he too, my principal assistant—had died. I fear, therefore, that later a short residence in Bombay, if I am successful, it will be necessary for me to send to Annam for another medical assistant to come there to attend to the cases while I go back to Annam for serum."

says :—"Dr. Yersin is only 34 years of age and if anything looks younger than that. He was quite ready to give any information desired regarding the serum. The doctor is carrying to Bombay 700 little bottles of his serum—a very small quantity indeed—for the doctor said that he sometimes used two, three and very often four bottles for one case of the plague during the time it was raging in Hong Kong. The efficacy of the serum can be estimated when it is said it was the means of bringing round 24 out of the 26 cases experimented on last year. Dr. Yersin has refused to accept payment and goes in his private capacity and in the interests of his Institute to study the pestilence. He believes so far that the plague is identical with that which prevailed in China, though much more virulent in form. If Dr. Yersin finds that his serum is as effective in Bombay as it was last year, he will return to Annam and supply the medical authorities with serum from there. Dr. Yersin is unacquainted with Dr. Haffkine's mode of treatment."

A GENTLEMAN, FORMERLY RESIDENT IN Madras, writing from Bombay about the plague, remarks :—"We are very much worried in office; clerks are demoralised and some have left. It is impossible to keep up to date, work as one will. But the chief difficulty is to get money. Goods come out and have to be paid for, but natives won't take delivery, many being away up-country. We have over eight lakhs of rupees' worth of goods stored in godowns, all sold—but we cannot get payment. Personal servants are valuable, being scarce, and wages high." The correspondent adds :—"The natives are afraid of segregation and of hospitals, and one hears wonderful tales of their living with dead people in the house, burying them in their houses, etc., rather than reporting the deaths to the proper authorities. One never comes across such cases—they are always hearsay. I cannot help thinking that we are over the worst, and that another month will see us degrees better off. People talk of the plague staying three years, but I won't believe it." In his opinion, the authorities are not acting with sufficient determination.

ON THE 26TH ULTIMO 10,000 MAHOMEDANS were present in the Shahi Mosque, Lahore, for Juma Tul Wida prayers. Sirdar Muhammad Hayat Khan, with the permission of the High Priest, mounted the pulpit after prayers, and read the Government notification received by the Anjuman Islandia, Lahore, informing Mahomedans of the temporary closing of the Indian ports, and explained to the audience the considerate attitude of the Government to themselves. He said Government had not closed the ports till absolutely obliged to do so by the action of all the European Powers, including that of His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey, forbidding their own subjects to cross the sea till the panic caused by the plague is over. Government, he went on, insisted on keeping the ports of Calcutta and Madras open [illegible] the repre-

[illegible] Short, of Nellore, and Messrs. Rowlandson and Beeson, of Madras. The Chairman delivered a short and interesting address and evinced great interest in the Association while the Rev. Dr. Downie, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, expressed his sympathy with the Association, and wished it every prosperity.

THE SCHOOL OF ARTS.—Their Excellencies Sir Arthur and Lady Havelock, accompanied by Captain Lowndes, A.D.C., visited the School of Arts yesterday evening. They were received by Mr. E. Holder, the Officiating Superintendent, and shown round the institution ; owing, however, to the School being closed on account of Asn Wednesday, they had not the opportunity of seeing the several departments at work. They inspected some brass chased work which had been executed for Government House, Rangoon, and for the Earl of Abingdon, and some silver trays on stands, and a pair of candlesticks for the Apostolic Delegate. They also inspected some wood-carving, and after expressing their appreciation of all they had seen they took their departure.

THE SALEM MAHOMEDAN EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—From a copy of the proceedings of a meeting of the Central Committee of this Association held on the 26th ultimo, we glean the following particulars :—The Hon'ble Mr. G. Stokes has forwarded a cheque for Rs. 100 with the request that Rs. 25 may be assigned to the Girls' School at Atur and the balance to the scholarship associated with his name. A gentleman has founded a scholarship of Rs. 2 per mensem, in memory of the late Mrs. Stokes, to be awarded to a poor and deserving Mahomedan pupil studying for the Matriculation Examination. A gentleman, also anonymous, has offered an annual prize of Rs. 10 to the first among successful Mahomedan students in the District in the Matriculation Examination, to be styled the "Mounsey Mahomedan Prize of Salem." Mr. Mahomed Yakoob Sahib Bahadur, B.A., Tahsildar of Trichengode, has been requested by the Association to undertake the compilation of a "Memorandum on the progress of Mahomedan Education in Southern India since 1854."

THE FRIEND-IN-NEED SOCIETY.—We desire to call attention to the Annual Meeting of the Friend-in-Need Society which will be held to-morrow evening at 5-15 P.M. at the Victoria Hall, H. E. the Governor presiding. This Annual Meeting is more than usually important and it is to be hoped that subscribers and others interested in the Society will muster as strongly as possible. The Honorary Secretary, Mr. B. H. Chester, will read the Report of the past year's work ; the Rev. A. Acheson Williams and Mr. Justice Benson will move its adoption with the alteration in Rule V. which will make it clear that the women's workshops are part and parcel of the Society. Mr. G. G. Arbuthnot and Archbishop Colgan will move and second respectively the nomination of the several Committees for the current year. Mr. H. C. King and Mr. R. B. Michell will speak on the two Resolutions regarding the registration of the Society under Act XXI of 1860. H. E. Sir Arthur Havelock will then deliver his Address, and the usual vote of thanks, moved by Mr. Michie Smith, the President of the Society, will bring the proceedings to a close.

THE POLLARD LILLIPUTIAN OPERA CO.—This Company arrived yesterday by the *Karsala* from Rangoon, and open to-night at the Victoria Hall with Alfred Cellier's "Dorothy," and we trust a good house will assemble to attest the merits of the young performers. The last Pollard Lilliputian Company toured through North India, Burma and the Straits Settlements early in the '80's and drew crowded houses in Calcutta by their very talented acting ; and, judging by the reports that have reached us from Calcutta, the present combination is nothing inferior to, if not better than its predecessor. The Company all told numbers about 45 individuals, 30 of whom are performers, the eldest being about 13 and the youngest a mite of 6 years old. Alfie Goulding, the brother of the talented little actor who died at Calcutta, takes the part of "Lurcher" in to-night's performance. Elsie Norwood fills the title role, Annie Moore plays "Harry Sherwood," and Constance Pollard plays "Geoffrey Wilder." "Phyllis" finds a capable exponent in Ina Pollard, "Lydia Hawthorne" in Jessie Ford and "Mrs. Privet" in Miss Florie

[illegible] A full next

[illegible] carriages driven by compressed air are [illegible] from Europe beyond [illegible] would at this moment be little scope for [illegible] conveyances and to municipal bodies in India. His debts were £288 1s. 3d. and his assets £63 5s. 11d. The examination was concluded.

Royal Military College—Capt. J. S. Knox, the East Yorkshire Regt., to be an Instructor. Vice Capt. W. E. Lancelles, the Rifle Brigade (the Prince Consort's Own), dec.

Royal Military Academy—Capt. E. M. Peterel, R.A., to be an Instructor, vice Capt. Crawford, R.A., who has resigned that appointment ; Capt. F. G. Guggisberg, R.E., to be an Instructor, vice Major H. L. C. H. Stafford, R.E., who has resigned that appointment.

Army Medical Staff—Surg.-Lieut.-Col. R. G. Thomson, M.D. to be Brig.-Surg.-Lieut.-Col., vice J. Macpherson, M.D., retired. The following Surg.-Capts. to be Surg.-Majors :—W. W. Russell, F. F. Zimmerman, A. Sambes, M.B., G. E. Mobbs, M.B., H. A. Haines, M.D., J. D. Moir, M.B., H. Crotta, G. E. Hale, B.S., C. W. Johnson, M.B., A. T. Lilly, C. C. Reilly, A. Perry, S. N. Cardozo, A. De C. Seaman, H. D. James, and W. Turner. The following Surg.-Lieuts. to be Surg.-Capts :—H. V. Prynne, A.B., Master, M.B., G. Dansey-Browning, E. S. Clark, M.B., K. R. Barnett, M.B., M. Boyle, M.B., K. M. Cameron, M.B., C. M. Pleary, A. C. Fox, S.E., St. D. Green, and W. Thomas.

General News.

(By the Mail of the 24th February.)

Olive Schreiner's new novel, "Trooper Peter Halket of Mashonaland," will be published very shortly by Mr. Fisher Unwin.

President Faure opened on the 7th February a continuation of the Rue Reaumur in Paris, constructed at a cost of 47,000,000 frs.

The authorities of the British Museum have accepted Mr. R. W. Frank's offer of a series of antiquarian photographs for future reference. The eminent French and German savants now on their way to India will [illegible] the Museum for their experiments in [illegible] photography.

The business of selling a horse to an up-country [illegible] accompanied by a number of followers, [illegible] The intending buyer will call at the [illegible] stable, and after tasting as much as is pro[illegible] judgment, and after trying the paces of the [illegible] novel a Western treatment to the [illegible] anti-toxic re-agents, and of maph[illegible] is a triumph of the methods of [illegible] the totals are in themselves impres[illegible] is not of sensational numbers, [illegible] ment of Indian medical science. But the [illegible] second inoculation form a brilliant [illegible] absolute protection secured by the [illegible] the preliminary inoculation and the [illegible] yet returns from the invariable cupidity of the [illegible] union of the shippers—Utopian as that, under [illegible] attempt at extortion would inevitably result in [illegible] from entrainment, and it does not [illegible] go on trapping the horses as far as [illegible] on working all the time.

Legal Intelligence.

MADRAS HIGH COURT—4TH MARCH.

(Before Mr. Justice SHEPHARD and Mr. Justice SUBRAHMANY IYER.)

A Claim against the Zamorin.

This morning their Lordships delivered judgment in a case which has created some sensation in Malabar. One Veera Rayan Raja, a member of the *Pudtna Kovilayom*, of the Zamorin's family, sued for the recovery of an extensive property in Calicut, on which the late Zamorin had been living till he died in 1891. For more than a quarter of a century the property and buildings were known as the Zamorin's *Kovilayom*, and the Zamorin lived there without any let or hindrance. The plaintiff alleged that the property belonged to him and his branch of the *Pudtna Kovilayom*, and that the Zamorins were in occupation, as lessees, without payment of rent, on condition that the buildings were to be surrendered without any compensation when plaintiff should require them. The Zamorin denied both the title of the plaintiff and the lease, and contended that the property belonged to the Zamorins from before the beginning of the present century. The Suo-Court of Calicut upheld the Zamorin's contentions, and dismissed the suit. Against this the plaintiff appealed and was represented by Messrs. Sundara Iyer and Ryru Nambiar, the Zamorin being represented by the Acting Advocate-General and Messrs. Pattabirama Iyer and Govindu Menon. After a hearing which lasted over two days, their Lordships reversed the findings of the Subordinate Judge on both the points, and holding that the Zamorin was only lessee of the property, directed him to surrender possession of the buildings to the plaintiff.

(Before the CHIEF JUSTICE and Mr. Justice DAVIES).

A Sentence Reduced.

Mr. N. Subramaniam argued a referred trial and criminal appeal on behalf of one Papanna who was convicted by the Sessions Judge of Ganjam on a charge of murder and sentenced to be hanged. When the trial was first taken up in October last the accused's Pleader pleaded that the accused was of unsound mind. He was then kept under medical observation, and at the November Sessions eight witnesses were examined as to the defendant's mental state, but their evidence varied. One of the Assessors found the defendant capable of making his defence. The Court found the defendant insane and postponed the trial under Section 465 C. P. C. Subsequently the District Medical Officer reported that defendant was sane. The trial was then commenced. The defendant was found guilty of having murdered his mother by hitting her on the chest and head with a club. Mr. N. Subramaniam pleaded that his client did not wilfully commit the offence, but that he had accidentally struck her while she came between himself and his brother while fighting. He also urged many extenuating circumstances in the case, and pleaded that the punishment was very heavy. Their Lordships after hearing, the Government Pleader, reduced the sentence to one of transportation for life.

EGMORE POLICE COURT—4TH MARCH.

(Before Mr. O. R. JONES.)

THEFT AT MOSES AND CO.—A Mahomedan tailor named Lauiah Meah, in the employ of Messrs. Moses and Co., on the Mount Road, was charged by the Police, with theft of a piece of blue silk, valued at Rs. 12, the property of his employers. On the 1st instant, while the accused was leaving the shop, he was searched, and the piece of silk was found concealed on his person. One of the members of the firm who appeared to prosecute asked His Worship to deal leniently with the accused on the ground that he had served them faithfully for the past 20 years. His Worship sentenced accused to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

AN old bachelor says : "It is all nonsense to pretend that love is blind. I never knew a man in love who did not see ten times as much in his sweet heart as I did."

The Plague.

DR. YERSIN.

Dr. Yersin, who is expected shortly in Bombay with his anti-plague serum, is an enthusiastic man of science, with a strong love of adventure. The following account of his career

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A reasonable mean was all that could be anticipated, and this, we think it will generally be agreed, has been conceded."

THE POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL of Indian Telegraphs falls vacant this week, as Mr. Luke is retiring on pension. The department thus loses one of its ablest officers, remarks the *Pioneer*, for Mr. Luke has great experience both in practical field-work and in the administrative branch. "He was one of the officers selected for the C. I. E. after the Afghan campaign of 1878-80, in which his services with the Kabul field force, more particularly during the siege of Sherpur, won the highest commendation from General Roberts. Last year Mr. Luke represented Indian interests at the International Telegraph Conference held at Buda-Pesth. Mr. Melhuish will, we understand, succeed him as Deputy Director-General, Mr. J. J. Allen becoming Director of Traffic."

ON MONDAY LAST DR. POLLEN, THE Collector of Bombay, visited the Mussulman graveyards near the Northbrook Gardens, and in the course of a conversation with the Mujawars in charge, pointed out that in using an overcrowded cemetery they were contravening the traditions contained in the Books of the Interpretations of the Koran, where the obligation to provide due space between individual graves has been distinctly inculcated. He also pointed out that in permitting bhisties to water the graves they might possibly be infringing the sacred mandate that enjoins that graves of the Faithful should be sprinkled with rain from Heaven alone. The Mujawars listened with much attention and good nature to these remarks, and concurred in the correctness of the inferences drawn from their own scriptures.

MR. J. ANDERSON, ENGINEER IN CHARGE of the Bombay Port Trust Workshops, reported on Saturday last that his father-in-law, Mr. David Jolly, aged 73, a Port Trust pensioner, had been missing since half-past 5 o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Information was given to Superintendent Ingram, of the Dock Police, and by his direction the sea near the house was dragged, with the result that a handkerchief belonging to Mr. Jolly was found. His body was discovered on the beach across the harbour early on Sunday morning. The late Mr. Jolly arrived in Bombay in the early fifties so he was one of the oldest inhabitants. Shortly after his arrival he joined the Pilot service in which he soon rose to the top of the list, and on the opening of the docks was specially selected to fill the responsible post of Dockmaster, which appointment he held with great ability to the period of his well-earned retirement from the service in 1888.

WE ARE ACCUSTOMED TO HEARING BENGAL described on Congress platforms as the most advanced Province of India, but the claim is hardly borne out by official statistics regarding the number and circulation of its vernacular newspapers remarks the *Pioneer*. A population considerably more than twice that of the United Kingdom finds 54 newspapers sufficient for its intellectual cravings. Only 5 are dailies; 38 appear weekly, 5 fortnightly and 6 monthly. The curse of Babel appears to have stricken Bengal with unusual severity; for five languages are represented in her Press—Bengali, Uriya, Urdu, Hindi and Persian. The circulation reported by the proprietors of these organs is on a scale equally restricted. One of them claims the respectable total of 20,000 copies; but the next in importance has 4,000 subscribers only. A single issue of all the vernacular journals in Bengal includes about 68,000 copies—less than half the daily circulation of a London morning newspaper.

A REPRESENTATIVE OF A COLOMBO PAPER interviewed Dr. Yersin the other day. He

situation, but too much dependence must not be placed on the harvests in the Carnatic, the Central and Southern Districts, to make good the deficiencies of the Deccan. In the former, the early dry crop suffered most severely from drought and the chief wet crop was sown so late that a large outturn cannot be expected. Prices will, in the Board's opinion, depend more on the state of the markets in the Bombay Presidency and the North than on those in the South. The Commissioner who visited the Urnvakonda division of Gooty taluq shortly before the close of January found the work was started only just in time. The proportion of men present at the Palthur work was exceptional, and if the majority of these have stayed on the work, it will be a further proof that relief is urgently needed. The condition of some of the coolies was not satisfactory, and both in this District and Bellary it was noticeable that the worst cases are amongst girls of from 8 to 15 years of age. These get elbowed out in the struggle for food. The boys, always a valuable asset, get cared for, and the smaller children can make their wants known so long as there is any food to divide, but the girls are too old to cry like children and suffer in silence. The Government in recording the proceedings observes that the case of gangs coming from a distance may be met by the reduction of the task of the gang, or by providing hutting accommodation on the work. When many workers come from a distance, a kitchen for their children may be established near their village.

For a Letter to the Editor on
"Throwing" at Cricket (Squgg.)

See page 3.

Madras News.

TO-MORROW.

Friend-in-Need Society, Annual Meeting, Memorial Hall ... ... 5-15 P.M.
Amateur Phot graphic Society, Masonic Hall, ount Road ... ... 6- 0 P.M.
Pollard's Opera Company, La Mascotte, Victoria Hall ... ... 9-30 P.M.

THE MUSEUM.—The present arms collection at the Museum is to be enlarged by the addition of a selection from the old armoury in the Arsenal at Fort St. George.

STEAMER EXPECTED.—The B. I. S. N. Co's Steamer *Mombassa* left Saugor at noon yesterday and is expected by the Agents to arrive in Madras on the morning of Saturday next.

SUICIDE.—On the 26th ultimo a native woman, suffering from chronic dysentery, put an end to herself by throwing herself in front of a train on the East Coast Railway at Pithapuram Station.

MADRAS MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—*Arrival*:—Captain L. C. Arbuthnot, 2nd Suffolk Regiment, at Ennore. *Departures*.—Surgeon-Major W. H. Allen, A.M.S., to Belgaum; and Captain J. C. Erck, 23rd L.I., to Trichinopoly.

MR. J. H. NUNN.—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Nunn, with their Theatrical Company consisting of nine artists, leave Madras to-day by the s. s. *Karagola* for Rangoon, where they open in the Jubilee Hall on Tuesday next. Mr. Nunn expects to revisit Madras in about three months' time.

PERSONAL.—*Departures yesterday evening*:—Mr. G. Mackenzie, to Bombay; Mr. J. H. Munro, to Calicut; Mr. W. A. Willock, to Negapatam; Mr. J. Cave-Brown, to Trichinopoly, and Mr. Hans Wehrli, to Tuticorin. *Arrivals this morning*.—Lieutenant H. E. P. Nash, from Belgaum; Lieutenant R. Lines, from Raichore, and Lieutenant Fletcher, from Bombay.

THE MADRAS LITERARY SOCIETY.—The Annual General Meeting of the Madras Literary Society and Auxiliary of the Royal Asiatic Society will be held in the Connemara Library on Wednesday next, at 5-30 P.M., when the following Business will be transacted: (1) To receive the Report for 1896; (2) To elect the Managing Committee for 1897; (3) and to consider certain proposed amendments of Rules.

THE E. AND A.-I. ASSOCIATION, NELLORE CIRCLE.—An inaugural meeting was held at the Girls' School, Ennore, on Saturday evening last, with Mr. Michell, Executive Engineer, in the chair. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. West and

in order that Vizagapatam may be provi with a boat harbour. These pretensions Vizagapatam are high-handed and requ ample justification. It is claimed for Viza patam that the construction of a harb at that place will benefit not only the to itself, but also the whole country betwe the Bay of Bengal and the Bengal-Nagp Railway, and between Cocanada and Calcut that is to say a country of perhaps 100,0 square miles in extent, with a population many millions. The aim is to concentrate a the trade of this mighty country at one smal and inconveniently situated port at one corn of it—or say a part of it, for certainly th greater part of the trade will go to Calcutta and not a little to Cocanada. Now, who have been consulted on this question? With the exception of Russia and Turkey, there is not an administration in the civilised world, which would ignore the wishes of four or five millions of people, or which would not at all events endeavour to ascertain what views the leading merchants among them have on a question as to the ports best suited to the requirements of this trade. It will be said that these people have no independence and cannot be relied on to give an opinion. But that Administrator is the best one who is in sympathy with the governed and who can read their wishes. We think we could name Administrators of both classes in the ranks of the Civil Service. The principal marts in the tract of country between Vizagapatam and Cuttack are those at the foot of the passes of the Hills into the interior, the towns midway between those marts and the sea, and the ports themselves. In the Vizagapatam District alone there are ten such marts, and there are perhaps an equal number in Ganjam. In all the inland towns dwell merchants trading with the coast ports. Now, hitherto the aim of these merchants has been to put their goods on board and to receive goods from the ships by the shortest and cheapest route, and it is perfectly certain that if these merchants were asked—as they should be asked—which they would prefer, to concentrate their business at the harbour of Vizagapatam, or to continue to do business at the existing ports all along the coast, they would decide in favour of the latter plan, because the route is shorter and therefore cheaper, the harbour dues are less, they have their trade established along these lines and moreover the competition between the ports would keep boat hire and harbour dues at a moderate scale. Therefore it is quite fair to assume that the Vizagapatam harbour is not wanted by the vast preponderance of the merchants of the District, that is, it is not wanted to create new trade or to develop existing trade. Then who does want the harbour built? Let us examine the case for the State.

The Government of India have decided to grant no money for this harbour, and why? One reason is they have none to spare, but even if they had, they would ask why is this harbour required. "You have," we can imagine them saying, "several excellent roadsteads all along the Coast from Vizagapatam to Cuttack, which are ample for the trade of the country. Why should you want to concentrate all the trade in one place. Why should we allot public money for such a luxury as a harbour at a place where it is not wanted? If you want a harbour make it at your own cost, not out of the public purse." Government having decided to grant no money towards this object help has been obtained from the Maharajah of Vizianagram, who has been persuaded to step forward to aid a scheme on which the Government decline to risk a rupee! Now this is not a private venture, on which the Maharajah embarks on his own account, and at his own risk. It is a public project which has received the acquiescence dissociated from financial aid, of the Government of India. Hence the Government of India will undoubtedly be responsible to public opinion if they accept the Maharajah's money; and when, as is very likely, the capital proves insufficient to construct and to preserve the proposed breakwater, the State will no doubt be expected to step in and complete the project. Moreover as the harbour cannot possibly benefit the Maharajah's estates, for he has little or no property at Vizagapatam, the charge on his estates which he proposes to create is, in the present state of the law, doubtfully binding on his successor. If, therefore, it be found by the Government inadvisable to lend any countenance to the financial aid so generously promised by the Maharajah, and if the aid so promised be insufficient to procure the needed capital, what prospect is there of even a boat harbour being constructed, not to speak of the vast ship harbour which is, in the fine frenzy of sanguine people, to rival Calcutta, to extinguish

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

The Crisis in Crete.

THE COERCION OF GREECE.

LONDON, *3rd March*.—The Collective Note delivered at Athens and Constantinople appeals to the wisdom of Greece not to resist the resolutions of the Powers, who will not hesitate to resort to coercive measures to enforce the evacuation of Crete. It is generally expected that Greece will refuse to comply with the demands of the Powers.

A FOREIGN PROTECTORATE.

The latest news from Crete states that Selino and Candano have been placed under foreign protection.

THE QUESTION OF A GOVERNOR.

LONDON, *3rd March*.—Negotiations are proceeding between the Powers and the Porte regarding the nomination of a Governor of Crete. The Porte insists upon an Ottoman subject being appointed.

A Tremendous Gale.

LONDON, *3rd March*.—A tremendous gale is raging to-day, and much damage has been done to several telegraph lines in Great Britain and on the Continent.

Great Britain and Venezuela.

A RECONCILIATION.

LONDON, *3rd March*.—Diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Venezuela, which were suspended in 1887, have been resumed.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

The Fire at Mysore.

MYSORE, *3rd March*.—The fire in the Palace has nearly been extinguished. Happily the loss is much smaller than was originally apprehended. Only the Ambavilas has been burnt down. The other parts destroyed were old and ricketty, and Her Highness intended dismantling and rebuilding them soon. Thanks to the forethought and presence of mind of the Dewan, and to the praiseworthy efforts of all concerned, more than four-fifths of the Palace has been saved, as also the throne and other valuable property. The Sappers from Bangalore ably assisted by the local officers and men, exerted themselves in a manner highly creditable. They return to-night, since all anxiety has been removed. The Resident arrived this morning and inspected the Palace. Unfortunate as the occurrence of the fire was at the close of the festivities, it is a matter for congratulation that the mischief done by it has turned out so inconsiderable that the Royal Family, with its large establishment, numbering nearly fifteen hundred persons, has been saved, as also nearly every item of property worth mentioning, and that there has been no serious loss of life. The Maharanee Regent has shown the greatest sympathy towards the relatives of the very few who are believed to have perished. The young Maharajah has been visiting the Palace both morning and evening and taking a most intelligent interest in the measures in progress for putting out the fire.

The Supreme Legislative Council.

THE MADRAS SETTLEMENTS.

CALCUTTA, *3rd March*.—The following further questions will be asked at to-morrow's meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Ananda Charlu:—(1) Will Government be pleased to state whether, since its disposal of papers Nos. 975 and 976 of the Government of Madras dated the 13th August, 1895, any discussion or correspondence has taken place between the Government of India and the Secretary of State with reference to the settlement of the land revenue so far as the Madras Presidency is concerned? (2) If so will Government be pleased to place

small but by no means unimportant amendments in the Stamp Law, and it is in the opinion of the Government of India very desirable that they should be given effect to without delay. The first clause proposes to add a new Section to the Indian Stamp Act of 1879 providing that bonds or debentures issued by a local authority need not be separately stamped either in the first instance or on renewal, sub-division, consolidation or otherwise, but that all that is necessary is for the local authority concerned to pay once for all *ad valorem* stamp duty (eight annas per cent) on the total amount covered by the bonds or debentures. It is further proposed to apply the same provision to bonds or debentures already issued in respect of outstanding loans raised by local authorities, on the understanding that the full duty leviable under the Act as it now stands shall have been either paid or remitted by order issued under Section 8. The object of the remaining clause is to remove a flaw in Act I of 1879 which has probably resulted in the loss of a considerable amount of stamp revenue. The assignment of a lease is at present chargeable with the low rate of duty fixed by No. 60 in Schedule I of the Act, and this provision enables conveyances of large and valuable leasehold estates to be transferred with merely nominal stamp duty. It is proposed to add to the schedule a separate No. (60 *a*) expressly providing for this. The references to leases in No. 60 will at the same time be repealed.

MR. ANANDA CHARLU'S QUEST[IONS].

Sir John Woodburn, replying to Mr. Ananda Charlu, said:—"Questions 1 and 2. Since the disposal of the papers referred to correspondence has taken place between the Government of India and the Secretary of State with reference to the settlement of land revenue in which the Madras Presidency together with the other provinces has been concerned. The same objections exist to the publication of that correspondence as were explained in the answer to the Hon'ble Member's questions 2 and 3 on the 25th February. No such correspondence of any importance has taken place in which the Madras Presidency alone has been concerned. Question 3. The despatch referred to contained the Secretary of State's final orders on the discussion, which related to the whole of India except the permanently settled tracts, which not relate solely to the North West Provinces, and dealt mainly with the question of the revision of assessment of land revenue, which tions 4 and 5. During the discussion which closed with the despatch of the 8th January, 1895, and to which the question is understood to refer, no proposals other than those contained in the Madras Government Order Nos. 975 and 976 dated 10th August, 1883, were put forward for the Madras Presidency either by the Madras Government or any other competent authority acting on its behalf."

Quarantine at Calcutta.

CALCUTTA, *4th March*.—Quarantine has been declared at Calcutta against vessels arriving in the river from Goa.

The Plague in Bombay.

90 DEATHS YESTERDAY.

BOMBAY, *4th March*.—There were 92 cases and 90 deaths reported from the plague yesterday, the total mortality from all causes being 203. The total cases are 8,383 and deaths 6,979.

THE EFFECT ON SCHOOLS.

The Gazerati and Marathi Municipal schools for primary education have their 40 rolls some 6000 pupils. Of these not have been attending school since the outbreak of the plague. The joint Schools Committee yesterday decided to close all these until the 1st June, and give the teach-

Some Sappers were working in a quarry near the Deccan College when a blasting charge, which had failed to explode the previous afternoon, went off, severely injuring three men, who were removed to hospital in a precarious condition. An enquiry is being held.

The "Khedive' Marine Enquiry.

A CONTUMACIOUS CAPTAIN.

A Marine Court of Enquiry was opened yesterday at the Esplanade Police Court to investigate the circumstances attending the grounding of the steamer *Khedive* off Porebunder on the 11th December last. Captain Mathews, master of the vessel, declined to answer the summons, and having been brought into Court under a warrant persistently refused to answer any questions or make any statement regarding the accident. He was fined Rs. 100, or in default 14 days' imprisonment. The evidence of the Second Officer was gone into during the day and the Court adjourned.

The Mysore Palace Fire.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

MYSORE, *2nd March*.—Wild rumours are afloat that incendiarism is the cause of the fire. That this is not the cause is patent from the following circumstances:—The fire broke out at 9-15 A.M. It commenced on the top of the pandal to which access is almost impossible to the servants of the Palace or to anybody else. It is in evidence that the second floor of the Palace was not only inhabited, but there was a kitchen which was being used. It is also in evidence that on the morning that the fire broke out, a certain lady of the Palace, who had had an oil bath was, according to Hindu custom, using incense to dry her hair. The female servants who helped the lady in the act of perfuming her hair had forgotton the fact that their windows were right above the marriage pandal, and had thrown out through the window the fire that nourished the incense, and this fire, falling on the cocoanut leaf covering of the pandal, was the direct cause of the havoc. No doubt the responsible officers in charge of the Palace ought to have taken precautions to provide themselves with a number of fire engines in case there was any fire. The whole of Mysore Town could boast only of one fire engine which was placed in a corner of the very pandal which caught fire. It was found impossible to pull out the engine. The town is supplied with water both from the Cauvery and the Kukrahully Tank. Sunday being the day in which the pipes are cleaned, the head sluice was closed and the supply of water was stopped. Not until two hours after the fire began was the tap opened and the supply of water began to flow. The Dewan, with his usual far-sightedness, telegraphed to the Resident (who was at the Bangalore Telegraph Office for 4 hours) to send up fire engines and a wing of Sappers and Miners by special train. They arrived at Mysore at 1 A.M. on Monday and from that time have been doing yeoman's service and have virtually prevented the fire spreading to the western portion of the Palace, thus saving the houses in the Fort from destruction.

SCENE DURING THE FIRE.

The Mysoreans have a sacred respect for the Palace and its precincts. As soon as they saw their royal edifice on fire they mustered strong and offered their services. But want of water compelled the Police authorities to keep them out. The Police very cleverly saw the inadvisability of allowing a number of people to rush through a narrow passage leading to the amphitheatre, which was blazing. Some of those who wanted to save the Palace fully believed that the fire could easily be quenched, not by large supplies of water but by mantrams and human sacrifices. The responsible authorities knowing this at once forbade them to enter. The orthodox Mysoreans at once made capital out of this, and a few Mysoreans, who had a fine opportunity to wreak their vengeance on the Madrassee officials, at once attributed the whole catastrophe to the action of those officials in preventing a mass of men from rushing into the inner apartments of the Palace and making away with whatever they could get. The European gentlemen like Mr. Fraser, Mr. Whiteley and others, knew the danger of indiscriminate ingress and ordered that only per-

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Enclosures to C. No.

Order of Government " " " "

Letter of Government

Statement with ditto.

Papers not filed up being meant for despatch in original.

A

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
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To H.E.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss has handed me the papers placed immediately below — a do. of the 15th from the San. Comtee. with its enclosure.

The H.M. thinks it desirable that, in view of what Dr. Haig points out, the G.O. appointing the Comtee on the Lemnn treatment of the plague shd be held over.

If H.E. has no objection this will be done.

S.R. 12/3/97

No objection
A.G.H.
12.3.97

[illegible] the remainder of the proposed G.O. [illegible]

No. Office of

Madras, 11/3 1897.

Dear Mr. Bliss,

Re our conversation this morning, I send you an extract from a D.O received to-day from Surg Major Bannerman. Having regard to the statements as to Mr. Staffanier's views, it occurs to me you might be disposed to defer orders as to the assembly of the Committee, till further and more definite information is obtained.

I will write to
them I know personally
to-day.

I presume as the
discovery is Haffkine's
he may reasonably claim
that it shall not be
subjected to conditions
over which he has
no control.

Yours faithfully
W S Thomas

Extract from a D.O from Surgeon Major H. Bannerman, Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, now on deputation to Bombay, dated 9th March 1897.

"I got here safely this morning, and have been already inoculating people, so I think you will acknowledge that I have not let the grass grow under my feet! I reported to the Surgeon-General after breakfast and, though I did not see him, I got a letter of introduction from his Secretary to Surgeon Major Lyons who is President of the Research Committee. I could not find him but I got hold of Surgeon Captain Childs, the Professor of Pathology, and he introduced me to Haffkine."

"Haffkine is a very pleasant man and explained that it would be of no use trying to get up the technic of the manufacture of the prophylactic as it would take me six months or so to be sufficiently perfect to be sure of making no mistakes, but he says I can easily in a few days pick up the mere inoculation business, and I see he means to keep the manufacture of both prophylactic and curative serum in his own hands and to supply the whole of India from a Central depôt, which I daresay is the safest plan, as ofcourse he is practised in this sort of manipulation, and as the serum can apparently be kept for any length of time in hermetically sealed tubes."

"The inoculation itself is a simple business and he has already taught it to me, indeed,

he

CONFIDENTIAL.

L.O. 475. box 1897.

Let me alone to finish off the invitations this
afternoon while he went to see about some other
business!"

Yours ever
Mary Ann
Lucy Cavendish
Lucy Cavendish.

Government {1897} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

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Signature & receive
& date as indicated in the last line of page 2
in this copy in the
accompanying 29 copies
of this G.O & return the
copies this evening
Sandy
12/3/97

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It seems to me that before entering on such a business we had better count the cost and that for this purpose it will be well to appoint a small committee to work the matter out—consider whether anything should be done in the first place; and if that question is answered in the affirmative, what practical steps should be taken and what they will cost. I am not in favour, in such a case as this, of a purely professional committee. Medical opinion must have its full weight, but this can be secured whether such a committee as I suggest consists wholly or mainly of medical men, or not. The danger in a preponderance of medical men on such a committee is that the purely scientific and curative aspects of the question would be considered, to the neglect of its practical and financial aspects. I think therefore that, if the appointment of such a committee commends itself to my honourable colleagues, two of its members might be the Surgeon-General and Colonel Moore. As to a third member, I am in great doubt. It would be convenient to appoint Mr. Forbes, because that would facilitate the committee's communications with Government; Mr. Crole would be an excellent man to deal with the business questions which must arise. But, in view of the fact that caste considerations may impede the application of the serum treatment, I incline to think that it would be best to request some native gentleman to join the committe. Whom to suggest I cannot say. Perhaps the best plan would be to request the Municipal Commissioners to nominate some native gentleman.

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To
The Dy. Adjutant General
Madras command

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Council ~~to transmit to you~~
to forward the enclosed proceedings of
~~the Madras~~ Govt. No. 475 M
of 10th March 1897 for favour
of information with reference to para 3 of
I have &c

12/3/97

Secretary to Govt.