

not to go. It is purely a matter for them to decide as to how they shall earn their bread, and, so long as their rights as residents in the Province are safeguarded and provision is made for the support of the families of those who may be killed or injured, we can raise no objection.—Ed. I.O.]

Indians and the Durban Market

The stall-holders at the Durban Indian Market (as briefly reported in our last issue) have recently had cause for serious complaint against the way in which business is conducted at the Borough Market. These stall-holders are large buyers daily of potatoes, etc., and one of the complaints made was that the bids of Indian buyers were ignored by the auctioneers. It was also contended that in several matters discrimination was made between European and Indian buyers. A letter, signed by twenty-five buyers, was therefore sent to the Market-master and in the meantime all refrained from attending the sales. As some of these men buy up to £40 or £50 worth of goods in a single day it can be imagined that their absence was felt. A prompt reply was received to the letter, inviting a deputation to meet the Chairman of the Market-Committee and the Market-master, at the Town Hall, on the 18th inst. About fifteen Indian buyers attended and they were given a patient hearing. The interview lasted an hour and the various matters were carefully gone into, the Chairman of the Market Committee promising to make an enquiry and assuring them that every care would be taken to meet their wishes along with other buyers at the Market. It is expected that the questions put forward will be discussed by the Market Committee of the Town Council and that the Indian stall-holders will be informed later of the decision. Meanwhile the Indian buyers have been advised to withdraw the boycott. Mr. West acted as spokesman for the deputation.

Death of Lieut. Hardinge

In her weekly London Letter the correspondent of the *Amrita Basar Patrika* writes:—

The news of the death of the Viceroy's eldest son brings with it deepest sympathy for the sorrowing father, to whom the sad loss of his wife is yet a grievous wound. The devotion of the sons for their father and of the father for his sons is well known and this second vacant place in the family circle will be very hard to bear. The hon. Edward Hardinge has laid down his life for the country, and with all the gallantry that is associated with the distinguished name he bore. He was severely wounded in the earlier weeks of the war, and it was a curious, as well as pleasing, coincidence that when he was being brought back to England the nurse into whose care he was put was the same who had nursed his mother, Lady Hardinge, in her last illness. It must have been gratifying to the young man as well as to his father that the Distinguished Service Order was conferred upon him early in October after having been mentioned in Sir John French's dispatches and highly commended "for ability and gallantry in reconnaissance under great difficulty and machine gun fire on the 22nd, 23rd, and 27th of August, during which he was severely wounded." The Viceroy bears a heavy weight of responsibility inseparable from his high office, but the weight of personal sorrow must be borne unflinchingly at the same time. One consolation will be that the people of India, who love him for his love to them, understand and share his grief, and pray that God will comfort him. He may be proud of his son's record.

The Principle of Consultation.

Capetown, January 16th (Reuter).—The Archbishop of Capetown, in the course of his charge at the Provincial Synod to-day, remarked that the present was a time of testing. What, he asked, would be the result of it all? In connection with the great events now taking place, one thing which stood out clearly and distinctly was the extraordinarily fine spirit of service and sacrifice everywhere apparent. That spirit was breaking down the spirit of smugghiness and selfishness which had prevailed so long; that spirit must be captured, and not allowed to wane and die. It was the very spirit the world wanted. A cold and indifferent attitude towards men of other races and colour must surely be changed; it must be softened as they read of the magnificent Indian troops fighting side by side with our own brave soldiers. When they heard of native men in this country taxing themselves so much a head to contribute to the common cause, when they heard of others pleading to be given an opportunity of throwing a stone at the common enemy, it could not be but that towards such people our feelings would be changed. (Applause.)

"To my mind," continued the Archbishop, "one crying need which should be remedied with as little delay as possible in this country is that our native people should at least be given a voice in the management of their own affairs. This system, which is carried out with considerable success in part of the Cape Province and in Basutoland, should be extended to other parts of the Union in the direction of the establishment of Native Councils. Again, to my mind, there should be a council of men experienced in native affairs, to which all questions relating to native affairs should be referred before being brought before Parliament, and such questions should be discussed as far as possible apart from party politics."

[At the time of going to press we have received the report of the speech of Bisoop Furze of Pretoria on this subject, which we hope to give in our next issue.]

News in Brief

We are officially informed by the Provincial Secretary that the Administrator has received a communication from the Governor-General in which His Excellency states that it is his intention to visit Natal towards the end of June next.

The Rev. C. F. Andrews writes from Delhi to the *Tribune*, Lahore, as follows:—Mr. Gandhi placed his own sons and the Phoenix boys entirely in my own hands. He was quite willing that they should be sent to the Gurukul, Kangri or Bolpur, as I should decide; he mentioned both places by name; but he expressed a wish that if possible they should be at Bolpur as he desired them to be under my special care. While I have been in the Hospital, through my dear friend Mahatmaji's great kindness they have been the guests of the Gurukul. They have written to me the happiest letters from there speaking of the love with which they have been welcomed. But now that the new term at Bolpur has commenced I have sent them to be there permanently and I hope as soon as the doctor will allow me, to rejoin them. I cannot be too grateful for the generous kindness to me in this matter of the Gurukul authorities in my hour of need.

[NOTE: We have received letters from Bolpur stating that the boys were settling down to their studies and that they had already recommenced their agricultural work, which is an innovation at *Shantisiketan*, and the example is likely to be followed by others.—Ed. I.O.]

Indian Opinion

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN ENGLISH AND GUJARATI

No. 5—VOL. XIII. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 1915.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper
PRICE THREEPENCE

THE PRINCIPLE OF CONSULTATION

Bishop Furse's Plea

AT the Anglican Synod held at Capetown the Bishop of Pretoria moved that the Synod should consider that a more uniform and sympathetic native policy, together with closer personal relation between governed and governing, was essential to the well-being of the native people and the security of the country. He urged that some method should be found by which native legislation and administration might be lifted above the changes and chances of party politics.

The attitude to uphold in this country, he contended, was that the white Government representing the King was here to develop, educate and uplift the native races, and not to exploit them. What was best for the native was best for the white man.

Archdeacon Turpin, speaking as the oldest missionary in the country, in seconding the motion, said that every native disturbance that had occurred across the Kei had taken place because the natives had never been consulted.

The debate, which was generally sympathetic towards the motion, was adjourned until Monday.

In speaking further to his native policy motion, which, it should be stated, also embodied a request for the establishment of native councils in every Province, the Bishop of Pretoria said that there was no strong line with regard to the native question. They ought to be prepared to say that the white man was here not principally for his own benefit, but for the good of the native. He knew that was a strong thing to say, but it was the only thing that would justify the white man in South Africa. Native affairs should be in the hands of a permanent body of three able-bodied and expert men, who would be in the position of judges, and not at the mercy of any party Government. They should be three men well versed in native affairs, to whom the natives might look as friends. He was in favour of the native council scheme being extended, though he did not say the natives should have votes or that these councils should have legislative powers.

Continuing, the Bishop said that a good deal of bad feeling had been aroused between the white man and the native in connection with the Native Lands Act, which could have been avoided if the native had been taken into the confidence of the white man before the Act was passed. Natives were not only not consulted with regard to legislation, but were not sufficiently instructed in regard to legislation already passed.—
Reuter.)

Proposed Council of Chiefs

Mr. S. W. B. Shepstone, a well-known authority on native affairs, writing in the *Natal Mercury*, says:—

No one who read the Archbishop of Capetown's address to the Provincial Synod could fail to be impressed with the far-seeing wisdom of his remarks on what our attitude should be to the native races of South Africa. "To my mind," said the Archbishop, "one crying need which should be remedied with as little delay as possible in this country is that our native people should at least be given a voice in the management of their own affairs."

Let us examine this statement, putting away all prejudice and bringing only common sense and a little sympathy to our aid. It is in politics and wrong for a powerful minority such as we are to continue to govern the huge mass of natives without regard to their legitimate aspirations, and without giving them some means of expressing their desires, hopes, and fears. I have repeatedly urged in letters to the Press that a Council of Chiefs should be established in each State of the Union (other than the Cape, of course), wherein all matters relating to native affairs could be fully discussed with the hereditary representatives of the natives, and that this should always be done before any legislation affecting natives is introduced. This Council should consist of the more prominent chiefs, who would act as an advisory committee, not to dictate to the Minister for Native Affairs, but to put clearly before him and Parliament how the proposed legislation would affect them; to bring to his notice all matters which press hardly or unjustly on their people; to suggest alternative measures, and generally to assist in their own government.

If, as suggested by the Archbishop, the native were given a voice in the management of his own affairs this feeling of bitterness and oppression which is daily increasing among the tribes would entirely disappear. No form of enfranchisement will be granted to the natives in the Transvaal, Natal, or Zululand. The natives in these States are not yet fit for it, and the white race would not allow it. But if a Council of Chiefs was established, if it met only once a year, with ample time to discuss all matters relating to their own affairs, and to go into these matters with the Minister—who should be supported by a committee to assist him to review the suggestions of the Native Council—a very great step towards the solution of the whole problem will have been achieved. The composition of this committee is a matter that will have to be dealt with separately.

Human nature is the same all the world over, whether it is covered by a black, white, brown, or yellow skin. Let us realise and admit this fact, and take it as a basis. The native is oppressed with an ever-growing sense of repression. He desires ever more

ardently to make his white ruler realise his points of view; none more so than the chiefs who labour under great difficulties. They try to do this through their magistrate with only partial, very partial, success. He cannot make his impression in the proper quarter. He is afraid to speak perfectly plainly to his magistrate, and there is no other way. He is

Thrown back on Himself

and his frame of mind continues to grow ever more bitter.

Let us not forget human nature, but ask ourselves: Can we expect this state of things to continue? Can any responsible being expect these people to continue dumbly to submit to an arbitrary form of government that is entirely unsympathetic, for an indefinite period? Would we do so? Would we not be the first to point out to any other nation that treated a conquered people in this way, that they must expect a culminating point to come one day, which would result in an upheaval? That a safety valve is as necessary to a nation as to a boiler?

No doubt the Government will say that these ideas are impossible, as the financial resources of the State would not permit of the necessary outlay, and that we are passing through a period of severe economic strain. Yet I feel convinced that every vital question affecting the welfare and progress of the State and both races (including the economic condition of the country) are so inextricably bound up in that of the wise government of the black race, the enormously preponderating one in point of numbers, that it appears to me the matter must be raised above considerations of economic difficulty. Moreover, I would point out a way of surmounting this obstacle. Namely, that all, if necessary, of the money collected from the native races in direct taxation should be utilised for native affairs.

The Future of Kiao-Chow

Although a small British force co-operated with our Japanese Ally in the capture of Tsing-tau, it is beyond question that the Japanese forces could have taken it unassisted. Therefore Japan must necessarily have the predominating voice in deciding what is to be done with the Kaiser's "place in the sun"—the pampered bantling of his own mailed fist *welt-politisk* when the terms of peace are settled. The decision will be a momentous one for the future of Japan; and, fortunately, the present Japanese Government may be trusted to rise to the height of the occasion. Even so late as three years ago it might have been different, for Japan then was under the domination of a military oligarchy and of a Premier whose aims and methods were very similar to those of Prussian Junkerdom. But the Japanese nation has been quicker than the German in ridding itself of its retrograde rulers, and under a pacific civilian statesman of Count Okuma's calibre, the only wise course of action as regards the disposal of Kiao-Chow is likely to be adopted. It should, of course, be given back to China, its lawful owner, *Bis dat qui cito dat*. At the close of the war both Wei-hai-wei and Kiao-Chow ought to be restored to China by the British and the Japanese Governments. To Japan, the moral gain of so doing will be immense, for she will thereby conciliate at one and the same time both her great, powerful, and peaceful neighbours, China and the United States of America. These are the two great Moral Force Governments of the modern world, and the sympathy between them is naturally closer than it could ever be between America and a military Japan. Any action on Japan's part that would antagonise China would inevitably alienate American public opinion. The present, in fact, is Japan's opportunity to set herself right with America for good and all; and even if China may be making it somewhat hard for her

to be so generous, there should be neither hesitation nor equivocation in announcing what she intends to do with Kiao-Chow now that it is taken. It should not be forgotten that ten years ago Yuan Shi-Kai memorialised the Manchu Government in favour of an alliance with Japan. Is so favourable an opportunity as the present likely to occur within any foreseeable time for laying deep the foundation of so desirable an alliance? Once formed, such alliance might easily become the pivot of a noble quadruple *entente* between the two pairs of friends, Great Britain and Japan on one side, America and China on the other—a band of amity encircling the globe and embracing nearly half the human race.—J. CAREY HALL in the *Postivist Review*.

Immigration Returns

The *Natal Advertiser* has been favoured by Mr. Godfrey W. Dick, Principal Immigration Officer at the Point, with a summary of the work of the Immigration Department for 1914. It appears that during the year 1,286 vessels arrived at Natal, and of this number 1,263 were dealt with by the Immigration Officer. Eight hundred and seventy-five vessels made Durban the first port of call, and 388 touched previously at one of the other Union ports. No fewer than 391 vessels brought passengers, the total number of whom was 16,227. This total included 2,390 new arrivals, 1,892 of whom were Britishers, 53 Asiatics, 431 foreigners, and the remaining 14 are described as "other British." Passengers refused admission numbered 169. The deportations, during 1914, via Durban, were, from Natal 22, from Transvaal 25, from Cape 33. In addition 13 deportation warrants were executed and 219 Indians were repatriated. The crews prohibited from landing at Natal numbered 34,992, but a further 25,558 were unrestricted. Stowaways during 1914 numbered 29, passage workers 55, cattlemen 777, deserters 155. Nine ships were fined, but the fines on three were afterwards remitted. The office issued 180 certificates of identity, 712 temporary passes, 35 visitors' passes, and the general certificate. The fees obtained by the issue of passes and certificates amounted to £797 4s. 6d.

Immigration Appeal Board

The number of meetings held by the Immigrants' Appeal Board was 74, and appeals noted 54, of which 22 were decided in favour of the Board. A further 6 were decided in favour of the department, but appellants were allowed to remain by the Minister. Six of the appeals were withdrawn by appellants, and five by the department. Eighteen special cases were submitted to the Supreme Court, and 12 decided in favour of the Board, two in favour of the appellants, and four were withdrawn. Three interdicts were issued against the Board during 1914, one of which was discharged. Three interdicts were issued against the Principal Immigration Officer and discharged. Four Indians were charged with perjury in connection with immigration cases.

The New Arrivals

It is interesting to note that the new arrivals (2,390) included 560 males and 383 females of the leisured and professional classes, 270 male and 19 female mechanics and skilled artisans, 119 unskilled male labourers, 123 male and 33 female shop assistants, 9 male hawkers and petty traders, 17 male and 101 female domestic servants; the balance (including minors) were unclassified. Of the total, 1,120 were adult males, 970 were adult females, 149 males under 16, and 151 females under 16.

The Prohibited

The nationalities of the prohibited were: British 6, Austrian 1, Central African natives 2, Chinese 36,

Danes 1, French 1, Germans 1, Greeks 2, Indians 107, Italians 2, Japanese 1, Malagase 1, Maltese 1, Russians 1, Swedes 1, Swiss 3, Turks 1, Zanzibaris, 1.

Of those deported from Natal twelve were thieves and criminals, and 17 had entered illegally. No particulars are given of the deportations from the other Provinces through the port of Natal.

During 1914 the number of Asiatics admitted was 521, of whom 55 were new arrivals.

During 1913 the number of Asiatics admitted was 713, of whom 53 were new arrivals.

From the Editor's Chair

THE LATE MRS. PILLAY

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mrs. V. S. Pillay, of Pretoria. The late Mrs. Pillay had been ailing practically ever since she was released from gaol last year at Maritzburg. She had specially sought imprisonment to protest against the position with reference to Indian wives and was also engaged in the organisation of the work connected with the movement for the repeal of the £3 tax. Her husband, Mr. V. S. Pillay, served nine months' imprisonment during the struggle and her son Manikum was deported to India in 1910, when Mr. Polak was there, and was married only a few days before Mrs. Pillay's lamented death. The funeral took place at Pretoria on the 29th ultimo. Wreaths were sent from the Transvaal British Indian Association, the Transvaal Tamil Benefit Society, Indian Women's Association and the Germiston Indians. Her example will always be an illuminating one for her sisters in South Africa, and the memory of her good and self-sacrificing work will remain with the community of which she was so public-spirited a member. We tender to the bereaved family the respectful sympathies of the entire Indian community.

PHOTOGRAPHS AGAIN

SOME months ago, a complaint reached us that the Principal Immigration Officer, Natal, as a condition attaching to the issue of certificates of identity, demanded the production of photographs in spite of the fact that the law does not provide for such a demand. Steps were at once taken to apprise the Department of the Interior of these facts, with the result that, we understand, instructions were sent to the Immigration Officer, that no compulsion should be used to obtain photographs of applicants for these certificates. We have again been informed that, of late, the Immigration Officer has renewed his demand for photographs as a condition to the issue of certificates of identity. We wish to make it plain to our readers that no Indian is required in law or by administrative arrangements to give any photographs at all for this purpose. Provided that in other respects he complies with the law, he is entitled to receive a certificate of identity without giving photographs, and this he should courteously but firmly refuse to do. We understand that representations are being made to the Department of the Interior on

this subject and we trust that they will have the desired result. We need hardly say that for Mr. Dick personally we have a very high regard, but in his capacity as an administrator of the immigration law, we very much fear, and we say it with all respect, that he is much too much bound by red tape. He does not appear to have entered as he should have done, into the spirit of the settlement reached last year. With the Government, as a Government, the Indian community has no quarrel on the score that it has not respected the treaty of peace signed last year, but the great danger is lest its hand should be forced either by narrow-minded Municipalities, as in the case of the Boksburg Regulations, or by its own administrative officers, who restrict the entry into their own minds of broad views. We earnestly suggest to Mr. Dick that a policy of pin-pricks such as the demand for photographs will only unnecessarily irritate, without effecting any good purpose, and we feel sure that his own solid good-sense will corroborate this.

The Ban on Commissions in the Army

Mr. H. N. Misra, of Caius College, Cambridge, writes to the *Nation* of December 19th:—

"The House had warmly to recognise," said the Under Secretary of State for India, "the substantial help that was being afforded to the Empire by the appearance of the Indian troops at a wide number of points, which extended through three continents, from Tsing-tau to La Bassée." England cannot better recognise and touch the hearts and imagination of the Indian people than by removing a bar that has existed for more than fifty years to the military aspirations of Indian soldiers. At present, no Indian can hope to become anything more than a subadar, an officer equivalent almost to the humblest English officer in the Indian Army. He is not allowed to join the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, or to hold a commission in the Indian Army, the proclamations of 1833, 1858, 1908, 1912 notwithstanding. The disability is not legal, nevertheless hitherto quite absolute. Ancient houses which looked to the Army as the sole field of occupation for their sons, and warlike races, who, since times immemorial were in the habit of looking to a *carrière ouverte aux talents* in the military service of their country, have had to choose between the career of an ordinary soldier in the ranks and a clerical or legal occupation entirely unsuited to their character.

The custom—and it is nothing but a custom—of granting commissions to men of European descent only has led to the extinction of those middle-class families which provided officers for the Indian Army down to 1856. It has ever been a sore grievance to the people, and is wasteful from an economic as well as military point of view. The so-called "political arguments" which stand in the way of allowing the Indians to choose the occupation of their aptitude, and thereby enabling them to be more useful to themselves as well as to their country, should now be swept away, and a policy of hesitation and distrust should give way to one of trust and generosity. Indeed, the loyalty of the Indian troops has never been in doubt.

Nothing more generous or more opportune can be conceived which would quicken the imagination of these valiant soldiers or draw closer the bonds of esteem and affection than the putting into practice the right, which has been recognised ever since 1833, of Indians to lead their own countrymen on the field of

battle on the same terms as their British comrades. It is a question not of legislation but one of boldly overriding the practice of routine, as the right of granting commissions is solely vested in the Crown, exercised through the Commander-in-Chief in India, on the advice of his Majesty's advisers at Whitehall. It would remove at the same time another humiliation of not being allowed to join the Officers' Training Corps on the ground of being Indians, and I am sure nothing would go further to prove the sincerity of the eloquent words of the Under Secretary for India, uttered in the House of Commons recently.

"It is premature" says Mr. Roberts, "to attempt to anticipate the consequences that may follow from the striking and historic event—the participation of India in force in the world-war of the Empire. But it is clear that India claims to be not a mere dependent but a partner in the Empire, and her partnership with us in spirit and on the battlefields cannot but alter the angle from which we shall all henceforward look at the problems of the Government of India." Let there be mutual loyalty and mutual fulfilment of duties.

Roosevelt's Tribute to a Coloured Man

[The following extract is taken from an article which appeared in *Scribner's Magazine* for April, 1914, by Theodore Roosevelt. Of living statesmen, the Ex-President, whose political likeness to the Kaiser, big stick to mailed fist, has been recognised by many of his admirers, is the most, or almost the most, alien to the Positivist ideal; and therefore his testimony to the fine qualities of Colonel Rondon is that of a witness who, whether he recognises it or not, is fundamentally antagonistic. Thus it is free from all suspicion of friendly bias.—Editor, *Posttrust Review*.]

Colonel Rondon . . . is of almost pure Indian (American) blood and is a Positivist—the Positivists are a really strong body in Brazil as they are in France, and, indeed, in Chile. The Colonel's seven children have all been formally made members of the Positivist Church in Rio Janeiro. Brazil possesses the same complete liberty in matters religious, spiritual and intellectual as we, for our great good fortune, do in the United States, and my Brazilian companions included devout Catholics and equally sincere men who describe themselves as "libres penseurs." Colonel Rondon has spent the last twenty-four years in exploring the western highlands of Brazil, pioneering the way for telegraph-lines and railroads. During that time he has travelled some 14,000 miles, on territory most of which had not previously been traversed by civilised man, and has built 3,000 miles of telegraph. He has an exceptional knowledge of the Indian tribes and has always zealously endeavoured to serve the cause of humanity wherever and whenever he was able. Thanks mainly to his efforts, four of the wild tribes of the region he has explored have begun to tread the road of civilisation. They have become Christians. It may seem strange that among the first fruits of the efforts of a Positivist should be the conversion of those he seeks to benefit to Christianity. But in South America Christianity is as much a status as a theology. It represents the indispensable first step upwards from savagery. In the wilder and poorer districts men are divided into the two great classes of "Christians" and "Indians." When an Indian becomes a Christian he is accepted into and becomes wholly absorbed or partly assimilated by the crude and simple neighbouring civilisation, and then he moves up or down like anyone else among his fellows. Colonel Rondon does in very fact believe in the religion of humanity exactly as he is devoted to scientific research, and what he preaches he practises.

Indians and the War

To find excuses for the terror which the Gurkhas strike into the Germans, especially when the trenches have to be stormed, is (says the *Star*, London) one of the duties of the German special correspondents at the front. The war correspondent of the *Cologne Volks Zeitung* in West Flanders, in seeking to explain the "unusual conditions under which we have to fight," brings a fantastic charge against our Indian troops.

His dispatch for the most part is a series of outrageous fictions and absurdities. He complains first of all that the Allies employ fighting methods which are altogether contrary to international warfare. Our brave Gurkhas, he says, fight with tigerish cruelty. The Gurkha sneaks up to the German trenches at night-time with a murderous weapon gleaming between his teeth. He stabs the enemy in the back and sneaks back again, and "investigations show that immediately after the wound has been inflicted tetanus sets in, and it is concluded that the knife has been poisoned."

This war correspondent gets nearer the truth when he implies that the Gurkha is the "will o' the wisp" of the battlefield. Under cover of darkness the stealthy Gurkha creeps to the trenches on all fours. He often hurls the knife at the enemy in assegai fashion, "and I am sorry to say these murderous fellows have a habit of disappearing as noiselessly as they approach."

Of all the native troops the Sikhs are considered the deadliest foe. They are tall, strong, slim demons at storming the trenches, and it is admitted that they have commanded the respect of the Germans.

The multiplicity of menus for the native troops in the field astonishes the Germans and they are eager to capture some of the Indian goats both as curiosities and as a source of milk of which they have very little.

"There are men fighting against us who are debarred by religious tenets from eating pork. Another caste won't have soup. Some never smoke, and have to be supplied with nothing but fruit and sweets. Others squat in the trenches all day puffing enormous pipes."

Indians at Brighton

The *Daily Telegraph* correspondent writes:—

So complete were the arrangements for the reception of the wounded Indians at the military hospital established at the Pavilion that within twenty-four hours of their arrival they had settled down under most comfortable conditions, and expressed themselves extremely grateful for the care bestowed upon them. All the more serious cases were accommodated in the Dome and Corn Exchange. A visit to the great wards revealed a marked improvement in the appearance of the warriors. Considerable delicacy and tact were required in the domestic arrangements owing to the differences of caste, but not the slightest difficulty has arisen in that respect.

The Victoria Cross hero, Havildar Ganga Singh, is in a quiet corner of the Dome. He maintains his cheerful demeanour, although terribly wounded. The doctors are rather anxious about him, and insist on complete repose, but the brave fellow almost declines to take these orders seriously. The minor cases are mostly provided for at the supplementary establishment at the York-place Municipal Secondary Schools. They make light of their injuries, and when the weather is fine they amuse themselves with various games in the playground.

A New Decoration

The mail papers announce that on New Year's Day the King created a new decoration which will be known as the "Military Cross." No person will be eligible for it unless he is a captain or commissioned officer of lower grade, or a warrant officer in the Army or in the Indian or Colonial forces, or a foreign officer of equivalent rank who has been associated with the British forces in military operations. The Cross will

be worn before all decorations, with the exception of the Victoria Cross. The Cross is of silver, with an Imperial crown on each arm, and in the centre the letters G.R.I. The ribbon is white with a purple stripe. The *Gazette* of January 1st also gives a list of about 100 recipients of the new medal, amongst whom are five Indian warrant officers.

Gifts to the Indian Troops

Mr. J. P. Hewett, the Chairman, Indian Soldiers' Fund, has received the following letter from Lieutenant-General Willcocks, Commanding Indian Army Corps:

"Headquarters, Indian Army Corps,

"14th December 1914.

"Dear Sir,—I write to tell you how grateful all our Indian soldiers are for the comforts and necessaries which are sent to them. Not only do they thoroughly appreciate the kindness which has prompted the many subscribers and donors, but from a practical point of view they have benefited immensely. The thoughtfulness with which all details have been worked out and the trouble which has been taken to ascertain what is most needed have much impressed us all, and officers, non-commissioned officers, and men are thoroughly aware of the deep interest which those in England who have been instrumental in the work have evinced in His Majesty's soldiers from India.

"The warm underclothing has been invaluable, especially during the spell of intensely cold weather we had at the end of November. The tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes, as well as the many other articles sent, have given hard-worked men many a pleasant hour in the trenches.

"It is impossible to acknowledge in detail the innumerable gifts, but I can assure all concerned in this labour of love that their efforts are more than recognised and appreciated by all ranks of the Indian Expeditionary Forces in France, and all may rest assured that everything received is fairly and promptly distributed."

Bravo! Ceylon

The Governor of Ceylon is to be congratulated on his acceding to the popular request in sending a picked contingent from the Ceylon Volunteer Corps to Europe for active service in the field. A European contingent had already gone, and it is an open secret that the Sinhalese felt badly cut up because no opportunity was given to them. But this decision would be glad tidings to all. As *The People* puts it: "For the first time in the annals of the country a Ceylonese force is going out to do something for the Empire we cherish. The occasion is historic. The future will disclose the importance and significance of the event."—*New India*.

The Imperial Service Troops

The Bikanir Camel Corps (says *India*) have earned fresh laurels by useful outpost duty on the Suez Canal: some weeks ago the 3rd Kashmir Rifles were reported to be distinguishing themselves in East Africa; and now we have mention made of the Jind Infantry in the same region. A Central News message of December 4th from Nairobi says of them that they behaved exceptionally well at Gazi, where they had to face an extraordinarily heavy fire, the six machine guns of the enemy being particularly busy.

The Wounded at Brighton

The third consignment of wounded Indians direct from the front arrived at Brighton on December 23 by ambulance train from Southampton and were at once conveyed to the military hospital at the Royal Pavilion. The number was just over 100, bringing the total under treatment at this centre to nearly 700. Thirty cases were of a serious character, one poor fellow being in such a critical condition that considerable difficulty

was experienced in transferring him from the train to the motor ambulance. Even those who were able to move without much assistance appeared to be suffering considerably, and were in evident discomfort from the cold weather, a large proportion being troubled with rack-like coughs. Several regiments were represented, Gurkhas being prominent. They had taken part in the recent severe bayonet charges for the possession of trenches and evidently gone through rougher experiences than their predecessors in hospital.—*India*.

"Specially Interested"

The Sydney correspondent of the *Times of India* has been writing that the people in New South Wales are specially interested in the Indian soldiers—"the Sikhs, the Gurkhas, and all the rest of them." They appear to be interested in them because when they visited Australia on its becoming a "nation," they impressed the Dominion people with their martial bearing and their splendid military display. "Of all the military troops who took part in the celebration they made the greatest and deepest impression." How (asks the *Lahore Tribune*) are Indians to reconcile this admiration with the treatment given to Indian emigrants to Australia, not a few of whom were ex-soldiers, the very Sikhs on whom all Australian eyes are now resting?

Anxious to Serve

The anxiety of the young men of Bengal to do some service for the Crown and the Empire is best exemplified (observes the *Bengalee*) in the overwhelming number of applicants for service in the Ambulance Corps. Due discrimination (we are told) will be made in the selection of proper men, and all unfit applicants will be rejected. Nevertheless, the number of applicants is so large that it is declared to be difficult to begin the process of rejection, and it is expected that the strength of the proposed Corps will be increased. Seventeen Indian medical practitioners have now been selected for temporary military service.

We understand that some hundred and fifty members of the Indian Volunteer Field Ambulance Corps are now actively at work. There are sixty at Netley, fifty-eight at Brighton, twenty at the convalescent home at Brockenhurst, and six on board the hospital ships.

The Press Bureau states that his Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior has generously offered a convalescent home to be established in the East Africa Protectorate with complete staff and equipment for six Indian officers and 50 sepoy. The offer has been accepted by his Majesty's Government.

Japan's Army

Mr. W. Miller Maguire, writing in the special military number of the *New Witness* says:—

Our recruiting is an arrant failure, and all the tomfoolery system of attracting youths to the colours invented by the Army Council recently is ridiculed by the leading military journals of our French ally, as the application to the Regular Army of the system of "Puff" which is employed on so vast a scale by traders:

But, owing to the incompetence of the Army Council, there is now such an absolute dearth of recruits that India is also short of soldiers and must resort to bounties, which not only in a wasteful manner burden India's revenues, but also deplete the Army Reserves at home.

Lack of space forbids details; but I challenge contradiction when I say that, in spite of its enormous cost and all the puffing and blowing of War officials at £10 a day, and a Lord Chancellor at £28 a day, not to

speak of enormous pensions and privileges, our Army, when it is not pitted as a paltry thing by allies, is despised by hostile experts, and has not one Army Corps fit for the fight, and is ridiculous as compared with the newly organised Russians.

But it is well known to careful students that the centre of International gravity is rapidly shifting from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and Sir Ian Hamilton has lately pointed out the awful danger to Australasia from the Yellow Race. The position of the Chinese must be discussed again; but take the Japanese alone, is not our Army a mere fiasco as compared with that of the great Pacific Ocean power, whose battle of Tsushima, 1905, put it in the same position as to Eastern Asia as Trafalgar, 1805, put our Isles with regard to Western Europe?

The Regular peace army of Japan, which forms the nucleus of the Army that will be mobilised in time of war, contains of well-trained effectives 16,200 officers, 220,000 men, and 45,000 horses. In time of war these can be readily reinforced; from first reserve, Yobi; second reserve, Kobi; and Territorial Army, Kokumin; by 9,000 officers, 580,000 men, and 155,000 horses. Is it not true that relatively and absolutely, neither with regard to numbers, training, education, food supply, medicine, equipment, guns, horses, rifles, transport, nor staff, are we as well prepared now with regard to three divisions as Japan was in 1914 with regard to three armies? I maintain that, for strategic and tactical purposes the Japanese Army is three times stronger than ours; and in other respects, in spite of much—too much—individual self-sacrifice, ours is a fantastic fiasco and a costly anachronism at the present moment. . . .

News in Brief

The Chairmen of the British Indian Association has received a letter from Lord Kitchener stating that he will convey to Lady Roberts a copy of the resolution passed by the Committee of the Association on the occasion of the death of Lord Roberts.

Mr. J. H. Harris, Secretary of the Aborigines Protection Society, London, paid a brief visit to Phoenix Settlement on Friday last. The time was spent in chatting over the race questions of the world. Mr. Harris has had wide experience of the difficulties under which the coloured races labour and has paid visits to the Congo in the interests of the natives. His present visit to South Africa is mainly in connection with the land question as applied to natives in Rhodesia, and we understand from him that he goes home to London loaded with valuable information. We were very glad to have the opportunity of meeting Mr. Harris. In Durban Mr. Harris met the members of various Societies connected with native affairs and also met the Committee of the Natal Indian Association for a friendly chat.

"Tell the accused that his luck has saved him. After considering the circumstances of the case, I discharge him." This was all that the Chief Magistrate (Mr. Binns) said when disposing of R. Govindsamy Pather in the Durban Court on the 25th ultimo. The charge on which he had appeared was perjury, the allegation being that on November 17th he made a declaration before a commissioner of oaths that a restricted Indian was entitled to domicile in Natal.

The *Bombay Chronicle* of the 9th ultimo announced the expected arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi at Bombay that morning. An influential committee had been formed to welcome the guests at an afternoon gathering on the 12th ultimo at "Mount Petit." Lady Mehta presided over a meeting of ladies on the 8th ultimo to make arrangements for giving a public reception to Mrs. Gandhi. It was resolved to present Mrs. Gandhi

with an address of welcome at a public meeting to be held on the 15th ultimo at the Framji Cowasji Institute, under the presidency of Lady Mehta. A committee was formed to carry out the arrangements for the reception.

The sweltering heat of the last few days was nowhere more keenly felt (says the *Natal Mercury*) than by those whose business took them to the Circuit Court. At the close of the Market case the special jury handed the following to Mr. Justice Hathorn: "The jury desire to bring to the notice of the Court the discomfort caused to them by the unsuitable seating accommodation provided in Court, and the insanitary condition of the Court-room owing to the absence of sufficient ventilation. Such conditions make it difficult to apply the necessary concentration of mind to the proceedings."

It was originally proposed by Behar (says *India*) to have a statue of Lady Hardinge of Bankipur on the side of that of the Viceroy, but in accordance with her request, the money is to be devoted to the promotion of some scheme for the benefit of Indian women. Accordingly the sum of Rs. 30,000 subscribed to the fund by the Maharaja of Hathwa, is being made over to the Lady Hardinge College for Women which is to be established in Delhi.

During the festivities at Tokyo in honour of Brigadier-General Barnardiston and the other British officers who took part in the storming of Tsing-tau, the Mayor, Baron Sakatani, welcomed them at a public dinner in an eloquent speech, in the course of which he laid stress on the historical significance of that occasion, which was (he said) an eloquent indication of the approaching doom of the prejudice which divides the East and the West. "The time will come when racial differences and religious prejudices will no longer raise a barrier against the union of nations on broad principles and justice and humanity."

The British Nationality Act, which comes into force to-day (January 1st) has been described by Mr. Churchill as the establishment of "a world-wide status of British citizenship." The phrase recalls the Roman system, under which every free subject of the Empire was a citizen of Rome; but it is, unfortunately, misleading in its application to the new Act (says *India*). It is true that the American who desires to adopt British nationality can now do so by residing in Canada, and will retain his new status within the Empire. But the Sikh who emigrates to British Columbia will still find his way to Canadian citizenship barred by special legislation against Asiatics; and things are no better in the other self-governing dominions. The "reform" may be notable, but it is so partial that it will not be worthy of British traditions until *civis Britannicus* comes to mean exactly what *civis Romanus* meant.

Tolstoy's Prophecy

Mr. Vladinier Tchertkoff writes to the *Daily News*, London, as follows, after mentioning the fact that the Tolstoy prophecy had been printed in many countries:

"Having been Leo Tolstoy's literary representative during his life time, and being entrusted by him to edit and publish all his posthumous writings, I feel it my duty to state that Tolstoy never wrote anything of the kind; and that the attribution of this article to him is an absolute invention. I would beg those papers who have mentioned the spurious article to re-print this statement."

As we printed the article in question, we print also the above repudiation.