

The Bengalee Oct 14, 1914

Nicholson, O'Reilly, Wilde and others in England as well as that of Monsieur Clouet in France.

Steel was manufactured in ancient India in the fused condition as cast-steel by the carburisation of wrought iron in closed crucibles in small blast furnaces. Steel in the form of "cast-steel" was manufactured in Europe in the nineteenth century only, when in 1800 Mr. D. Mushet virtually re-discovered the Indian process and took out a patent for preparing cast-steel from wrought iron. India thus can unhesitatingly lay claim to the glory that the crucible process of making cast-steel was really an Indian discovery.

A case in the Police court.

The following case, tried by Mr. Salem, the Third Presidency Magistrate was reported in our columns on Sunday last:—

On Saturday, at the Central Police Court, on the prosecution of Court Inspector A. L. Basu, Mr. Salam, third Magistrate, tried Mr. Finby, manager of the Savoy Hotel, for assaulting a boy servant, Golam Rasul knocking off one of his teeth.

It was alleged that the accused suspected the boy for having committed theft at the hotel and assaulted him with fists, cuffs and kicks.

The Magistrate imposed a fine of Rs. 30 on the accused, half of which he ordered to be paid to the complainant as compensation.

The fine was at once paid and Rs. 15 went to the accused as compensation.

The Magistrate here evidently committed a mistake in law. The offence was clearly one of grievous hurt which came under Section 325 I. P. C., and as such was punishable only with imprisonment. Section 320, says that the following kinds of hurt only are designated as "grievous," and under heading 7 we have "fracture or dislocation of a bone or tooth." The boy had one of his teeth knocked off by the blow administered by the accused. The offence therefore being one of grievous hurt, we fail to see how the Magistrate could let off the accused with a simple fine. It is mandatory under the law to impose a sentence of imprisonment upon a person convicted under Section 325. The Government which is bound to see to the proper administration of the law must take action and move the High Court for enhancement of punishment.

Some facts in the Police Resolution.

In the Resolution of Government on the Administration of the Police in Bengal for the year 1913-14, we find that "the number of cases classed as political was 14 in 1913 as against 12 in 1912 and 13 in 1911." It will thus be seen that the number of political cases has remained stationary. It is to be hoped that they will soon disappear and cease to blacken our annals. We find that the number of true cases of petty robs, but says the Resolution "the fact that only 5 out of 25 cases were committed by people of the 'Madras' class shows the importance of political as

ship and that the Government wanted to deport them.

Superintendent S. C. Aldridge said that one of the five men who died in the Hospital was Sarvan Singh, a constable of the Ludhiana district. Photographs were taken of these four men.

Dr. Durga Prasad Ghose, House Surgeon, Medical College Hospital, said:—On the night of the 29th September I admitted various wounded Sikhs into Hospital. Altogether that night I admitted ten men. The next morning I admitted two men.

Out of the ten admitted that night one was a Bengali. There were nine Sikhs. Most of them gave their names except two. Immediately after the admission two died and we did not get their names. A third named Musta Singh died on the 1st October. Another man died on the morning of the 30th September. We could not get his name. The names of the other Sikhs are Badal Singh, Indra Singh, Tahal Singh Peer Bux, Hari Singh, Musta Singh, and Madal Singh. The name of the Bengalee is Naba Kumar Hazra. He is still in the hospital. Tahal Singh died to-day (Thursday). We got their names direct from them. We asked them nothing except their names.

(To Superintendent Aldridge):—We did not ascertain from them where they came from. We ascertained from those who brought them that they came from Budge Budge.

CHARGE TO THE JURY.

Mr. Dobbin, in charging the jury in respect to the inquest on the death of Mr. Lomax, related the facts as disclosed by Sir Frederick Halliday and Mr. Ricks. He observed that there was no alternative but to fire, so far as the Police and the troops were concerned. It was perfectly clear from the evidence that there was absolutely no provocation given to the Sikhs and he asked the jury to agree with him on that point. The Coroner then said that there was no evidence as to whose shots caused the death of Mr. Lomax. But it was clear that it was in self defence that the police fired and the troops fired under orders and that Mr. Lomax met his death by the gunshot from an unknown Sikh.

Mr. Dobbin brought out the same points while charging the jury with regard to the death of the four Sikhs. He observed in conclusion that there was no evidence as to who caused the deaths of the Sikhs.

In the case of Mr. Lomax the jury returned the verdict that Mr. Lomax came by his death by a gun shot wound by an unknown Sikh at Budge Budge under such circumstances that it amounted to murder.

As regards the case of the five Sikhs the jury were of opinion that the deceased died of gun shot wounds received in an affray at Budge Budge in which the police fired in self-defence and the troops under orders, there being no evidence as to who fired the shots.

DEATH OF ANOTHER WOUNDED SIKH.

Early on Tuesday morning another Sikh named Tahal Singh who was wounded at the Budge Budge riot on the 29th ultimo succumbed to his injuries at the Medical College Hospital. The body was removed to the morgue and the Coroner was informed with a view to an inquest.

the case owing to the dispute between the parties for collection of Khatagi rent in a disputed land, the Magistrate passed the order on the petitioners, the first petitioner being the sole proprietor of the disputed property.

It was submitted that the order could not be made under section 144 prohibiting a person from collecting rents from the tenants.

Their Lordships issued a rule.

(Before Justices Fletcher and Beachcroft.)

ENHANCEMENT OF SENTENCE WIFE MURDERER TRANSPORTED

Their Lordships disposed of the appeal preferred by the Government of Bihar and Orissa against the conviction and sentence passed upon Samartu Sahara by the Additional Sessions Judge of Manbhum. The accused was charged with having murdered his wife and also with having committed 'culpable homicide' not amounting to murder. Both the assessors found the accused guilty of having caused grievous hurt and the Sessions Judge agreeing with the Assessors convicted the accused under Section 325 of the Penal Code and sentenced him to one year's rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 10. The case for the prosecution was that some time before the murder was committed the accused had been suffering from mental aberration. A local 'Vaid' treated and cured him temporarily. There was a relapse again and the 'Vaid' prescribed him some medicine for external application. The medicine was applied externally and caused the accused some irritating sensation. This the accused did not like and at night killed his wife by striking her with a brass lota. The defence was that the murder was committed while he was insane. The Sessions Judge after going through the evidence convicted the accused as stated.

Their Lordships after hearing Mr. Sultan Ahmed, Deputy Legal Remembrancer, Bihar and Orissa, set aside the conviction and sentence under Section 325 of the Penal Code and convicted the accused under Section 302 (murder) and directed him to be transported for life. In conclusion their Lordships said that the evidence in this case did not establish that the accused was insane at the time he committed the murder. But there were reasons to think that the accused had from time to time suffered mentally and their Lordships suggested that the accused should be kept under observation of the local Government.

(Before Justices Fletcher and Beachcroft.)

DOUBLING CURRENCY NOTES.

SWINDLER CONVICTED.

Mr. Kheda Bux moved for the admission of an appeal on behalf of Adam Molla, who was convicted by the Sessions Judge of Jessore of cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property and sentenced to five years' rigorous imprisonment.

five why the case should be referred from the Chief Justice of the Judge of Faridpur to that of the Judge of Chittagong.

Mr. Norton with Babu Chander Bose appeared in support of the rule. Babu Sri Chandra dhury represented the Crown.

Mr. Norton said that the petitioner was the Managing Director of the Bengal Marriage Provident of Chittagong.

The Chief Justice:—What Mr. Norton:—Father's their daughters against marriage that when the time comes marriage they get a certain from the Fund.

The Chief Justice:—A dowry?

Mr. Norton:—Yes.

Continuing Counsel said the second petitioner was the Secretary of the Fund. The Company is perfectly 'bona fide' and had been going on business since 1907. It has to a large number of bogus companies starting at Chittagong business of this Company was interfered with, with the result that on the 28th July, 1913, there was a general meeting of the shareholders at which a resolution was passed to accept any further marriage insurances and they circulated the same to all subscribers requesting them to surrender their marriage diplomas in acceptance of their new value. On the 2nd August, 1913, the first petitioner resigned his post and from that time had nothing further to do with the Company. On the 15th September, 1913, the complainant Nishu Masumdar surrendered his diploma and asked to be paid up but there was delay as the Company could not realize a considerable amount of money. On the 25th February, 1914, the complainant put in a statement stating he had been cheated and that he had complained to the Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice:—Is the company in liquidation?

Mr. Norton:—No. It is still going on.

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THE WEATHER REPORT

Disturbance in Northern India has subsided but conditions are unsettled off Malabar coast and soon has been active in the south. The Peninsula Temperature continues low in the United Provinces and Punjab.

Rainfall has been nearly normal in Orissa, Nagpur, Malabar, southern Madras and local in Bombay, Madras Deccan and Mysore. A few falls have also occurred in Lower Burma, Assam, west of the Peninsula, Konkan and North Coast.

Principal amongst are:—Hait one inch, Mangalore, Tinnevely and Nellore three quarters, Madras, Pamban, and Cuddalore one inch, Negapatam and Kodaikanal one and a half.

FORECAST.

No great change.

Oct 4, 1914

THE BENGALIAN.

ancient Egyptians and Greeks were made of bronze. The presence of numerous Asoka pillars of stone cut out in a faultless manner from single pieces of stone of gigantic dimensions pre-supposes the use of the finest steel saws and steel chisels in India in the 4th century B. C. The use of nearly one hundred kinds of surgical instruments in the celebrated Ayurvedic work "Sushruta" some of which had an edge which could bisect a hair longitudinally and with the help of which difficult operations such as opening of the abdomen, eye operations, dissection of the fetus, were easily performed, undoubtedly points to the use of steel in India in making surgical instruments as early as the 3rd century B. C. Moreover during the historical invasion of India by Alexander the great in the 4th century B. C. the Indian King Porus, who was defeated, gave a present of 30 pounds of steel to the Greek conqueror. We can hardly believe that a matter of about 30lbs. steel would have been considered a present worthy of the acceptance of the conqueror of the world, had the manufacture of that substance been practised by any of the nations of the west in the days of Alexander. The Greek historian Arrian mentions steel as imported into the Abyssinian ports and Salenices mentions that among the surviving Greek treatises was one on the tempering of Indian steel. Proofs are also forthcoming to testify to the fact that India supplied the iron for the famous Damascus blades. It is from India that the Persians and the Arabs and then the Europeans learnt the tempering of steel. The Persian word "Hundwani" means Indian steel, the word finding its way into Spanish in the shape of "At-hinde" and "At-finde" originally meaning "steel." As Indian steel was in great demand in the Middle Ages not only in Asia but also in Europe, many attempts at imitation were naturally made by Europeans though unsuccessfully. Amongst the numerous failures we may enumerate those of Messrs. Nicholson, O'Reilly, Wilde and others in England as well as that of Monsieur Clouet in France. Steel was manufactured in ancient India in the fused condition as indicated by the carburisation of wrought iron in closed crucibles in small blast furnaces. Steel in the form of "cast-steel" was manufactured in Europe in the nineteenth century only, when in 1800 Mr. D. Brown virtually re-discovered the Bessemer process and took out a patent for preparing cast-steel from molten iron. India thus can un-

compared with ordinary dacoities is often exaggerated." It is as well that this which is the official and the right view should be borne in mind and that no capital should be sought to be made out of so-called political dacoities.

THE BUDGE-BUDGE MURDER. CORONER'S INQUEST. THE VERDICT.

Mr. Dobbin, Coroner, assisted by a jury on Tuesday concluded the inquest in the bodies of Mr. Lomax and four Sikhs who met with their death from gun shot wounds received in the course of the Sikh riot at the Budge-Budge Railway Station on the 29th ultimo under circumstances already reported. Mr. Hopkyns, District Magistrate of Howrah and Mr. Aldridge, Senior Superintendent of the Calcutta Police, with Rai Saheb T. N. Sadhu, assisted the enquiry. Sergeant William Mackenzie said:— I was on duty at Budge-Budge on the 29th September. I removed four wounded Sikhs the same day. Sergeant Baddely was with me. Two of them died before reaching the Medical College Hospital. After they were examined by the doctor I took the two bodies to the Morgue. Then I returned to Budge-Budge. The other two Sikhs were admitted into hospital. (To Superintendent Aldridge) I don't know Hindustani. They made no statement to me. The Sikhs in question were passengers on the "Komagata Maru." Sergeant Henry Featherstone Baddely corroborated the last witness. Sergeant Alexander Sullen said:— I was on duty at Budge-Budge on the 29th September. I brought four wounded Sikhs to the Medical College Hospital under the orders of the officer in charge of the troops. On arrival they were admitted into the Hospital. Whilst I was coming out a Lance Corporal and a Private brought in some more. I was present when the firing actually took place. I and two others were sent out to guard the rear. I can not say who fired first. I don't know the names of any of the men I brought. They told me they were coming from the ship and that the Government wanted to deport them. Superintendent S. C. Aldridge said that one of the five men who died in the Hospital was Sarvan Singh, a constable of the Ludhiana district. Photographs were taken of these four men. Dr. Durga Prasad Ghose, House Surgeon, Medical College Hospital, said:—On the night of the 29th September I admitted various wounded Sikhs into Hospital. Altogether that night I admitted ten men. The next morning I admitted two men. Out of the ten admitted that night one was a Bengali. There were also

HIGH COURT.

TUESDAY, OCT. 13.

(Before the Chief Justice and Justice Teunon.)

SEQUEL TO FOOTBALL.

Their Lordships disposed of the rule obtained on behalf of Mr. Birendra Nath Mitter calling upon the Chief Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta to show cause why the conviction and sentence passed upon the petitioner should not be set aside. Mr. K. N. Chaudhuri with Babu Sural Kumar Bose appeared in support of the rule. Babu Manmotha Nath Mukerjee represented the Crown. On the 30th June last the petitioner was witnessing a football match between the Mohan Bagan and the Police Clubs in the maidan from the top of a carriage which was standing on the grass plot on the left side of the Plassey Gate Road, the horse having been taken off the shafts as a precaution against any possibility of accidents. Sergeant Keston of the Calcutta Mounted Force came there and asked the petitioner, who said that he was not the owner of the carriage and horse, to yoke the horse. The order was not complied with. About half an hour later the Sergeant came there again and repeated the order. But as the petitioner did not comply with the order he was placed on his trial before the Southern Division Presidency Magistrate, who on the 27th July convicted him under Sections 62 and 66 of the Calcutta Police Act and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 5. Their Lordships discharged the rule. ALLEGED ILLEGAL ORDER. Babu Atulya Churn Bose moved on behalf of Monmohini Dasai and five others against an order of a Deputy Magistrate of Katwa passed under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code directing the petitioners not to collect Khutugari rent from the tenants. On the complaint of Jagendra Nath Saha and others that there was a likelihood of a breach of the peace owing to the dispute between the parties for collection of Khutugari rent in a disputed land, the Magistrate passed the order on the petitioners, the first petitioner being the sole proprietor of the disputed property. It was submitted that the order could not be made under section 144 prohibiting a person from collecting rents from the tenants. Their Lordships issued a rule. (Before Justices Fletcher and Beauchamp.)

One Mati Lal Dutta of Bhat had a son, who had turned mad. appellant and another, obviously confederate, came there unbidden expressed a desire to treat the same boy. A few days after that appellant told Moti Lal in confidence of his extraordinary powers, of being able to double the number of currency notes which fell into his hands. By way of demonstration appellant showed him how he could make two notes out of one. Moti Lal spoke about this to his nephew and a few days afterwards he and nephew brought 12 ten-rupee notes which were handed over to the appellant for being doubled. The appellant taking those notes went to a room and shortly afterwards came out with a bundle and handed it over to Moti Lal, requesting him to keep it at a safe place and not to handle it for some time to come. The appellant then left the place saying he would return shortly and untie the bundle himself. But as the appellant did not return Moti Lal, on suspicious, opened the bundle and found it contained only a few sheets of blank paper. Through shame Moti Lal did not lodge any complaint with the Police. Some time afterwards when Moti Lal went to the market at Phultolla he heard that two persons had been arrested at Khulna on a charge of swindling of similar character. He went to Khulna and identified the appellant. Their Lordships dismissed the application. (Before the Chief Justice and Justice Teunon.)

TROUBLE OVER MARRIAGE INSURANCE.

COMMITMENT ORDER QUASHED.

Their Lordships disposed of the rule obtained on behalf of Romesh Chandra Sen and Nabin Chandra Choudhury calling on the District Magistrate of Faridpur and the opposite party to show cause why the order of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Faridpur committing the petitioner to the Sessions on charges of breach of the peace should not be quashed or in the alternative why the case should not be transferred from the Court of the Sessions Judge at Faridpur to that of the Sessions Judge of Chittagong. Mr. Norton with Babu Jagat Chandra Bose appeared in support of the rule. Babu Sriha Chandra Choudhury represented the Crown. Mr. Norton said that the first petitioner was the Managing Director of the Bengal Marriage Provident Fund of Chittagong. The Chief Justice:—What is the rule? Mr. Norton:—Father's name is... their daughters against marriage... that when the time comes for the