

development the money required would be much more profitably spent at home, especially bearing in mind the national rancour against Russia, and the universal determination to make up for recent slights. We are assured upon credible authority that Japan will presently leave Corea to its fate; which means that some other Power, or combination of Powers, will have to take the new "Empire" under its protection, if it is not to be given up to anarchy. A fresh Eastern complication seems thus within easy distance.

THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE VICEROY AND THE Countess of Elgin arrived in Calcutta on Thursday at 12.30 P.M., a salute being fired from the Fort as they landed at Prinsep's Ghat. The arrival was private, an escort being furnished by the Bodyguard. The Viceroy's party comprised Lady Elizabeth Bruce, Mr. Babington Smith, Private Secretary, Colonel Darand, Military Secretary, Mr. Cunningham, Foreign Secretary, Dr. Franklin and Captain Hext, Director of Indian Marine, Captains Adam, Hull, Lord Finestale, A.D.-C.s, Captain MacMahon, C.I.E., and Mr. Latimer, Mr. MacCarthy, Private Secretary to the Governor of Madras, and Captain Wintour, A.D.-C. to Lord Wenlock, who have come to Calcutta on a short visit, were also of the party. The Warren Hastings experienced very squally weather and heavy seas throughout the voyage from Madras, but escaped the cyclone in the Bay. Outside Madras Harbour a portion of the East Indian Squadron, consisting of the Bonaventure, Marathon, and Cossack, under Rear Admiral Drummond, saluted the Viceroy. The squadron arrives in Calcutta on the 18th of December.

RAI BAHADUR JAI PROKASH LALL, C. I. E., Dewan of Dumraon, arrived in Calcutta on Friday.

THE R. I. M. S. MINTO LEFT PORT BLAIR at 10 P.M. on Sunday, the 8th instant. General Sir Henry Brackenbury, Capt. Cardew, and Mr. and Mrs. Rees were on board. The weather was cloudy and unsettled. On Monday there was a strong east wind and moderate sea, with occasional squalls. On Tuesday a fresh gale occurred from N. E., the sea increasing. On Wednesday the weather was thick and overcast, with heavy squalls and troubled sea. By noon the wind was at times of hurricane force and the squalls tremendous. The weather was so thick that it was impossible to see a ship's length ahead. At 4 P.M. the barometer dropped from 29.60 to 29.52 in ten minutes. The course was changed to S. W. until 10.30 P.M., when the weather having moderated and the wind gone round to N. W. with the barometer rising, the ship's head was again placed in the direction of the Eastern Channel Lightship. The weather improved on Thursday, and the sea decreasing, the Eastern Channel Lightship was sighted soon after noon. The vessel picked up a pilot at 2 P.M., and anchored off Concolly for the night at 5.30 P.M. She arrived in port on Friday at 11 A.M. The Minto left again at 8 A.M. on morning for Madras to bring up His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Staff.

FROM THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE NAJRAKATA meeting, which we published on Saturday, it will be seen that it is proposed to lay the last straw upon the backs of the long suffering Duars planters. The Najrakata road, one of the most important in the Duars, as the resolution correctly describes it, will, if the suggestion of the District Engineer be carried out, be maintained in future as a fair weather road. Now in the cold weather the road is not so much required as at other times, because, as Mr. Verner, the Chairman, said, tracks cut through the jungle are sometimes preferable. Yet this is the period which is to be chosen for keeping it in repair, while it is to be left impassable in the rains, during which season it is indispensable as a means of communication. The grievance is rendered all the more serious by the fact that the road has itself been spoiled through the neglect of the authorities, who calmly permitted Native cultivators to bring about an inflow from the Jaldacca. Several leading planters are of opinion that the road can be efficiently safeguarded by means of weirs at a cost of Rs. 70,000, and considering its vast importance to a large community there can be no two opinions as to the necessity for maintaining it upon a permanent and satisfactory basis.

ON SATURDAY THEIR EXCELLENCIES LORD and Lady Elgin entertained Sir Charles and Lady Elliott at a farewell dinner. Among the guests, of whom there were ninety, constituting the largest dinner party ever given at Government House, were Sir Alexander and Lady Mackenzie, the Bishop of Calcutta and Miss Johnson, Sir Comer Petheram, Sir James Westland, Sir Alexander Miller, Sir Henry Brackenbury, Captain John Hext, R. N., the members of the Viceroy's Bengal Legislative Councils, the Secretaries of the Governments of India and Bengal. Calcutta society was also largely represented. His Excellency the Viceroy, having first given the toast of the

Queen-Empress of India, rose, and in a most eloquent and sympathetic speech proposed the health of the guests of the evening, Sir Charles and Lady Elliott. His Excellency testified to the cordial relations which had invariably existed between himself and the Lieutenant-Governor, to his high qualities as an administrator and to the valuable assistance he had, on all occasions, afforded to the Government of India. It was with the greatest pleasure that he called to remembrance the fact that he gave Master Claude Elliott his first appointment as page in waiting at the great Durbar last year. Turning to Lady Elliott, His Excellency, in a few words of great feeling, expressed the thoughts of everyone present, at the loss which Bengal would sustain by her absence. He wished them God-speed and a pleasant journey. In replying, Sir Charles Elliott, in a voice which denoted his emotions, thanked His Excellency on behalf of himself and Lady Elliott for his very cordial speech. He was glad to know that his work in the Province had met with approval. He spoke in high terms of the great assistance he had received from his Service, and said that, after serving forty years in the country, it was not to be wondered that it should be a severe wrench for him to leave it for ever.

INFORMATION HAS COME TO OUR KNOWLEDGE that the Government of Wurtemberg has dispatched a special art representative, Mr. Alfred Meebold, to India, for the purpose of studying the art and art history of the country, and that the Indian authorities and political representatives have been specially instructed by Lord George Hamilton to afford every facility to that gentleman for this purpose. This is an act of courtesy which it is far from our desire to criticise, but it brings into strong relief the strange and unaccountable apathy displayed by the English Government in regard to the art treasures of India. It will be within recollection that the German savant, Mr. Ehlers, whose sad death has only recently been made known, had been for an extended period purchasing large collections of works of ethnological interest, and that many others of his countrymen had preceded him on similar missions. When a little State of Germany, with no direct interest in India, goes to the expense involved in the mission alluded to, what, may we ask, is England doing in the matter? A glance round the Indian Museum shows, that rich and varied as are the collections of modern Indian art and products, yet they are absolutely destitute of historic interest and value. And the pity is intensified by the fact that a modest sum carefully expended, under the direction of our own experts, would soon take this reproach away from the Museum, and would in course of time make it a collection worthy of the Empire, showing vividly the evolution and progress of Indian art from ancient days to the present time. There is little doubt that Mr. Meebold will use his opportunities to form a collection of interest and value, and it will be little short of an Imperial disgrace if foreign nations should be able jeeringly to point out that England, the country in possession, has neglected her great opportunities and allowed other countries to gather the material necessary for the proper instruction of the Western world in matters relating to the ancient art treasures of the East.

HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF KUCH Behar has been entertaining a large number of guests in camp in the Alipur Duars during the past week. Considering that the party numbered fourteen guns in all, the total bag realised last week seems very small, but it in no way represents the quality or quantity of the sport obtained. The jungles are simply teeming with game, and hardly a single beat was unproductive of the excitement which necessarily springs from knowing that some big game is afoot, but the shooting in long grass was very erratic, and it was simply impossible in many cases to drive the game to the "stops", or to prevent them breaking back through the line. The jungle seemed almost impenetrable in places, and the height of the grass and *pondi* has to be seen to be believed. Nearly everywhere, especially at the latter end of the week, when the beats were in the fringe of the Government Reserve Forests, the null grass jungle was some feet above the highest howdah, and the game, when afoot before the beating line of elephants, could rarely be seen when even as close as ten yards, so that the presence of rhino, &c., was only marked by the waving grass, and it was impossible to do more or better than "to draw a bow at a venture." The total bag during the week consisted of a tiger shot by Captain Bertram, a cow rhino shot by Mr. Sen, and a second, a large male, which was really bagged to all intents and purposes by General Yeatman Biggs and Captain Lister, though it fell to a final shot from Captain Bertram. The General likewise bowled over a cow buffalo, and two bull buffaloes fell to Mr. H. V. Elliott, while various guns had a share in grassing some sambar

stags and a doe. That there is plenty to shoot, and that the bag would have been a large one had the conditions only been easier, is clear when one considers that fourteen rhino in all were seen, and most of them were extremely hard hit. The rhino was tracked for some distance into the thick forest very hard hit indeed, and others will probably be found later on, when the vultures give a clue to where they lay down to die. There is plenty of khubber, and many herds of buffalo and rhino are marked down, so that the result of this week's shooting may raise the bag to a very good total with any luck.

MR. ELLIOT, METEOROLOGICAL REPORTER to the Government of India, recently submitted certain proposals for the more rapid preparation and issue of the Daily Weather Reports with which most of us are now so familiar, and we are glad to learn that in future it will be able to issue all storm, flood and weather warnings between 11 A.M. and noon, this being some four hours earlier than has hitherto been the case. It appears that nearly half the daily weather telegrams received by the Meteorological Department have up to the present time been sent as "deferred" messages, and in consequence the various officers have been seriously handicapped in their efforts to provide early warnings. The Government of India, recognizing the great practical importance of the storm and flood warnings, indicated its willingness to sanction any extension of the work which could be shown to be advantageous to Government and the public, and in pressing for a speedier telegraphic service Mr. Elliot has been enabled to bring overwhelming evidence of the great facilities afforded to the Weather Departments in France, Prussia, Austria, and especially in the United States. In future, therefore, a far larger proportion of the Indian weather telegrams will be sent "ordinary," and if the grant for telegraphic expenditure for meteorological purposes will be somewhat larger than in former years the revenue of the Telegraph Department will be increased thereby. Mr. Elliot's case is such a strong one that it seems somewhat strange the extra cost of telegrams was not incurred some years ago. The daily chart and report will now be printed in the day time instead of at night, and will hence be more economical and conducive to better work. It will be possible for any newspaper which wishes to obtain a statement of the weather, either actual or probable, in any province of India to be supplied with it by special arrangement by about noon, and these statements would be telegraphed from Simla in time for inclusion in the evening issue, while as before stated, the issue of storm warnings will be considerably accelerated. The actual increased cost which will be incurred is not over Rs. 10,000 per annum, and the money could not be better spent.

MR. COLVIN, LATE MAGISTRATE OF CHAMPARAN, has in a letter published in these columns, taken exception to certain remarks made in a recent article regarding the latest cow-killing riots. On again reading the Commissioner's report, however, we cannot see that it does not justify our conclusions from it on the particular point in question. For if, as rumored, the Pathan villages intended "sacrificing more cows than usual" this might surely be regarded as "aggressiveness" on their part, and if again they mean to do this "in revenge for" the Mathurapur outrage, as Mr. Forbes states, surely we were justified in saying they were rumored to be "contemplating reprisals for the Mathurapur outrage." So far, then, Mr. Colvin's objection seems to be merely founded on a distinction without a difference. It is quite possible that, with intimate knowledge of the locality and occurrences like the Champaran Magistrate's, it would be seen that the police were not nearly cajoled by the Hindu rioters with these false rumours, but to an ordinary person reading the Commissioner's account it would certainly be very reasonable to come to the contrary conclusion. It occurs to us that possibly Mr. Colvin has felt himself aggrieved by our allusion to the Basantpur affair, but if so he has made the common mistake of pushing the analogy too far. As regards the adroitness of the rioters in seizing opportunities afforded by the absence at the right spot and critical moment of police officers or men, the analogy between Bara Bejai and Basantpur is complete. As regards the cause of such absence, however, there is absolutely no analogy, and we hinted at none. Indeed Mr. Colvin has far too good a reputation not only as an active but as a conscientious officer for anybody to suppose that he (or any police under his immediate orders) would have left the spot where danger was known to exist, and had been guarded against, simply in order to visit friends a few miles off for any object of personal pleasure as opposed to public duty. We can quite believe that the Champaran officers had not enough police to watch simultaneously every village of Mohamedans. That is a common cry, and may prove a serious danger in cases of wide disturbance of the peace.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE FARWELL VISIT of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to the Indian Museum, we take this opportunity to mention a fact that does not seem to be as widely known and appreciated as it deserves, namely, that apart from the galleries devoted to Zoology and Geology, which are crammed full of objects of great scientific interest, the Museum embraces an Industrial and Art Section as well as an Archaeological Department. In the four large galleries devoted to these subjects may be studied the raw materials of India's internal and external trade, the primitive productions of the aboriginal tribes, the art manufactures of India's skilled artisans, and the decorative designs of her ancient builders. In the Artware Court a most satisfactory rearrangement has been recently effected. The entire collections have been assorted on certain instructive lines such as the nature of the materials used and the art conception displayed, instead of being grouped in a disjointed or haphazard fashion either provincially or according to the fancy of the Curator. According to this simple and yet scientific method of classification we have the various products of India, such as the metal work, the wood carving, the ceramics and textile, focussed in groups so as to enable one to compare at a glance the differences of style and taste that are characteristic of the chief centres of production. Moreover, instead of the large glass cases standing as former like the wagons of a travelling menagerie, in long monotonous lines, they have been turned this way, and that, so as to afford varying points of view and to relieve at the same time the tedium of continuous inspection. The convenience of the public has at the same time been considered, the benches being placed here and there, so that the visitor may sit down and study the large objects placed within view. Everyone has been struck with the rich profusion of articles turned out by the village potter, a visit to the Museum will suffice to convince most; people that their ideas of this feature of Indian art fall far short of the reality. From the unglazed, though gracefully formed, examples of Bengal ceramic art, the visitor can now follow the rich panorama of design, colour province by province and school to school. The crudely formed though richly ornamented pottery of Multan, stands side by side with the more delicate and artistic ware of Delhi, while the pottery of Sind, Bombay, Madras, Rajputana, the North-West Provinces, and Burma, are also displayed. The example may be taken as illustrating an arrangement by which the visitor can study each class of art in separate groups, instead of being compelled as formerly to wander throughout the building in order to discern the growth of design and improvements technique in the various parts of India.

LORD MACAULAY ONCE SAID TO HIS SECRETARY that he had written an essay, and was waiting for a book, upon a review of which he might hang his own composition. The *Saturday Review* appears to have adopted *Edinburgh* and *Quarterly* style of criticism, and may judge from its notice of Captain Younghusband's account of the Chitral campaign. The book itself is only mentioned casually in the course of an article denouncing "forward" policy with a vigour which is possible to associate with only one word. The book is humorously described as "cheer more," and the critic gives free rein to his wit and imagination. Among other flashes Lord Lansdowne is represented as saying "The Great Panjandrum of the foreign policy," and it is remarked that "whether British lion will lie down with the tribal lion, or, as the proverb has it, outside him, must be determined in the course of the next month. Meanwhile it is the immediate business of the noble conductor and orchestra, of the big drum, of the corps de trombone, the fiddle and the rest to themselves and the audience up to the moment of the performance. National airs and national epics, inspiring marches and national music, form the programme." Sir Auckland Colvin—we beg his pardon, the *Saturday Review*—devotes a whole page to proving the certainty of a future Swati rising, of future annexation of Yaghistan, and present bondage of Kashmir to the Indian Government. The article concludes: "We have advanced all along the line. Presumably we are assured, has been revived: history acquired; success secured. By-and-by, perhaps, we shall have to pay the bill. But to that we are told that we need not get troubled ourselves. That is the business of the Indian Finance Minister and Indian taxpayer. Let them settle it between themselves. If India is to be defended by Russian territory, she should be proud, argued, to be allowed to furnish all the food which may be necessary to that end. She India reply that when it comes to stripping her to the skin, it matters little whether Russia or Great Britain be her master, merely proves Eastern ingratitude. Such was not Lawrence's way; but Lawrence dead and turned, like imperial Caesar,