

**SIR MADHAVA RAO.**—We are glad to learn that the Maharajah of Travancore is not likely to lose the valuable services of the able Oriental statesman, Sir Madhava Rao. A contemporary states that there is no foundation for the report regarding his resignation, and that even if he wished to resign his resignation would not be accepted.—*Dhiti Gazette*, Dec. 5.

**A RHINOCEROS CAUGHT.**—We learn from Akyab that a rhinoceros about the size of a small buffalo was some days ago caught in the Akyab district. When pursued by the villagers it made an attempt at escape by crossing a river close by. Some of the boats by means of which the villagers tried to catch it were overthrown by the animal, but it was at last overpowered and caught, and is kept there still well secured.—*Rangoon Mail*.

**THE CENSUS OF MADRAS.**—The census of the city of Madras, taken in 1863, gave a total population of 427,771. Considerable hesitation has been always shown by the municipal authorities in placing reliance on this enumeration, and we are not surprised to hear that the census that has just been taken gives a total of barely 400,000 persons. The prosperity of the town has certainly not decreased since 1863, and it seems highly probable that the census of that year was not accurate. The census of 1871, on the other hand, will, we believe, be as accurate as it is possible for human ingenuity, patience, and close scrutiny to make it.—*Madras Mail*, Dec. 5.

**THE ECLIPSE PARTY.**—The Eclipse Party have arrived in Ootacamund. Col. Tennant, R.E., is now residing at Syik's Hotel. Instructions have been received by the Commissioner to afford the party every necessary assistance, and funds to the extent of Rs. 5,000 have been placed in the Ootacamund Treasury at the disposal of the officer in charge. Arrangements are being made for placing the instruments and apparatus on the summit of Dodabetta, and we believe it is intended that all the party shall encamp and sleep on Dodabetta on the night of the 11th. We hear of numerous private parties being made up to occupy tents and the rooms of Snowden House, adjoining Dodabetta, on that night. M. Jansen, an eminent French astronomer, is also here, who will observe the eclipse on behalf of the philosophical institutions of his own country.—*South of India Observer*.

**THE OVERLAND ROUTE.**—A correspondent of the *Ceylon Observer* writes:—"The present generation of Indians can but faintly realise the advantages of intercourse and the facilities for change placed within their reach. When I reached Ceylon in 1837, who could have dreamed of Suez Canal steamers capable of reaching Galle from London in one month and carrying first-class passengers for £40 each, including everything except wines, which certainly ought not to cost £5 additional? The P. and O. charges are higher, but apart from complete organisation for comfort and safety, there is, as far as human agency can effect such a result, absolute certainty as to time. On landing, or previously, I hope to learn that the decision of the Engineer and the Colonial, Indian, and Imperial Governments is in favour of a steamer canal between India and Ceylon, and that Colombo is to have a harbour and docks. Even the 'utmost Indian Isle' must not be left behind in the world's march of progress."

**THE RANGOON RIVER.**—We would call the attention of the local Government to the importance of having an accurate re-survey of the Rangoon river made without delay. The shipping season is coming on, and the pilots to a man say that the channel has altered, and that one of their number when taking down the steamer *Tenasserim* touched the ground and nearly turned over when in the channel, owing to a new bank having formed near the wreck of the *Beau Ideal*. The Master Attendant, Captain Aroot, and his deputy, Captain Mack, visited the spot, and we believe say that the pilot was not in the channel. The pilots all say that the *Tenasserim's* pilot was in the regular channel, and if these gentlemen are correct, and if no steps are taken by Government to clear away the present obstruction, we may calculate with a great degree of certainty on having some more casualties in the Rangoon river this shipping season, and on having insurance offices at home refuse the Rangoon risk, unless at very increased rates of premium.—*Rangoon Times*.

**THE DAGOON PAGODA AT RANGOON.**—The total height of the pagoda and *tee* is shown at 240 cubits and six inches, equivalent to about 375 English feet. This, we believe, is slightly in excess of the height of St. Paul's Cathedral as measured from the basement, and will serve to show what labour and skill the Burmese have employed in the erection of the present scaffolding during so short a time. We doubt whether English workmen would have reached the cross of St. Paul's in the same period; and it must be remembered that in their case there would have been many foundations and starting places for the various tiers. The Burmese have had only one, and have successfully carried the bamboo net work to the very top. We believe that there is a general wish among the Burmese that the old *tee* should remain in Rangoon, and a number of them are willing to come forward with subscriptions to build a new pagoda here for its reception. We are told that by order of the Assistant Commissioner, Moung Ou, the upper part was broken off and brought down on Tuesday in a coolie's basket, and that this has caused general dissatisfaction among the Burmese who wished their old ornament to descend unhurt.—*Rangoon Gazette*, Nov. 17.

**TROOPS FOR ENGLAND.**—H.M.'s 38th Regiment—(strength 22 officers, 2 ladies, 8 children, 600 men, 40 women, and 80 children)—with a detail of time expired men from Deolalee depot—(strength about 11 officers, 1 lady, 2 children, 166 men, 20 women and 30 children)—arrived here from Deolalee by special train on Thursday and were embarked for England on board H.M.'s troopship *Euphrates*. She left Bombay on the 8th December.

**MAJOR SLADEN.**—Major Sladen will not return to his appointment at Mandalay, but will probably be offered a deputy commissionership of the second class in British Burmah. It is not to be inferred from this that the Government has disapproved of Major Sladen's proceedings as Political Agent, or that any censure or reflection is intended. The determination has been come to, we believe, entirely in deference to the opinions of the King, who has, it seems, expressed a wish that Major Sladen should not return. We are not quite sure that such a step is a wise one; the Government is surely the proper judge of the officer best fitted to occupy any post of responsibility, and unless the King could adduce sufficiently potent reasons for the non-return of his Political Agent, it seems somewhat undignified to remove him for a mere whim. But since the Government has thought proper to take this step, it is, we think, only just to Major Sladen that his removal should not even appear to be a punishment or degradation. A second class deputy Commissionership seems hardly a suitable recognition of five years' service in a political appointment, the holder of which has admittedly filled it with credit.—*Englishman*.—We hear that Major Sladen is coming down by next mail, and that he is to be placed in charge of the Rangoon district. But we cannot believe that this appointment will be permanent as Major Sladen's value to the Government lies in quite another direction; and it can be hardly likely that we should regard with any seriousness the rapid threats which the King of Burmah has uttered against him.—*Rangoon Gazette*.

## Shipping.

### ARRIVALS.

Dec. 2, Str. *Khedive*, Steward, Galle.—3, Str. *Meinam*, —, Calcutta.—5, Str. *Aroot*, —, Galle.

### PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per P. and O. S. N. Co.'s str. *Khedive*.—From Southampton.—For Madras.—Mrs. Poore, Miss Parker. From *Bairnsdale*.—Mrs. and Miss Napier. From Southampton.—For Calcutta.—Mrs. Macnamara and infant, Mrs. Barracks and infant, Miss M. A. Millard, Mr. McGlashan, Mrs. W. Master, and (2) Misses Judge, Mr. and Mrs. Weyer, Dr. T. Allard, Miss Kirkpatrick, Mr. C. H. Moore, Mr. G. Dickson, Mrs. Jackson, Miss Jackson, Mr. J. Hector, Miss Wilson, Mrs. Banks and infant, Mrs. Miles and infant, Mr. Montrossor. From *Bairnsdale*.—For Calcutta.—Mr. and Mrs. Markby, Mr. F. Clarke, Mrs. Lamed and infant. From *Sydney*.—For Madras.—Messrs. Bailey and McIver. From Galle.—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Burnell, Mr. Martine, Mr. Andree, Miss Andree, and Rev. Father Hooke. From Galle.—For Calcutta.—Mr. Dent, Mr. Taylor, and Capt. de Roobuck. From *Hong Kong*.—For *Bairnsdale*.—Mr. Blydenburg. From *Singapore*.—For *Suez*.—Dr. Stubb and Mr. Robinson. From Galle.—For *Bairnsdale*.—Rev. W. F. Greeney. From *Hong Kong*.—Dr. Morris.

Per str. *Mirzapore*.—From Southampton.—For Madras.—Col. and Mrs. Langcroft, Miss Lungeford, Major and Mrs. Hodding and two infants, Col. and Mrs. Pearce and child, Miss Pearce, Major Morris, Capt. Chambers, Mr. G. W. Cox, Miss Murphy, and Dr. and Mrs. Cox. For Calcutta.—Mr. and Mrs. Cogswell and child, Serg. Major Bannister, Miss Gillan, Mr. Barton, Mr. Barleigh, Miss Padmore, Mrs. McLeary, and Capt. E. Smith. From *Sydney*.—Mr. J. S. Granger. Per str. *Meinam*.—From Calcutta.—For Madras.—Mr. Delatouche and Mr. J. Vallis.

### DEPARTURES.

Dec. 2, Str. *Excelsior*, —, London; str. *Himalaya*, —, Rangoon.—3, Str. *Khedive*, —, Calcutta; str. *Meinam*, —, Southern Ports.

### PASSENGERS DEPARTED.

Per P. and O. S. N. Co.'s str. *Khedive*.—From Madras.—For Calcutta.—Hon. J. S. Napier, Rev. J. Barton. Per str. *Excelsior*.—From Madras.—Mrs. Lys, Mr. W. Sim, Mr. C. Harrison and Miss Jones. Per str. *Himalaya*.—From Madras.—For Rangoon.—Capt. R. Irvine, Lieut. H. R. L. Morgan, Asst. surg. W. Fenlay. For *Masulipatam*.—Mr. and Mrs. Bowen and two infants, Mrs. Harrington and two infants. Per str. *Meinam*.—From Madras.—For Pondicherry.—Mr. C. L. Shaw, Miss Hodgson, Mrs. Kough, Miss White, Rev. — Segmuller, Mrs. Norfor, Mr. and Mrs. Parker.

## Commercial.

Madras, Dec. 6, 1871.

### EXCHANGES.

Document Bills, at 6 months' sight	... ..	2 04 to 2 04
Credit to 6 months	... ..	2 01-16 to 2 04
Agents' Bills on England, at 6 months	... ..	1 104 to 1 11
" " " at 3 months	... ..	1 104
" " " at sight	... ..	1 114

### BANK OF MADRAS.

Bank Shares	... ..	35 per cent. pm.
<b>GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.</b>		
5 1/2 per cent. Loan	... ..	1850 ... 11 prem.
5 per cent. ditto	... ..	1850-57 ... Nominal.
4 per cent. ...	... ..	1832-33 ...
Ditto	... ..	1835-36 ...
Ditto	... ..	1842-43 ...
Ditto	... ..	1854-55 ...

### PRICE OF BULLION.

Sovereigns ... .. each Rs. 10-12-6

### FREIGHTS.

To London and Liverpool.—Cotton, £3. 10s.; Light Freight, £3. 15s. to £4.; Indigo and Skins, £4. 10s.

# ALLEN'S INDIAN MAIL

AND

## OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

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### CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
SUMMARY AND REVIEW ...	1	OFFICIAL GAZETTE:—	
Casualties, &c. ...	3	BENGAL—Civil, Military, &c. ...	12
ORIGINAL ARTICLES:—		COURT-MARTIAL:—	
Experiences of an Indian "Political" ...	3	Lieutenant Colonel J. R. A. S. Lowe ...	14
CORRESPONDENCE:—		MADRAS—Civil, Military, &c. ...	15
Somnath Gates ...	4	BOMBAY—Civil, Military, &c. ...	15
Our Soldiers in India ...	4	GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS:—	
"The Meaning of Words" ...	5	Movements of Troops—Annual Returns ...	16
SPIRIT OF THE INDIAN PRESS:—		Retiring Pensions of Medical Warrent Officers ...	16
Unpopularity of English Rule ...	6	Revised Clothing Code ...	16
The Native Army and its European Officers ...	6	WAR OFFICE ...	17
Hope for Indian Veterans ...	6	BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS... ..	18
BENGAL:—		HOME:—	
The Camp at Delhi ...	7	Sind, Punjab, and Delhi Railway ...	19
Station Talk ...	7	Miscellaneous ...	19
Miscellaneous ...	8	Arrivals, &c., reported at the India Office ...	20
Shipping and Commercial ...	9	Births, Marriages, and Deaths ...	20
MADRAS:—		Shipping ...	21
Miscellaneous ...	9	Mails to India and Rates of Postage ...	21
Shipping and Commercial ...	10	STOCKS AND SECURITIES ...	21
BOMBAY:—		ADVERTISEMENTS ...	22
Miscellaneous ...	11		
Shipping and Commercial ...	11		

### Summary and Review.

Our latest advices by the Overland Mail are—from Bombay, Dec. 9; Agra and Madras, Dec. 7; Calcutta, Dec. 6.

FROM the Indian papers we gather the following particulars touching the preparations for the Loshai campaign. Some delay in moving the Cachar column had been caused by the slow drying of the country after unusually heavy floods. By the 22nd November however the 44th N.I. had reached Mainadhar, where the Sappers and some police were already at work making roads to the front. The 22nd Punjabies were to reach the same place on the 28th. General Bourchier was also there, looking after everything and getting all ready for the final start. The mountain guns and the 42nd N.I. had not left Cachar on the 29th, but the order to march was expected about the 1st December. Part of the road to Mainadhar is described as very difficult even for the elephants that were to carry the guns. The country through which it runs consists of jungle interspersed with steep hillocks, and there were doubts as to the power of the elephants to carry through it their ordinary loads. The troops were all in good spirits, and eager to go on. Better news had come from the Kala Rokha Camp, where Captain Hidayat Ali's coolies had been losing so many of their number—150 out of 800—from cholera. It seems that much of this loss might have been averted by better management at the outset. The coolies had been shamefully overcrowded in the flats that brought them to Chattak, and a proper supply of medicines and medical officers had somehow been forgotten at the right moment. Under Dr. White's active care however the cholera was fast disappearing. Great praise is given to the Commissariat and the local authorities for the energy with which they have pushed on the work of obtaining and forwarding supplies, in spite of obstacles thrown in their way by the natives. According to a letter in the *Pioneer*, these latter perversely declined to benefit by the high prices offered them, sunk their boats or hid them in unknown creeks, and, even after being forced to start, continually tried to throw their cargoes overboard and run away. The hard work and small pay they got on former occasions had sunk deep into their memories, and it was only by hunting them out of the bazaar that the Sappers could bring them to the starting point.

FROM the Bombay papers we learn that on the 9th December the Chittagong Column under General Brownlow was at Demagiri, ready to beat up the enemy whose scouts had begun to show themselves. A few days earlier the Hill Chief, Rattan Poya, had declared himself our friend, whereupon two companies of the 2nd Goorkas were at once quartered in his village. At Demagiri twenty-five acres of ground had been cleared for building a stockade and storerooms for the Commissariat. General Brownlow had reconnoitred Saidoha, a Loshai village subject to Rattan Poya. The weather was favourable, the troops in good health and spirits. The 27th Punjabies and the 4th Ghorkas had gone on by river to join General Bourchier's or the left column. Five hundred muskets have been supplied to the troops of our ally, the Manipore Rajah. The escort which carried them off were delighted with their new weapons, their old matchlocks being so unwieldy that two men were always needed to make one of them go off. The escort were accompanied by a body of Naga coolies whose Mongol countenances and savage finery of beads and brass necklaces attracted the wondering scrutiny of the Sikhs in camp.

THE Lieutenant-governor of Bengal was ill with fever, and the meeting of the Legislative Council had therefore been postponed. It was rumoured that Mr. Campbell intended shortly to retire, but rumours of that sort are always flying about, and may generally be traced to somebody whose wish was father to the thought. There is greater certainty, we are sorry to hear, about the rumoured retirement of Mr. Fitzjames Stephen. In all likelihood he will leave India never to return. One good legacy he will yet leave behind him, if it be true that both sections of Brahmins have at length approved of the revised Brahma Marriage Bill, and that some measure of the kind so long projected has probably by this time become law.

THE papers are full of certain official correspondence bearing on the punishment inflicted upon Mr. Roberts, the suspended magistrate of Calcutta, by the Lieutenant-governor of Bengal. Calcutta is divided in opinion as to the justice of the course pursued, and publicly defended by Mr. Campbell in his minute of the 28th November. To judge however from this document alone, we can well understand why the drift of Calcutta feeling sets strongly in favour of its Chief Magistrate. In the unseemly quarrel which came to an open head between Mr. Roberts and Mr. Hogg, in the former's court, both certainly waxed warm in manner and violent in language. But the former at any rate could plead grave provocation, and his own letter to Mr. Campbell shows what that provocation was. Mr. Campbell himself owns that Mr. Hogg was "by no means free from blame;" indeed he is not quite sure that Mr. Hogg "has not been as indiscreet as Mr. Roberts in some subsequent matters." But, in spite of the Magistrate's own statement and the support it receives from that of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, his Honour holds that Mr. Roberts virtually began the quarrel and gave the deeper offence. The Commissioner of Police therefore is only reprimanded, while the Chief Magistrate of Calcutta is removed from his office, ostensibly for his share in the recent quarrel, but really perhaps for the bold part he has so often played in Municipal disputes.

WE regret to see that Colonel Lowe, Assistant Commissary General in Bengal, has been found guilty of seven out of the eleven charges brought against him, and, in spite of the Court's recommendation, has been cashiered. Lord Napier remarks

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