

frame. The scene becomes confused to his flashing eyes; pleasure grows hideous as it is thus mingled with treachery and death: he strives to rise and turn against the unseen assassin. A second blow, sharp and fierce, only lends desperation to his struggles; but before he can struggle around and face the murderer, a third time the point shoots into him. At last he is on his feet confronting his enemy; he staggers with his back against the wall, and strives to defend himself; but the blows continue relentlessly, and two fierce stabs enter his body. He grows faint; his arms drop; seven fierce rapid stabs reach his very heart; he sinks to his feet, he falls forward, and his heartblood soaks out as he lies huddled and bent upon the ground.

"His murderers leave him there, even till the body stiffens. They have his money, and they have his corpse—a ghastly and dangerous burden on the booty. It must be disposed of; but not yet with safety. Still it must be hidden. They cut it up to stow it away. The corpse has not been decently laid out, the joints are stiff, and the clothes cannot be drawn off. They would fetch something at the old clothes shop; but already the murderers have far more gold than the rags are worth; besides, they must be torn off, and the rags must be hidden away with the dead. They are hidden, for the time; but they must be sent quite away, though still it is not safe. Decaying humanity may be detected in the atmosphere; and to prevent that mischance the murderers treat the poor man like any other meat—they put the mangled remains in brine; and there lies what was the traveller, waiting a moment when it can be removed in safety."

Certain peculiarities of the clothes lead to an opinion that the wearer was a foreigner. The garments have been exhibited publicly, to court identification; and £300 reward has been offered for discovery of the murderer, with free pardon and passage to the colonies of any such revealer, not being the actual assassin. All the ingenuity of the police is employed, but at present with no important clue.

YOUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

BURMAH.

THE following extracts of a letter from Maulmain, Burmah, will interest many of our readers, and afford cause of gratitude, that the dangers of an outbreak in that country may now be considered as past:—

It is not impossible that some of our dear friends in America may feel anxious about our safety in Burmah, as these provinces are garrisoned by native troops. We are not without some anxiety ourselves, though we now feel that the hour of danger is past. On the first outbreak in Bengal all or nearly all, the English troops were called out of Burmah, leaving but a mere handful of artillerymen. Two weeks ago there were in this place but thirty European soldiers, and several of them in the hospital. We had some eight hundred native troops, to guard the town and jail. The jail or prison, contains fifteen hundred men of the worst characters in the world, and the greater part of them are life convicts. The steamer *Fire Queen* came in from Bengal about two weeks since with a number of mutineer convicts, but the Commissioner of these provinces refused to receive them, and sent them back. This gave rise to various rumors that there was to be an uprising in Maulmain, that the native troops were to rise, rush to the jail, liberate the fifteen hundred convicts, and, joined by a number of Musselmans and Hindoos in town, would make an army of about three thousand men. At that time, there could have been brought against them, the Taling corps, of about three hundred men, fifteen or twenty English artillerymen, one hundred and fifty English and European inhabitants, and two or three hundred English sailors. But these would be scattered all over the town and up and down the river, at least ten miles. So that in case of an outbreak and union among the mutineers, there would be but little hope of escape for the English and American residents. The Commissioner no doubt felt there was danger, for he dismissed his guard of Musselmans and Hindoos, and supplied their place with Talings. The muskets of the jail guard were taken from them, and they were armed with clubs; a few English prisoners were armed inside to keep down the natives, and various other precautions were taken, such as offering arms to all the Burmese, doubling the night patrol, &c. The Commissioner also notified the inhabitants that in case of an outbreak, two alarm guns were to be fired in quick succession, and then each family must look out for its own safety. All sorts of native reports were spread about town. Some went on board the shipping in the river to sleep nights, some removed their treasures on board, others kept boats hired in readiness to flee at a moment's warning, while others moved off to the jungle. A meeting of the inhabitants of this district was called at the house of Mr. Ady, to consult as to what was best to be done in case of an outbreak. Bro. Bennet acted as Chairman, and Mr. Pascal, Deacon of the Baptist Church, was appointed Secretary. It was resolved that in case of an outbreak, we should all resort to the printing office. That is a large brick building and would shelter some two hundred people. It would also be a good place of defence, unless heavy guns were brought to bear upon it.

Such was the state of affairs two weeks ago. But now all is quiet and people are surprised that they should have been so alarmed. Our only fear will be from the King of Ava. He might, in case England became too deeply involved, think best to make an effort to regain

Pegu. I am confident however that the Burmese population of these provinces prefer the English rule—few if any would assist him, while all the troops he could bring to bear upon us would be repelled, or at least kept in check by Madras troops. No doubt all the troubles will tend to strengthen the English more firmly than ever in India, and to a great extent break down caste, the great barrier to Christianity.

The good work of converting souls is progressing in Maulmain. Several are now asking for baptism.—*N. Y. Chronicle.*

A CHAPTER OF HORRORS.—The last week or two has been frightful in tales of horror. They are thus summed up by a contemporary. There seems just at present to be a rage of homicide in men's minds. The stains of no less than eleven atrocities of this kind are fouling the columns of our newspapers. A man and his wife have a tipsy wrangle—he throws himself upon her and cuts her throat. Two brothers get into a dispute about family matters—worsted in argument or abuse, one plunges a butcher's knife into the other's heart. A party of five Roman Catholic dock-labourers have a theological discussion—two of the five are stabbed, one mortally, the other within an ace of death. A son is dissatisfied with his father's mode of conducting the business of a farm—he places a gun at the cheek of his sleeping parent and shoots him dead. On the mind of one man, a farm-servant, the idea of murder has taken such hold, that he cannot resist the impulse to start up and stab to death two of his fellow-servants, a man and his wife, who have looked in upon him to inquire after his health. In the Leigh Wood case, a woman is murdered apparently for a few pounds which were in her pockets, and for the contents of two or three boxes of wearing apparel, of no great value. The Waterloo-bridge atrocity brings this catalogue of horrors to a climax, compared with which we may almost say with Shakespeare, "All murders past do stand excused."—*London Freeman.*

BAD NEWS FOR SARDINIA.—There is no doubt that the Emperor of the French is endeavoring to effect an arrangement between Sardinia and the Holy See. Its basis would be an adoption of the French Concordat of 1801, instead of the Austrian.

NENA SAHIB.—The Rev. Mr. Williams, a Baptist Missionary from Bengal, in a speech at a missionary meeting at Southampton, on Wednesday, said that he knew Nena Sahib intimately, and bore testimony to his possessing mental accomplishments, and to his polished and gentlemanly manners. Nena Sahib was educated in one of the English Government schools in India, where almost every book is studied but the Bible, and everything taught but Christianity. The greatest enemies to British rule and to the spread of the gospel in India, were men like Nena Sahib, and others who had been educated in the Government colleges, most of whom were professedly Deists, but in reality Atheists.

DREADFUL CALAMITIES IN A FAMILY.—In the course of his sermon on the Fast Day, the Rev. I. A. Ritchie, of Dundee, mentioned, as illustrations of the extent of bereavements caused by the Indian mutiny, that a gentleman in this country had lost twenty-two relatives in India within six weeks; and that, out of thirteen of a family party which met last year at St. Andrews, only one is now living, twelve having gone out to India, and fallen victims to the mutiny.

CHINA.—Six small steamers have left Cronstadt for the Chinese seas, to be followed by the Admiral, Koznetzoff, in a steam frigate. There are thirty-two British floating engines of war, of one class or another, all ready for operation, while twenty-six additional ships and boats are expected. The French, American and Portuguese war vessels in the Chinese waters number seventeen. The American squadron it is understood, will soon be powerfully reinforced.

The *Times'* Paris correspondent says it is reported, but confirmation is required, that in consequence of a recent convention, the Russian naval force in the Chinese waters, which has lately been increased, will combine its operations with those of the English and French squadrons.

An Order in Council, excluding priests from sitting in local Council of Government, was promulgated at Malta on the 2nd inst.

MADAGASCAR.—It is confirmed from Madagascar that Queen Ranavaloa has expelled all the French and English Residents from her dominions. The date of the decree is August 25. The reason assigned is that the Europeans entertain the project of dethroning the Queen and placing her son, Prince Rakoutou, on the throne of Madagascar.

The Christian population of Calcutta is about 12,500. Of this number 6,500 are Europeans, 500 Anglo-Indians, and 850 Americans. This population is scattered through a large native population, numbering some 400,000, of which 275,000 are Hindoos, 115,000 are Mahomedans, and the remainder are Asiatics.

The *Journal de Geneve* gives an account of an experiment made a few days since of a mechanical cannon, which loads itself and fires twenty shots a minute. The balls crossed the Rhone, without the gun, which was mounted on a plateau, making any recoil worth speaking of. Several officers of engineers, &c. present, were all astonished at what they saw and warmly congratulated the inventor.

The Emperor of China has refused to concede any of the demands for reparation made by the French Commissioner.

The 2nd West India Regiment (African negroes) is under orders for Bengal.

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