

The Bengalee
(Calcutta)
editor Swendranath Banerjee

THE BENGAL.

FRIDAY, OCT. 2, 1914.

fully true. We know not who will fill Bistoo Babu's place in the Hughli district. There are indeed some young workers and our eyes are fixed upon them. We hope the Hughli Bar and the public will take steps to perpetuate the memory of one who distinguished in his own profession was yet even more distinguished in the ranks of public life.

GENERAL BOTHA'S COMMANDERSHIP.

The news that General Botha is to take supreme command of the expeditionary force to German South-West Africa will be received with unqualified satisfaction throughout the Empire. During the Boer war, especially in its later stages, General Botha proved himself as dauntless an opponent of the British arms as he has since proved himself a loyal subject of the British Empire. It speaks volumes for the humanity of the British soldier and the genius of the British race for sympathetic administration that within twelve years of a desperate struggle for supremacy between Britain and Boer in South Africa, instead of having in our midst a discontented and disloyal "Reichsland" we should be able to point to men of General Botha's calibre zealously fighting for the British flag against a common foe. Here indeed, if the Germans were only a little less intoxicated with false pride and self-adulation, they might find substantial grounds for a little wholesome introspection. For nearly fifty years they have ground down the French inhabitants of Alsace-Lorraine under an intolerable tyranny of which the Zabern incident was merely the outward and visible sign; while for more than a century the Poles in East Prussia have looked upon the Prussians as their natural oppressors, aiming at the denationalisation of the Polish race by a deliberate attempt to stamp out their language and to Germanise them at the bayonet's point. Now, when danger threatens them on every side, they have their reward in a sullen and disloyal populace on both their eastern and western frontiers. On the other hand the war finds the British Empire united as has never been before in its history—because it has realised to the full and far more than Rome ever did the proud boast which the poet Claudian made for Imperial Rome—

*Non est in premium victor quae
sine recepta,*

*Quamvisque gens communi non
sine hosti*

*Non domine tibi; circumpice
non domine tibi; circumpice*

THE BUDGE-BUDGE RIOT.

FULL DETAILS OF THE DISTURBANCE.

The Government of Bengal issued the following communique on Wednesday:—The passengers on the "Koma-gata Maru," who were being repatriated by the Government of India arrived in the Hooghly on Saturday evening the 26th September. The Bengal Government had been asked to arrange for their safe transport at Government expense to the Panjab; and so a special train was arranged to meet the steamer at Budge Budge on the morning of Tuesday the 29th. A number of Panjabi officers and the Magistrate of the 24-Parganas with others had met the steamer; and after some persuasion prevailed upon the men to land. This was effected about 2 p. m.; but they were still unwilling to believe the assurance of the Magistrate that they were to travel direct to the Panjab. The Magistrate had power under Ordinance No. 5 of 1914 to compel them to follow his instructions in this respect, but he scrupulously refrained from exercising his powers until he found that the men refused to enter the train and were determined to march by road to Calcutta. He then produced the Ordinance and explained its terms to the leaders, but in complete disregard of his orders they proceeded on the Calcutta road and he had no sufficient force to prevent them. Troops and police were then requisitioned to stop them, and they were stopped when they had gone three or four miles. Sir William Duke who had proceeded with the troops, met them there, taxed their leader with breach of the Ordinance and told them that what they had to say would be considered at Budge Budge whither they must return. On this they went back without further demur followed by the police and at a distance by the troops. The first special train had already gone off with about 60 men who most willingly had already gone on; and Sir William Duke preceded the party to Budge-Budge and procured a second special. He was actually inside the station making final arrangements when the following occurrences took place.

As soon as the party arrived at the station just after dusk Mr. Donald called for the leader with the intention of explaining the position to him. At this moment the men suddenly became very excited, and without warning a hot revolver fire was opened on the police and the officers, while others charged them with staves, knives and even one or two swords which they

Railway Station. The emigrants crowded on the road alongside the platform leading to the riverside. The panic in the town and in the adjoining villages has subsided and Mr. Donald, the District Magistrate of 24-Pargannas is doing all that could be done. One of the wounded emigrants sent to the Fort Gloster Mill Hospital, was sent to Calcutta yesterday.

THE "EMDEN."

OFF THE WEST COAST.

FOUR MORE STEAMERS SUNK

ADMIRALTY COLLIER CAPTURED

Simla, Sept. 29,

A Press communique states:—

The following has been received from the Chief Censor here this evening:—"Information has been received from Colombo to the effect that during September 26th and 27th the German cruiser "Emden" apparently operating off the west coast of India, in the neighbourhood of the Laccadive Islands, sank four steamers namely, the "Tymeric," "King Lud," "Hiberia," "(? Ribera)" and "Foyle." She also captured the Admiralty collier "Buresk."

The crews of these vessels were placed on the steamer "Gryfevale" which arrived at Colombo this morning.

TONNAGE OF THE VESSELS

The "Tymeric" is a steel screw steamer of 3,314 tons gross displacement. She was built in 1901 by Messrs Russell and Co, of Port Glasgow. The owners were the S. S. Tymeric Co, Ltd (A. Weir & Co).

The "King Lud" is a King Line steel screw steamer of 3,650 tons gross displacement. She was built in 1906 by Messrs Thompson and Sons of Sunderland for the King Line Ltd (Messrs Philipps Philipps and Co, Ltd Managers).

The "(? Ribera)" is a steel screw steamer of 3,500 tons gross displacement. She was built in 1904 by Messrs Thompson and Sons of Sunderland for the Bolton Steam Shipping Co Ltd.

The "Foyle" is a steel screw steamer of 4,147 tons gross displacement. It also was built in 1902 by Messrs Thompson for the Mercantile Steamship Company, Ltd.

The "Gryfevale" which in the latest "Emden" comedy has played the part of the "Kabinga" in the seizure of the Hooghly steamers, is a steamer of 4,124 tons built in 1900

trade will resume its normal activity. There is no likelihood either of the "Emden" or of any other German ship returning to the vicinity of Madras. The experience of the other night proved very clearly that all necessary precautions have been taken and the defences at the Fort are entirely adequate to meet any contingency. I rejoice to think not only that it is the case but that it is recognised outside Madras to be the case that the people of Madras city have on the whole conducted themselves throughout in regard to this incident in an entirely worthy and reasonable manner, avoiding all panic and relying with confidence in the arrangements made for their protection. There are many among us who feel only too closely the personal strain and anxiety of the war. High and low share with one another all through the Empire in this respect. On the other hand, most of us are comparatively sheltered from the ceaseless anxieties inseparable from the war and it is the least we can do, and it is our plain duty to do all we can to strengthen the resolution and fortitude of those who are less happily placed than ourselves. These observations, I feel, are entirely superfluous as addressed to those who are present this morning, but I am told—with what truth I know not—that there are among our uneducated Indian fellow-subjects here some who are apprehensive and some who are not entirely influenced by talk of wars and rumours of wars, and that these apprehensions have been encouraged by the visit of the "Emden." To us that visit is a fact but to many who saw or heard nothing of it, it is a mysterious portent. These uneducated people live hard lives. They have little or no savings, no margin of money to fall back upon. Their lives are only too easily made more hard by any unusual occurrence or wave of public opinion. They are easily induced by designing persons to part with their little hoards of money or jewellery at great loss. Imagination is easily stirred by idle rumours, and idle rumour falls with great severity upon such people. I would therefore ask all persons present here this morning most earnestly to do, each of us, all we can to protect these people by refraining ourselves and in the Press from all dissemination of baseless rumours, from all actions or talk which may be misinterpreted. There is absolutely no ground or reason on the part of the poor uneducated people for apprehension in regard to the safety of themselves and their homes and it is the business of everyone of us

to the full and far more than Rome ever did the proud boast which the poet Claudian made for Imperial Rome:—

Haes est in gremium victos quae sola recepit,

Humanumque genus communi nomine fovit

Matris non dominae ritu; civesque vocavit

Quos domuit, nexuque pio longinquare revinxit

The Dutch Afrikaner, beaten in battle after a strenuous fight, has been welcomed into the Empire as a citizen; he has been granted entire freedom for his language his religion, and his customs; Britain has shown herself to him in the guise of a mother solicitous for her children's welfare, and not as a hard mistress imposing the abject submission of the slave; and in consequence General Smuts is able to remind an occasional disloyalist like Mr. Beyers that it is only in virtue of her clemency and genius for Empire that Mr. Beyers can write with impunity a letter for which, in the German Empire, he would be liable to the extreme penalty. Such is the difference in results between the policy exemplified at Zaberna and in every Polish village, a policy under which the Kaiser rides through the city or Posen amid the sullen silence of the populace, and the policy of sympathetic friendliness which has succeeded in South Africa as it succeeded long ago in Canada.—(From the "Pioneer")

WAR RELIEF FUND AT ADEN.

Bombay, Oct. 1.

The Aden correspondent of the "Times of India" states:—Reports have been received of a large meeting at Crater Aden to start a War Relief Fund. The meeting was representative of the Arab, Indian, Jewish and Persi communities. The English people of Aden were also present. Some speeches were made and a committee was appointed to collect funds.

LORD CARMICHAEL ILL.

Surjeeling, Sept. 30.

His Excellency the Governor has been confined to his bed for the past few days suffering from a mild attack of bronchitis. His excellency is now convalescent but has been obliged to cancel his engagements for some days to come.

LADY HARDINGE BASE HOSPITAL.

Bombay, Oct. 1.

The base hospital for Indian soldiers returning from the front, which is to be temporarily located in the new Prince of Wales Museum building will be named Lady Hardinge Base Hospital with the permission of the Viceroy. The whole expense of its fittings and up-keep will be defrayed by the Bombay Branch of the Imperial Relief Fund and Women's Branch of the same Fund. As already announced Colonel Hojel, I. M. S., will be the officer in charge.

MAHARANI OF COCH BEHAR.

GIVES BIRTH TO A DAUGHTER.

The Maharani of Coch Behar has been delivered of a daughter at 3-48 a.m. on Thursday morning. Both mother and child are doing well.

As soon as the party arrived at the station just after dusk Mr. Donald called for the leader with the intention of explaining the position to him. At this moment the men suddenly became very excited, and without warning a hot revolver fire was opened on the police and the officers, while others charged them with staves, knives and even one or two swords which they had with them. The revolver fire was returned by the four out of the posse of sergeants who alone were armed with revolvers. In a few seconds Sergeant Major Eastwood was brought to the ground and shot in the back; Sir Frederic Halliday was wounded in the foot; Mr. Petrie was shot through both leg and arm; Mr. Humphreys was seriously injured; Mr. Lomax Assistant Traffic Superintendent, Eastern Bengal State Railway was fatally shot through the body and several sergeants were badly wounded in the head. The troops were behind, and the affray was partly screened from them by the railway fencing. Also the police and officers were at first mixed up with their assailants. It was only when this front was cleared, although that may not have taken many seconds, that the troops could be ordered to fire. Even when they did so the rioters did not desist immediately but made two or three further rushes, while a party of them occupied some shops from which they maintained a steady fire and here the majority of their casualties took place.

Sixteen of the rioters were killed as well as two innocent onlookers. In addition to the casualties mentioned above the Punjab police had one killed and six injured.

The Punjab scattered through the surrounding villages a certain number surrounding to the police and to picquets. An extensive combined sweeping movement is being made by the military and police to collect the rest and upto an early hour on Wednesday morning 32 prisoners had been made.

The Government of Bengal deeply deplore the loss of life which has occurred. They were acting in pursuance of the openly declared intention of sending to their homes the passengers who had suffered so much in pocket by the voyages of this ship. They were aware of the existence of a certain amount of strong political discontent amongst some of the passengers and in full concurrence with the Punjab Government considered that their return to their native country should be prompt and direct. Needless to say no one had the smallest suspicion that any of the party were armed for a desperate and unprovoked attack on British officers.

The Government of Bengal issued the following statement on Thursday evening in connection with the Budge Budge riot:—The number of the Sikhs arrested now amounts to nearly one hundred and twenty. Of these, sixteen are killed and the remainder are arrested or in hospital. On the other side, the casualties are five, viz., Mr. Lomax, one Punjab Policeman, two Bengalis and one other Indian.

A Budge Budge correspondent writes:—The scene of Tuesday night's disturbance is situated within a stone's throw of the Budge Budge

Shipping Co Ltd.

The "Foyle" is a steel screw steamer of 4,147 tons gross displacement. It also was built in 1902 by Messrs Thompson for the Mercantile Steamship Company, Ltd.

The "Gryfevale" which in the latest "Emden" comedy has played the part of the "Kabinga" in the seizure of the Hooghly steamers, is a steamer of 4,424 tons built in 1903 by the Grangemouth and Greenock Dockyard Company for the Gryfevale Steamship Company Ltd.

The "Buresk" is not classified either in Lloyd's Register or Clowes's Naval Pocket Book.

The following is a complete list of the "Emden's" ten victims up to date:—

	Tonnage destroyed.
Diplomat	... 7,615
Lovat	... 6,000
Clan Matheson	... 4,779
Foyle	... 4,147
Trabboch	... 4,014
King Lud	... 3,650
Killin	... 3,544
Ribera	... 3,500
Indus	... 3,393
Tymeric	... 3,314
Total	... 43,953

With the "Buresk" the German Navy has now succeeded in detaining or capturing 91 British ships. Of these the "Emden" is responsible for eleven (including the "Buresk"). She has to her credit nearly one-fifth of the total tonnage accounted for. She still, however, has considerable lee-way to make up before she brings the total British tonnage captured to the level at which the captured German tonnage now stands, namely 1,140,000 tons gross.

THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS ON NEEDLESS ALARMS.

Madras, Sept. 29.

A meeting of the members of the general committee of the Imperial Indian Relief Fund was held this morning at Government House under the presidency of the Governor. It was resolved to remit 75 per cent of the fund to the central committee at Simla, and a small executive committee was appointed to attend to the work of distribution of relief when the time comes to undertake it.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Governor made a long speech which ought to have a reassuring effect on the public. Referring to the "Emden" His Excellency said:—"Remote as we are from the flood of ruin and destruction which is submerging some of the countries of Europe, this is the least we can do. Do not forget the visit of the "Emden" here the other day. We must all regret that even a very few lives have been lost by what was from one point of view so purely futile and mischievous a visit. It cannot in the slightest degree affect the main issue of the great struggle in which the Empire is engaged. It has brought sorrow to one or two families which all the more deserve our sympathy because the lives which have gone seem to be so aimlessly sacrificed. It has checked for a few days the sailing of ships and the flow of commerce and trade, but in a very short time

protect these people by refraining ourselves and in the Press from all dissemination of baseless rumours, from all actions or talk which may be misinterpreted. There is absolutely no ground or reason on the part of the poor uneducated people for apprehension in regard to the safety of themselves and their homes and it is the business of everyone of us to see that they know it and are not imposed upon by those who may seek to take advantage of their ignorance. It has been a satisfaction to me to have been here during the last few days and to have inspected the traces of our foreign visitors and also to have been able to do what I can to express sympathy with those who have been injured. I have to return to Ootacamund this week and in about two weeks from now I proceed on tour to the south of the presidency. In two weeks' time, however, the Government will return to Madras. You may rest assured that everything will be done which can be done to watch over the affairs of this city and all other parts of the Presidency. Madras, Sept. 29.

The following appears in this morning's "New India":—The other day the Commissioner of Police advertised in the local papers offering a reward of Rs. 100 to anyone who will give information which would lead to the arrest of a Eurasian lad who went round the city cycling on Tuesday night last stating that he was a volunteer sent by Government to warn people to leave their homes as there was to be a disturbance by the "Emden" the following night. Again on Saturday evening last the same Eurasian lad was found going about the streets in George town with a false report that the "Emden" was visiting Madras on Sunday night and would bombard Madras city. People in the locality, finding that this was a false and mischievous rumour, arrested the lad and handed him over to the police attached to C. Division. Inquiries being made, it was ascertained that the arrested Eurasian called himself Jeffrey and that he was employed in the harbour works and he was a volunteer attached to a Madras volunteer corps. Yesterday morning the accused was produced before the Commissioner of Police, who released him on bail pending his trial for an offence under Section 110 of the City Police Act as being hazardous to public safety.

BOMBAY PAPER'S COMMENT.

Bombay, Sept. 30.

Commenting on the "Emden's" latest achievements, the "Times of India" says:—"These raids cannot have the slightest effect on the course of the war; and however irritating they may be, they are wholly insignificant in comparison with the damage which our fleet has been able to do to Germany by entirely stopping that country's overseas trade. So long as our Navy has to be employed in more important duties there is always a chance, though not a great one, of the repetition of these exploits for which the "Emden" has become notorious. It is a possibility to be calmly faced and not lost sight of until the "Emden" meets the fate for which she must be prepared.