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AN INDIAN MUTINY.

Unless the Signs Fall, England Is Likely Soon to Have Trouble on Her Hands.

One does not look to the staid and dignified Spectator for the absurdities of sensational journalism, and therefore its grave announcement of a belief that another Indian mutiny is close at hand will much intensify the growing feeling of alarm over the situation in the Asiatic dominions of the queen. After expressing great apprehensions based on recent dispatches and private letters The Spectator says: "It is at all events within the limits of possibility that within the next few days all questions which now interest the country may be swallowed up by the intelligence that we have for the second time in the last half century India to reconquer."

"May is the time for insurrections, the people believing that the heat prostrates white men, and if a rising has been arranged it is during this month that it would burst out all over northern India. Just at this time we appear to be receiving one of those strange warnings which have frequently preceded disturbances, and which in 1857 took the form of the distribution of chapatties—little unleavened cakes. Through Behar and a part of the northwest they were distributed by unknown hands, received in silence as by men who understood what they meant and passed on to meet everywhere with the same reception.

"This time it takes the shape of a patch of plaster mixed with hair, with which the trees of the endless mango groves have been secretly bedaubed throughout Behar and the provinces to the east and west. As in 1857, no one knows how this was done, or by whom, though the number of persons involved must be great. The police, if they know anything, reveal nothing, and the people remain lost in that apparently unobservant silence which, throughout Asia, when a dangerous incident occurs, means mischief. That silence implies and proves that if anything serious is intended the Hindus and Mussulmans, as in 1857, are both in it, for they both understand national ways equally well. The meaning of the chapatti as a signal escaped the government officials in 1857 as the meaning of the distribution of plaster escapes them now."

The alarmist utterances of The Spectator are not without justification. There has been an uneasy feeling in Anglo-Indian circles for months. Many persons of high authority in India have been writing home that "Lord Elgin will have his hands full before long," and "grave occurrences may be expected in the near future." It is significant that the inquiries of the opium commission have contributed much to the discontent among the natives, while the population of the whole north is sulky and rebellious because the government is trying to meet its losses by increasing the assessment of the land tax.—London Letter.

PORTRAITS OF AMERICAN WOMEN.

A Novel Loan Exhibition of Paintings to Benefit New York Charities.

Arrangements are now being made for a loan exhibition of old and modern portraits of American women to be held early in November at the Academy of Design. Such exhibitions of women's portraits are given by the Gallery club in London, but they are new in New York. It is proposed to divide the proceeds from this exhibition between St. John's guild and the Orthopedic dispensary and hospital. The ladies representing these two charities who are arranging this exhibition are Mrs. Robert B. Potter, Mrs. H. Winthrop Gray, Mrs. John A. Lowery, Mrs. Charles de Rham, Mrs. J. Hobart Warren and Mrs. Adolf Ladenburg. The selection of the pictures will be in the hands of a committee of well known artists.

It is believed that the novelty of such an exhibition, in addition to its artistic merits, will insure its success. There are in New York many valuable portraits of women. Some of them are by American artists and some of them were painted abroad. So long as the subject is an American woman the painting may be hung in this loan collection. Already the announcement of such an exhibition has aroused interest, and it is intended to make it a social success. Mrs. Lowery said last night:

"We propose to have the exhibition during the week of the horse show, for then there are many people in town who would be interested in such an exhibition. There are many fine portraits of handsome women here, and I think that such an exhibition will attract attention and benefit our charities. It is impossible yet to give any details about the paintings that will be exhibited. That rests with the artists who are on the hanging committee, and of course it is too early for them to begin their work."—New York Sun.

A French Kick Against Extortion.

The day of exorbitant charges in swell Paris restaurants is at an end. The revolt of the public, begun a few months ago, has driven most of the famous establishments into bankruptcy and now compelled all the survivors to reduce their charges just one-half. The panic among the proprietors is so great that even the Maison Doree was compelled to announce this week that it is not among the places which are about to close their doors. Vefour's, Bignon's, Brobant's and the Cafe Riche are among those recently closed. Others which maintain high tariff are trying to live on the patronage of visitors, being boycotted by Parisians.—Paris Letter.

Mother of Twenty-four Children at Thirty.

Near Yankton is the most remarkable family on this continent, perhaps in the world. It consists of father, mother and 24 children, and the mother of the brood is not yet 30 years old. She is a Norwegian woman, and her husband is a Hoosier. The children were born triplets, and the oldest of the lot is under 12 years of age. All of them are boys but three, one set of triplets being girls.—Bridgewater Democrat.

ARE BLUE GUMS VENOMOUS?

A Texas Doctor Experimenting With the Virus From a Negro's Mouth.

It has long been a belief among the negroes that the bite of one of their race who has blue gums is about as deadly as the bite of a mad dog or rattlesnake. Few white people think this is anything more than mere superstition, and while instances are recorded in the newspapers every once in awhile of deaths resulting from bites inflicted by blue gum negroes the general opinion is that the death was not caused by the bite, or else that the blood of the person bitten was in such condition that a wound of almost any character equally severe would have produced death. It is not questioned, however, that the bite of a human being—whether the blue gum variety or not—may in some instances prove a severe injury.

A case is reported from the Lott Store neighborhood. A negro woman—Ellen Toney—about 50 years of age, was bitten about a week ago by her daughter-in-law. The wound was on the little finger and was not at all dangerous in appearance, but in a day or two the hand began to swell, and the swelling was accompanied by great pain. It soon spread to the entire arm, which puffed up to twice its normal size. A physician was called in, and he prescribed such remedies as the case seemed to demand, but lockjaw set in and lasted about 20 hours. Finally the swelling began to abate, and the old woman is now considered on a fair road to recovery.

The doctor learned that the daughter-in-law was of the blue gum variety and examined her mouth to see if it differed from that of anybody else. He says the gums are of a purplish blue mottled appearance, unlike those of the ordinary negro. He is skeptical on the subject of the bite of such a person being more poisonous than that of any one else, but says he is experimenting with the virus or saliva from this woman's mouth to see if there is any truth in the belief of the negroes. The subject of his experiment is a small dog, which he inoculated with the virus, and he says he is waiting for developments with some degree of interest.—Benham Cor. Galveston News.

PETROLEUM FOR MOSQUITOES.

A Timely Suggestion as to How to Destroy the Unhatched Plague.

A Mr. L. O. Howard, who lives near the city of Washington, last year and the year before made experiments with a view to ridding his premises of the mosquito pest that proved highly satisfactory. The details of his experiments have impressed the people of New Orleans so favorably that there is talk among the city fathers there of applying the Howard system of insect killing on a grand scale in and about that city. Mr. Howard located his mosquito breeding ground in a millpond and the adjoining marshy land near his residence. He had previously established the fact by tests in a rainwater barrel that kerosene oil is certain death to the mosquito larva.

When he had located the wholesale hatchery of mosquitoes, he proceeded to spray the whole area with crude petroleum. The area was about 4,000 square feet, and 15 gallons of oil at a cost of \$1.70 sufficed for the work. This he did in March, when the innocent mosquito pupae were still slumbering unhatched in the mud and ooze. Three weeks after the sprinkling there remained a scum of oil over the area, and most of the larvae had been killed. During the summer following Mr. Howard's first experiment very few mosquitoes survived to annoy him. The next spring he repeated the sprinkling, and during the summer of that year he had no use for mosquito nets.—Savannah News.

A MONKEY CHASE.

The World's Fair City Still Has Its Exciting Adventures.

A huge monkey belonging to Ernest Bros., the brewers, at 67 Larabee street, escaped yesterday afternoon and gave active employment to several policemen and a crowd of boys before it was captured. As soon as it was discovered that the monkey had escaped a number of the employees of the brewers attempted to capture it. A number of school children joined in the chase. When the monkey was hard pressed, it climbed a tree and reached the roof of a house.

A ladder was procured, and one of the men followed it, but the monkey swung off into a tree and into the window of another house, frightening the occupants, who immediately gave the animal full possession of the premises. The crowd soon increased to several hundred people, and several policemen took a hand. They found themselves less useful than the schoolboys and finally gave it up in disgust. The chase was kept up through alleys and streets and from yard to yard for nearly a mile, when a son of Italy, with the aid of his banana stand, succeeded in coaxing the monkey into captivity.—Chicago Tribune.

Married in a Baby Carriage.

A remarkable wedding took place at the Bristol registry office yesterday. The bride, a prim woman of 43, wheeled into the office in an old fashioned perambulator, the bridegroom, a crippled man of 45, who from his birth had not been able to walk. He followed no occupation. When supported on his feet, so contorted were his legs that he was only 36 inches high. He asked that he should be married in the perambulator. Besides the usual questions the astonished officials asked the bride if she really knew what she was about. She replied that she was fully aware of what she was doing, and she wondered what the crowd of people outside were laughing at, as it was only a wedding. The parties made the usual declaration as to no lawful impediment to their union, and they were duly married, and as the bride wheeled away her newly won husband the happy couple were followed by a large crowd, who pelted them with rice.—London Telegraph.

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