

1915.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
HOME DEPARTMENT.

POLITICAL—A.

Proceedings, October 1915, nos. 48-61.

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warrant under Regulation III of 1818 for the detention of (1) Saileswar Bose and (2) Nimai Chandra
Chakrabarti *alias* Tarapada.

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POLITICAL A.,—OCTOBER 1915.

Nos. 48—61.

AFFRAY IN BALASORE IN WHICH FIVE ARMED BENGALIS KILLED A VILLAGER AND WOUNDED ANOTHER AND WERE IN TURN ATTACKED BY THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE AND OTHER POLICEMEN WITH THE RESULT THAT ONE WAS SHOT DEAD, TWO OTHERS WOUNDED AND TWO CAPTURED UNINJURED.

ISSUE OF WARRANTS UNDER REGULATION III OF 1818 FOR THE DETENTION OF (1) SAILESWAR BOSE AND (2) NIMAI CHANDRA CHAKRABARTTI, *alias* TARAPADA.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, No. 2179-C., DATED THE 10TH Pro. no. 48. SEPTEMBER 1915.

Submitted. We may await details. Meanwhile Director of Criminal Intelligence and His Excellency may see. The telegram No. 2648, dated the 16th August 1915, referred to by Bihar and Orissa is on the "Maverick" file.

A. L.,—10-9-15.

I yesterday informed Hon'able Member and Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy, on similar information received by the Director of Criminal Intelligence. We may await further details.

H. WHEELER,—11-9-15.

TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, DATED THE 12TH SEPTEMBER Pro. no. 49. 1915.

For information.

A. L.,—13-9-15.

This appears to be an act of extraordinary audacity. The place of occurrence is 5 miles from Balasore station, and the time between 1-30 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

S. R. HIGNELL,—13-9-15.

I have had a quantity of reports on the events which led up to this occurrence. I place below a brief abstract of the facts and a draft telegram for the information of the Secretary of State.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—13-9-15.

The case was discussed to-day with Hon'able Member, Sir C. Cleveland, Mr. Hignell and myself.

Sir C. Cleveland promised to put up a note as the basis of a telegram to the Secretary of State.

It was also arranged that Sir C. Bayley should be addressed as drafted.

H. WHEELER,—13-9-15.

TELEGRAM TO THE HON'BLE SIR C. BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., ETC., LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BIHAR Pro. no. 50. AND ORISSA, No. 3077, DATED THE 13TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

[NOTES IN THE CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.]

In my note of 6th instant I explained that Mr. Denham had gone to Balasore to trace Dhan Gopal Mukherji whom he had reason for suspecting to be the C. A. Martin of the C319HD

Batavia-Calcutta plot. At Balasore Mr. Denham found that some people at Balasore and in the neighbourhood were obviously connected with the German plot. At the search of Harry and Son, 41 Clive Street, Calcutta, on the 7th August communications were found with one Saileswar Bose, the proprietor of a store at Balasore known as the "Universal Emporium." This Saileswar Bose is the brother of Sham Sunda Bose, the clerk at 41 Clive Street who was arrested at the same time as Hari Kumar Chakravarty. Mr. Denham interviewed Saileswar, but the latter was very uncommunicative. Further enquiries were made which showed that Dhan Gopal Mukherji had visited the Balasore Dak Bungalow on the 17th June and was then taken away by Saileswar Bose; also that Saileswar was in touch with a mysterious party of Bengalis who lived in the jungle near Kobtipada, a village in the Mayurbhanj Zemindari over 20 miles from Balasore; also that Saileswar had been on more than one expedition by canal and river in the direction of the Dhamra river, which flows into the Bay of Bengal about 40 miles south of Balasore. These discoveries made Mr. Denham think that the Bengalis in the jungle near Kobtipada were possibly of importance in connection with the general conspiracy. Saileswar and two of his associates were arrested. On the 6th instant Mr. Denham accompanied by Mr. Kilby, District Magistrate of Balasore, and Mr. Bird of the Calcutta Police made a long and tiring march through the jungle to Kobtipada where they arrived after dark the same evening. Next morning they went to the house of the mysterious Bengalis, 1½ miles away in the jungles, but found that the three young Bengalis who had been residing in the house had left half-an-hour before their arrival, having received information that a party of Europeans had arrived at Kobtipada. At this jungle house they found (1) a bottle of poison wrapped up in a piece of paper bearing address "41 Clive Street, Calcutta," (2) a tracing of a map of the Sundarbans, (3) a cutting from a Penang paper regarding the presence of S. S. Maverick at Batavia, and (4) a visiting card of Saileswar Bose. From local enquiries it was clear that the three young Bengalis who had been residing in the house were in possession of firearms, while a tree in the courtyard, as well as a portion of a wall, bore marks of bullets. The people of the neighbourhood were nearly all jungle-folk and could not give much account of the Bengalis but said that they often fired off shots and one man described a revolver which seemed to be a Mauser. A local Bengali was, however, found whose account of the three residents of the house confirmed Mr. Denham's suspicions about them as he said they were passing under names taken from Bankim Chatterji's famous book "The Ananda Math." Arrangements were made to track up the three Bengalis and Mr. Denham and his party then returned to Balasore. In consequence of these arrangements, on the afternoon of Thursday, the 9th instant, information was brought to the Superintendent of Police, Balasore, that a party of five Bengalis had been spotted by some villagers of whom one had been killed and another wounded by the Bengalis. The Superintendent of Police with Mr. Kilby, Sergeant Rutherford of the Ordnance Department and a party of police proceeded to the spot immediately, and at a place some 5 miles north of Balasore located the five Bengalis behind a clump of trees in a paddy field. The latter opened fire at once on the police and Magistrate but wounded nobody. The police party replied to the shots and firing continued for some time, when two Bengalis came forward with their hands raised in token of surrender. The party then closed in on the Bengalis and found one man dead, two badly wounded, while the remaining two were unwounded. There is no doubt but that three of these Bengalis were the residents of the jungle house near Kobtipada who had evaded Mr. Denham and his party on the morning of the 6th.

2. On 11th instant I received a telegram from Mr. Denham giving the names of the five Bengalis as follows:—

- No. 1, killed in the fight, Jotin Mukherji.
- No. 2, died of wounds shortly after the fight, Chittapriya Roy.
- No. 3, wounded in the fight but still alive, Jotish Pal of the Nadia District.
- No. 4, unwounded, Monoranjan Sen Gupta of Madaripur.
- No. 5, unwounded, Nirendra Das Gupta of Faridpur.

Mr. Denham's telegram mentioned that the last name was probably false.

3. I do not think Mr. Denham would have wired these names without being fairly certain that they were more or less correct. He heard of the fight when in Calcutta on the 9th and immediately proceeded to Balasore, whence he wired to me the names on the 11th. Probably therefore he had seen himself the whole party both dead and living.

No. 1, Jotin Mukherji.—Was perhaps the boldest and most actively dangerous of all the Bengal revolutionaries. When he met his death he had been absconding for several months, having taken part in the Garden Reach taxi-cab dacoity in Calcutta, a few months ago, and having after that shot dead an inoffending Bengali who happened to come into a room where he was. Jotin Mukherji it will be remembered first came to serious notice in connection with the murder of Deputy Superintendent Shamsul Adam in the High Court in January 1910.

No. 2, Chittapriya Roy.—Is another absconder, having shot a Police Sub-Inspector in Cornwallis Square, Calcutta, in March last.

No. 3, *Jyotish Pal*.—Of Nadia is not known to us.

As regards nos. 4 and 5, *Monoranjan Sen Gupta and Nirendra Das Gupta*.—I note that two men of these names were said to have been the companions of Chittapriya Roy when he shot the Sub-Inspector as mentioned above.

4. It is extraordinarily interesting to find that the enquiries into the German plot have led to the discovery of the hiding place of Jotin Mukherji and other desperate political criminals, and it is highly satisfactory that this gang of five has been so satisfactorily accounted for. Dhan Gopal Mukherji *alias* C. A. Martin is believed to have gone back to Calcutta some time before this recent occurrence in order to be operated on for hydrocele.

5. There is some reason for thinking that the mouth of the Dhamra river below Balasore may have been selected as a likely place for a gun-running enterprise. This point has been taken notice of by the General Officer Commanding, Calcutta.

6. I append a draft telegram from the Home Department to the Secretary of State for consideration of the Home Department as requested.

C. R. CLEVELAND,—13-9-15.

I would omit the last sentence of the telegram; otherwise it may be suggested for His Excellency's approval.

H. WHEELER,—13-9-15.

I agree.

R. H. C[RADDOCK],—14-9-15.

Before Regulation III is put into force in connection with this Balasore incident great care must be taken to be sure of the guilt of those against whom it is applied. Now I notice that damaging facts are alleged against the person named Saileswar, but nothing is said of his two associates who have been arrested. I am most unwilling to use Regulation III except in cases where there is no doubt of guilt.

H[ARDINGE],—15-9-15.

TELEGRAM TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DATED THE 15TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

Pro. no. 81.

Note on further enquiry at Balasore and the arrest of the Kobtipada party.

A further search among the telegrams despatched from Balasore showed that, on the 5th July, the following wire was sent:—

"To "

JADU GOPAL MUKHARJI,

62, Beniatola Street, Calcutta.

"Starting to-night. Make arrangements. Saileswar."

"Not to be telegraphed.—Saileswar Basu, Motiganj, Balasore."

This wire is of importance because it clearly shows that Saileswar was in direct correspondence with Jadu Gopal and also strongly supports our belief that the wire mentioned at the end of my last report which was sent to Saileswar and signed "Jogesh Mitra" was really sent by Jadu Gopal. Enquiries were also made in Calcutta to try to ascertain the whereabouts of the mysterious Gopal Babu. The Superintendent of the Mayurbhanj State wired that Gopal had resided at 6, Pertab Chatarji's Lane. Enquiry at this address showed that it was no longer a mess and that Gopal could not have been there for some 18 months. It is quite possible that the address was one where Gopal had resided, as we know that it used to be a mess at which numerous suspects lived.

2. At about 1 A. M. on Friday morning I received information from the Magistrate of Balasore that he had rounded up a party of five Bengalis who had offered armed resistance. One of the Bengalis had been killed, two wounded and two had been in the house near there, and it was reported that two others were at Khundabaia. The amalgamation of the party at the two places would thus result in a body of five men.

3. I proceeded at once to Balasore, arriving there at about 6 o'clock in the afternoon. One of the party who had been severely wounded in the abdomen had died during the day and I saw both his corpse and that of the man who had actually been killed at the scene of the occurrence. I also saw the wounded man in hospital and the two prisoners in the jail. From my own knowledge and from information supplied by the prisoners and by the police, to whom one of the party had spoken prior to his death, it was clear that the band of five men consisted of—

(1) Jatindra Nath Mukharji, of Kokhsa, Nadia, the leader of the party and a much-wanted absconder in Bengal. It was he who had died in the afternoon from a

bullet wound in his stomach and we are thus rid of one of the most dangerous members of the revolutionary party of Bengal. It is not necessary here to enter into the details of Jatin Mukharji's past career, but it is of interest to know that prior to his death, he was as bombastic as ever, while at the same time in great fear that he would be maltreated as he had maltreated others in different circumstances. I am told that he was greatly surprised that the Assistant Surgeon did not know who Jatin Mukharji was, and he also told the police that he Jatin Mukharji and his companion Chittapariya Ray, had died the death of heroes. He further stated at the hospital that he was the man who was wanted for the Patturiaghata murder.

- (2) Chittapriya Ray, of Khalia, Madaripur. This man was killed at the scene of occurrence, his jaw being fractured by a police bullet. Chittapriya was also a much-wanted absconder and it is he who has been responsible for the cold-blooded murder of Inspector Suresh Mukharji of the Calcutta Police in the streets of Calcutta in November last year. Besides this crime, it was believed that he has been concerned in several dakaities and other cases.
- (3) Joytish Chandra Pal, of Kokhsa, Nadia. This man was severely wounded and will in all likelihood die. He has made a partial statement to a Magistrate in which he says he was a sub-contractor to Jatin Mukharji when the latter was working on the Jhenida road in Jessore and that he borrowed money to lend to Jatin. Jatin, however, did not pay him and at Calcutta he met at 24-1, Dixon's Lane, the mysterious Gopal Babu who told him that he could take him to Jatin Mukharji who would repay him his money. He went with Gopal Babu to Kobtipada and Jatin Mukharji proposed to pay him as soon as he had sold the paddy which he had sown on the land the party had acquired in the hills. When he wished to leave he was not allowed to do so as Jatin Mukharji said that he and his friends were badly wanted by the police and he could take no risks. I need hardly say that this statement is a remarkably "thin" one and it is probable that Joytish knows a good deal more, but unless he rallies considerably it will be impossible to question him. When he learnt of the death of Jatin Mukharji, he was greatly affected and said that India had lost one of her brightest jewels.
- (4) Hirendra Das Gupta, son of Lolit Mohan Das Gupta, of Madaripur. This man surrendered on the scene of occurrence. He is a well-known member of the Madaripur gang and was present with Chittapriya Ray at the assassination of Inspector Suresh Mukharji in Calcutta.
- (5) Monoranjan Sen Gupta, son of Haldar Sen Gupta, of Khairbanga, Madaripur, a prominent leader of the Madaripur party who has been strongly suspected in several dakaities and who also was present at time of the murder of Inspector Suresh Mukharji.

4. At present it is difficult to say exactly what were the movements of the party prior to their being rounded up in a large tract of paddy land near the village of Chasa Khand about 6 miles north of Balasore. Jatin Mukharji, prior to his death, is reported to have said that he and his companions had been wandering without food for nearly three days. Judging from this fact, and on the supposition that it was necessary for them to warn their companions at Khundabaia, it would seem that after our search in the early morning of Tuesday the 7th the three men at Kobtipada made north to Khundabaia and there picked up their two companions and then retraced their steps, halting for the night somewhere near Kobtipada, on the Nilgiri-Mayurbhanj border. Reports received from the Superintendent of Nilgiri State show that they were seen within the borders of the State on the morning of the 8th and were then making east. Presumably they travelled by jungle tracts and were making for the pucca road which leads from Balasore through Remuna to the Nilgiri border. Their idea probably being to strike this road, make a detour round Balasore and, if possible, reach the railway at Rupsa, or some station well north of Balasore itself. It is said that they were seen first of all at Mitrapur, just over the Nilgiri border, on Thursday morning the 9th. The next trace of them is at a village called Haripur which is on the north of the Balasore-Remuna road and here they left two big bundles containing their clothes. Pushing north-east, it was necessary for them to cross the Buraalang river and they approached a boatman, who refused to take them across. At present it is not quite clear whether they eventually crossed in a boat or on a raft of logs which was being floated down the river. Having crossed the river, they were questioned by villagers and apparently Jatin Mukharji fired off some shots in the air to frighten the people. For the present the evidence is not definite as to exactly what happened next, but on some one trying to restrain them, one of the party who, from the evidence, appears undoubtedly to be Nirendra Das Gupta, fired at the villager, killing one and wounding another. On this a party of four men ran off towards Balasore to inform the Magistrate. On their way they met Sub-Inspector Chintamani Sahu, who was out on patrol duty holding the various roads in anticipation of the Kobtipada party

trying to make for the railway. The Sub-Inspector on learning of the murder told the men to hurry on to Balasore and proceeded to the village of Dhurpal, where he found the fugitives being followed at a respectful distance by a large crowd of villagers. After the Sub-Inspector joined the crowd one shot was fired but it did no damage. The Sub-Inspector took off his uniform and mixed with the villagers. The fugitives then made for Chasa Khand where there is another small river which they swam across, carrying their arms tied on their heads. This appears to have been their final effort, as they then made for a small patch of dry land in the middle of a large waste of paddy land where they made their final stand.

5. In the meantime the information had reached Balasore at about 1-30 P.M. and the Magistrate and Sergeant Rutherford of the Proof Department accompanied by the Superintendent of Police and some constables set out for the place where the party of Bengalis had taken up their position. One party under Sergeant Rutherford made a detour to the north-east and the Magistrate, Mr. R. G. Kilby and his party pushed forward in an easterly direction. The Bengalis soon fired and the officers and the police replied. At the end of 15 or 20 minutes two Bengalis were seen to jump up and hold up their hands indicating that they wished to surrender. On advancing through the mud and water to the island, the officers found that one of the Bengalis had been shot dead, two were wounded and two others uninjured. Apparently, the Bengalis had fired off some 70 or 80 rounds and there still remained with them 139 cartridges. The arms recovered were 3 large Mauser pistols, nos. 176542, 176492, and 176464 (obviously a part of the stolen Rodda consignment) and 1 Mauser automatic pistol no. 31413. Very little else was recovered but there is an interesting seditious document which had been carefully copied out and in the pocket of one of the coats there was a small phial of that deadly poison hyoscin. Other phials of this poison were found at our search at Kobtipada and it may be it was intended to take poison in preference to surrendering. There was also a large number of leaf plates, and it is believed that the party after feeding had scattered many of these plates about the place where they had had their meal in order to give the impression that their party was far larger than it really was. I have been to the scene of the occurrence and can appreciate the bravery shown by Mr. Kilby and Sergeant Rutherford in advancing over an extraordinary flat country with practically no cover whilst under fire from Mausers which were sighted up to a thousand yards. With these pistols we also found two wooden stocks and with their aid a large Mauser pistol is almost as efficient as a high velocity rifle.

6. The capture and arrest of this party should have a very depressing effect on the Bengal revolutionary society; but on the main enquiry which is my particular interest very little light has been shed. It may be that this gang of desperadoes had been kept at Kobtipada with a view to having them in reserve should they be required for any important action in Balasore. It is, however, Saileswar Basu who can show us the links that exist and whom it is most important to question. I have recently interviewed him again and I think that he thoroughly realises the position in which he is. Immediate action should be taken to confine him under Regulation III of 1818 as he is one of the most important of the main conspirators, being in touch with the leaders in Calcutta and the murderers in Mayurbhanj. I have not heard what the result of the search at Taldiha is, and it may be that something of interest was discovered.

7. It is also very necessary to trace the mysterious Gopal Babu and from information which I have just received from Sub-Inspector Kiran Sen, of the Bengal Intelligence Branch, it would appear that Gopal is in all probability one Nalini Kar who used to be Jatin Mukharji's partner at Jhenida and who has been absconding for some time. This man suffered from hydrocele, an illness which we know Gopal Babu also had, and it was reported that some 6 months ago he was about to be operated on in the Campbell hospital, Calcutta, but being afraid that the police were on his track, he was removed from there through the agency of his friend Jadu Gopal Mukharji. This supposition is also supported by the fact that at the search at Kobtipada a book was recovered bearing the name A. C. Kar which, in all probability, is one of his relations, as of the five men who were out there none of them were Kars, or, as far as we know, related to anybody called Kar. This further clue will be worked out on my return to Calcutta to-morrow as I consider Gopal Babu to be an important emissary and a person who must have certain knowledge of the main plot.

G. C. DENHAM,—12-9-15.

This interesting report by Mr. Denham in regard to recent events at Balasore has been handed over to me by Director of Criminal Intelligence with the request that it may be returned as early as possible as he has no spare copy. Hon'ble Member has seen.

His Excellency will wish to see.

S. R. HIGNELL,—16-9-15.

Most interesting.

Nothing could be more praiseworthy than the action of Mr. Kilby and Sergeant Rutherford. The villagers also behaved with sense.

H[ARDINGE],—16-9-15.

C 19HD

Pro. no. 52. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, DATED THE 14TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

Pro. no. 53. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, DATED THE 14TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

The file on which warrants were issued in connection with certain persons in Bengal is linked.

A. L.,—15-9-15.

The question of the issue of warrants in the case of these three men was discussed at a conference of Hon'ble Member, Director, Criminal Intelligence, and myself yesterday. It was decided that Mr. Denham's arrival (which Director, Criminal Intelligence, expected to-day or to-morrow) should be awaited to enable us to ascertain the evidence available in each case. Later in the evening I received a telegram from the Bihar and Orissa Government stating that Sir E. Gait and Mr. Denham considered the internment of Narayan Das Brahmachari at present unnecessary. We may await Mr. Denham's arrival.

S. R. HIGNELL,—16-9-15.

Pro. no. 54. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, DATED THE 15TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

Demi-official from the Hon'ble Mr. H. McPherson, I.C.S., Officiating Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa, to S. R. Hignell, Esq., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, no. 2200-C., dated Ranchi, the 13th September 1915.

In continuation of my telegrams of the 10th and 12th instant I enclose a copy of a confidential report, dated the 12th instant, just received from the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, Bihar and Orissa, on the Balasore affair.

Copy of a confidential report, dated the 11th September 1915, from Mr. E. C. Ryland, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, on the Balasore murder case.

I arrived here at 6 P.M. and have enquired into the murder of a villager and the wounding of a second villager by five Bengalis, which was followed by a fight between the five Bengalis and the Police led by the Magistrate, Mr. Kilby, resulting in the arrest of the five accused.

I arrived to find the Police since the occurrence have been so busy attending to miscellaneous matters that the statements of witnesses have not been recorded and hence I am unable in this report to give more than a general statement of such facts as I have been able to gather.

Government are already aware that on certain information obtained by the Bengal authorities a shop known as the Universal Emporium in Balasore was searched on Sunday the 5th by the Superintendent of Police, Balasore, and further that as a result of that search and information obtained during it, the Magistrate, Mr. Kilby, accompanied by two Bengal officers, proceeded to Kobtipada, in the Nilgiri State, and with the help of the State officers made a search in a house in the jungle occupied by certain unknown Bengalis. The Bengalis disappeared before the arrival of the officers but it was ascertained that there were three of them and that they were armed. The search produced further evidence of this, and as these men had no licenses for arms, they were guilty of an offence under the Arms Act. Search parties were organised to look for the accused. Information was also obtained that two other Bengali youths had started a shop at Taldiha in Mayurbhanj. It was thought possible that the three youths from Kobtipada would make their way to Taldiha and the State authorities undertook to make a search there. Precautions were also taken in Balasore to guard the only available roads from Kobtipada and Taldiha leading to the railway, for which it was presumed the fugitives would eventually make, and this conjecture proved true, for on the 9th September a party of five Bengali youths were noticed at Dhurpal, a village directly north of Balasore. From the fact that a bundle of clothes, evidently belonging to the fugitives, was subsequently found at a village called Haripur on the main road to Nilgiri, it would appear that the party had come along that road as far as Haripur and then wishing to avoid Balasore had struck off north across country and were apparently intending to make for Rupsa, a station on the railway east of Balasore. On arrival at Dhurpal, the party of Bengalis found they had a river to cross and they asked the ferryman to take them over. This man referred them to another boatman, who apparently rowed them across. The boatman noticed the youths were strangers and questioned them, but apparently not being satisfied with their answers, he became suspicious and went to the daffadar. The daffadar was away but his brother went with the boatman and catching up the strangers began to question them. In the meantime a number of villagers, collected and after some discussion the Bengalis were told that they would not be permitted to proceed unless they explained who they were. On this the Bengalis produced revolvers and threatened the

villagers, who fell back but continued to follow them. Then one of the party who, from the description given, appears to have been Jathindra Nath Mukharji, fired two or three shots. As nothing happened, two of the bolder villagers declared that they were only blank cartridges and advanced towards the Bengalis when another of the party who, from the description given, appears to have been Narendra Chandra Das Gupta, fired three shots. One of the villagers who had advanced was killed by one of the shots and the second man was wounded.

The villagers then sent off messengers to Balasore. The four messengers were hurrying along the main road when they were seen by Sub-Inspector Chintamani Sahu who was on patrol duty. The Sub-Inspector learning of the occurrence told the men to hurry on and he proceeded at once to Dhurpal, where he soon got on the tracks of the fugitives who were being followed by a large crowd of villagers and whom they kept at a respectful distance by threatening them with their pistols. After the Sub-Inspector joined the crowd one shot was fired but did no damage. The Sub-Inspector took off his uniform and mixed with the crowd of villagers. The fugitives then made for Chasa-khand where there is another river. This they waded across, carrying their pistols tied on their heads. On getting across they appear to have become exhausted as they made for an island in the middle of some paddy fields and took up their position there.

In the meantime the messengers reached Balasore about 1.30 P. M. and informed the Superintendent of Police who went over to the Magistrate. These officers then collected the few armed men available—some 8 or 10—the rest of the armed force being out on special duty. The services of Serjeant Rutherford of the Proof Department were requisitioned and the officers and men proceeded out in motor cars but could only get as far as the river—some 4 miles out; from there they marched towards Chasa-khand and on nearing it the Magistrate noticed a white flag being waved. This was a signal Sub-Inspector Chintamani had devised to attract attention. The Magistrate was thus able to locate the Bengalis, and the force was divided up; one party under Serjeant Rutherford going north and the Magistrate and the rest of the party going east. They thus advanced towards the island in open order. The Bengalis very soon opened fire on them and the Police and officers returned their fire, with the result that at the end of 15 or 20 minutes two Bengalis were seen to jump up and hold up their hands, indicating surrender. The officers then advanced to find one of the party of five Bengalis had been shot dead, two were wounded, whilst the two others uninjured, surrendered. Four Mauser pistols and a hundred and thirty nine cartridges were recovered besides some fired cases. Arrangements were then made to bring the body of the man killed and the wounded men and prisoners to Balasore. The wounded were sent to hospital, where one of them expired yesterday, whilst the other lies in a precarious condition. The prisoners were sent to the lock-up. It has now been ascertained that the five men are:—

- (1) Chittapriya Ray Chaudhuri—killed.
- (2) Jatindra Nath Mukharji—wounded since dead.
- (3) Jatish Chandra Pal—wounded.
- (4) Narendra Chandra Das Gupta—surrendered.
- (5) Monoranjan Sen Gupta—surrendered.

1, 2, 4 and 5 are all notorious absconders from Bengal. Little is known of Jatish Pal who has made a statement which appears more or less true, showing how he was trapped into joining the party at Kobtipada and having got him there how he was threatened into continuing with the party.

A case of murder and abetment has been instituted against the accused. There will be a further charge for the attack on the Magistrate.

Further report will follow.

Submitted for information.

A. L.,—15-9-15.

This tells us little new.

Jotin Mukharji is said to have been the wounded man, who died later, whereas Director, Criminal Intelligence, said he was killed in the fight.

The wanderings of the five Bengalis between Kobtipada and the scene of the fight are given in a little more detail.

S. R. HIGNELL,—16-9-15.

Seen. So far as the survivors of this party are concerned they are held on the charge of murder. As regards the other persons arrested at Balasore we are waiting to see how much they are involved. As His Excellency says except in the case of Saileswar there is at present little against them.

R. H. C[RADDOCK],—16-9-15.

Pro. no. 55.

TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DATED 16TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

We may perhaps inform Bengal and Bihar and Orissa and Burma that the Secretary of State desires that every precaution will be taken to prevent disclosure through the press of Government's knowledge of the German plot. The native papers in Bengal have however been frequently referring to rumours of Germans landing with arms in the Sunderbans, etc.

As regards informing Batavia the previous correspondence which we had with the Consul there is on the file regarding the S S. "Maverick." From the wording of the telegram it appears that the Secretary of State is assuming that connection has been established between the five Bengalis concerned in the affray and the gun-running plot. But this is not so, at present. For orders as to how the suggestion to inform Batavia should be disposed of.

A. L.,—17-9-15.

We can, I think, only wire in cypher as in the draft below. The connection between Indian sedition and German machinations has apparently been discussed in the judgment in the Lahore Conspiracy and the question is pursued in a leading article in the "Times of India" dated September 15th. It was only to be expected

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that the public press would find some connection and it is, I think, surprising that there have not been more references already.

It is hardly necessary to inform Batavia of the Balasore incident, though no doubt they should be kept informed of the action taken generally in this side. We may ask the General Staff through the Army Department if this is being done.

S. R. HIGNELL,—17-9-15.

Yes. This is quite right, but it is practically impossible to keep rumours down in view of the patrolling in the Bay of Bengal.

R. H. C[RAVDOCK],—17-9-15.

Pro. no. 56.

TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF BENGAL, BIHAR AND ORISSA, AND BURMA, no. 3129-3131, DATED THE 17TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

Will Army Department please see my note dated 16th September 1915. It is presumed that Batavia is being kept informed of the various developments of importance.

S. R. HIGNELL,—18-9-15.

Army Department.

Consul-General, Batavia, will be kept informed of such important developments as may concern him. We have already conveyed certain information to him through General Officer Commanding, Singapore.

W. C. BLACK,—20-9-15,

M. O. 3.

Secretary, Army Department.

As the Home Department have telephoned for this file I am sending it on at once.

A. A. WHELAN,—20-9-15.

Home Department.

Will Director, Criminal Intelligence, please see my note dated 16th September 1915. It is understood that Mr. Denham has arrived, and the Home Department will be obliged if a statement of the evidence against Sail-swar Bose and more particulars against Nimai Chandra Chakravarti alias Tarapada be placed in the file.

S. R. HIGNELL,—20-9-15.

[NOTES IN THE CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.]

I take this opportunity of noting the following corrections of the facts and names given in my note on this file of the 13th instant, which was written partly on deciphered telegrams:—

- (1) The man at Balasore is Saileswar Bose, not Sailendra Bose.
- (2) It was Chittapriya Roy who was killed during the fight and Jotin Mukherji who died afterwards of his wounds. My report said the opposite.
- (3) In paragraph 4 of my report I said that Dhan Gopal Mukherji alias C. A. Martin was believed to have gone back to Calcutta in order to be operated on for hydrocele. This statement was based on a confused telegram from Calcutta. We do

not know what became of Dhan Gopal Mukherji after his arrival in Balasore on the 17th June, while the man who went into Calcutta to be operated on for hydrocele is one Gopal Chandra Roy (probably an *alias*) who was associated with Saileswar Bose and Jotin Mukherji in Balasore but had left before Mr. Denham's visit.

2. I further bring to notice that the official reports do not bear out the newspaper accounts that the party of Bengalis fired on the District Magistrate after two of them had held up their hands in token of surrender. I cannot say what the actual facts were in this matter.

3. I place below notes by Mr. Denham on Saileswar Bose and Tarapada Chakravarty.

C. R. CLEVELAND,--21-9-15.

Saileswar Bose, son of Krishnadas Bose of Chingripota, P. S. Sonarpur, District 24-Parganas.

Prior to the enquiry into the German plot to import arms into India nothing was known to the Police about this man. Saileswar Bose is a resident of the notorious village of Chingripota from where very many of the members of the revolutionary society in Bengal have been recruited. From Saileswar's own statement it appears that his education was merely of a nominal character and that he never got beyond studying in the 4th class of the local school. It was not until the search that was made on the 7th August of the premises of Harry and Sons, 41, Clive Street, that the name of Saileswar Bose came to notice. A certain amount of correspondence on business matters was found and it was also ascertained that he was the brother of one of the clerks of Harry and Sons named Syam Sunder Bose. The fact that Saileswar had opened a store at Balasore was noted but no further enquiry was made as there was nothing to show that his relations with Harry and Sons were anything but business ones.

During the enquiry which was made to trace the mysterious emissary from Java, Martin, it was ascertained that he had sent on the 15th June from Madras a telegram to Jadu Gopal Mukherji saying that he expected to meet someone at Balasore. On finding this telegram it was decided to take immediate action at Balasore and it seemed most probable that the connecting link there was Saileswar Bose. His house was accordingly searched and he and his companion Tarapada Chakravarty were arrested. At the search a mysterious letter (copy attached) was found of which neither Saileswar nor Tarapada could offer any explanation. Further enquiries in Balasore showed that Martin had, on his arrival, stopped at the Dak Bungalow and had been taken away from there by Saileswar and an unknown companion. It was also ascertained that Saileswar had paid mysterious visits to Kobtipada in the Mayurbhanj State and had also been on an expedition down the canal which leads towards Chandbali. Further, he was on several occasions visited by an extremely suspicious person whose name was said to be Gopal Chandra Roy. When questioned on these points Saileswar absolutely denied all knowledge of Martin and stated that he had never been to Kobtipada or down the canal nor could he furnish us with any details regarding Gopal Roy. From his attitude it was perfectly clear that he was concealing these facts because he knew of their seriousness, that his expeditions had been taken for some nefarious object and that his friends were concerned in some serious undertaking. Further search of telegrams showed that on the 15th June, that is, the date on which Martin wired from Madras, a wire was sent by a person giving a false name from Calcutta to Saileswar Bose asking him to send Makhan (one of the clerks of Harry and Company) back to Calcutta and to meet Chatterji who was arriving by the mail. It would seem that Chatterji was undoubtedly Amarendra Chatterji who subsequently cashed the draft Martin brought. We believe the telegram was sent by Jadugopal Mukherji as the writing is very similar to certain of the telegrams to Batavia and this supposition is supported by the fact that on the 5th July Saileswar Bose sent a telegram to Jadugopal Mukherji, 62 Beniatola Street, Calcutta, asking him to make arrangements for the arrival of someone at Calcutta. Saileswar's receipt for the first wire has been obtained, yet he persists in denying all knowledge of either telegram. It is impossible not to believe that Saileswar is an important member of the conspiracy and that his presence at Balasore was in pursuance of the main plot. It is significant that neither he nor his brother could explain where the money was obtained with which he started his business known as the Universal Emporium. It would seem that Saileswar had been supported by the funds of the conspiracy and his presence at large was a danger which could not possibly be allowed to exist. He is at present under arrest at Balasore.

C. DENHAM,--21-9-15.

Tarapada Chakravarty *alias* Nimai Chakravarty, son of the late Debendra Chakravarty of village Chingripota, P. S. Sonapur, District 24-Parganas.

Another resident of the notorious village of Chingripota but who, until present enquiry was made into the German plot to import arms into India, was not known to the Police. Tarapada

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was found with Saileswar Bose at the search of the General Emporium at Balasore on September 5th. From his own statement it appears that he was taken to Balasore on 17th May by Saileswar Bose who stated that Tarapada was required by him to do mechanical work in repairing bicycles and watches. At the search some letters were found addressed to Tarapada by his brother Umapada who asked him to come home and warned him of the trouble he would get into by remaining with Saileswar Bose. Apparently these letters were disregarded and Tarapada seems to have been completely under the control of Saileswar Bose. He remained at Balasore constantly except for one visit which he paid to his home in August to see his mother who was ill. Apparently Saileswar urgently desired to get him back to Balasore as he got two of his friends, Jotindra Nath Sur and Narain Das Brahmachari, who were visiting Calcutta, to go to Tarapada's home and persuade him to return at once. Tarapada was examined regarding the mysterious letter which was also found at the house search and which, it is believed, was written by Gopal Chandra Roy. In this letter (copy attached) is the following sentence:— "I leave instructions to Nimai to hand over a letter written to him (Saileswar) containing everything which I was instructed to relate to him." Tarapada denied all knowledge of the letter or of having received any instructions. He admitted that Gopal Roy had visited Saileswar and stopped with him but would furnish no information about him. He, however, said that Gopal came once when Saileswar was away and stopped for two days but we would not admit that on that occasion Gopal left any letter or instructions for Saileswar with him.

The position of Tarapada is very similar to that of Makhan Lal Chakravarty and Syam Sunder Bose. Both these men were assistants of Hari Kumar Chakravarty and, in the latter's absence, could presumably carry on the work for him. Similarly, it cannot be doubted but that Tarapada was able in Saileswar's absence—and he would often be absent—to carry on the work of the conspirators. To restrain Saileswar and to leave Tarapada at large would undoubtedly be a dangerous thing as Balasore, a link in the general conspiracy, would not be completely cut off as it has now been. Internment of both Saileswar and Tarapada means that whatever arrangements were being made in the district of Balasore have come to an end and it is probable that their current work remains unfinished. Should Tarapada be left at large he would be in a position to inform other conspirators exactly what progress had been made and what remained to be done.

C. DENHAM,—21-9-15.

The attached copy of a letter should have formed an annexure to Sir Charles Cleveland's note no. 2946-E., dated 21st September 1915.

F. A. M. H. VINCENT,—22-9-15.

I reached here last night. Saileswar Babu has gone mofussil. He is expected here to-morrow. I shall have to start for my home to-morrow early in the morning, so it will not be possible to meet with Saileswar Babu. I leave instructions to Nimai to hand over a letter written to him, containing everything which I was instructed to relate to him.

Please let me know the address of your house to where I shall have to return within a week to have my hydrocele operated.

My man is come to-day. I hope you are going to remove yourselves very soon to another place.

Yours aff'y,
GOP (GOPAL?).

Chandi Charan Bhattacharji and others will have to accompany me when I shall have to go to a distant place. Behari Babu is willing to go with me. I hope that that would be better than Chandi Charan.

The Bihar and Orissa Government have applied for the issue of warrants under Regulation III of 1818 against—

- (1) Saileswar Bose, son of Krishna Das Basu of Chingripota village, District 24-Parganas, Bengal,
- (2) Nimai Chandra Chakravarti *alias* Tarapada, son of Debendra Nath Chakrabarti of Chingripota village, District 24-Parganas as, Bengal.

Both are it is understood at present in the Cuttack District Jail. A similar warrant was originally applied for against one Narayan Das Brahmachari but we were subsequently informed by the Bihar and Orissa Government that the Hon'ble Sir E. Gait and Mr. Denham considered his internment unnecessary at present.

His Excellency remarked on 15th September 1915 that great care must be taken to be sure of the guilt of those against whom Regulation III is to be applied, and expressed his unwillingness to use the Regulation except in cases where there is no doubt as to the guilt of those proceeded against.

As the Bihar and Orissa Government had not given reasons in support of the internment under the Regulation of Saileswar Bose and Nimai Chandra Chakravatti, the Home Department after consultation with Director of Criminal Intelligence decided to await the arrival of Mr. Denham, who was expected in Simla and would be in a position to indicate the evidence against both the men. Mr. Denham has now prepared a statement showing the evidence at present available. There cannot, I think, be the least doubt that the Regulation may be properly applied to Saileswar. He comes from a village in Bengal notorious for its revolutionaries, he is the brother of Syam Sundar Basu, to whom the Regulation has already been applied with His Excellency's approval, he has been in correspondence with the now notorious firm of Harry and Sons, 41, Clive Street, his association with Martin (Dhan Gopal Mukherji), his visits to Kobtipada (the base of the desperadoes eventually rounded up near Balasore), his expeditions down the canal which leads to Chandbali, a small port in Bihar and Orissa, his association with an extremely suspicious person, said to be Gopal Chandra Roy, the telegraphic communications detailed by Mr. Denham and his denial of these incidents and facts all leave no doubt as to his connection with the conspiracy. The fact that he has been unable to explain how he obtained funds with which to start the Universal Emporium at Balasore, and his admitted business relations with the firm of Harry and Sons read with the facts already mentioned justify the inference that he has been financed by the conspiracy funds remitted from Batavia.

The case against Nimai Chandra *alias* Tarapada is admittedly not so strong, but it is submitted that there is sufficient evidence to justify the application of Regulation III, and that it would be highly dangerous to leave him at large.

He comes from the same village as Saileswar—the notorious Chingripota. He was found at the Universal Emporium with Saileswar Bose when the premises were searched on September 5th. He admits having associated with Saileswar at Balasore since the 17th May last, and that this association was regarded as dangerous by his family is shown by letters from his brother, warning him of the danger of such association, and asking him to come home. That he was necessary for Saileswar's purposes is shown by the latter's anxiety to get him back when he had gone home to see his sick mother. The reference to him in the letter, found at the house search of the Emporium at Balasore, and believed to have been written by Gopal Chandra Roy, and his denial of all knowledge of the letter or of the receipt of any instructions as stated in that letter, considered with the facts mentioned above, point to his cognizance of and participation in the sinister business being carried on by Saileswar at the Emporium and his own connection with the conspiracy; Mr. Denham in the last portion of his note emphasises the danger of leaving Nimai Chandra at large.

His Excellency's approval of the issue of warrants under Regulation III of 1818 against the two men Saileswar and Nimai Chandra may be solicited.

S. R. HIGNELL,—22-9-15.

These two men are undoubtedly mixed up in the plot, and are fit subjects for detention. It is to be hoped that some of these lesser men detained may eventually split, and give information sufficient for the ultimate prosecution of the principals.

R. H. C[RAVDOCK],—22-9-15.

SUMMARY.

Perusal of my note dated 22nd September 1915 and of Hon'ble Member's remarks on the same, is respectfully solicited.

With His Excellency's approval, warrants as proposed may issue at once.

S. R. HIGNELL,—22-9-15.

I note that it is only against Saileswar and one other that warrants are to issue.

H[ARDINGE],—23-9-15.

(1) A draft telegram to Bihar and Orissa is put up for approval.

(2) A draft letter to Bihar and Orissa forwarding the two warrants for the detention of the two persons is put up. Also fair copies for signature.

(3) The draft despatch and proceedings drafted by Secretary have been typed and put up—also fair copy for signature.

A. L.,—24-9-15.

The proceedings have been drawn up on the lines followed in previous cases connected with this conspiracy. It is thought inadvisable to enter into too great detail.

S. R. HIGNELL,—24-9-15.

R. H. C[RADDOCK],—24-9-15.

Pro. no. 57. TELEGRAM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, NO. 3232, DATED 24TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

Pro. no. 58. LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, NO. 3233, DATED THE 24TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

Pro. no. 59. DESPATCH TO HIS MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA, NO. 9, DATED THE 1ST OCTOBER 1915.

Pro. no. 60. MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE, NO. 2946-E-II, DATED THE 25TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

This gives more details of the Balasore affair, and shows how well the local officers and villagers behaved.

S. R. HIGNELL,—25-9-15.

R. H. C[RADDOCK],—27-9-15.

Pro. no. 61. TELEGRAM FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA NO. 244-C., DATED THE 28TH SEPTEMBER 1915.

For information.

A. L.,—4-10-15.

S. R. HIGNELL,—4-10-15.

APPENDIX.

Extract from the "Times of India" dated the 15th September 1915.

There can be few more repugnant events than to be reminded, by the judgment in the Lahore Conspiracy Case, of the revolutionary undercurrents in India. At a time like the present, when the world has been ringing with stories of the steadiness and gallantry of Indian troops on the battlefields of Europe, and when the great mass of the Indian people has been solidly united in its loyalty to the Empire in the crisis through which it is passing, the revelation of the cold-blooded conspiracy unearthed at Lahore comes as a double shock. But nothing is gained by refusal frankly to consider it, and the situation which it establishes in India. Indeed in one sense we can discuss it now with the greater emphasis, because of the environment of the crime. If this conspiracy had been disclosed in ordinary times, there might have been a tendency to regard the members as representative of a considerable class in India. There is no such danger now. The people of this country have proved their attachment to the Empire by deeds far stronger than any words. The revolutionary party stands out a mere fraction of the population—a dangerous and determined fraction of the population perhaps, yet so small that it cannot command any chance of success whilst the sentiment of the country remains what it has been so splendidly proved to be. Still, there is the patent warning to all who are concerned with the welfare of India, Indians even more than Englishmen. If the conspirators had succeeded in even a small part of their programme there would have been great loss of life and property and a legacy of grievous mistrust which could not be beaten down for a generation. We owe a deep debt of gratitude, all of us, to the skilful men who discerned the conspiracy and tracked down the principal offenders. Without being in any way vindictive, we rejoice that the arm of the law has overtaken rascals who fomented mutiny, blood-shed and anarchy. We cannot believe that anarchy, however, foreign it may be to the Indian character, will ever be exorcised from this country now that it has secured a certain footing here. But it has been made an unsubstantial and exceedingly precarious occupation; and we doubt not that the Government will continue to receive the solid support of all leaders of opinion in their determination to see that the position shall remain as innocuous as possible, for in this way only can we guarantee the ordered progress of India.

The broad facts of this conspiracy were so clearly revealed in the evidence during the long-drawn trial that there is little new in the elaborate judgment of the Special Tribunal before which the accused had such a patient trial. The conspiracy was marked by two exceptional features—first a certain lack of subtlety, next a comprehensive incitement to deeds of violence and blood. We have known in India the subtle conspiracy, which aimed at the debauching of the generous instincts of youths, and thereby preparing them for isolated violent crimes. Here there was little subtlety, and the offenders were for the most part grown men. The ground was prepared to a certain extent in familiar fashion. Meetings were held on the Pacific Coast, chiefly in the towns of Vancouver and San Francisco, and societies were formed for the dissemination of ultra-radical views. Thus the way was made clear for the fountain head, Hardial. Hardial possesses this unenviable distinction; he was the beneficiary of the Government which he set out to destroy, for he held a Punjab Government scholarship at Oxford. He possessed the characteristic, which has been common in the revolutionary movement in India—he took care of his own precious skin and that of his chief lieutenants, whilst sending his dupes to their certain destruction. Hardial's active revolutionary propaganda began in May 1913, and his chief organ was the *Ghadr* newspaper, which preached murder and mutiny in every sentence. The decision to attempt to promote a mutiny and a rising in India preceded the declaration of war between Great Britain and Germany, a significant point to which we shall recur. Emissaries were sent to prepare the way by that "eminent patriot, Gurdit Singh"; the return of the *Kommagata Maru* followed these stormy petrels. The rising was to have commenced at Lahore on February 21st; its headquarters were raided by the Police on February 20th and the conspiracy was nipped in the bud. Unfortunately in a few isolated cases the conspirators were successful in seducing a few sepoys from their allegiance; how few the recent annals of the Indian Army attest. They were able to carry out a few dacoities and to make one or two attacks on bridges. But the timely arrests on February 20th sterilised the whole movement, though it is a matter of regret that one particular arch-conspirator slipped through the meshes of the net. In one terse passage of its judgment the Special Tribunal crystallises the history of the conspiracy—

"Our final conclusion put briefly is this, that in May, 1913, Hardial commenced to stir up the inflammable material in America into a state of hostility towards the British Government and proceeded with others, including certain of the accused, to conspire and prepare for an insurrection in India, with the object of overthrowing Government established there, at some date to be determined in the future. That conspiracy and preparation finally developed at the end of July and beginning of August 1914 into the first act of waging war, viz., collection together of men in large numbers, in America to leave for India, to War against Government. These collections were made by Amar Singh in Oregon and at gatherings at Portland and

Sacramento, they set out to San Francisco *en route* to India for war and sailed thence by various ships and notably the Korea. These bodies of men were reinforced by others at various places in the Far East. In pursuit of the war, attempts to seduce troops and to collect arms and men were made *en route*. Arriving in India such of them as were not interned assembled with the new recruits obtained in India. The war commenced in July; in August a series of acts which we have considered in detail, such as dacoities, seduction of troops, villagers and students, the manufacture and collection of arms and bombs were projected and accomplished as well as attacks on railways, bridges, forts, arsenals and general communications, and finally there was projected a general rising which was to be the culminating act of the war."

This restrained judicial summary places exactly before us the crime for which the sixty-one accused persons were arraigned and fifty-seven sentenced.

! It will be remembered that in the course of the voluminous evidence more than one reference was made to the encouragement and support which the conspirators had received from individual Germans. On this point the Special Tribunal makes remarks which must arrest our attention. The judgment points to the remarkable coincidence—if it was a coincidence—that the decision of the conspirators on the Pacific Coast to commence active operations in India preceded by a few weeks the German declaration of war. The judgment declares that there is ground for the suspicion that the leaders knew that the Germans intended to start the war months before it broke out. Again, the judgment says that there are indications which point to the suggestion that there was some understanding with Germany, and that some assistance was rendered by individual Germans, whilst the revolutionaries considered themselves in league with the Germans. We hope that this warning will sink home. There has been a certain amount of discussion as to what shall be the policy of the British Government towards Germans in the Empire when this war is over. We have generally deprecated such discussions, because our business is first to win the war; when victory has been gained we can proceed to discuss the settlement. But these revelations—which do not stand alone—refuse to be ignored. We have the authority of an eminent American, whose acquaintance with Germany is intimate, and who prior to the war held strong German sympathies, Mr. Poulteney Bigelow, that wherever the Union Jack flies the German has found a ready asylum and freedom of trade; wherever the German flag was raised every conceivable obstacle was placed in the way of the British trade and settler. Now in addition to this discrimination, we have these strong grounds for believing that some Germans at any rate abused these privileges in the grossest manner, and supported, if they did not incite to, movements having for their object mutiny and insurrection combined with the indiscriminate massacre of Englishmen. Is this a people to whom India can ever offer the right of settlement when the war is over? We believe that the overwhelming sentiment of the country is in the direction of an emphatic and uncompromising negative. Here we leave the Lahore conspiracy case with a feeling of thankfulness that this part of it has been brought to an end. It has been revealed as a conspiracy of the most determined character, aiming at mutiny, insurrection, massacre and every form of crime. If it had been at all successful it would have plunged a part of the country into all the horrors of civil war. From that danger we have been saved by the good sense and staunch loyalty of the mass of the people and the vigilance of the Police. It would be sheer hypocrisy to pretend that any sympathy can be felt for the grown men who aimed at massacre and have brought themselves within the clutches of the law. But every intelligent individual sees that the conspiracy was largely defeated because it was alien to the dominant sentiment of India. That sentiment has been proved by deeds. We do not believe for a moment that we have heard the last of the anarchical movement in the Punjab or Bengal. It will demand the unceasing energies of those in authority and the insistent condemnation of all leaders of Indian opinion; and must influence our form of government. But it will not be allowed to turn us aside from the steady development of the policy of liberalism and sympathy in India, which will secure the rapid rise of the land in which we live.

Exd by.—E.A.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE

HOME DEPARTMENT, OCTOBER 1915.

Affray in Balasore, etc.

AFFRAY IN BALASORE IN WHICH FIVE ARMED BENGALIS KILLED A VILLEGER AND WOUNDED ANOTHER AND WERE IN TURN ATTACKED BY THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE AND OTHER POLICEMEN WITH THE RESULT THAT ONE WAS SHOT DEAD, TWO OTHERS WOUNDED AND TWO CAPTURED UNINJURED.

ISSUE OF WARRANTS UNDER REGULATION III OF 1818 FOR THE DETENTION OF (1) SAILESWAR BOSE AND (2) NIMAI CHANDRA CHAKRABARTTI *alias* TARAPADA.

Telegram No. 2179-C., dated Simla, the 10th September 1915.

Pro. no. 48.

From—The Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

It has been reported by Superintendent of Police, Balasore, that five armed Bengalis shot one and wounded another villager. Police with Magistrate immediately went to the spot and after fight secured all accused, two wounded, one dead and two unhurt. District Magistrate has been instructed to report immediately full details of affair which is believed to be connected with matter referred to in correspondence ending with your no. 2648 of 16th August.

Telegram dated Ranchi, the 12th September 1915.

Pro. no. 49.

From—The Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Continuation my telegram 2179-C., dated 10th instant, following additional report has been received from Superintendent, Police, Balasore *Begins*: Between 1-30 and 2 P.M. on 9th instant number of villagers came to the Police Office and reported five men armed with revolvers were passing villages Dumda and Sahapada; villagers questioned them and suspecting something wrong called village chaukidar whereupon the men fired, killing one villager and wounding another. District Magistrate was immediately informed and I proceeded to the scene of action with District Magistrate and as many men as were available. On arriving at the spot five men were found behind a clump of trees in a paddy field. On seeing the police and Magistrate they fired and under orders of the Magistrate our men replied. The firing was continued for some time on both sides when two men raised their hands and offered to surrender, one had been shot dead, two wounded and two unhurt. Case under section 302-A., Indian Penal Code, has been instituted. The two wounded are in precarious state and other two are under arrest, copy of report being sent to-day by special messenger, enquiries proceeding. *Ends*. Scene of occurrence is five miles north of Balasore station.

Telegram no. 3077, dated the 13th September 1915.

Pro. no. 50.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The HON'BLE SIR C. BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., etc., Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa.

Clear the line. In connection with the recent events which occurred at Balasore it is understood that apart from the five men who have been implicated in the affray, three others who are suspected of complicity in the gun-running plot have been arrested. It is essential that these men should be kept in custody till an investigation is made and bail should be refused them. The procedure adopted in similar circumstances in Calcutta has been for the local Government to telegraph to the Government of India for warrants under Regulation III of 1818, which have

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been issued in six cases. It is for consideration whether similar action is not required in these cases. If so, the essential particulars required are the full name, and father's name and the place in which the persons should be interned. It is understood that Mr. Denham has explained the full general position to Mr. Ryland, but it would probably help the Government of Bihar and Orissa if Sir Edward Gait could meet Mr. Denham in Calcutta or Balasore. Sir Charles Cleveland would have been sent down but for his presence being required in Simla. Mr. Denham also cannot leave the investigation so it is a case of Sir Edward Gait going to meet Mr. Denham. This suggestion is offered for your consideration as the circumstances are unusual.

No. 3078, dated Simla, the 31st September 1915.

Endorsed by the Government of India, Home Department.

Copy forwarded to Sir C. Cleveland for information. He will doubtless inform Mr. Denham.

Pro. no. 51.

Telegram dated the 15th September 1915.

From—The Viceroy, Home Department,
To—The Secretary of State for India.

It has been ascertained from enquiries made into remittances of money from Dutch East Indies to Calcutta in furtherance of scheme for landing arms in India that C. A. Martin who was in Batavia up to June this year was really Dhan Gopal Mukherji of Calcutta. An account of this man will be found on page 31 of the *Ghadr* Directory. He arrived at Negapatam from Penang on 14th June and proceeded to Balasore *via* Madras and Calcutta. From enquiries made at Balasore it has been found that Mukherji was associated with some local Bengalis and also with a mysterious party of young armed Bengalis living in jungles 25 miles west of Balasore. On the 9th instant local villagers, who had been told to look out for the latter Bengalis, found them and questioned them whereupon the villagers were fired on by the Bengalis, one being killed and one wounded. Information was immediately sent to the police and the Magistrate of Balasore. An armed party under the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police proceeded to the spot which was about 5 miles north of Balasore and found a party of five Bengalis who at once opened fire on the police and the Magistrate but failed to wound anybody. The police party returned the fire of the Bengalis under the Magistrate's orders, and after some time two Bengalis advanced, holding up their hands in token of surrender. A capture of the whole party was then effected and it was found to include one dead Bengali, two Bengalis seriously wounded and two unwounded. One of the wounded Bengalis died soon afterwards. The Bengali first killed turns out to be the well known absconding political criminal Jotin Mukherji who was probably the most active and dangerous of the Bengal revolutionaries. He was first notorious for his connection with the murder of Deputy Superintendent Shamsul Alam in the Calcutta High Court in January 1910 and in the present year was concerned in the Garden Reach dacoity case and also himself shot dead an inoffensive Bengali in Calcutta who happened to come into his room. The second dead Bengali is Chittapriya Roy who on the 28th February last shot Sub-Inspector Suresh Chandra Mukherji in Cornwallis Square and he has since been absconding. The identity and particulars of the remaining Bengalis is not yet quite certain. Evidence shows that this party of five Bengalis were concerned in the German plot for sending arms to India in association with others of their party some of whom during the past month have been arrested.

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Telegram dated the 14th September 1915.

Pro. no. 52

From—The Lieutenant-Governor, Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Please see your 'clear the line' telegram of the 13th instant. We are adopting both suggestions. As soon as they are required application for warrants will be telegraphed. All particulars have been ascertained. The Hon'ble Mr. Gait is arranging to see Mr. Denham.

Telegram, dated the 14th September 1915.

Pro. no. 53.

From—The Government of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Clear the line. Please refer to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's telegram of this day's date. Warrants under Regulation III of 1818 may kindly be sent addressed to the Superintendent, Cuttack Jail, for the confinement in that jail of :—

- (1) Saileswar Basu, son of Krishna Dhan Basu of Chingripata village, District 24-Parganas, Bengal;
- (2) Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti *alias* Tarapada of Chingripata village, District 24-Parganas, Bengal; and
- (3) Narayan Das Brahmachari, son of Ram Gopal Brahmachari of Santipur, District Nadia, Bengal.

The name of the father of no. 2 will follow shortly.

Telegram, dated the 15th September 1915.

Pro. no. 54.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Clear the line. Please see my telegram of the 14th September 1915. Krishna Dhan Basu's name should be corrected to Krishna Das Basu. The name of the father of the second man mentioned in my telegram is Debendra Nath Chakrabarti. Sir E. Gait wires that he and Mr. Denham consider that the internment of Narayan Das Brahmachari, who is on bail, is unnecessary. Unless therefore necessity for using the warrant arises it will, if sent here, be held up.

Telegram P., no. 1502, dated the 16th September 1915.

Pro. no. 55.

From—The Secretary of State for India,

To—The Viceroy, Home Department.

Clear the line. Please refer to your telegram of the 15th instant. Affray with Bengalis. I assume that Batavia will be kept informed by you. I presume that every precaution has been taken in connection with the affair to prevent disclosure through the press of our knowledge of the German plot.

Telegram Nos. 3129-3131, dated the 17th September 1915.

Pro. no. 56.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To { The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.
The Chief Secretary to the Government of Burma.

It is requested by the Secretary of State that every precaution will be taken to prevent disclosure of our knowledge of the German plot through the Press.

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Pro. no. 57.

Telegram no. 3232, dated Simla, the 24th September 1915.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa, Ranchi.

Your telegram, 14th September. Warrants under Regulation III of 1818 for detention of first two persons mentioned in your telegram have been despatched to-day.

Pro. no. 58.

No. 3233, dated Simla, the 24th September 1915.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

In continuation of my telegram of to-day's date, I am directed to enclose warrants under Regulation III of 1818 for the detention of—

(1) Saileswar Basu, son of Krishna Das Basu; and

(2) Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti *alias* Tarapada son of Debendra Nath Chakrabarti.

2. The Regulation requires that suitable provision should be made for the support of every state prisoner according to his rank in life and to his own wants and those of his family. I am to request that the Government of India may be favoured as soon as possible with the recommendations of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council in this connection, and as to the officer who should be designated to report in accordance with section 4 (Secondly) of the Regulation. The attention of the Superintendent, Cuttack Jail, should be drawn to sections 3, 5, 6 and 7 of the Regulation.

WARRANT.

To—The Superintendent, Cuttack Jail.

Whereas the Governor General in Council, for good and sufficient reasons, has seen fit to determine that Saileswar Basu, son of Krishna Das Basu, shall be placed under personal restraint at the Cuttack Jail, you are hereby required and commanded in pursuance of that determination, to receive the person above named into your custody, and to deal with him in conformity to the orders of the Governor General in Council and the provisions of Regulations III of 1818.

By order of the Governor General in Council.

S. R. HIGNELL,

24th September 1915.

Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Department.

WARRANT.

To—The Superintendent, Cuttack Jail.

Whereas the Governor General in Council, for good and sufficient reasons, has seen fit to determine that Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti *alias* Tarapada, son of Debendra Nath Chakrabarti, shall be placed under personal restraint at the Cuttack jail, you are hereby required and commanded in pursuance of that determination to receive the person above named into your custody, and to deal with him in conformity to the orders of the Governor General in Council and the provisions of Regulation III of 1818.

By order of the Governor General in Council.

S. R. HIGNELL,

24th September 1915.

Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Department.

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Despatch no. 9, dated Simla, the 1st October 1915.

Pro. no. 59.

From—The Government of India, Home Department,

To—The RIGHT HON'BLE AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

In continuation of our Secret Despatch no. 8-Political, dated the 10th September 1915, we have the honour to report that we have found it necessary to issue warrants under Regulation III of 1818 for placing under personal restraint one Saileswar Bose, also one Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti *alias* Tarapada, in the circumstances detailed in the annexed proceedings. We hope that the reasons for our action will commend themselves to you.

Proceedings detailing the circumstances in which it was found necessary to issue warrants under Regulation III of 1818 for placing under personal restraint Saileswar Bose and Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti alias Tarapada.

These proceedings should be read in continuation of those annexed to the despatches of the Government of India, nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8, dated respectively the 20th and 27th August, 3rd and 10th September.

Saileswar Bose, son of Krishna Das Bose, is a resident of the village of Chingripota, P. S. Sonarpur in the district of the 24-Parganas, Bengal. Chingripota is notorious as the home of a large number of members of the revolutionary society in Bengal. During the search made by the police on August 7th last of the premises occupied by the so-called firm in Calcutta, to which reference has been made in the proceedings annexed to our despatch no. 5, dated the 20th August 1915, it was discovered that Saileswar Bose was the brother of Syam Sunder Bose, to whom Regulation III of 1818 has already been applied as in the proceedings mentioned immediately above, and had had considerable correspondence with the so-called firm. It was ascertained that Saileswar had set up at Balasore a shop called the 'Universal Emporium,' where he was found with one Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti, *alias* Tarapada, a resident of the same village of Chingripota. Saileswar was quite unable to explain whence he possessed funds to start the Universal Emporium, and there is every reason to believe that he has been financed from the general funds of the Conspiracy. His association with the agent employed by the Conspiracy to transmit funds to India, as also his connection with the party of desperadoes rounded up at Balasore on September 9th, have been proved to the hilt. Other suspicious movements on his part, the receipt and despatch of mysterious telegrams connected with the movements of suspicious persons and association with suspicious characters known or believed to be connected with the Conspiracy have also been proved against him.

Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti joined the Emporium at Balasore on May 17th and has since admittedly been in close association with Saileswar. Letters found during the search of the Emporium on September 7th showed that his family had called attention to the danger of his association with Saileswar, and that he persisted in continuing it. A letter found in the premises showed his implication in Saileswar's sinister purposes, and he admitted association with suspicious visitors to the Emporium.

The Governor-General in Council is satisfied on the evidence disclosed that there is good reason for believing that Saileswar Bose and Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti *alias* Tarapada are connected with a seditious conspiracy, and that the preservation of the security of the British Dominions from foreign hostility and internal commotion demand their confinement. Further that judicial proceedings in respect of them are immediately inadvisable.

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He has therefore been pleased to direct the issue of warrants under Regulation III of 1818 for the confinement of Saileswar Bose, son of Krishna Das Bose, and of Nimai Chandra Chakrabarti (*alias* Trapada), son of the late Debendra Chakrabarti, in the Cuttack District Jail, in the province of Bihar and Orissa.

Pro. no. 60.

No. 2946-E-II, dated the 25th September 1915.

Endorsed by the Deputy Director, Criminal Intelligence Department.

(1) Copy of a letter, dated the 20th September 1915, from Mr. E. C. Ryland, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, Bihar and Orissa, to the Director of Criminal Intelligence, Simla.

(2) Copy of the History of the Balasore Murder Case and the capture of Jotin Mukherji and others.

Forwarded to Mr. S. R. Hignell, I.C.S., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department, for information and record.

Memorandum dated Bankipur, the 20th September 1915.

From—Mr. E. C. RYLAND, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Director, Criminal Intelligence. Simla.

I have the honour to send herewith a copy of the History of the Balasore Murder Case and the capture after a fight of Jotin Mukherji and others.

The history represents the case as it is being put into Court.

I have not sent you any previous reports in this case as Mr. Denham, who was down in Balasore with me, was reporting to you. I shall now keep you informed from time to time of the progress of the case.

History of Case.

On Sunday the 5th September, 1915, the Magistrate, Balasore, received certain information on which he issued a warrant for the search of certain premises used for a bicycle and clock shop called the Universal Emporium in the Town of Balasore. As a result of that search and on certain information obtained at it the Magistrate considered that further search and enquiry was necessary in the Nilgiri State and at a place called Kobtipada. On the 6th September the Magistrate accompanied certain Bengal officers to Kobtipada, in Mayurbhanj, to assist them in getting necessary help from the State authorities with whom he was acquainted. They reached Kobtipada after dusk and on the morning of the 7th with the help of the Sub-Divisional Officer and State police conducted a search in a house built and occupied by certain Bengalis. The Bengalis had evidently got wind of the arrival of the officers as they were found to have absconded. In the house and courtyard were found evidences of firearms for which the Bengalis held no license. It was further ascertained that at a place called Taldiha, also in the Mayurbhanj State, there were two other Bengalis who were connected with the Kobtipada lot and who had opened a shop at Taldiha. It was arranged that the State police should continue the enquiries whilst the Magistrate returned to Balasore to make arrangements for blocking the roads leading from the State into Balasore as it was thought probable that the Bengalis would make for the railway.

The search in Balasore town had created some little sensation and the news of two arrests made there spread. It so happened that one witness, who is a resident of Gobindpur, and who has a shop in Balasore town which he visits daily, heard of the arrest of a man who kept a cycle and clock shop and on his way home on the 8th he met a policeman at the ferry ghat whom he overheard warning the ferryman to keep a look-out for foreigners and to warn the police if he noticed any.

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On returning home this witness mentioned the fact to his brother Sani Sahu and told him to keep a look-out.

On Thursday morning, the 9th instant, at about 9. A.M. Sani Sahu who had been fishing with another witness had just landed from their boat, a small dug-out, and made it fast to the bank when on the opposite bank of the river five strangers appeared and called out they were "Sarkari log" and wished to be taken across the river. Sani Sahu and his companion refused on the grounds that their boat was not a Sarkari (meaning ferry) boat and was small and would sink with so many persons. The strangers then suggested that the witnesses should go across and take their clothing and jhola (haversack) and they themselves would swim across. This the witnesses also refused to do but suggested to the strangers that there were four boats a little higher up and no doubt they could get across in one of them. In the meantime Sani Sahu and his companion were joined by a third witness.

The strangers following the suggestion of Sani Sahu and his companion went towards the four boats referred to and the witnesses saw them crossing the river. These four boats belonged to foreigners who were on their way to collect timber. It has not been possible to trace them.

Sani Sahu remembering what his brother had told him the previous night and the other two witnesses being curious about the strangers who appears respectable persons but had no clothing and were coming from the jungles, went towards where the strangers landed on their side of the river. On landing the strangers were making for the jungle when the witnesses called out and told them there was no road that way, so the strangers turned towards them. The witnesses questioned them as to who they were and not getting satisfactory replies, their suspicions were confirmed. Sani Sahu then suggested to one of his companions that he should go and call the Dafadar, while he and his other companion kept an eye on the strangers. One of the witnesses, Bahu Sahu, accordingly went to call the Dafadar whilst the other two kept with the strangers who after walking along the edge of the river for some little distance struck a path leading to a Bund road running parallel with the river and a hundred to a hundred and fifty paces from it.

As the strangers seemed in some doubt which way to go Sani Sahu asked them to say where they wanted to go and he would show them; the strangers said they wished to get to the railway and the witness told them to follow the Bund road towards the north-east. Along this the strangers went but after a few minutes seated themselves to take rest; this was near Gobindpur village. Sani Sahu slipped away to call his brother to see the strangers to see if they were like the men he referred to; at the same time he called up some villagers. On returning to the spot where he had left the strangers, with his brother and some villagers he found the strangers moving on. About this time also the witness sent to call the Dafadar hurried up. He had not found the Dafadar but had brought the Dafadar's brother along.

Several witnesses then began to question the strangers and eventually the Dafadar's brother told them they would have to accompany them to the Thana and stepped out to block their way. The strangers shoved past him and continued to move away. Again an attempt was made to block their way and the strangers producing pistols from their waist cloth threatened the crowd with them. The villagers fell back and the Dafadar's brother raised a hue and cry of dacoits. The strangers continued on their way followed by a fast increasing crowd of villagers. One of the strangers then fired a shot but this though it frightened the villagers for the moment did not disperse them. Later on one or two more shots were fired; by this time the strangers had reached Dumuda village. It was then about 11 A.M. Finding no damage done by the shots fired one bold spirit amongst the villagers hurried towards the strangers intending to close with them, one or two villagers.

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followed in his wake but the majority held back. When the first man reached within 25 paces of the strangers they opened fire. How many of the five actually fired it is not clear but several shots were fired. Raju Mahanti, the leading villager, was hit, he turned and moved a few paces and fell and died. Some of the witnesses say the shot that killed Raju Mahanti was fired by one of the strangers who was fair. About the same time Sudam Giri who was some 130 paces in the rear and who was fleeing at the moment was struck by a bullet in the back; the bullet passing right through him; he fell senseless.

At this stage most of the villagers ran away but four we know of kept the strangers in sight. The Dafadar's brother and three other witnesses started off for Balasore to inform the police and Magistrate. The strangers moved on some little way and then sat down and took some refreshment. In the meantime villagers from the other side had collected and the strangers finding they were unable to shake off the villagers left the Bund road and turned off east across country.

At this stage S. I. Chintamoni Sahu who was on patrol duty and who had learnt of the presence of the strangers and murder from the Dafadar's brother and the three villagers who were hurrying to Balasore, arrived on the scene. Soon after he arrived a shot was fired and the Sub-Inspector took off his uniform and mingled with the villagers and with them followed the strangers. After crossing the Mayurbhanj road the strangers struck a small stream. This they waded across, carrying their revolvers tied on their heads with their clothes. They crossed one at a time firing occasional shots to keep the villagers back.

After crossing the stream the strangers made in the direction of Chasa Kand village. Most of the villagers had been held up by the streams but the Sub-Inspector and a few villagers kept the strangers in sight. On arriving near Chasa Kand village the strangers made for the embankment of an old tank in the middle of some paddy fields from where whilst protected from view by bushes they commanded a view all round. Possibly it was their intention to halt here till night-fall and then slip away in the darkness.

In the meantime the Dafadar's brother and the three villagers who had set out with him reached Balasore about 2 P. M. and informed the Superintendent of Police and Magistrate. These officers got together some armed police and set out for the scene of occurrence. They requisitioned all the motors available and Sergeant Rutherford of the Proof Department came as driver of the Proof Department motor, the regular driver being absent.

The force from Balasore set out in motors and gharis and reached the river Burah Balang more or less about the same time. On crossing the river the party were making along the Mayurbhanj road when they were met by a chaukidar sent by S. I. Chintamoni to show the police the route. On receipt of this man's information the Magistrate split the police up into two parties; the Superintendent of Police and Sergeant Rutherford going with one across country from the Mayurbhanj road and the Magistrate with the other party going along the Midnapore road. On the way the Magistrate picked up a cycle and preceded his party and was thus first to reach the locality where the strangers were ensconced. He noticed some villagers hurrying towards him and observed a flag waving, the latter was a signal improvised by the Sub-Inspector Chintamoni Sahu. At the same time the Magistrate heard the crack of pistols and having located the position of the strangers he advanced and with a sporting rifle he had with him fired a shot in their direction to intimate he had a long-range rifle, hoping the strangers would realise the game was up and surrender, but the strangers showed no signs. The Magistrate got together his party and awaited the arrival of Sergeant Rutherford and his lot. After they arrived the joint forces advanced against the position taken up by the strangers, who at once opened fire. At first their shooting was wild but improved and the attacking party took cover and having got within

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range opened fire. At the end of some 15 or 20 minutes two men were seen to stand up and hold up their arms on which the Magistrate ordered "Cease fire." On advancing the two men surrendered and were arrested. It was then found that one of the strangers, who proved to be Bengalis, had been killed and two others were wounded.

Arrangements were then made to bring the prisoners, the wounded and the corpse to Balasore, where on arrival the wounded were sent to hospital, the prisoners lodged in the lock up and the corpse sent to the morgue. One of the wounded men died on the day following. Inquests and post mortems were duly held. It has been proved that these five men are identical with the individuals who were at Kobtipada and Taldiha and who went under false names. Though unwilling to give their names at first it has now been ascertained that the five men are :—

1. Chittapriya Ray Chaudhuri—killed.
2. Jatindra Nath Mukherji—wounded—since died.
3. Joytish Chandra Pal—wounded.
4. Narendra Chandra Das Gupta. }
5. Monoranjan Sen Gupta. } surrendered.

Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 are notorious absconders from Bengal where they were wanted in connection with so-called political cases. No. 3 is also a Bengal man though little is known of his past history.

How the accused found their way from Kobtipada and Taldiha to the point where they were first seen on the bank of the Burah Balang is not in evidence but we have it in the statement made by the accused Jyotish Chandra Pal that they did come from Kobtipada. In the village Haripur about two miles north of the Balasore railway station a bundle of clothes, a lamp, boots, shoes, umbrellas and some documents were found by the villagers in a paddy field. These articles undoubtedly belong to the accused. The articles were found by the villagers in the morning of the 9th and from this it may be reasonably presumed that the accused, in the first instance, made for the railway station but for some reason decided on going across country and whether because they found their clothing and shoes an encumbrance or whether they hoped to attract less attention if they disguised themselves as common folk, they discarded their clothing and wraps in some paddy fields which lie in the direct route from the railway station to the point where they struck the river bank. The accused Jyotish Chandra Pal in a statement to the police furnished details which prove the correctness of the above theory but so far he has not made the statement to a Magistrate and we are not in a position therefore to prove this break in the line from Kobtipada to the bank of the Burah Balang river from where our case actually starts.

Whilst this history relates to occurrences which form a series of acts so connected together as to form the same transactions and under section 235 of the Criminal Procedure Code triable at one trial, for the purpose of police investigation it was thought advisable to have separate first informations one for the murder of the villager and the wounding of a second villager in which the brother of the deceased villager is complainant and which case was lodged whilst the occurrences that followed were in progress and the other for the fight preceding the capture of the accused in which the Magistrate for King Emperor is complainant. We have thus to place before the commission two first informations and two charge sheets in which the accused are common and which though relating to two separate sets of offences constitute a complete transaction and to ask that under section 235, Criminal Procedure Code, the two cases may be tried together.

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Pro. no. 61.

Telegram No. 2445-C., dated Ranchi, the 28th September 1915.

From—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Received your letter number 3233 of 24th instant with enclosed warrants.

Exd. by—E.A.

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