"TOO MUCH FLAG"

England's Leading Sporting Paper Dislikes Certain American Characteristics.

Work of Impudent American Reporters at Henley—"Everlastingly Flagging".

London, July 20.—The Field devotes a page to a review of the Henley regatta. The article begins with a criticism of the management for refusing to confine the races at Henley to British entries. It says that American newspaper men invaded the press box, taking the best places, and, instead of doing their work, if they had any to do, talked in loud voices, to a great detriment of the hard-working Britishers. The writer urges that in future English and American reporters be separated at Henley. The article continues: "American reporters draw upon their imagination and write anything that comes into their heads, provided that it panders to the anti-British feeling of the men."

The Field then reproduces an article from a New York Weekly paper of July 11 in which the Henley management was accused of "stacking the cards" against Cornell in the drawing for heats and positions last year. "It was copies of this article that were distributed by a reporter for the Field, and who also reported the races for the United Press along the Henley tow-path before the races, until the regatta officials interfered."

The Field's article next criticises the behavior of Americans in general, and says: "The English people, unlike Americans, are not everlastingly flagging, either ashore or afloat. However, the Yankee flags were not much in evidence after Yale was knocked out."

THE WHEEL.

FAST AUSTRALIAN COMING.

New York, July 20.—J. W. Parsons, the Australian racing man, who is at present in Europe, cabled the Daily American Wheelman that he would leave London this week for this country, where he will ride during the latter part of the season. Parsons defeated Zimmerman, the American champion, during the latter's trip to that country last year. Beside Parsons, Michael, the Welshman, and Tesna, the Swiss, are expected to be of the party.

THE BICYCLE MEET.

Considerable disgust has been expressed by those who on Saturday attended the so-called bicycle races at the Oak Bay track. The meeting was arranged by two or three members of the V.W.C., not by the club itself. They advertised that S. P. Moody and Thos. Spain would ride for the amateur championship of the province. When the people arrived there it was found that Moody was not present. It is only fair to state that it was no fault of his. Last week he left for Nanaimo and Wellington in the interest of the firm he represents. He knew nothing whatever of the proposed race, the first he knew of it being when he picked up the Times at Wellington on Friday evening. The report of the proposed race was published in the Times in good faith, the information having been obtained from one of the managers of the meeting, who stated that all details had been arranged. Spain won all the amateur events, his opponents being Wolff and Penwill.

In view of the facts as stated above, the officers of the lacrosse club have good cause for complaint aginst the managers of the bicycle meet, as it now looks as though it was got up simply in opposition to the lacrosse match. Surely both wheeling and lacrosse can be indulged in without the enthusiasts on either side trying to cut one another's throats.

LACROSSE.

VERY POOR GAME.

Those who attended the intermediate lacrosse match at Caledonia Park on Saturday were dissapointed. Neither team played well, in fact, they played very poorly, with one or two exceptions. New Westminster won the match by 4 to 2, but it was not through any superior playing. They are very much heavier men than the Victoria intermediates, several of them having been lacrosse players before most of the Victoria boys could walk. If such men as McLeod and Rankin remain in intermediate ranks much longer, it will kill the game, as far as intermediates go. Although they are not good players they are too heavy for the other intermediates.

THE RIFLE.

THE QUEEN'S PRIZE.

London, July 20.—At Bisley rifle shooting for the Queen's prize opened to-day at 200 yards range. There were 1900 entries. Out of the possible 35 the members of the Canadian rifle team made the following scores: Crowe 32, Hayhurst 30, Mitchell and Spearing 31. At 800 yards range Miller made the highest score possible, 35. Other members of the team scored as follows: Campbell, Weller and Munroe 31, Macdonald, Sergt. Mitchell and Langsworth 29, Hart, Ogg and Bent 28, Ross, Armstrong and Neill 27, King, Huggins, Runins and Lasters 24.

THE RING.

SHARKEY-NEEDHAM

Tom Sharkey, an ex-U. S. bluejacket, who sprung into pugilistic fame by his encounter with Corbett, and his trainer, Danny Needham, gave a three-round sparring exhibition at the Delmonico music hall on Saturday night. The consensus of opinion among the local sports was that Needham was the cleverest of the two and that Sharkey has yet a great deal to learn about the art of self-defence.

CRICKET.

ALBIONS VICTORIOUS.

The Albions beat the Victorians on the Albion grounds Saturday afternoon. The Albions scored 125 and the Victorians 72 runs. Wallis, of the Victorians, and W. York, of the Albions, bowled well for their respective teams.

On Saturday at Vancouver, the Vancouver cricket team won easily from the Nanaimo team, the score being 135 to 67. Caldecott's score of 35 was the highest individual score.

YACHTING

Five A class yachts started in the Victoria yacht club race on Saturday afternoon, but, owing to the absence of wind, none of them covered the course inside of the limit of three hours. The race will be resailed to-morrow evening if the wind is favorable.

LAWN TENNIS.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

London, July 20.—At Wimbledon to-day Mahoney won the lawn tennis championship of England, defeating W. Baddelley, last year's champion, in three games out of five.

MISCELLANEOUS.

To the Sporting Editor: In yesterday's Colonist under the heading "Cycling Chat" is the following:

"The New York state circuit will open at Buffalo June 6 and conclude at Manhattan Beach June 27."

Now, am I dreaming? And is this not the 20th day of July? If I am not dreaming and this is the 20th day of July, what in the world does a newspaper (?) mean by printing in its issue of the July 19th the statement that something "will" happen on June 6th last?

A little further down, also under the heading "Cycling Chat" I find this:

"The meet of the Parkside Wheel club of Buffalo on May 30 undoubtedly will attract may of the professionals, as very liberal cash prizes are offered. Champion Bald is to compete at this meet."

Well, well, this is news, surely! Perhaps next week we will see the Colonist announcing that "Tupper is shortly expected to resign." Verily, the world moves! SPORT.

SATURDAY'S AFFAIR.

To the Editor:—Permit me to express my indignation at the questionable method in which the public were induced to visit the recreation grounds at Oak Bay on Saturday last. On the reputation gained by the popular performance of the former Saturday many people were induced to visit the grounds under the impression that Mr. Virtue was catering at the usual price of 25 cents to cover both entrance fee and grand stand: but were disgusted to find that Mr. Virtue had no connection with the affair and that an additional 25 cents was demanded from visitors for the grand stand after having paid the entrance fee. With the exception of the music—which is always good—the rest of the show was a fake and from the method adopted to extort an additional quarter reflects anything but credit upon those who had charge of it.

VICTIM.

BRIEF LOCALS.

Gleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

From Friday's Daily.

—Notice of dissolution of the Gulf of Georgia Canning Company is given in the current issue of the Gazette.

—The Equitable Savings, Loan & Buildings Association with head offices in Toronto, and a capital stock of $5,000,000 has been registered to do business in British Columbia.

—John Haggarty, the unfortunate young man who has just completed a term in the provincial jail, is again in the city lockup for safe keeping. Chas. Peterson is there for the same reason.

—Notices of incorporation of the Randolph Gold Mining Company and the Dollie Mining & Milling Company are given in the British Columbia Gazette. Both companies have been organized at Spokane and the capital stock for each is $750,000 in one dollar shares.

—The Golden Cache Mining Co., of Vancouver, with capital $500,000, has been organized by Messrs. W. R. Robertson, J. MacKinnon, J. MacQuillan and Robert Hamilton, of Vancouver, and Mr. William Munsie, Victoria. They will operate the Golden Eagle, Golden Stripe, Ruby and Jumbo claims in Lillooet district.

—The Ivanhoe Gold Mining Co., with headquarters at Rossland, has secured incorporation. The capital stock is $1,000,000. The promoters are: Messrs. Edward N. Bouche, D. W. Higgins, Duncan Campbell, M.D., A. M. Whiteside, J. F. Travers, Joseph H. Adams, Jno. S. Clute, jr., C. O'Brien Reddin, and C. F. Jackson.

—Mr. W. de V. Le Maistre will apply to the provincial legislature at its next sitting for the incorporation of a water works company at Trail, West Kootenay, the water to be obtained from Gorge Gulch and Blue Grouse Gulch and their tributaries and from Grass Springs and Lookout lake. The promoters of the company are W. W. D. Turner, W. M. Redpath, E. Saunders, R. T. Daniel and E. S. Topping.

—Chief Sheppard to-day received a dispatch from Conductor Coburn, of the E. & N. railway, stating that Gangelier, the Italian, who is wanted for cutting and wounding Edwin Christol, had boarded the train before she reached Cobble Hill and was going to Nanaimo. Chief Sheppard immediately telegraphed to the Nanaimo police to arrest Gangelier, but up to a late hour this afternoon had received no word from them.

—The provincial library has recently received the following donations: The Riches of Mexico and Its Institutions, by A. D. Salinas; the Phosphate Industry of the United States; Review of the World's Commerce, 1894-95; the Commercial Relations of the United States and Foreign Countries, 2 vols.; and the following reports of the United States Department of Labor: Industrial Depression, 1886; Compulsory Insurance in Germany, 1893; Convict Labor, 1886; Working Women in Large Cities; Railroad Labor; Analysis of Food Products, 1889; Cocoa, all about it; Scribner's Magazine for 1896; the Statistical Year Book of Canada.

From Saturday's Daily.

—Chief Sheppard returned on the noon train from Duncan's, having in charge Gangelir, who is charged with cutting and wounding Edwin Christol. He was arrested by Constable Maitland-Dougall of Duncan's.

—On Wednesday last Rev. D. Macrae, of Nanaimo, united in marriage Mr. E. Gartley to Miss Catharine Gordon, daughter of James Gordon of Cedar district. Mr. and Mrs. Gartley are spending their honeymoon in Victoria, and are registered at the Oriental hotel. They will visit Vancouver and New Westminster before returning to Nanaimo, where they will make their home.

—If the council decides to carry out all the street work recommended by aldermen, it will have lots to do during the next three months. First Ald. Partridge gave notice of a motion recommending certain work in Centre Ward, the came Ald. Glover with a proposition for North Ward, and to-day Ald. Tiarks included South Ward in the list. Ald. Tiark's motion is that the council is of opinion that the filling in and grading of Belleville street should be pushed to completion without delay, and that a proportionate sum of the monthly appropriations for August, September and October should be set aside for the purpose.

—Constable Heal, of the provincial police, yesterday evening arrested D. W. Thurston at Prospect lake. Thurston is charged with stealing a horse and cart from Thos. Lee, of Gordon Head. Mr. Lee met Thurston on the road and offered to give him a ride. Thurston accepted, and while Mr. Lee was in a neighbor's house, Thurston continued the journey without the owner. The horse and rig were found near Prospect lake by Sergt. Langley, and later Thurston was arrested by Constable Heal. The case came up in the provincial court to-day and was remanded until Monday.

—The Omineca Consolidated Hydraulic Mining Company, Limited, of Victoria, has been incorporated under the imperial act with a capital of $100,000 in shares of $1 each. The company owns several of the most valuable placer properties in the Omineca, and all water rights and titles have been secured. The officers are as follows: Wm. Munsie, president; J. T. Bethune, secretary and treasurer; directors, T. B. Hall, G. L. Milne, R. T. Williams, Capt. C. E. Clarke, of Victoria; J. W. Ladd, banker, Merrill, Wisconsin, and J. W. Moore, financial agent, Seattle. Capt. C. N. Black, C.E., is manager of the company, and he will proceed at once to the Omineca with a force of men to commence operations.

From Monday's Daily.

—Mr. Walter Disher and Miss Florence Mann were married at 65 Hillside avenue by Rev. J. P. Hicks on Saturday evening. Miss Ethel May Mann was bridesmaid and Mr. Holland supported the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Disher were the recepients of many presents.

—The first shipment of ore from the Robbie Burns claim at Shoal bay was taken to Vancouver by the steamer Comox on Friday evening. The shipment, which consists of 15 sacks, was forwarded to the Everett smelter. Another shipment of half a ton of ore from the "All Up" claim on Phillips arm was also sent to the smelter.

—Some excellent specimens were obtained by the members of the Natural History Society who went to Cordova bay on the steamer Mischief Saturday afternoon.

—The case of Joseph Gross, alias Gangelier, the Italian, arrested on Saturday for cutting and wounding Edmund Christol, has been remanded for a week, the wounded man being unable to appear in court.

—The body of a Chinaman, who had evidently been dead for some days, was found last evening in the old Chinese hospital and was buried this afternoon by Sanitary Officer Chipchase. The man went to the hospital on Friday in the last stages of consumption and must have died almost immediately. The president of the Chinese Benevolent Society says an order was given to an undertaker to bury the body but he failed to do so.

—The synod of the Church of England meets to-morrow in the hall attached to Angela College. Bishop Perrin delivers the opening address. On Tuesday evening a conversazione will be held in the A.O.U.W. hall, from 8:30 to 10:30. Lay members of the church are cordially invited to apply for tickets of admission which may be obtained from the pastors of the different churches. The meetings of the synod are also open to the laity.

—The annual meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association will be held at the Experimental farm, Agassiz on Aug. 8. Premier Turner and others will deliver addresses. Superintendent Sharpe of the Experimental farm has kindly allowed the use of the lawns and grounds and the large barn in which the meetings will be held. Arrangements have been completed for an excursion from Vancouver to Agassiz. The fare has been placed at the low price of $1 for the round trip.

—An indignant ratepayer called at the Times office this afternoon and submitted for inspection a small flask of Elk lake water drawn from a tap, containing a well-developed, wriggling, frisky leech, a little over two inches in length, which, it is imaginable, would prove a very unpleasant visitor to one's "innards." The moral is plain—don't drink Elk lake water without first carefully examining the same.

—A multi-millionaire is visiting Victoria. He is neither a Gould nor a Vanderbilt. He is simply a Chinaman, wears a pig-tail, dresses in the usual Oriental fashion and is proud that he is a native of the Flowery Kingdom. His name is Lee Kang and he hails from Trinidad. Mr. Kang is one of the few indivduals who make a success of life either through propitiating the goddess of fortune or through good management. He landed in Trinidad some 30 odd years ago without a dollar in his pocket. He now is reckoned among the millionaires, is married to a French lady and has a family of four daughters and one son. He is proprietor of the largest wholesale establishment in Trinidad and is now on his way to China. He will leave on the next Empress. The eldest daughter is 17 years of age. She has been well educated, and strange to say, her only language is the English. Mr. Kang some years ago started on a tour through the United States. He registered at one of the leading hotels but was after unceremoniously ordered out of the dining room as the proprietor believed it would ruin his trade to allow a Chinaman to remain as a guest in his hotel. Since then Mr. Kang has studiously avoided hotels, and he and his family are at present staying with Yuen Lung, the Cormorant street merchant. They spent to-day viewing the sights of the city.

—Osmund L. Day, known in San Francisco as "the macher," is at present in the city. The San Francisco papers a few weeks ago had a great deal to say about this notorious character. He is charged with having met and betrayed Beppie Griggs, the 16-year-old daughter of Assitant Postmaster Griggs, of Santa Rosa. When he abandoned her the unfortunate girl attempted to commit suicide. Shortly after this Day obtained a divorce from his first wife and came to Victoria. He was followed a few days later by the girl and they were quietly married. Mrs. Day went to Vancouver, but her husband remained here and went to work as a laborer. He applied for work on the fotifications, but as it was said that he had some years ago sold the plans of certain forts in Australia to the Russian government his application was refused. It is not believed that he was connected with the sale of the plans, but that the rumor gained currency through his own boasting. The San Francisco Call says he was "ragged" many times in that city.

NEW ORIENTAL LINE

Seattle to be Terminus of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line of Steamers.

Movements of Government Steamer Quadra—Maude Leaves for West Coast.

S. Iwanaga, of Tokio, general manager of the Japanese Mail Steamship Co., has signed a contract with the Great Northern railway company for the establishment of a line of steamers between the Orient and the Sound. Seattle has been selected as the Sound terminus, and the first steamer will probably leave there for Tokio on August 15th. The contract calls for one boat monthly, but the service will be increased as required. In consequence of the establishment of this line, there will probably be a hot scramble for freight with the Northern Pacific steamers. The Japanese steamship company will have a decided advantage over their opponents as they are to receive a substantial subsidy from the Japanese government. The route from Japan of the new company may extend by way of Honolulu. This will increase the distance of the round trip by about 1600 miles, making the total 14,600. The Japan Mail Steamship company has over seventy steamers in service, and at a general meeting held on June 10, increased its capital by 13,200,000 yen, making it altogether 22,000,000 ($11,528,000.) In the directors' report it was stated to be their ultimate intention to open three lines to the west coast of America, one to New York, by way of Brazil, and one to Europe and Australia. This will require thirty new vessels at a cost of 40,000,000 yen. The vessels for the American line will be designed for passenger and freight service, and be capable at any moment of being converted into cruisers. Six steamers will be required for this line, but as three of those already in the company's possession will be utilized for the purpose, only three need be constructed. They will each be 4500 tons, with 14 knots maximum speed and cost $300,000.

San Francisco, July 20.—It is now believed without doubt that the ship City of Philadelphia, 165 days out from New York, bound for this city, has gone to the bottom. Various kinds of wreckage have been picked up around Cape Horn and identified as having come from the missing vessel. The non-arrival of the ship Santa Clara, 156 days out from New York, and the bark Undaunted, 178 days from Baltimore, is also causing much anxiety.

The steamer Quadra, Capt. Walbran, returned Saturday evening from Sooke, where three barrels of oysters brought from the east were planted in three coves under the superintendence of Mr. Jno. McNabbe, inspector of fisheries. The Quadra will this week take coal and water to Race Rocks lighthouse, where, owing to the unprecedented spell of dry weather, their supply for the first time became exhausted.

MRS. YEOMANS DEAD.

Well Known Temperance Worker Is no More—Industrial Exhibition.

Toronto, July 20.—Mrs. Yeomans, the well known temperance worker, who has been ill for several years, died yesterday. She will be given a public funeral on Tuesday.

Woodstock, July 20.—Enoch Arms, an old watchmaker, was killed while walking on the G. T. R. track near Ingersoll.

Parry Sound, July 20.—Justice Ferguso sentenced Christian Hansen, the murderer of James Mullen, to be hanged here on Friday, October 16th. The prisoner, through the interpreter, said he was not guilty.

Woodstock, July 20.—Arrangements are being made for a convention of the Liberals of North Oxford to nominate a candidate to succeed Sir Oliver Mowat in the legislature. It is expected that Pattullo, editor of the Woodstock Sentinel Review, will be chosen.

Winnipeg, July 20.—The industrial exhibition opened to-day. There is already a large number of visitors here.

Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Hooper, Harry F. McDowell and wife, Boston, H. W. Bullock, Salt Spring, A. H. Macleod, New Westminster, Alex Mathison, New Westminster, are registered at the Dallas.

Captain Fraser, of the British ship Carolla, now loading lumber at Moodyville, is being welcomed by the many friends he made while here with his vessel two years ago. Mrs. Fraser and family are visiting the residence of Capt. J. G. Cox.

Mrs. Daly and the Misses Daly, of Astoria, who have been visiting friends in the city, left for home last evening.

James MacKim and Mrs. MacKim, of Union, spent last week in the city. They leave on the Queen to-morrow on a holiday trip to Alaska.

BRITISH GOLD COMING

Capital Will Flow in to Develope Canada's Great Natural Resources.

Views of Mr. Hosmer of the C. P. R. Telegraph Company on British Opinion.

Mr. Charles Hosmer, the able manager of the C. P. R. telegraphs, is back again to Montreal after a pleasant trip to England:

Many things interested him, says the Witness—the material progress of the people, the growth and expansion of London, which still seems to continue unabated; the eloquence of the great debating assembly which makes the laws for the greatest empire in the world.

Of especial solicitude, however, was the cable conference, of which we have heard somewhat in Canada. The immense project has been in the air for some time past. It has been discussed academically; the mother country and the colonies have been asked to make sacrifices to realize an all-English cable route; and even the syndicate, which cares little about sentiment and a great deal for dividends, is ready for operation when plans have been perfected, and patriotism is ready to take off its coat for actual work.

The conference was called in London, and it was attended by the representatives of England, Canada and the Australian colonies. There were two meetings; there was long discussion, and there was final adjournment till October when the conference is to resume its sittings with results which, it is anticipated, will be of a conclusive character.

Some dissatisfaction has been expressed, indeed, that the conference was so ready to adjourn and go off on a junket; but then nobody does anything in the dog-days in London; and everybody is out of town, with the exception of three or four millions commonplace persons who pay taxes, sustain the empire, but are for the most part silent.

Mr. Hosmer is very confident that the idea will be realized, and that at an early date. "I believe that all the parties to it are thoroughly in earnest about the matter. I can state this positively for Sir Donald Smith and Sir Mackenzie Bowell, and the same can be said of the Australian and Imperial representatives. Of course, it is to be understood that a vast amount of preliminary discussion must take place. There is the question of the best plan; there is the consideration of the best route, which must, you know, be an all-English one; and there is the further question of the character of the wire, the difficulties of laying, and so forth. All this requires time. Moreover, there is the consideration which has always been present, as to the devising of ways and means for the carrying out of the scheme. All these things will be disposed of by the business-like men who have been gathered together in conference, and the great project will be speedily realized. Taking of route, for example, the proposition contemplates a connection from Vancouver to Fanning Island in the Pacific Ocean, a distance of 3200 miles. This would be the longest distance hitherto attempted in the history of cable laying. Up to the present the longest distance has been 2500 miles.

The most hopeful sign is, in my opinion, the interest which all the great newspapers take in the project. They discuss it in the most intelligent and hopeful manner; they heartily approve it; and their feeling for the colonies in the connection, but especially for Canada, is of a most flattering and cordial character.

"And I am bound to know that Canada is known in England to-day as she never was known before. She is discussed in the papers; her government, her resources, her prospects, the development which must be hers—all these things are dwelt upon with pride and interest. Sir Donald Smith, by the manner in which he discharges his duty as high commissioner, by his princely entertainments, and by his association with those in the highest official and social circles, is doing much to widen this knowledge and to bring Canada near to English hearts in affection and pride. His high character lends eclat to the official position which he fills with the utmost satisfaction to every interest."

Mr. Hosmer was in London when the result of our elections was made known. "I was surprised and gratified to find the lively interest taken in this election by the English press. They discussed the matter with great ability, fairness and intelligence. The high personal character of Mr. Laurier made a deep impression upon the public mind, and this fact was widely commented upon."

Eager interest is turned at this moment in England to British Columbia. England has always more money than she knows what to do with. It likes to buy up railways and things with the bright guineas which bulge out of its pockets. The gold mining industry in British Columbia appeals to the adventurous and speculative spirit of the unmoneyed classes.

"Once, in British Columbia, we have a tangible result from any one mine now being operated, we shall see as great an inrush of capital as was witnessed in the case of South Africa," is how Mr. Hosmer puts it. "I heard of one firm which had made an offer of £200,000 for a single mine. Most of the work in British Columbia has been preliminary work. A man stakes out fifty claims in this business, and in the course of time comes down to five, or three or two. He has to examine and reject the bad and put in machinery, and in fact do an infinite amount of work before he can expect returns. But we should soon hear of solid results, and the moment we do you may expect to see abundant English capital flowing in to further develop this industry. The disturbed state of feeling in the Transvaal has made capitalists timid, and they will be all the more ready to put their money into this new venture once there is unquestionable evidence of success."

MICROBES GOOD AND BAD.

In these days when we are almost afraid to eat or drink or breathe by reason of the ubiquitous microbe and its supposed habit of going to and fro in the earth seeking whom it may devour, it is a real comfort to read this in a paper presented by a Chicago physician to the State Board of Health Auxiliary Sanitary Association: "Stress should be laid on the fact that there are numberless microbes that are harmless, and very many that are useful and even necessary to mankind. Indeed, the public should be warned against microphobia (if I may use the term.) The study of the microbe, its habits and its tendencies, should be left to scientists. It is enough worry for the public to know that the dangerous microbes thrive best and multiply fastest in dirt, just plain dirt and filth, and that the best and most convenient weapon to use in the conflict against them is soap and water in abundance, frequently applied and well rubbed in. The public should be particularly instructed not to be constantly in fear that something they eat or drink will do them harm, for suggestion of pending disease may produce it, as suggestion of help by faith in remedies may cure it."—Union Signal.

THE DACOITS OF BURMAH.

Civilization Has Compelled These Outlaws to Alter Their Habits.

Burmah is one of the countries that is changing very fast, and one of the things that has changed in Burmah is the dacoit. The sportive gentleman decribed by Rudyard Kipling and others, who crucified villagers by wholesale and filled old ladies with kerosene, were flourishing with full vigor less than ten years ago, but they already belong as completely to the past as Dick Turpin and his colleagues in England. No doubt a fresh war, or any event seriously shaking the British power or reputation, might produce a recrudescence of the old disease, but in the meantime the dacoits have entirely changed their habits. Instead of living together in bands in the jungle they are scattered through separate villages in the guise of peaceful cultivators. During the day each man attends to his paddy fields just like his neighbor, and it is only at night that they meet together for the dispatch of their more important and lucrative business. Dacoity, as defined by law is simply robbery committed by a band of five men or more, and it is important only because of the Burman's strong natural propensity toward it, and the great difficulties which his national character places in the way of its detection.

It must always be remembered that, Burmah being in a transition stage and much less settled than India, and the government being extremely short-handed, an immense amount of various kinds of work falls upon each English official. Here it is wholly impossible for him to exercise any close or detailed supervision over any particular part of his district. This of itself renders the detection of criminals a difficult matter. When the dacoits were in the woods it was simply a case of turning out occosionally to hunt them down.

At present the matter must necessarily be left chiefly in the hands of the natives. Now, the natives are for the most part honest and tolerably law-abiding, and they have *no sympathy* whatever with a man who goes dacoiting; but the dacoit goes armed, and the supinenes and cowardice of the Burman in the presence of arms, more particularly of firearms, are something almost incomprehensible to the Western mind. It is quite sufficient for a party of half a dozen men to have a gun among them—effective or useless, loaded or empty, matters little, the mere show is enough—and they may go fearlessly to work in the midst of the crowd; no one will interfere with them. In more than one instance bold robbers have made sucessful attacks when armed merely with their dahs—the dagger which every Burman carries—and with a pretended rifle made of a stick, with which they frightened off all opposition. But perhaps the strange workings of the native character are best exhibited in the following case, which occurred quite recntly. The facts are vouched for by an English officer:

There was a band of five men who were in the habit of practising dacoity occasionally. Three of them came from the same village—not a common thing, as it makes detection easier; the fourth from another village; and, as for the fifth, no man knows where he came from, for reasons that will appear. One night these five men, armed with nothing beyond their knives and spears which are used for fishing in Lower Burmah, entered a house, tied up the owner and began plundering. Now this house was in a large village, containing not only a population of some 1,400 people, but a police post, with fifteen native policemen armed with Sniders.

The alarm was given, and the house surrounded, and—then there was a pause. The robbers continued their work undisturbed within. The villagers—some 200 or 300 able-bodied men, all more or less armed—sat around on the dam which surrounds and protects every house on the delta, looked down on the house and discussed the question; the police stood rather nearer the house and fired shots into it through the bamboo walls, hurting no one. One solitary policeman, after a time, volunteered to advance. He crept up quite close to the house and fired in through an opening in the wall; then he went further, and actually put his head and part of his body through the hole, apparently to see what execution he had done.

One or the robbers promptly pinned him to the ground with a fish spear and killed him. By this time they had completed their preparations, so they sallied forth, each man with his pack of plunder on his back. Though the house was surrounded, they appear to have no difficulty in making their way through; only the police fired after them and hit three of them in the back, not seriously wounding them. But one of the band had the misfortune to stumble and fall. Instantly the crowd rushed upon him, and before he could rise literally hacked him to pieces, and so effectively that not the slightest clew of his identity remained. He was absolutely destroyed; no one knows even what was his nationality. The other four got clean away.

Now comes the sequel, which is, if possible, still more extraordinary. Some days after, a man in a neighboring town informed the thugyi, or headman, that two of the villagers, whom he named, had been concerned in the late dacoity. The thugyi had them arrested promptly, and they were taken to headquarters for identification.