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Mr. Poulton says that his questions in relation to a breach of the Seventh Commandment were suggested by the penitent herself, and asked at her request. It is not easy to understand how, under the circumstances, they could be necessary, and it is absurd to suppose that a divine must, like a physician, investigate every minor symptom before he can prescribe for the moral disease. When a woman who has been guilty of grave misconduct appeared to repent of her error, the proper remedies and appliances might have been suggested without further investigation. The Rubric, though it was composed for a simpler and less sensitive society, requires only a natural interpretation to adapt it to the circumstances of the present day. There is nothing to prevent a clergyman in Belgrave or elsewhere from reproving, or encouraging, or counselling a parishioner who resorts to him in a state of mental perplexity. It is the elevation of Confession into a ceremony or formal institution which has excited reasonable alarm. The advocates of the system play fast and loose with the charge when they treat the practice as an exceptional exercise of discretion. It is in their power to state whether they have fenced it round with rules and observances, or merely treated it as a delicate and confidential conversation. The stories of tapers, and darkened rooms, and prescribed genuflections may be exaggerated, but they are of the essence of the question, and they have never been categorically denied. The full-grown system is familiar to the most superficial Catholics in the avowed discipline of the Church of Rome, and it is not surprising that Protestants should be jealous in watching the inchoate Confession of St. Barabas.

Since experience has shown that penance may assume the dignity of a sacrament, it is not unreasonable to ask whether it is to be introduced as a distinct element into the practice of the English Church. Long waistcoats, outlandish surtouts, evanescent bands and the vanities of ecclesiastical dandyism, and even the substitution of a drawing-room for an altar, are things which have been developed into articles of faith or indispensable rules of discipline; nor would Rome herself hesitate to put all her gowags and millinery up to auction if a fashion of austere simplicity were to spread throughout Latin Christendom. But the supremacy of the priest over the conscience, through the instrumentality of the Confessional, is an indispensable element of the system which finally passed from England at the Reformation. In the absence of an infallible authority the deep conviction of the nation, from the highest rank to the lowest, is a more certain test of the true doctrine of the English Church than any scraps of forms or Rubrics. The statesman who tried to work out all the logical results of the constitution, and to give substance to every established form, would bring the system to a dead lock, or reduce it to a proved absurdity. Divines who try similar experiments with their symbols and traditions will inevitably fall into similar confusion, unless they are warned in time by the protests, or even by the clamour, which may arise from a laity impatient of resuscitated practices.

From certain returns recently made we are enabled to collect statistics of absolute accuracy on points which for the last twelve months have created more enduring interest than any other public topic, and with which questions of the utmost national importance remain, we fear, connected for a considerable time longer. We allude to the military force by which England has governed, maintained, recovered, and preserved the vast empire of India. In the tables before us every species of information appears minutely detailed, and most readers will be glad, we think, to obtain a few safe figures on a subject so momentous. Before entering, however, upon any points of controversy we will give a simple popular description of this stupendous and unparalleled piece of Imperial machinery.

Theoretically, and perhaps, in the first instance, actually, the army employed by the East India Company was a native army,—that is to say, an army composed of native troops, though officered by Europeans. The grant of this force during the last seven years has been somewhat over 280,000 of all ranks. It was at its greatest strength in 1852, when the numbers were 287,782; but from that period it declined a little, and in 1857 its strength was 277,746. This includes all the Presidencies, but the reader will, of course, feel principally interested in the statistics of Bengal. The exact numbers of that now notorious force called the Bengal Army were, in the year last past, 160,193, which included about 14,000 regular native cavalry, 83,000 regular native infantry, and 27,000 irregulars; the balance being constituted of veterans and other less effective troops. The ordinary expression, therefore, of 150,000 men as representing the mass of numerous Sepoys has been by no means an exaggeration. We do not observe that this famous army underwent during the last seven years any change in its composition. The number of irregular regiments was diminished by two in 1856, but with this immaterial exception the basis and organization of the force seem to have remained entirely unmodified.

This, however, though the principal, was not the only force at the Company's command. They were permitted also to raise and maintain a certain force of Europeans in their own pay and service. Up to the year 1855 this contingent consisted, for the whole of India, of six battalions; but at that time three more were added, making a total of nine. It should be observed, moreover, that this little European army of the Company was distributed equally between the three Presidencies, notwithstanding the vast disproportion prevailing between those Governments in other respects; so that Bengal, with its 1,500 miles length of territory and its 160,000 native troops, had only the same number of Company Europeans as Bombay.

We can add from the tables before some particulars attending the levy of the force. The aggregate strength of the nine battalions was about 8,100 men, and the number of recruits finally approved from 1846 to 1857, inclusive, was 22,970; but it should be recollected that these figures comprise the addition required by three entirely new battalions. The Company had recruiting stations at London, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Cork, Dublin, Bristol, and Newcastle. The standard of age for recruits was from 20 to 25, that of height 5 feet 6 inches, the total average cost of each recruit

being 8*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* Last year 3,917 men were raised, but the emergency produced, as in the Queen's service, a little reduction of terms. We should also mention that the Company had a considerable strength of Europeans in its Artillery, in which branch of their forces the native element represented only about a third of the whole.

After its native army and its own European battalions the Company relied for support on the Queen's army in India. This force was maintained at a variable strength, the Company having the privilege of making their requisitions on the Horse Guards for such a number of Cavalry or Infantry Regiments as they thought proper, and which, upon their arrival in India, were taken into their own pay. Motives of political jealousy and financial economy combined to make the Company look with suspicion on any increase of this force, and it never bore any large or sufficient proportion to the overgrown native army. Since 1852 it had shared in the general reduction, and, indeed, had been specially diminished, though perhaps the result was owing in some degree to the demand for troops at home, occasioned by the Russian War. The total numbers of the Queen's troops in India in 1852 were 28,324; in 1856 they were 23,580; in the year of the mutiny they had risen a little, and presented an aggregate of 24,263, Bengal taking three-fifths of the total.

Applying these statistics to the Presidency of Bengal at the particular period of the outbreak, we shall find that the total European force at the command of the authorities was a little above 20,000—viz., about 15,000 of the Queen's troops and about 5,000 of the Company's Europeans, Artillery and Foot. But now there is another consideration to be taken into account. The theory of the native army assumed that its 160,000 Bengal troops should, as being officered by Europeans, be directly under European control, and represent in some sense a regular force of Europeans. As the reader, however, has heard, a practice prevailed to a great extent of detaching officers from the native regiments for particular duties, either military or civil, in the administration of the country, and we can now, by the aid of Lord ELENOROUGH's returns, give the exact number of these abstractions. In 1857 as many as 493 officers of the Bengal Army had been thus detached from their regiments; besides which the very nature of the service brings an extensive furlough system into play. We do not see this item stated for 1857, but in 1851 there were 171, and in 1858 160 Bengal officers on furlough, exclusive of colonels of regiments and medical officers. If we assume, therefore, that as many as 150 were thus absent in 1857, we shall not be running much risk of error, and this will give a total of 643 officers to be deducted from the aggregate strength of the army. As the average number of European officers to a native battalion was about 25, this deduction is equivalent to that of the entire body of officers of 25 battalions, the whole number of battalions on the Bengal establishment being 74. As a matter of fact it was really not uncommon for a regiment to be left with only five or six officers; nor did this represent the whole of the loss, for the officers detached on special duty were usually the most active and enterprising members of their class. The position of Bengal, therefore, in 1857 was this:—An immense force of 160,000 native troops, very much under-officered, and disposed to mutiny, was left with only 20,000 Europeans to control it,—a conclusion which relieves us from much trouble in appreciating the result.

Here, however, arises the momentous point of future controversy. What are we to do with our native army hereafter? At the present moment we have raised a fresh native army in Hindostan, equal in numbers and cost, if the Madras and Bombay augmentations are included, to the old one; and this simple fact shows plainly enough that we need never anticipate any difficulty in procuring native levies. But it is also obvious that the need of this new army has been occasioned entirely by the revolt of the old one, and that it is incidental to the present emergency altogether. We should not have wanted 80,000 Sikhs, except for the rebellion of 160,000 Hindostanis. We do not want them to supply the place of these mutineers, or to discharge their duties, so much as to neutralize their treason. The great question to be ascertained is, what duty these 160,000 Sepoys performed. Lord ELENOROUGH's returns show us the distribution of the force, but give us no aid in discovering the manner in which it was engaged. Occasionally, it is true, campaigns across the frontier, either to the East or West, created demands upon our native establishments; but this was the very service to which Sepoys always oblige.

If the Bengal Army, instead of rebelling and turning arms against its own rulers, had simply deserted in a mass, crossed the Himalayas, and carried its services to some Tartar potentate, would Hindostan have been much the worse for the loss? This is the true point to be certified, and one of the ablest of our correspondents from the east of war gave it as his opinion that the mere disappearance of the army, unattended by active mutiny, would not have interfered materially with the administration of the country. Perhaps this was jumping too rapidly to a conclusion, but it is especially necessary to remark, on the other side, that no argument can be drawn from our present exigencies. At this moment it is true we want new native levies, but only to fight old native levies. We can see very plainly from the papers before us that nothing like a balance of power was maintained between the native and the European force. We can also comprehend, without much difficulty, that if the native force is to be kept again at its old standard this balance may be troublesome to preserve, but nothing that we have yet learnt from either returns or debates gives us any explanation of the purposes for which the old Bengal Army was really required.

Dr. ANDREW SMITH, the Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army, has survived all the attacks that have been made upon his administration, and now, in a green and lively old age, is to be rewarded for his eminent services by the honorary distinction of K.C.B. A little more than three years ago, when public indignation was at its height on account of the disasters which had happened in the Crimea, the medical arrangements for the army were felt to be so deplorably bad that Dr. ANDREW SMITH was appointed to be only holding office till his successor was appointed. Something had been done, or it was thought that something was to be done, and the public were satisfied. Peace was proclaimed. The necessity for action was not so urgent. Weeks, months, years rolled on, and still no successor was appointed, and still Dr. ANDREW SMITH remained Director-General of the Army Medical Department. He is to be shelved at last, and to be consigned to a splendid insignificance. As far as the medical department of the army is concerned, it is well, for the administration of its affairs will pass into younger, more capable, and more vigorous hands. But might not this end have been accomplished without any such high distinctions, which it used to be supposed were reserved for pre-eminent merit? Of Dr. ANDREW SMITH personally, had he been content to retire quietly from the busy stage of life into that chiro-somno which would have been interspersed between human affairs and the grave, we would not have said one word.

It is his own fault, however, if he has sought a distinction which will cause his public career to be investigated in a critical, perhaps not in a friendly spirit. It is the fault of injudicious patrons and friends if they have thrust upon him honours which he has neither coveted nor earned. We will not say that Dr. ANDREW SMITH, the Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army in the civil days of the Crimean war, was the worst upon the Crimean list. He could at least plead old age, and the acquiescence of his superiors in his routine administration of the important department which he so grievously mismanaged. But this, even if admitted, is but a mere palliation. The question really is, why should he be selected as the object of a high mark of the Sovereign's favour? By what special merits has his public career been marked that he should be selected for the honourable distinction of a Knight Commander of the Bath?

We know but of one plea which might be urged in favour of this injudicious bestowal of unearned honour. Dr. ANDREW SMITH may ask why, when his merits were not greater than those of his fellows, should he especially be omitted from the catalogue of honours which were freely showered upon them? Dr. ANDREW SMITH's department was not worse managed than others. If his colleagues walk about covered with ribbons and medals and the insignia of Knighthood, why should he not receive similar marks of national gratitude? Was he worse or more inefficient than they? To this objection we must admit that it would not be very easy to give an answer. Had it pleased the Sovereign to convert Dr. ANDREW SMITH into a Knight Commander of the Bath before the Crimean disasters, and to appoint a good staff pillor for that good white head, we should have offered no remark. His position, however, is now a very different one from that of a man who seeks an honourable retirement after years of humdrum service, the inefficiency of which was not suspected because it was not put to the test. He has been, with others, the joint cause of a great disaster, and now he is selected for reward upon no better ground than because others also received undeserved rewards.

It is some comfort, however, in the thought that the administration of the department over which Dr. ANDREW SMITH has so inefficiently presided will shortly pass into other hands, and at no distant date the successor of whom we have heard for so many years will make his tardy appearance upon the scene. There is much to be done. It is greatly to be feared that if another emergency should occur, such as the one which proved that the organization of the army would not stand the proof when fairly put to the trial, similar disasters would again arise. Let us not deceive ourselves. It is with various branches of our military administration as with the stench of the Thames. When the first break down, and when the second offend our nostrils, we are keenly alive to the necessities of reform. When quiet times follow and cold weather comes Crimean disasters and the foul effluvia of the river are forgotten.

## COURT CIRCUIT.

OSBORNE, JULY 12. The Queen and Prince drove to West Cowes yesterday, accompanied by Princess Alice and Princess Helena. Colonel the Hon. Sir C. and Lady Phipps had the honour of dining with Her Majesty.

Sir Hesketh Fleetwood had an interview with the Earl of Derby yesterday at his official residence in Downing-street.

A deputation from the Committee of the British and Foreign School Society, consisting of Mr. Robert Forder, Mr. John Gledhill, and Mr. John Gledhill, together with Mr. Wilks, the Secretary, had an interview with His Grace the Duke of Newcastle yesterday, as the Chairman of the Royal Commission on Education, at his residence in Portman-square.

Mr. Corbett, the Clerk to the Board of Guardians of the London County Council, had an interview with the Right Hon. T. H. S. Escombe, M.P., President of the Poor Law Board.

Despatches were received yesterday at the Colonial Office, from the Governors of the Colonies of the West Coast of Africa, the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, and the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands.

LADY DUNLOP LITTON.—We are requested to state, upon the best authority, that all matters in reference to this lady, about whom certain statements have appeared in some of the public journals, are in process of being amicably settled by family arrangements to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer acknowledges the receipt of the second half of a bank-note for £1, No. 95517, from "B. G."

COURT OF ALDERMEN.—Yesterday a Court was held for the despatch of business. Alderman Hale and the Deputy Coroner, Mr. J. W. Gledhill, were present. The Court for the performance of the duties of the office, Alderman Salomons moved, in accordance with his notice, "That no action or suit be brought in the Court of Aldermen, or in any of the Courts subordinate to it, for the recovery of any sum of money, or for the recovery of any property, or for the recovery of any damages, or for the recovery of any costs, or for the recovery of any interest, or for the recovery of any other thing, until the said action or suit has been first brought in the Court of Aldermen, or in any of the Courts subordinate to it, for the recovery of any sum of money, or for the recovery of any property, or for the recovery of any damages, or for the recovery of any costs, or for the recovery of any interest, or for the recovery of any other thing, until the said action or suit has been first brought in the Court of Aldermen, or in any of the Courts subordinate to it, for the recovery of any sum of money, or for the recovery of any property, or for the 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Corban, 12-14-1901. Thompson v. Baxter, at Hall  
v. Windsor, Re Sheridan, at 12-14-1901.  
Lyle v. Yarborough, at 12-14-1901. Hopson, at 1-M Nien's  
1-Narve v. Featherston, at 2-Re Marshall, at 2-3-1901  
-3-1901 v. Adams.

**MASTERS OFFICES, SOUTHLAND-BUILDINGS**  
(Before Master RICHARDS)  
Carter v. Carter, British, at 2-12-1901.  
(Before Master TINKLEY.)  
Mathewman v. Woodcock, at 12.

**NOTICE**  
Office of Accountant in Bankruptcy  
of the Lord Chancellor shall be  
in accordance with and from Saturday the 7th of August to Monday  
day of October, both days inclusive.  
Warrants will not be paid till Tuesday, October 5.



*THE WEATHER.*

Sunday, July 11.—Greatest heat in shade, mean temperature, 63° 15'; mean pressure, 30.0; temperature of evaporation, 55° 25'; range, 28° 25'; amount of rain at 10 p.m., 0.000; weather, very fine. Monday Morning, 12th. 45° 5'; minimum temperature on grass, 45° rain, 0.000; amount of evaporation, 0.2; temperature at 9 a.m., 68° 0'; barometer 29.9; 29.932 inches; direction of wind, S. e. fine.

1,156,026 3  
Cwt. qrs. lb.  
405,549 1 6  
1 0  
(11 2 14  
0 2 0  
453 0 4  
406,124 2 6  
N. Secretary.

ness whet from the  
tires was down at last  
week's prices  
to 20¢, per pound  
of long leaf  
barley, 25¢, to  
26¢, per pound.  
The market was  
well supplied  
and prices were  
in the satis-  
fying range.  
Port, 65  
to 110 cwt. per  
ton. The market  
was well supplied  
and prices were  
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fying range.  
The market was  
well supplied  
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fying range.

[illegible]

yard and jibboom carried away, quartermast and damaged.

Arrived - Wind, W.S.W. light - No arrivals.

8 p.m. - Wind, W.S.W., moderate.

Arrived and Passed - The *Paragon*, from Dominica to Benares, for London for the Clyde.

Anchored - The *Vanderbilt* for London for Liverpool.

**VESSELS SPOKE WIRE.**

The *Annawan*, from New Orleans for Liverpool.

Hatteras.

The *Wyoming*, from Liverpool for Philadelphia, long G.

The *Pomona*, from New Orleans for Liverpool.

The *Omar Pasha*, from Liverpool for Baltimore.

Natchez.

The *Highlander*, from New Orleans for Liverpool.

Other vessels, June 17, off Cape Florida.

The *Windsor*, from Liverpool for Liverpool.

73 W.

The *James Guthrie*, from Mobile for Liverpool.

The *Sunbeam*, from Liverpool for Guaymas, P.

the name came under the loose  
Mytus acuminatus,  
from two to three  
young shrimps, and  
the gum tree for its  
box, and after it  
the next morning  
I distributed over  
and 12 hours after  
the Melbourne  
distributed over a  
large pond, and  
during junction  
river.  
said that "two  
would produce 2lb.  
day's work to  
weigh very light  
thin round body

winning its meshes and the silk produced and glossiness of it.

It was sometimes found covered and the birds being so strong to push through.

At the Melbourne noted by Mr. Sur-

the Medway, for which he receives certain cast on the shore are out of his jurisdiction the coroner for the county.

It appears that Mr. W. Edgcombe is one of the coroner of the city of Rochester, fees amounting to about 12s. 8d. for each river.

I was informed by Sergeant Owendon, of Constabulary, that the body alluded to was at the pier, and I immediately directed the

navy under the

[illegible][illegible]

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some faint smudges and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. The left edge of the page is bound into a dark, textured cover.