

unfair to the Europeans who have made India the priceless gem that it is to the British Empire.

SIGMA.

SIR C. ELLIOTT AND THE PLANTERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "ENGLISHMAN."

SIR,—With reference to Sir Charles Elliott's meeting with the 25 managers of tea gardens at Julpaiguri, I am glad to see the vigorous protest of the planters to try and open the eyes of the Bengal Government against its policy of masterly inactivity and setting all communities and individuals against the Government.

The request that the Duars be put under the administration of the Hon'ble High Court speaks volumes, and that the planters would sooner abide by the broad views of the High Court, than be any longer under the views of the executive side of the Bengal Government.

With reference to His Honor's views that the Chowkidari Act was only for statistics of births and deaths, this was offered by the planters and refused by Darjiling and Duars Deputy Commissioners. Hence the rumpus.

I agree with Mr. Haughton's protest against the wording of the Act, and concerning the leases "that the terms are illiberal and were never intended to be enforced," but would point out the terms were made illiberal on account of the Libert Bill, but no one considered among either the Government or the planters that the terms would be acted on literally or even more severely.

The proof of the above protest will be found in the severe conditions enforced on the Cinchona and Saumabeong tea grants in Daling by the Government, on the assumption that a bond is signed.

As long as those two blots, the harassing and oppressive rental that is being exacted from the Saumabeong tea grants and the private cinchona plantations, both in the subdivision of Daling, exist, I (and I have no doubt my fellow planters will join) cannot hold that the Lieutenant-Governor personally uses every effort to make things pleasant.

A RISING STAR.
