

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 49.

Jaffna, Thursday the 4th of April, 1889.

No. 7.

RIGHTOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION; BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE.

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR, 1887.

Koslande	M. R. Ry. C. Sadaian Avl.	1.75
Manaar	Mr. V. Sinnatamby	.62
"	" A. Sinnatamby	.62
"	" S. Ponnusamy	.62
Batticaloa	Rev. E. S. Adams	1.75
	1888.	
Koslande	Messrs. C. Sadaian Avl V. Thamboo	3.50
Haldumulla	Messrs. C. Canthyah and V. Murgusu	3.50

அறிவித்தல்.

மட்டுக்கம்பழிற் கிடக்கும் மீதகைய கணப்பாடும் மரக்கள் 1889 ம் ஆடி மீதம் 29 ந்தி கதியாகிய திகட்கிழமைபயன்பண்ணும்மேனிக் து விற்கப்படும.

புளியந்திலிற் கிடக்கும்.

200 லுணை, விணியை, முத்திரை.

200 பாணை.

200 துணைத்தமம்.

அயுகாமத்திற் கிடக்கும்.

300 படுகுதிரை.

மரக்கணப்பற்றியும் விற்கப்பலின் கொள்வீக்க வண்பற்றியும் விற்கப்பலின் கிழகுத மரக்கணத்து ஆக சி ஈதகைய திகட்கிழமைபயன்பண்ணும் ஆல்லு கா கோவலரிடம் விணிய் அறிந்துகொள்ளலாம். மட்டுக்கம்பழிக் கொள்வீக்க சிவநாமம் ஆடி மீதம் 29 ந்தி 22. T. M. T. 1889. அ. ஏ.

யாழ்ப்பாணம் வட்டுக்கள்

ஸ்ரீ லக்ஷ்மி ம. சிவம்பரப்பிள்ளை வெண்சாசிரியர் தேசவியோகாமனனின்மேற் சாற்றிய சரமக்கல்.

வெண்பா.

எவ்விறம் யாண்டுவேகம் எவ்விறம் யாண்டுவேகம் எவ்விறம் யாண்டுவேகம்-திவல்லிய சிவ தகத்தருவென்சாசிரிய சிவகருணையாளிமுத்து கருணைக்கொழுந்ததான். க. தத்துவத்தங்கமயம் மணிசாகாரமேகத்தமம் ஆகியவற்றின்பாண்டையத்தனவோ-போகத்தவட தேனெழியில் கோவல் சிவம்பரப்பிள்ளையின் பொற்ற பன்மொழிவேளாறோ பங்க. உ. கம்பன்சுத்தவிலக்குக் காளமேகக்கலத்தும் கும்பன்சிவத்தின்கைக்கம்புமே-அம்புலியில் மருணைவல்லிபுகழாமாநெல்விச்சாமிசாசிரியர் அங்காள் சிவத்தனவாயின. கூ. கற்றோர் சிவமணியே கற்பவர்களிதமணியே மற்றோர்க்கையார்க்கும் மருணைக்கொழுந்ததென்கள் கொல்லாதாருணைத்தகக் கொழுந்தே உண்போற்றி பூலியில் ச. இல்லவகெல்விச்சாசிரியின். சிவம்பரப்பிள்ளையென்கோ தேனென்கோபாலென்கோ கந்தவிலக்கமேன்கோ ஞானமென்கோ அந்தோமாரா இத்தத்தருவென்கோ இணையிலியுதென்கோ சிவம்பரப்பிள்ளையென்கொழுந்ததென்கள். டு. ஞானமென்கோ இன்பயல் சகையம்கொழுந்தி யல் பாரென்கமணிகெல்விச்சாசிரியன்முத்தே-மென்கொழுந்தபுத்தலிதாருணை அன்னல் அவனியோரியு கற்பவாப்பாதாமபுயுச்சுநாள். கூ. கலத்தனவா. கவையற்றகெழ்சுழுகாரிணையற்றகலத்திறமுய் [ம் இணையற்றதாருவியில்லாணையற்றவெளியில்மணயு தவையற்றதேகமுத்தகெர்வெளியில் கருணையிறமுத்த சிவம்பரப்பிள்ளையென்கையும் கற்பயல்புணையென்கொழுந்த. இறந்தாரென்கிச்சாசிரியமென்கொழுந்தியற்காலத்தியில் சிவம்பரப்பிள்ளையென்கொழுந்தபாணைத் திருத்தி டுவும் மறந்தார்தமமயம் மகிழ்த்தேகற்பிக்கலும் மாநிலத்தியில் அறிந்தார் என அழைத்தாராவில்லைகண்ணனவோ. ச. இன்பமும், அவர் மாணவரும். த. நாகமுத்தோபாத்தியாயர். காணாநகர், க ச அன்.

Local and General.

—THE P. M. OF POINT PEDRO. We understand that the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Shipton was offered to Mr. Advocate Joseph Greiner, a brother of the Attorney-General who, we understand, has accepted the post.

—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR is now seeking health at the Ceylon sanitarium, fearing to brave the unbearable heat of the plain. He visits the capital occasionally whenever his personal services are needed. His only son Mr. G. A. Gordon after a short stay in Ceylon left for England, last week, to pursue his studies in the Cambridge University.

—HOUSE RENT. The number of Europeans and natives rushing to Novera Elia, to breathe a little of the cool atmosphere, is alarmingly great. The rent of houses there is alarmingly great. Bungalows are let at Rs. 150 per week. Mr. G. H. De Soysa has engaged a house for his own use for three months at Rs. 500 per mensem.

—HAPUTALE RAILWAY. The earth work for the extension of this line has been given out on contract. The work is rapidly progressing with bands of coolies and contractors working at it at different stations. But after a few days' progress of the work there was a terrible accident on the 22nd ultimo when seven coolies were killed and several injured, by the falling of a bank.

—ARRACK AND TOBACCO RENTS of the Northern Province from next July 1st to June 30th, '90 will be put up for sale as follows:—On Wednesday the 17th inst. at 4 P.M., the farm of the Jaffna District at the Jaffna and Manaar Katcheries. On Thursday the 25th inst. the farm of the Mullaitivu District, at the Jaffna and Mullaitivu Katcheries; and on Tuesday the 30th inst. the farm of the Vavania V. Culam district, at the Jaffna and Vavania V. Culam Katcheries.

—MULLAIVOE. The place here is unusually sickly this year. The number of patients, who attended the out door dispensary for these 2½ months, far exceeded the number treated in any other times of the year. The Asst. Government Agent has come here on his visits, and will stay for the month. It is only now that the people are feeling the disadvantages and loss of a separate and permanent Asst. Government Agent here. A Petition is being signed by the natives to be presented to His Excellency the Governor, requesting a change to the former arrangement. The Parish priest is absent at Vavaiya, and it is rumoured that the Bishop has ordered him to stay there, till the Easter festivities, as a priest's presence is likely to bring more discussions and disputes between the different parties here during the festivities.

—THE Salvation Army is doing a good work in Jaffna Town, counting not less than 50 converts and many sympathisers since its arrival. The captain of the Army left for Colombo with his wife a few days ago and a new batch of soldiers among whom is an American lady landed last Sunday by the S.S. "Lady Gordon" and held a monster meeting in their barracks. They intend to open a new station at Vannaropen close to the "Victoria Reading Hall." Mr. C. B. Kumara Kulasingle son of Mr. Bar of Tillipallai, and Tamil Muddisai, Colonial Secretary's Office, was commissioned by the Major in Colombo as Sergeant of the Tamil Corps.

—WEATHER. It is unbearably hot. The proverbial "March Sun" is very powerful. Not a single moment could be said to be refreshing or cooling, except for the gentle breeze fanning from all directions which indicates the approach of the south west monsoon. A single shower will be very much welcome and we believe it is pretty near.

—PONGERTIVOE. The remoter the distance from the headquarters of the Government, in an inverse ratio perhaps the interest and care of the Government wanes towards the distant subjects. To speak first of our roads, they are in a very miserable state as if they were never for many years corrected with pickaxe and blunder, with grass all over except the track of wheels, and sharp stones scattered at random. Again our headmen, grumble of their poor income, barely enough to maintain their position. It is certainly unreasonable to expect much from them for

the benefit of the several Islands, when they are not paid by the Government. Why should the Government, then, in such cases these where the interest of the headmen is falling for want of local support, cheer them up by monthly payments or otherwise, to know and to do their duty for the benefit of the large majority of the ignorant inhabitants. Sanitary rules are not at all regarded. Man and beasts suffer equally. The fatality of cattle last year was horrible. The grass in the jungle is wasting for want of cattle to graze. The want of a sort of jetty on both the shores of Valaue and Pongertivoe is very badly felt. No one but we, sir, can see the great inconvenience and danger of wading more than half a mile into the sea from both the shores, to get to the boat, in times of low water, among stones &c which are sharper than the soldiers' sword. Com.

—We deeply regret to report the death of Dr. Shipton in the Civil Hospital at Colombo on the 23 ultimo. He was appointed as the Magistrate of the Pt. Pedro and Chavagacherri courts in 1885 and remained to act as such till his death. He suffered from numerous boils and carbuncles. During the last few days he was constantly delirious and had but few conscious intervals.

—MR. R. O. D. ASBURY of Wilson College, Bombay, is now at his home in Jaffna on sick leave. His second son Levi who passed the Clerical examination last year has left for Kalluturai to take up an appointment as clerk in the Katchchery there. His pay will be Rs. 600 per annum.

—PEARL FISHERY. On Saturday the 30th ultimo, all operations were closed. The total collection from the marine store this year amounts to about Rs. 497,775 a good way above the Government estimate of Rs. 300,000.

—CART LICENSE. About 1,500 carts have been licensed at the Jaffna Katchchery during the past three months. It was Mr. Meigs, the American Missionary who in 1819 or about that time first taught the Batticaloa carpenters and blacksmiths the art of constructing carts of the present fashion. Com.

—JAFFNA AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY. The officers and delegates of this association met in the Chundicully Church at 4½ P.M. on Tuesday the 2nd inst. The exercises commenced with Mr. W. W. Howland in the chair and 33 delegates, almost the entire number from the three Missions. As is always patent at Christian gatherings the occasion was very joyous and interesting. The report of the Treasurer scored out a balance of Rs. 539.74. Three papers all of which were very instructive were severally read by Revs. W. W. Howland, E.M. Griffith, and A.E. Restarick on the subjects "The Word of God" (1.) enlightens (2.) sanctifies, (3.) abides. These papers will be published in time by the society for the use of the speakers at the moonlight Union Bible meetings to be held at thirty three different places in Jaffna. At the close of the meeting the subject of erecting a "Bible House" in commemoration of the Jubilee of the Bible Society was proposed and recommended at a cost of Rs. 5000. A sub-committee was appointed to consider the subject and the interesting exercises of the evening came to a close at about 7½ P.M. Com.

—REST HOMES. The Punnaly Causeway which has been the subject of people's petition ever since the cyclone of 1884, bids fair to be completed this year. The completion of the causeway suggests the idea of building a rest house, either at the Karadive side, or at Punnaly. The causeway is more than 9 miles from Jaffna and there are no houses at either end of the bridge. If a traveller wants to take shelter from rain, there is no accommodation for him there. There is also need for another rest house at Vally Bridge on the Pt. Pedro Road, the bridge being at the distance of 12 miles from Jaffna. We are told that sometime ago, certain officers from Jaffna, while travelling on the road were overtaken by gale, and suffered much. The road committee has to consider this subject and provide for the requirement of the people

—MATHEMATICAL PRIZE. On the 5th August '89 and following days will be held an examination for the prize of Rs. 100—at the central town near the residence of the applying candidate who is required to send in his application to the office of the Director of P. I. on or before the 1st of July '89.

THE JAFFNA RAILWAY.

We have been somewhat surprised at the view taken in some quarters of the letter of Mr. Twynam on the Jaffna Railway. It is natural and right enough for any who does not think his views correct to say so and try to prove it. But certain statements which have been made in print have gone much beyond this. They have spoken disparagingly of the letter, and seemed to imply that Mr. Twynam does not, for some unaccountable reason, want Jaffna to have a Railway. This is absurd on the face of it. If there is any man in Ceylon who would be benefited and accommodated in his work by a Railway, it is certainly the Government Agent. It would be of inestimable value to him; moreover, no one can suppose that he can for a moment wish to block the progress of the province with which he has been so long connected. He says:—

"I have seen the notices in the papers of the Lartigue Railway, and I have been told by a gentleman who holds a prominent position in the Jaffna Railway Committee, that he has been informed that a Lartigue Railway can be laid for £1000 a mile. I am myself very sceptical of this but if it can and if it is a suitable form of Railway it appears to me that the railway to the north should be undertaken without delay."

All personal considerations would lead him to favour a Railway. If, then, he has written what seems opposed to the immediate building of the Railway, it is because he is able to subordinate personal to State interests. This is not too common an excellence and we have no hesitation in admiring it when it is shown. We strongly suspect that the chief defect of the letter in the minds of its critics is, in fact, its excellence, that is, a calm, and dispassionate view of the subject, an ability to see two sides of the question, and a consideration of the matter from a broader than Jaffna point of view.

Mr. Twynam says "the first step that should be taken by Government in regard to railway extension is the construction of a line which would place the fine harbour of Trincomalee in as direct communication as possible with Colombo in the west and Kandy in the centre; and even if this line be not first constructed, that all railway extension in the northern low country should be carried out on a plan having such a line for its base."

This is, as every one must see, true, and for Imperial as well as Colonial purposes. In case of a war with a power that could put a fleet in Eastern waters, it might easily happen that Railway connection between the splendid harbor of Trincomalee and the capital of the colony might be not only the saving of the colony but of inestimable value to all British possessions in the East. In the uncertain state of European politics real statesmanship will seek to provide for such possible contingencies. It will not do for us, even in our desire for a Railway, to condemn a State paper because it does not regard Jaffna as larger than the British Empire.

Any facts presented in the letter are of course as they seem to the writer. It is not our place to discuss them here. We only remind our readers that they come from the source best calculated to judge of the feasibility of the plans presented. Many of them are certainly undeniable. It is right of the Railway committee to plead their cause. That is the reason for which the committee exist. Mr. Twynam was not asked to be a special pleader, but to state what he believed to be facts, and we think he has done it in a very able, straightforward and manly way.

JAFFNA TRADING COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Jaffna Trading Company came off on the 27th ultimo in the Victoria Reading Hall, Vannarponnai. The attendance was very poor. Who is to blame for such disinterested way of acting of the shareholders is problematical. The wrong should either be, in the lack of attraction on the part of the company, in its slow progress, or in the lack of good habit in the shareholders. However, a little later than the announced time

about a dozen shareholders put in their appearance in the Hall; and with Mr. T. M. Tampoo in the chair the meeting commenced with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and the annual report of the company, by the secretary. The appointment of officers for the new year and a few other matters of less importance were coolly attended to. The most substantial part of the business, which excited the members present to enter heart and soul into a warm discussion, was the financial position of the company, which of course is a matter of the gravest importance, as it concerns the stability of the institution and the welfare of the shareholders, in justice to their hard earned contribution. The bone of contention as it appeared to us, was the systematic or unsystematic method of the financial statement, made in the Balance Sheet of the year ending '88. The disputants were divided in opinion—a few contending that there should be no secretion of accounts and that the real condition of the company should be made known. The chair, after consulting the only legislative authority on the subject, Ord. 4 of '61, expressed his opinion to every body's satisfaction. At about 8 1/2 p. m. this memorable meeting of the company came to a close.

The financial position for '88 as transpired in the meeting when summarized produces the following results, and the strength or weakness of the company is left to the judgment of the intelligent readers. The real strength at present is Rs. 11609-76, distributed in the proportion of Rs. 7141-24 for value of merchandise in store, furniture Rs. 98-19, cash in hand Rs. 823-00, Rs. 69-12 in the vaults of O.B.C. together with the large sum of Rs. 3478-21 to be recovered by the company from without for goods sold on credit. Again the amount payable by the company is Rs. 3780-48; Rs. 2200-00 for goods bought and now unpaid and Rs. 1580-48 the unpaid aggregate of profit allotted to the shareholders, for the past three years. It is surprising to find that the outstanding amount is a terrible sum of Rs. 3478-21, when the company at the outset commenced work with the motto affixed on the wall of the office room "one price, terms cash."

The profit in trade for the year '88 as indicated on the face of the Balance sheet is Rs. 2117-63 and all the expenses being fully and freely paid on the scale of 51 percent to the manager and salesman out of the whole profit after deducting the necessary expenses such as rent, stationery, stamps, light, travelling charges &c., a balance of Rs. 684 was left unclaimed, for the benefit of the shareholders, which gives a 9 percent profit of their shares. In short 71 percent of the whole profit is carried off by expenses incurred on behalf of the company for the year. The ninth year has already set in, and our earnest desire is that this our patriotic institution for which the wealthy men have willingly contributed, should work well with activity, system and with a spirit of competition so that the now reproaching and monopolizing chetties and moors might be superseded by home industry and talent. Com.

PERJURY IN JAFFNA.

To the Editor, "Morning Star."

SIR,

It was with great interest that I, as one of the public, hailed your worthy article on "Crime in the Northern Circuit" which appears in one of your late issues. You say that "notwithstanding the restriction put by the stamp duty false charges are as frequent as ever." If the Government think that stamp duty alone would check the making of false charges, they are mistaken; for the temptation to institute such a case has consisted not only in the cheapness of conducting it, but also to a great extent, in the wonderful facility in finding false witnesses to prove it. No doubt such practices have been disgracing our country for many a century. Whether they should still, notwithstanding so much change for the better in Jaffna, is a question.

The number of professional false witnesses in Jaffna is enormous and it has evidently increased of late. The amiable and uniformly friendly manner in which they are treated by some of the village headmen and the great attention with which they listen to those worthies at street quarrels or robberies have grown to such a custom that no villager is surprised at the behavior of the waiting-for-opportunity headman. The headman, of course, is not unacquainted with the character of the individual whom he now hears and subsequently causes to be first put in the witness-box as a gentleman on whose evidence the Court can rely. This being the case, sir, how could you expect him "to trace out the offenders and bring them to punishment." I know of instances of persons, who have had to this day no other occupation than going to that plaintiff and this defendant, to that Court and this Court to do what? To prepare and give evidence. True, they have several times been disbelieved and censured by the Judge, but they were never once punished for their crimes.

If there will ever be a golden age in Jaffna, it will not come until the land is cleared of major parts of perjury by the certainty shown in the punishment of its perpetrators and such village headmen as are disposed to aid and abet like crimes, instead of, in the interests of their duty, endeavoring honestly to check their progress.

I am Yours truly,

N. S. K.

STRENGTH OF PALMYRAH TIMBER.

We learn from the *Observer* that very full experiments, to test the relative strength of the varied descriptions of timber either grown in or imported into this island from abroad, were made by Mr. Byrne of Public Works Department. The mode of these experiments was as follows:—

From the soundest wood obtainable, pieces two feet long and of a square inch in section were cut. These were supported in such a way that each piece tried had a bearing of one inch at either end. A special hook of iron exactly fitting on the section, and so made that the trial weight applied hung exactly below its centre, was placed on the wood, and from this was suspended gradually increasing weight until the breaking point was reached. The result was to establish the fact that palmyrah was possessed of a pre-eminence in strength beyond that of any other of the several woods experimented with.

This and the many other useful purposes which it serves during its life, might well direct the attention of all to its extensive cultivation. The waste and empty lands of Jaffna that are considered inimical to the growth of any other cultivation may be profitably employed to propagate the growth of this palm.

TONGUE TRIPPERS.

Here are some sentences which will trip even the most agile tongue. Try the following short sentences, which the authors maintain will do wonders in balling the ordinary power of speech.

Gaze on the gay gray brigade.

The sea ceaseeth, and sufficeth us.

Say, should such a shapely shush shabby stitches show?

Strange strategic statistics.

Give Grimes Jim's gilt gig-whip.

Sarah in a shawl shoveled soft snow softly.

She sells sea shells.

A cup of coffee in a copper coffee-pot.

Smith's spirit flash split Philip's.

Sixth sister's fifth squirrel's skull.

Local and General

"The peculiar ability and business tact of Mr. C. W. Cathiravalepillai, we are pleased to say, have been justly recognized by the Government so that in the Gazette of the 8th ultimo we find his appointment to act as the District Judge of Jaffna, in addition to his own duties, during the absence of Mr. Worthington from the station. But considering the duties now resting upon him as the judge of all the courts in Jaffna, except Pt. Pedro we should rather presume this fourfold increase of work to be a heavy imposition upon him. The Government has justly recognized his ability and we are sure that in due time it will remunerate one according to his merits. Never to our knowledge has any judicial officer been entrusted with duties so extensive as has been done at present. Under these circumstances Mr. C. cannot but strain his nerves to give satisfaction to the suitors and public in general which we believe he has hitherto done.

The Governorship of Ceylon. We learn from the *Ceylon Independent* that the Marquis of Lorne may succeed Sir Arthur Gordon, as Governor of Ceylon.

FOREIGN NEWS.

—John Bright the veteran English statesman is dead. He was for long years a leader of the Liberal party, and a man little liable to be led away by popular clamour. During the American rebellion he was one of the few English statesmen who sympathized with the Union. After working for long years with Gladstone, he with much sorrow separated from him when the latter was drawn away into the camp of Parnellism.

The latest telegrams report a tornado in Simoa which has wrecked several German and American men-of-war that were stationed there.

Turkey has forbidden the teaching of Armenian History in the Armenian schools. That is the way despotic countries govern. Fancy England forbidding to teach Ceylon history.

Printed at the Press of Strong & Ashbury, Manipay.
Published by Mr. N. Strong and A. C. Mission.