

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 49.

Jaffna, Thursday the 2nd of May, 1889.

No. 9.

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

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR, 1888.

Saravany	Mr. V. Kanagaratnam	1.25
Jaffna Town	" A. Sinniah	1.00
"	J. N. Sandrasagaram Esq.	1.50
Nebodda	Mr. C. S. Arunachalam	1.75
Pesalawa	" O. L. Marikar	1.50

NOTICE.

On the application of the Administratrix and upon the order thereon of the District Court of Batticaloa made in the testamentary case No. 219, I the undersigned, an officer of the said District Court of Batticaloa will sell by public auction the following property belonging to the Intestate Kantapper Virakatippillai late of Puliyanivu, Batticaloa, deceased, in the date hereinafter mentioned viz:—

At the Spot.

On Tuesday the 14th May, 1889 at 10 o'clock A.M. With continuation of days if necessary, of the land called "Sandaveli" situated at Buffalo Island in Mannuappattu, a portion comprising:

- (a) Paddiyidda Kuda Karachchi pumi bounded on the East by Upparu.
 - " " West " land of Kannapanikar and land of Virakatti.
 - " " North by Upparu.
 - " " South by Karachchi pumi of Kannapanikar, and
 - (b) Sandaveli Meddu Pumi. bounded on the East by Kanthiddi
 - " " West Uppukulattuvakkal.
 - " " North by land of Chinnakkuddiyapillai
 - " " South by land of Kannapanikar.
- Batticaloa } K. C. KADIRGAMAR.
13th April '89 } Auctioneer.

அறிவித்தல்.

உருமைத்தத்துவகாரியின் கேள்வியின் போலும், அதுபற்றி மட்டுக்களப்பு இலங்கைக்கோடு உட்கம் இலக்க உருமைத்தத்துவ வழக்கில் பண்ணிய கட்டணாயின்போலும், இதன்கீழ்க்க கை யொப்பயிழும் சொல்லப்பட்ட மட்டுக்களப்பு இலங்கைக்கோட்டுரை உத்தியோகவல்துதிய நான், மட்டுக்களப்பு புளியிந்திலிக்கு மணசாத்தன மெழ்தது காலஞ்சென்றுபோன கட்டுப்பர் விகத்திப் பின்வருகூறிய துணைக்களர் ஒன்றையிற் று சொல்லப்படும் பூயியின்பக்கை தேன்கீழ்க்க காணும் திகதியில் பிரச்சித ஏவத்திலி வற்பென்.

பூயி யிருக்குமிடத்திற்.
துஅளம் ம் (று) ம் வைகாசி யி 10 நா ட் ௨ கால ம் மணியளவிலும், அவசியமென்று கண்டால் ன்னூற் று திக்சுபடும் மறுச்சுத்திலும்.
மணியுணைப்பற்றுப் பெரியகைத்துக்குச்சொர்க்குச் சண்டாவெளி" ன்னும்பூயியின் ஒருபக்கின் பிச்சுக்காசிய:—

- க. வது, 'பட்டியிட்ட ட்டாக்களைச்சீப் பூயி' என்வல சிமக்கு உப்பாறு.
 - " மேற்கு கண்ணைப் பணிக்கருக்குடைய பூயியும், விகத்திக்குடைய பூயியும்,
 - " வடக்கு உப்பாறு.
 - " தெற்கு கண்ணைப் பணிக்கருக்குடைய கரைச்சீப்பூயி.
 - உ. வது, 'சண்டாவெளி மேட்டுப் பூயி' என்வல சிமக்கு கந்திடும்.
 - " மேற்கு உப்புக்குறந்து வாங்க்கால்.
 - " வடக்கு சின்னக்குட்டையாபின்னைக் குடையபூயி.
 - " தெற்கு கண்ணைப்பணிக்கருக்குடைய பூயி.
- மட்டுக்களப்பு அகம் (று) 1 கா. சி. கதிர்காமர்.
ம் சித்தியை யி 10 நா ட் ௨.) விற்குவ நடத்து வோன்.

Local and General.

MR. CHARLES C. HANDY B. A. We understood that this gentleman who was recently appointed Head Master of the C. M. S. Seminary, Chundivally, has passed the B. A. Degree examination of

the Calcutta University. We congratulate him and the school which has been suffering for some years without an efficient Head Master. The other candidate from Ceylon who has passed the same examination is Mr. I. W. Wirekoon. Both Messrs Wirekoon and Handy are Trinity College men and these are the only two who passed out of the four Ceylones who stood this examination. We also congratulate Revd. Mr. Hodges who has just been appointed Bishop of Travancore and Cochin on the success of two of his students.

—THEFT. A certain Sangarapillai, a young man of Chullipuram, Batticaloa, absconded from Haldumulla with Rs. 86.75 belonging to the Government. He was a tapal eooly of the P. W. D. Haldumulla, and is now wanted by the Police.

—THE MISSIONARIES who went to the Pulney Hills. For the benefit of their health, will be back here by the B. L. steamer due at Kangasaturrai on or about the 7th inst.

—JAFFNA AND THE COAST. It is a great pity to hear it reported that a large majority of passengers to and from India are subjected to the greatest inconvenience and anxiety, by the want of regular safe carriers. The steamers which now sometimes touch at Jaffna from Negapatam cannot be easily availed of by the passengers as they do not visit our shores at regular periods. It is really unaccountable to see that the extensive communication and traffic with India have not been a sufficient surety to the Govt. or the "Ceylon Steam Ship Company" to run a boat between these ports.

—HER MAJESTY'S BIRTH DAY. The Queen's birth day Levee will be held in Kandy on Friday the 24th of this month at 12 15 P. M.

—SUPPRESSION OF BROTHELS. The Gazette of the 18th date contains a draft ordinance to be brought before the Legislative Council for the suppression of brothels. It contains two clauses and provides imprisonment or fine for any person keeping a brothel or owning a house in which one is kept.

—FOREST DEPARTMENT. Mr. A. H. Tocke goes to the N. C. Province, and Mr. H. F. Fyers takes his place in Jaffna.

—RAILWAY TICKETS. On and after the 1st May passengers can travel with expired return tickets within 14 days of expiration on payment of the difference between return and single fare, at the starting station, and before entering the train.

—WEATHER. There were fine showers of rain during the past week accompanied with thunder and strong lightning. The broken weather of the past few weeks has it seems fully developed the South-West monsoon, which has now completely burst upon us. The solar heat, though a little mitigated by the cool breeze, is still unbearable during mid-day; but the mornings and evenings are quite desirable.

—DR. MARSTON, Our Medical Missionary whose fame in Jaffna has preceded his person has thought of keeping us still in waiting. He, it is reported, will remain at the Pulney Hills till the end of this year, to learn the vernacular, in order to enable him to enter into his work as soon as he arrives in Jaffna. The people entertain a very high opinion of his ability. A few diseases which our doctors thought to have surpassed medical knowledge, have been cured by taking medicine prescribed by him. Com.

—PEARL FISHERY. It is anticipated that there will be another pearl fishery at Dutch Bay some time next year. The oysters will then be more mature and the pearls therefore more valuable.

—CHOLERA. The effect of its outbreak at several localities at the same time would have been very serious had not the authorities taken due care to arrest its fury. We are now happy to say that the Cholera scare has almost gone. Recent reports were from Uduniv. Out of about 100 cases, in the whole of Jaffna over one half have proved fatal.

—LAWLESSNESS AT GOLDSMITH'S STREET. A correspondent from Vannarponne bitterly complains of the very disorderly state of this street, and writes that "within the last few months several cases of theft, highway robbery, fighting, affray, furious driving, and stoning have occurred." He further complains of suspicious vagrants, unlawful gambling, the pest of the toddy seller "who excepts no part of the street from use as his tavern"

and the nuisance of the passers-by who "mistake every open land for a water-closet." If this be the real state of the place we strongly recommend our correspondent to address a special petition to the Superintendent of Police fully representing the matters for which speedy remedy is required. The Superintendent of Police, we are sure, will never allow such a slur to be thrown on his management and department, and particularly such lawlessness within the police limits.

—A NOTARY AND CEYLON ALMANAC. It has been the habit of many Notaries to exact high fees from their clients, taking advantage of the ignorance of their clients of the prescribed legal fees. The Ceylon Almanac which is highly valued by the common people for the information it gives of the fees of notaries *ter alia* has, in a recent dispute of a notary and his client, discovered the unlawful exaction of the former. It is really cruel and sinful to torture the ignorant and to abuse those who reveal the right.

—FIRE AT ELALY.—We regret to learn that the house of the ex-notary, Kesager Sithamparapillai of Elaly, was burnt down by fire caused by accident, and the damage is estimated at Rs. 1,500.

—NEW CHURCH AT PT. PEDRO. The new church which has been built under the supervision of the Rev. Thomas Little of the Wesleyan Mission, was dedicated for religious worship on Thursday, the 25th ultimo. The building is neat and fine and is second only to that in the Jaffna Town. The occasion was very solemn and interesting. The meetings on the morning and evening were presided over by G. E. Worthington Esq, the District Judge. Rev. Thomas Little deserves great credit for completing the building so well and within such short time. No doubt, his name will ever be associated with this church as that of the veteran pioneer missionary, Rev. Peter Percival with the St. Paul's Chapel on the esplanade, Jaffna. Com.

—TOBACCO CROP. In the history of tobacco cultivation, it appears, that this is one of the most successful years, both in quantity and quality.

—MR. M. CHELLAPPA, medical practitioner, died on the 23d April, at his residence at Vannarponne. It is very sad to find that he and his father, K. Mootatamby, the well known Tamil Pandit, died one after the other, within a short time. The death of Mr. Chellappa has caused a vacancy in the native community for an efficient medical man.

—CAMBRIDGE LOCAL, JAFFNA STUDENTS. *Seniors* P. Saravanamuttu, Jaffna College; T. T. Puvera-singhe, St. Patrick's College; L. S. Ashby, Royal College; C. Rajanayagam St. Thomas's College; *Juniors*. Three from St. Patrick's College and one from private tuition. Of the Students presented from all the Colonies Ceylon has passed 26 seniors against 30 of all the other colonies, and 72 juniors against 54. Royal College passed most, 10 seniors and 28 juniors. St. Thomas's College stands next with 6 seniors and 18 juniors.

—UNIVERSITY DISTINCTIONS. We are glad to be able to announce that Mr. Arthur Edmund Rigg of Kingswood School formerly of Strathmore, Hense, Southport, has gained a classical scholarship at Corpus Christi College, Oxford value £80 for 4 years. We congratulate Mr. Rigg of Jaffna upon his son's distinguished success. *Cey. Obs.*

—ARRIVALS. Mr. E. Ponnampalam, storekeeper from Colombo, Mr. A. Visuvanagaling Proctor, S.C. from Anuradhapura, Mr. A. Krishner, head clerk P. W. D. from Anuradhapura, Mr. C. Sinnatamby, head clerk P. W. D. from Putlam Messrs S. G. and G. C. Lee, teachers from Ahmednagar, Mr. L. Kandayal, teacher from Coimbatore, Mr. M. Muttusadi, Overseer from Singapore, Mr. S. Katheravalo, teacher from Coimbatore Mr. A. Swaminathapillai, clerk, from Colombo have all recently arrived in Jaffna from their respective fields of labor. Com.

—DEPT. Our Magistrate Mr. C. W. Catheravapillai paid his official visit to this island, where a case of murder was inquired into, which after all the false representations of the headmen, transpired from the medical evidence to be a case of natural death. Dr. P. Nicholas, we understand, was sent on purpose to hold the post mortem examination.

—BISHOP R. S. COLESTON, we read from the "Observer" left for England at the end of April.

CHRISTIANITY AND CHRIST.

There is too much of a tendency, both among Christians and non-Christians, to regard Christianity as a religion—*ආගම*—rather than as redemption through Christ. Those who are not Christians say "Our religion is good for us, and your religion is good for you. They are only ways of getting to heaven by doing different ceremonies but they both lead to the same place if each is faithful to his own religion." The Christian sometimes says "Our way of worshipping God is better than yours and our religion leads to a better life than yours." Neither of these have found the distinguishing principle of Christianity. It is not a means of getting to heaven through ceremonies. It is not a way of worshipping God. It is not even a system of morals. Christianity is the assertion that Jesus Christ is the only Saviour of the world. It is this that Christ charged the apostles to preach (Luke 24: 46-47.) It was this that they proclaimed in Jerusalem (Acts, 4: 12). It was this that was the inspiration of all Paul's work. (1 Timothy 1: 15; 2: 5-6). Let us be careful how we attempt to build Christianity upon any foundation of ceremony or ethics or philosophy. Christianity is a living, working faith in Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world. Our Churches need this faith more strongly to control their labor for our Master.

NEED OF A LIGHT HOUSE AT KANGASANTURRAL.

The port of Kangasanturral is rising into importance and bids fair to become the chief of all the ports in the Northern Province. Its annual import duty is Rs. 60,000 or thereabouts, with a prospect of increase, as vessels of large tonnage are now in the habit of calling there. As mentioned by an intelligent passenger, "S. S. Lady Gordon" during her last trip north about, came near Mathakal, a place 3 miles west of Kangasanturral, at 8 P.M., on Thursday last. For want of a light at Kangasanturral port, the captain and the crew mistook Mathakal for Kangasanturral and anchored off the former place and there waited the whole night of Thursday expecting boats. Early on Friday morning, finding the mistake, the ship steamed off to Kangasanturral and landed the passengers and goods. Had there been a light at the port in question, the delay in landing could have been avoided. It need hardly be stated here that port lights are of great service to the mariners. It cannot be that the subject has not, as yet, attracted the attention of the customs authorities, and perhaps they are collecting materials to build a substantial light house. In the meanwhile, it would be well if a temporary light be put up on a post to meet the present requirement. *Com.*

THIRUKANITHA-VAIKEIYA PANCHANGAMS.

The controversy existing between the calculators of these two Panchangams cannot but excite the Jaffna public, a large majority of whom are professed believers in astrology. The sun, the moon and the planets, in relation to each other and the constellations are the criteria of all the astrological predictions. The astrological field of Jaffna has entirely been monopolized, for many years back, by a brahman of Kockville, whose *panchangam* was the sole medium of all the predictions. There was no one to dispute his ways, and no one to test the accuracy of his results by their coincidence with heavenly appearances. The strong religious bias of the people, in his behalf, has not permitted them to place any reliance on the calendars published by the Jaffna Religious Tract Society, for purposes of astrological inferences. But, of late, a brahman of Colombogam gave to the public another *panchangam* which he entitled the "Thirukanitham." The astrological results of these two *panchangams* disagreed and the result was serious. Members of the same house were divided and the quiet of the people was disturbed. Wordy strife and provoking controversy were the consequence and the people, ignorant as they are, of the facts of astronomy, elected to plead for the brahman whose interest they desired to promote. Science is not something like a law suit, turning

upon abstract evidence. Visible proofs, in most cases, have identified calculations. The brahman of Colombogam whose astronomical knowledge is traced to a Government astronomer of Madras, has wisely acted in challenging his rival by the test of the conjunction of Jupiter with the moon, on the night of the 20th day of April last. Conjunctions of the planets with the moon are of periodical recurrence, in the course of the moon round the earth; but the phenomenon on the night of the 20th ultimo was very strong and clear to support his ground against his rival. This single test has brought to light the inaccuracies of the old astrologer. He puts planets and constellations in places where they cannot actually stand. The Sivite community was in confusion. Their foundation was discovered to be on sand. Shame would have naturally blinded their faces. The horoscopes based upon the *Vaikkyaya panchangam*—these powerful regulators of future destiny, are not worth more than ant eaten palmyrah leaves. Past events of the astrological history impress in us an idea of hypocrisy among its believers. How can predictions founded upon incorrect premises be correct? How I wonder at the satisfaction the people had in the past coincidences of the events of their life, with their respective predictions. Your Sivite readers are, I believe, now quite sensible of the falsehoods of astrology, and I therefore refrain, for the present, to enter further into the details and blow up astrology. Lies and hypocrisies will surely betray themselves.

These brahmanical disputes have tempted me also to devote a portion of my busy time to compare their published results. Their differences are many and far between. But both can never be true, since the heavenly bodies can never pose differently at the same time. I shall notice here a few points of differences in the *Panchangams* of the current year. *Thirukanitham* dates the entering of the planet Mars into the constellation Pleiades on the 13th April past. *54 Nalika*s but *Vaikkyaya* fixes the same phenomenon on the 26th *Nalika*s past the 11th April. Again the former makes Jupiter to be stationary on the 13th April past 56 *Nalika*s, but the latter fixes the same for the 57 *Nalika*s past the 22nd April. There are also a host of other differences between the two in the other Ephemerides of the planets, asterisms, phases of the moon &c. *Thirukanitham* does not vary much from the Calendars calculated upon the bases of European astronomy. *Vaikkyaya panchangam* also would not be far behind the truth if the brahman had taken into account the difference caused by the precession of the Equinoxes. The equinoctial points are not the same in every year. They move towards the west, and the amount of precession annually is about 50.2 seconds. *Com.*

THE STAR'S JUBILEE.
To The Editor "Morning Star."

Dear Sir,
As a friend and admirer of the *Morning Star*, I hope you will allow me the privilege of saying a few words on the forthcoming Jubilee of your most valuable paper.

Your readers are probably aware that it was so early as in 1841 that the oldest newspaper of Jaffna and perhaps the first Anglo-Tamil newspaper of the world—made its *debut*, or first appearance. How valiantly the Star has braved the storms that at times beset its journalistic career, and how well it is still steering on in its proper direction, always guided by its famous Compass of "Righteousness exalted a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people," is well-known to every one. The popularity of your paper is almost unexampled in the history of local journalism. The very fact that the illiterate Jaffna man calls whatever newspaper he sees the *Thirukal* is typical of its widespread fame and esteem. The philologist, by the by, will see here a practical illustration of the process of Generalization of terms, and it must not be surprising to any, if some future Tamil lexicographer puts down newspaper as one of the meanings of this well-known word for Star.

My present purpose, however, is not to attempt a history of your much valued periodical. Nor is it to play the part of a eulogistic poet and sing the praises of the Star in lofty strains. My object, is to suggest that the Jubilee of the first Jaffna newspaper should not be passed over in silence. I venture to ask you, in the name of the Jaffna public, and in the interests of education and social advancement, whether it will be too much to commemorate the fiftieth year of your periodical, by enlarging its present limited size or by converting it into a weekly paper.

Your answer will undoubtedly depend upon the support you will receive at the hands of your friends, subscribers, and advertisers. But then are the men of light and leading in Jaffna and in Tamil-Ceylon, so parsimonious as to deny the Star the distinction it so richly deserves? I for one cannot persuade myself to accuse my countrymen of such a miserly trait.

Now that the discussion of this important subject

has commenced, I am content to leave it open, with the belief that your energetic Manager will, before the current year passes by, have fully determined to celebrate the Jubilee year of the Star, 1890—in one of the ways I have indicated, or perhaps in some better way.

I am, Sir,
AMICUS LITERARUM.

WOMAN'S WIT.

When Conrad III was in 1133 proclaimed Emperor of Germany, the Duke of Wittemberg refused to acknowledge him as such. The Emperor therefore besieged the Duke, who had taken refuge in his fortified town of Weinsberg. The Duke in the end was forced to yield; whereupon the indignant emperor declared his intention of putting all to fire and sword, but granted permission to the women to depart in safety, and to carry with them whatever they regarded as most precious. The Duchess of Wittemberg, taking advantage of this concession with ready wit took her husband, the Duke, upon her back. Her example was followed by the other women; and the Emperor, seeing them thus come out, with the Duchess at their head, was touched by the spectacle, and pardoned the men for the sake of their wives.

SELAH.

The word Selah, which occurs so often in some of the Psalms, and in the prayer of the Prophet Habakkuk, which may itself be called a Psalm, has been variously interpreted by the learned, and it is probable that in our ignorance of ancient forms of music we have no means of coming to a certainty as to its meaning. But what cannot be explained in words may be understood by the heart.

There are "songs without words," which reveal themselves to the sympathetic mind without need of comment; and thus the "Selah," the holy pause of the Psalmist, coming after some great truth, or some fresh discovery, requires nothing more.

The voice rests; perhaps the harper, the psaltery goes on to repeat in a solemn symphony the latest measure into its accompaniment, and our hearts responding with an inward assent to the truth of God, feel that "Selah" is our "Amen, so let it be."

There are three Selah pauses in the third Psalm. Let us examine them as examples of the times when such notes occur. In the second verse: "Many there be which say of my soul, there is no help for him in God, 'Selah.'"

There is the Selah of wonder. The child of God starts in amazement at the bare thought of such blasphemy against his God and his father. No help for him in God! His tongue is hushed, his harp is silent with astonishment.

He pauses a while in horror, than gathering up his strength he breaks forth into a burst of holy confidence; "But Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head;" a truth to which his own experience bears witness, "I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy hill, 'Selah.'"

This is the Selah of praise. Again the voice of song pauses, and we seem to see the eye of the singer raised in minute adoration.

From his own experience he is led to a grand general truth, and in the last verse he cries, "Salvation belongeth unto the Lord; Thy blessing is upon thy people, Selah." This is the Selah of triumph. He began with complaint, but he ends with victory.

"Friendly Greetings."

Local and General.

—DOGS FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. A lecture was given at the Royal United Service Institution by Mr. E. E. Bennett, of the Veterinary Department of the Army, on the employment of dogs for military purposes. Having referred to the use made of dogs in war in ancient times, especially by the Greeks and Romans, the lecturer pointed out that the Spaniards in their actions, in Peru and Mexico, the Dutch in their wars, the English under Essex in Ireland in the reign of Elizabeth, the Piedmontese, in the 16th century, the French and Turks in the early part of the last century, supplied many interesting facts as to the use of dogs in war. The lecturer said the dogs could be used as auxiliary sentinels, as scouts on the march, on reconnoitring and patrol duties, as dispatch carriers on the march, in camp and in action, and as searchers for the killed and wounded after an engagement. At the close of the lecture two trained dogs were shown fitted with the harness for carrying dispatches.

—P. W. D. JAFFNA. The Provincial Engineer has returned from his tour to the South. Punnalai Causeway is soon to be an accomplished fact. Our Engineers are surely keeping a good watch at it. The overseers and coolies are spurred on to their work by their frequent and surprise visits, and personal inspection of the work while in operation. Mr. C. Prime one of our old Engineers had the honor of being visited by our Engineers on board the S.S. "Lady Gordon" when on his way to Batticaloa.

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