

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 51.

Jaffna, Thursday the 27th of July, 1891.

No. 14.15

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

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR, 1891.

Singapore	Messrs. S. Sampanther, A. Kasi-nather and A. Kandiah.	7 50
India	Messrs. D.M. Canagaratnampillai	2 75
Vedattalve	Dr. R. Wilson	2 00
Batticoota	Mr. A. Cartigasoo	1 25
	89 & 90.	
India	M. R. Ry. D. M. Canagaratnam pillai	3 12 1/2

St. JOHN'S COLLEGE, JAFFNA.

Next Term begins July 27th. Boarders return on the 25th.

C. C. HANDY, B.A.
Head Master.

விளம்பரம்

யாழ்ப்பாணக் கச்சேரியில் கட்டப்பட்டு போது வானவரிமானத்துடன் கசுகசுக ஹூஸ்டைஸ் கத்தப் பின் சேர்க்கப்பட்டு ஒருவராலும் தன்னுடைய வைகலென்று உரித்துக்கூறப்படாதம. ஸ்திரீய்க் கோட்டு வளக்கரளிகளையுடைய பணங்களின் இடா ப்பு கசுகசுக ஹூஸ்டைஸ் ரூ. ௭ ரூ. ௭௦௦௦௦ இலக் க இலங்கைக் கவண்மேந்தாரின் 'காசேர்த் துணு பத்தத்தில் பிரசுரத் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்று இத்தால் அறிவிக்கிறேன்.

மேலும் இந்த டாப்பைப்பற்றிய விபரங்கள் யாழ்ப்பாணக் கச்சேரியிலும் கொழும்பிலிருக்கும் "லோகம்போட்" கத்தோரிலும் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளலாம்.

இப்படிக்கு

கொழும்பு "லோகம்போட்" F. R. SAUNDERS
கசுகசுக ஹூஸ்டைஸ் & Co. யாழ்ப்பாணம்.

B. Ghose's Sarsaparilla.

A Purely Vegetable Specific for the cure of Weakness, Rheumatism, Gout, Sore Eyes, Eruptions of Mercury, and all other diseases arising from impurities of the blood.

It can be used at all times with perfect safety and without changing diet or fear of taking cold.

It is prepared from some harmless American and Native ingredients. Four pills are required for perfect cure.

Price Rs. 1 per phial. Packing As. 4.

POSTAGE & V.P. COMMISSION EXTRA.

May be had through any Chemist
B. GHOSE & Co., CHEMISTS, & c.,
77, Colledge Street, Calcutta, E. India.

Local and General.

—The rock recently blasted in Colombo harbor has all been removed being brought up by the grab-dredger. The pieces represent a total weight of 40 tons.

—The plumbago industry is assuming large proportions in consequence of rich finds and good prices. Hundreds of people are employed in the pits, most of which are worked by means of improved machinery. Large quantities are received almost daily in Colombo from various places in the Western, North-Western, Southern, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

—The firm of Alstons, Scott and Co. of Colombo has been obliged to suspend payments owing to no fault of their own but to the failure of a large firm in Glasgow. A new firm of merchants and commission agents has been started with the name of Bois Brothers and Co. which will probably secure the patronage hitherto given to the firm of Alstons, Scott and Co.

—The people of Jaffna are sorry to lose from their midst Mr. Haines, the Assistant Collector of Customs, who left here last Friday to visit England on leave.

—THE SUPREME COURT. The criminal sessions of the Supreme Court commenced at Jaffna on Monday the 20th instant. There were only six cases on the calendar and two of these came from Mannar and Vavania Velanulam. Sir Bruce L.

Burnside was the presiding judge, Mr. G. Grenier was Registrar, and Mr. Adv. Cooke acted as Crown Counsel. Only two cases were taken up on Monday, the first being one of murder, in which one Visuvan Velang of Manipay was charged with having committed the offence, upon his wife's grandfather. Mr. Adv. Allegaoken defended the prisoner, and the jury, with Mr. A. Mylvaganam as foreman, brought in a verdict of not guilty, whereupon the prisoner was acquitted and discharged. After a short adjournment, Kanthan Kakkalan of Neervalay was put in the dock and the charge against him was the robbery of a goat. As in the previous case, an English-speaking jury tried the case, with Mr. C. Coomariah as foreman. The prisoner was defended. The evidence for the prosecution was strong against the accused, and the jury found him guilty accordingly. The chief Justice sentenced the prisoner to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment, and in passing the sentence, His Lordship bore his testimony to the paucity of crime in the Northern Province, and said that but for this fact, he might have imposed on the prisoner an additional punishment of flogging.

On Tuesday, the 21st, two cases were taken up, both being tried by English-speaking juries with Mr. Mailvaganam as foreman. In the first, one Ramasamy of Manaar, a toddy-drawer, was charged with murder by administering poison. He appears to have mixed the seeds of some poisonous shrub in his toddy-pot, so as to injure some shepherd boys whom he suspected of stealing his toddy. One Kali, a customer of his and himself a shepherd boy, died by drinking of its contents. Mr. Advocate Nagalingam defended the prisoner, and on the direction of the chief Justice that it would be competent for the jury to find the accused guilty of the minor charge of voluntarily causing grievous hurt, they returned a verdict accordingly, and His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to 10 years rigorous imprisonment. The 2nd case had been committed by the Police Magistrate of Vavania, and the offence of rape with which the prisoner, Kaiyayan, was charged was alleged to have taken place in July, 1888. On the petition of the accused, Mr. Adv. Nagalingam was assigned as counsel for the defence, and the witnesses for the prosecution flagrantly contradicting their original depositions, the jury brought in a verdict of "not guilty" and the prisoner was acquitted forthwith. The court adjourned at 5-30 P. M.

The two remaining cases on the calendar were disposed of on the following day. The first was against one Krittinan of Pt. Pedro, who was charged with kidnaping and murder. After the jury were empanelled and the first witness for the prosecution was partially examined, the chief Justice intimated to the crown Counsel that if the evidence he was going to adduce was nothing more than that disclosed in the depositions taken by the Magistrate, there would be no other alternative for His Lordship than to direct the jury for a verdict of acquittal, and that it would be an act of prudence on the part of the crown to enter a *nolle prosequi*. The Crown Counsel acting upon the suggestion, the case was withdrawn and the prisoner set at liberty, subject to any future proceedings that may be taken against him when more light is thrown on the transaction complained of. The *Hindu Organ* defamation case was then taken up, and the prisoner Suppramaniam was defended by Mr. Adv. Nagalingam. The case for the prosecution was that the accused, the printer and publisher of the *Hindu Organ*, published in his issue of the 2nd of March last, certain defamatory matter concerning Mr. S. Abraham, a preacher employed under the American Mission. The defence was that the matter complained of did not refer to Mr. Abraham, but to somebody else. The majority of the jury being Hindus by religion, they were specially solicited not to regard the case before them as a dispute between two rival religionists, but as a question bearing only on the administration of justice, and hence not to allow their religious feelings have anything to do with the verdict they should have to return. During the trial, the chief Justice had occasion to hold that a person who attributes fraud to another would be criminally liable, only if by this act the character or credit of the person defamed was actually lowered in the estimation of others, and that words imputing fraud to another cannot *per se* be regarded as criminally libellous. On this point there was a difference of opinion be-

tween His Lordship and the crown counsel, and there was for some time a fine discussion between them thereon. After a few minutes' deliberation, the jury returned, through Mr. Mailvaganam their foreman a verdict of "not guilty," and the prisoner was at once acquitted and discharged. Just before closing the sessions, the chief Justice in thanking the jury for the assistance they had rendered him in the administration of justice, once more bore his eloquent and emphatic testimony to the superiority of the people of the Northern Province to those of the rest, in the respect they entertain for the law and in their freedom from the commission of violent offences. The sessions were formally closed at about 4 p. m.

—The survey of the first section of the railway northwards that is from Polgalwela to Kurnegalle commenced the 13th Inst.

—We learn that the Rev. J. W. Fall M. A., the vice-principal of Trinity College Kandy, has been appointed Principal of St. John's College, Jaffna.

—One E. B. Wikramaayaka of the Wesley College has been elected to the vacant Jeejeebhoy scholarship.

—Mr. W. A. G. Hood is appointed to act as Assistant Collector of Customs and Landing Surveyor, Jaffna during the absence on leave of Mr. W. G. Haines.

—The Postmaster of Manipay, who was ill for several months, has resumed his duties. Mr. George Dutton who acted for him, discharged the duties to our satisfaction and has won for himself the golden opinions of all here.

—Since the society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals started in December last 229 persons have been convicted in Colombo of illtreating dumb creatures.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

On July 10th London was *en fete* in honor of the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Germany. The decorations along the route from Buckingham Palace were of a most gorgeous description, and the display has never been equaled. Their Majesties, who proceeded in state, were escorted by picked men of the Guards. On arrival at the Guildhall the Emperor was presented with the freedom of the city. At the luncheon which followed, His Majesty, replying to the toast of his health proposed by the Lord Mayor, said he was always at home when in England being a grandson of the Queen, who would ever be remembered for the nobility of her character and the wisdom of her counsels. The English and Germans, he said, were of the same blood, and following the example of his grandfather and father he would always strive to maintain the historical friendship which existed between the two countries. His Majesty declared that he aims, above all things, at the maintenance of peace and would always be ready to unite with England and other nations in common labor for peaceful progress, friendly intercourse, and the advancement of civilization.

After the ceremony in the city their Majesties visited the Royal Naval Exhibition and made minute inspection of the exhibits.

The next day a grand review of troops took place at Wimbledon before the Emperor William.

Six thousand regulars and fifteen thousand volunteers paraded under the command of H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge. The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and a large number of distinguished persons were present, and it is estimated that there were over a million spectators. There was a brilliant march past and the Royal salute was fired. After the review the Emperor visited the Crystal Palace and attended a concert there. His Majesty was entertained at dinner in the palace and witnessed a grand display of fireworks.

The health of the Egyptian exiles is being carefully watched with a view to their possible removal from Ceylon.

During the Emperor William's visit to Hatfield, His Majesty expressed to Lord Salisbury his profound satisfaction with the welcome accorded to him in England, which, he assured his Lordship, far surpassed all his expectations.

The Privy Council has authorized the formation of a teaching University for London to be entitled the Albert University.

Orange lodges in the army are to be suppressed by orders of the Commander-in-chief.

BEGINNING?

A correspondent brings up a question which is often a real difficulty. If, with some philosophers, we assert that all knowledge comes through our five senses and deductions from what they give, then it is impossible to conceive of an absolute beginning of anything which did not before exist. But the rational intelligence has other knowledge than by the senses, even though it may also make use of them. We know causes and reasons and the nature of things, and thus know God, and spirit, and duty etc. We know that effect must have a cause, and that there must be a first cause of all. Since we know that there must be such a first cause, we know that there is such a First Cause; and since we know that there is, we know it or Him, because we know some at least of His qualities, first His existence, next His causality, also His power, and eternity.

That which has no beginning is self-existent and independent; its existence is not dependent on any thing outside of itself, therefore it cannot be destroyed, because then its existence would depend on the question of anything else coming to destroy it. If it cannot be destroyed it is unlimited in power. Therefore if there are three eternal substances, there are three substances each of unlimited power and able to destroy any other, and yet each incapable of destruction, which is an absurdity. We may express it in another way. That which is unlimited or infinite in one respect, must be infinite in all. We cannot refute this by the example of a so-called "infinite line," unlimited in one direction but not in others, for there is in reality no infinite line, nor can there be one. We only use the term in a vague general sense. Therefore a thing unlimited or infinite in time, must be infinite in all its other essential qualities or attributes. But power is one of them. So a being or thing that is without beginning is omnipotent, and if there are three such there are three omnipotencies which is absurd. Therefore all which is not God must have had a beginning.

We may follow another line; all which is finite in one quality must be finite in other essential qualities. The world, matter, mankind etc. are all finite in space and in number, and hence must be in duration. This is not contradicted by the fact that we expect the spirit of man to exist forever. This endless existence had a limit at the beginning, and is only continued by dependence on the one eternal One.

COUNT TOLSTOI ON SMOKING.

Continued

Every person of moderately good breeding in our social sphere holds it to be unseemly, ill-mannered, childish, merely for his own pleasure, to interfere with the peace and comfort of others, and a fortiori to injure their health. No one would take the liberty to flood with water a room in which people were sitting; to scream and yell in it; to turn on hot, cold, or foetid air, or to perform any other acts tending to disturb or injure others; and yet out of a thousand smokers scarcely one will hesitate to fill with noxious fumes a room, the atmosphere of which is being breathed by women and children who do not smoke. If before lighting their cigarette or cigar, they ask the company present, "Have you any objection?" every one knows that he or she is expected to answer, "Not the least!" (although it is inconceivable that it should be anything but disagreeable to a non-smoker to have the air he respire poisoned). And even if we suppose that non-smoking adults can support the discomforts in question, surely no one will maintain that it is agreeable or wholesome for children whose permission nobody ever thinks of asking. And yet people who are perfectly honorable and hu-

mane in all other respects smoke in the company of children, at table, in small rooms, poisoning the air with the fumes of tobacco, and never feel the faintest prick of conscience."

"It is commonly urged in favor of the practice—and I used to advance the plea myself—that smoking conduces to efficient mental work; and there is no doubt that if we confine our consideration to the quantity of intellectual work done, we shall find this plea well grounded. To a man who is smoking, and who has consequently ceased to gauge and weigh his thoughts, it naturally seems that his mind has suddenly become thronged with ideas. As a mere matter of fact, however, his ideas have not become more numerous, but he has simply lost all control over them.

A man who works is always conscious of two beings within himself—the one who's engaged in work, and the one who sits in judgment upon the work done. The severer the judgment he passes, the slower and the more perfect is the work done, and vice versa. If the judge be under the influence of stimulant or a narcotic, there will be more work done, but of an inferior quality.

"If I do not smoke, I cannot work; I cannot get my thoughts upon paper, and even when I have begun, I cannot go on." So people commonly say, and so I said myself in times gone by. Now, what is the meaning of this statement? It means that you have nothing to say, or that ideas to which you are endeavoring to give expression have not matured in your consciousness—are only dimly dawning upon you—and the living critic within you, unclouded by tobacco fumes, tells you so. Now, if you were not a smoker, you would under these circumstances, either wait patiently until you had acquired a clear conception of the subject about which you wished to write, or else you would strive, by throwing yourself manfully into it, to master it thoroughly, weighing and discussing the objections that suggest themselves to your mind, and generally elucidating your thoughts to yourself. Instead of this, however you take out a cigarette, and smoke; the living critic within you becomes clouded, stupefied, and the hitch in your work is removed; that which seemed petty, unworthy, while your brain was still fresh and clear, now appears great, excellent; that which struck you as obscure is no longer so; you make light of the objections that occur to you, and you continue to write, and find to your joy that you can write quickly and much."

To the objection that "people who drink and smoke often give proof of the highest intellectual and moral qualities," he replies that "we can only draw the conclusion that they would have accomplished still greater things had they not clouded and clogged their faculties."

"A man addicted to the habit of stupefying his faculties by artificial means will often continue stagnant during the whole course of his existence, standing in the same place, looking out upon the world through the mist of the vague self-contradictory life-philosophy that he once accepted; at the beginning of every new period of lucidity pressing hard against the same wall against which he pressed in the same way ten, fifteen, twenty years before, and in which he lacks the means to make a breach, because he persists in deliberately blunting the edge of the thought which alone was capable of effecting it."

Matara, 5th July 1891.

To The Editor of the "Morning Star," Jaffna.

Sir, We have fair weather here at present with a drizzling shower or two during the nights. The place is still not free from a stray case of ague or shivering fever in some unhealthy locality.

Our paddy crop in the interior is thriving pretty well, except in villages where great damage was done to the crop by the inundations consequent on the late heavy rains.

On the 19th ultimo. Mr. Bandernaike Modeliar an old Government Pensioner, aged 72, died of old age. The deceased's funeral took place on the 1st instant numerously attended by all classes of the community. The deceased left a numerous circle of relations in Colombo, Galle and Matara, to whom his loss.

On the 30th ultimo, the Lord Bishop of Colombo held a confirmation service at the Nupe St. Thomas Church. On the first instant Mr. Isee Lebbe Modliar of the Hambantote Kutcheri, who is one of the lucky recipients of the Queen's birthday honors, arrived here at Matara from Kandy, and was received by the Moors of the town with every mark of respect.

Thanking you most heartily for the able and lucid explanations which you have given to the difficulties on certain matters of belief brought forward by our "agnostic" friends in this little out station, we beg leave to mention some further points of the "agnostic" creed, namely:—They pretend that the Universe was never made or created by any body, but exists eternally, through its own virtue

and powers; that good and evil are intermingled and confounded and appear to come from all eternity, that most of the Human Beings are great sufferers and there is no real happiness whatever, even amongst the so-called Happy ones of mankind. They say the whole is, as some great philosopher remarked, a riddle, an enigma and an inexplicable mystery, and will never be solved by poor human creatures!

The above opinions and beliefs of our "agnostic" friends here are quite curious, and are most sad and melancholy. And although we do not warrant the justness of them, we shall be extremely obliged to you, if you or any one of your numerous circle of readers would enlighten us upon the particular points which our "agnostic" and free thinking friends have so plausibly put forward.

In our District Courts here the Presiding Judge takes down the statements of the witness in civil cases, and he decides them according to evidence; but the European Judge does not know whether the witnesses have been lying or have been telling the whole truth to the Court. Accordingly in many cases great injustice is done to our poor people. But if three or more assessors were to be joined with the District Judge as formerly, this unconscious infliction of injustice would be avoided. We, therefore, beg leave to suggest to Government the desirability of reviving the permanent assessor system in District Courts throughout the Island.

Yours truly
X. Y. Z.

A NOBLE EXAMPLE.

Lady MacDonald, the wife of the just deceased Prime Minister of Canada, Sir John MacDonald, is a staunch total abstainer. The story of how she came to abstain has been told by herself. She said she was led to give up wine-drinking, after some reflection suddenly at last, on Christmas Day, 1867. She had thought a good deal on the subject, but never made any decided resolution until that day. Conversation at dinner turned on total abstinence, and a guest, a strictly temperate man, who held high office in the Dominion, said that practically total abstinence was impossible for anyone "in society." Lady MacDonald combated this, and, as a result of further discussion, she was challenged as to whether she would herself "give up her glass of sherry at dinner." She at once decided to try, saying, "Henceforth I enter the ranks of the total abstainers, and drink to our success in water." Her ladyship's testimony is that "Since then, thank God, I have never found any necessity for wine. In health I can do my life's work without any aid from dangerous stimulants; in sickness I have invariably and positively refused to touch it."

An interesting sequel, showing how Lady MacDonald's example has brought forth fruit, has been told in an American paper:—"A lady of position was some time ago passing the summer at a fashionable watering place, and there met at table Lady MacDonald. She was much surprised to find that she took no wine at any time, and at length asked: "Do you not set out wine when you entertain the Marquis of Lorne?" "Never!" was the reply. "But do you not then feel that you must apologise?" "Certainly not; wine is not a natural beverage, and so should rather come in than go out with apology." This answer decided the lady to give up her wine, concluding that what a British nobleman was not offended at, those in her own country ought not to be, and in her home city she soon took a leading part in the Temperance cause.—The National Bulletin.

ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

—Sir Arthur Gordon, late Governor of Ceylon, has it is said, been seriously ill with influenza and complications, but is in a fair way to recovery.

—Mr. C. Michie Smith has been appointed officiate as Government Astronomer, Madras, sub-pro ten.

—Dr. Amelia B. Edwards has never fully recovered from the accident of breaking her arm, when on her lecture tour in the United States, and is now traveling in Italy and Sicily for the benefit of her health.