

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 51.

Jaffna, Thursday the 6th of Aug. 1891.

No. 16.

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

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR.

	1891	
Keygalle	Mr. R. Isaac	2.00
Trincomalee	W. S. S. S. S. S. S. S.	1.75
Pt. Pedro	Revd. A. Restarick and Wm. Walton	3.00
	1890	
Pt. Pedro	Messrs. S. Cherubim, H. V. Chetlappah, V. Valanthiam, S. Spencer, & Rev. D. V. Thamo-tharum	6.25

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

In the matter of the goods and Chattels Estate and property of the late Arumugam Saravanamuttu of Meesalai deceased.

Valliamme widow of Saravanamuttu of Meesalai. Testamentary Jurisdiction. } No. 433. Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Kanapathiar Ponnampalam, wife
2. Kunjopilly
3. Parupathi widow of Valliapper Canter
4. Nakamutto daughter of Saravanamuttu
5. Sevakamen daughter of Saravanamuttu
6. Sinnappilly daughter of Saravanamuttu all of Meesalai. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before Patrick William Conolly Esquire District Judge of Jaffna on the 27 day of July 1891 in the presence of MR. T. M. TAMPOO, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner Valliamme widow of Saravanamuttu of Meesalai and the Affidavit of the said Valliamme widow of Saravanamuttu dated the 24th day of July 1891 having been read, it is ordered that the said Valliamme widow of Saravanamuttu of Meesalai be, and she is hereby declared entitled as widow of the said intestate to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said late Arumugam Saravanamuttu of Meesalai issued to her, unless the above-named Respondents or any other person shall, on or before the 24 day of August 1891 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court, to the contrary.

Jaffna 27th day of July 1891. P. W. CONOLLY District Judge.

Local and General.

—The Legislative Council is fixed to resume its session on August 12.

—It is reported that the Rev. J. E. B. Brine, of Dickoya, goes to the Newera Eliya Church.

—We have to record the happy event of the marriage of the Rev. S. Knapp and Miss Florence Bestall, of the Wesleyan Mission, which took place at Colombo on the 25th July. We wish them every happiness.

—The absence of the S.S. Lady Gordon has caused inconvenience to the traders who have had no regular means of communication with Colombo since she went away. As it is the time for transporting the tobacco crop, some 400 tons of cargo have accumulated in Jaffna.

—The examination for Proctors began at Colombo on July 27th.

—We are sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Reidy, Immigration Agent at Paumben, which occurred July 29.

—In Calcutta the Mohammedans intended to slaughter cows for their feast on July 17th. The Hindus hearing of it gathered an enormous crowd of 8,000 or 10,000 which the police could not control. The Northern Division Magistrate with a prominent merchant finally effected a settlement. No cows were to be slaughtered, and the Hindus were not to disturb or annoy the Mohammedans at their prayers.

—The S.S. Lady Gordon is appointed to sail from Colombo north-about on the 5th inst.

—Capt. Pirie, A. D. C. is, we are sorry to learn, ill with malarial fever.

—EVANGELICAL MEETINGS. Mr. Wm. Sreetharanandasamy, the brahmin convert in conjunction with the missionaries, ministers, catechists and teachers of the Jaffna Wesleyan Mission, has been busily and earnestly engaged in holding about ten special meetings in Jaffna and Vannarpannai circuits during the last two weeks of the last month. These meetings have been largely attended and

mosty addressed by the brahmin convert. His able explanation and exposition of Hinduism itself has not only increased the attendance and added interest daily, but also led some thinking men to go to him at his residence to talk with him leisurely on religious topics, though in one place the spirit of opposition has been very cowardly shewn. He has earnestly appealed to the conscience of our friends that whilst the bodily warts of all men are the same in all ages and in all places, so also are our spiritual wants, the way of salvation from sin also for all men cannot but be one and the same; and that way is only revealed in the Christian religion. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus for he shall save his people from their sins."

Dear friends: Read the Bible, but "read not to contradict and refute, nor to believe and take for granted, nor to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider."

—The revenue of Ceylon for the first six months of 1891 is Rs. 8,141,427 against Rs. 7,457,589 in 1890 being an increase of Rs. 683,838: If the receipts continue to increase at the same rate for the latter half of the year, the revenue of the colony for the current year including the Pearl Fishery income will come to about seventeen millions of Rs.

—The Hon'ble J. A. Swettenham the new Auditor General arrived in Colombo on the 30th July and assumed his duties on the following day.

—Vannarpannai Young Men's Literary Association. During the past month we had in connection with this association two lectures on "Morality" and "The future of India" taken up respectively by Messrs. S. Candiah and M. Scudder, and a debate on "The justifiability or the unjustifiability of the execution of Charles I., conducted by Messrs. S. Sivagunapader and E. Mudr. Canagaretam. All four of them are F.A. students and 3 of them are Hindus by religion Mr. S. Candiah said emphatically among other things that there can be no morality without religion. We are glad to observe that educated young men of Vannarpannai both Sivites and Christian unite together for their intellectual and moral improvement.

Cholera has broken out at Nelliadi, three miles from Pt. Pedro and there have been six deaths there by this disease.

The Manager of Vadimiratchy East, Veeravagu Modiar died a few days since of diabetes.

FOREIGN NEWS.

—Some salt lakes have recently been formed in southern California, supposed to be the effect of an earthquake. One is 10 miles square and another, 60 miles further south, is 40 miles square, and from three to five feet deep. No inlet can be found on the surface so there must be some underground passage.

—At the sale of autograph letters and manuscripts belonging to the late Rev. Thos. Raffles of Liverpool, the original M. S. of Bishop Heber's missionary hymn in which the well-known reference to "Ceylon's spicy breezes" occurs, was sold for £ 42 to Mr. Sotherans the London bookseller.

Cholera is raging in Mecca 620 deaths occurring in two days. Strenuous efforts are being made to prevent its spreading into Egypt. The number of deaths has reached 400 daily.

Mr. H. M. Stanley, the great African explorer when walking on the Muerrean in Switzerland stumbled and fell some distance, fracturing his ankle.

The death is announced of Sir Charles Forster M. P.

A waterspout at Jekaterinoslow, in Russia, has resulted in the drowning of 69 persons and the destruction of 150 houses.

A terrific tornado passed over Baton Rouge, a city in Louisiana. Amongst other buildings the prison was destroyed and ten convicts killed; others were seriously injured.

A monetary crisis is feared in Portugal owing to the scarcity of coin.

An English Bank in Buenos Ayres has suspended owing to the operation of the Argentine Bank Moratorium Act.

The Influenza is prevalent in Toledo, Spain, also in some cities of Asia Minor.

Considerable excitement has been caused at Eastport, Maine, by the seizure of seven American fishing boats by a Canadian cruiser.

Salvationists at Eastbourne were arrested in order to avoid a riot with the inhabitants who resented the disturbance in the streets.

A Baronety has been conferred upon the Lord Mayor and knighthood upon Mr. Augustus Harris for meritorious services connected with the visit of the Emperor William.

The Crown Prince of Italy is in London for 20 days.

The French squadron were warmly welcomed at Cronstadt. The Czar paid them a visit and lunched with the officers on his private yacht. He proposed the health of President Carnot. The squadron, it is thought, will visit England shortly.

An insurrection has broken out in Yemen. The Turkish troops are powerless to quell it.

Dr. Koch has resigned all public offices owing to the failure of his cure for consumption.

A collision between two railway trains at St. Maude France, resulted in the death of 49 persons and the injury of many others. Two railway officials have been arrested.

The Porte will shortly resume negotiations with the British Government for the evacuation of Egypt.

The island of Crete is in a state of anarchy. Frequent murders are committed without any attempt being made to punish the perpetrators.

Lord Cross, at an interview with the commissioners of the Chicago Exhibition, promised to communicate with the Viceroy with the view of securing the adequate representation of India at the World's Fair.

Matara, 16th July 1891.

To the Editor of the "Morning Star" Jaffna Sir,

We are still experiencing fair weather here. A few days ago, Dr. Thomas and the Native Magistrate proceeded to Hackmana, about 13 miles from Matara to investigate a murder case. Serious crimes seem to be on the increase in our District. It would be very advisable for our Rulers to investigate the causes of this increase of serious crimes and adopt measures to prevent these sad occurrences.

We hear that our District Mudaliyars have received orders from the Asst. Govt. Agent here, to report to Govt. if there are any Archaeological remains in their respective Districts. We know that there are such remains near Weligama, called "Kooosta rajah Galla," (stone of the leper King) a statue carved on a big granite boulder on the road-side from Galle to Weligama. There are some granite slabs at the Buddhist Temple at Weligama called "Aggrabbo-di-wihare" There are many such remains at Dondra-pitto four miles from Matara, on the road to Tangalle. There are enormous rock temples at "Mulgirigala" about 12 miles from Tangalle, and there are many such remains at Tissa-Maha-ramaya near Habantotte. And we learn that there are many such remains in Maham Patto District. Maham the chief city of Maham Pattu, which was in olden days (about 300 B.C., a subordinate principality, ruled by Mahanah a brother of the famous king Dewanpiatisso, and which is a heap of ruins now, is even now said to contain a numerous lot of archaeological remains, such as tanks, ruins of temples &c., which show that the District must have been once thickly populated. The Sinhalese Princes of old are said to have taken refuge in this great city of Maham during the Great Tamil Invasion. It is also believed that there was a long continued line of houses and other buildings along both the sides of the public road which was existing at the time from Maham to Anuradhapoora and these buildings are said to have been so numerous, that it is traditionally reported, a cock which starts from Maham upon house tops, in the morning arrives unknowingly at the latter city towards evening or night fall. There is said to be existing at the present time along line of ruins which is in favor of the truth of these supposed facts. It would be a capital idea, if our Government were to order an archaeological survey of these things in the Island. Our District Mudaliars also will be able to collect very rare and antique coins which are found in great abundance in many parts of our district.

OPTIMISM AND PESSIMISM

Every person who has any opinion at all about the state of affairs in this world, belongs to one of two classes, the optimists, or the pessimists. The former class are the hopeful ones who believe the world is growing better, the latter are the discouraged ones who think the world is growing worse. For ourselves we are glad to say that we belong to the class of optimists. It is certainly a much pleasanter class to be in, if one can only get into it. The Hindus as a whole we must class with the pessimists. For proof of this we need only note two facts. 1. They say that they live in the Kaliyuga which is the worst of the four, and in which mankind are continually growing worse. 2. There is no word for hope in Tamil or Sanscrit, and for this reason our friends in learning English have great difficulty with the word.

Because *पितृ* is used to express it they often use it to express confident expectation, i. e. "I hope that my father will die tomorrow," etc. They believe that every thing takes place in accordance with fate or with the whim of gods from whom they can hope for no favors.

Hope is one of the three Christian graces, Faith, Hope and Love, and every good Christian is bound to be hopeful. But, sad to say, many seem quite the reverse, and delight in calling themselves pessimists. They say that they have a hope of salvation in the next world, but they forget that godliness has a promise for this world also, and that if a man is not saved in this world he cannot expect to be saved in the next. A person who looks only for sad or evil things will find them most. A bat sees only darkness; a crow finds a plenty of carrion and filth. We are free to admit that as learning and civilization increase in the world, wickedness becomes more intense. As man's power for good increases so also does his power for evil. As cities increase in size the wickedness of the country gathers in them and becomes concentrated and powerful. London is the most wicked city in the world. But it is also the best city in the world, and if we look for both we shall see that the good far outweighs the evil.

A correspondent speaks of Dr. Daly the Theosophist as saying in a public lecture that he became a Buddhist because he could not reconcile the existence of so much suffering and evil in the world with the idea of a loving Father in Heaven. So he gives up the idea of there being any God who is able to control. But this is a very short-sighted view. We should look over the whole course of history, not only the past, but also the probable future. Aside from the successes of the gospel, science is learning methods of overcoming disease, and the average human life is getting longer. The ability to prevent pain and suffering is every year increasing. New means of amusement and of rational pleasure are continually discovered. The world is clearly advancing in happiness and escape from pain and suffering. It is equally clear that there is progress in morality: many public evils which were formerly tolerated or defended are now done away. Piety is also increasing. Ninety years ago in the United States only one person in fifteen was a member of a Protestant church, now one in five is such. The number of those who call themselves Christians in every land is increasing at a rapid rate.

But how does this touch the question

of the permission of pain by a kind Father. It is because pain is a means of good that it is permitted, and the fact that man is gradually attaining to that greater good helps us to understand its permission. But we can see it in other ways. Pain is a warning and hence preventive of injury. Every finite good is liable to injury, therefore pain is a help towards good. Again the contrast between pain and ease is so great as to make the latter more appreciated, and hence more of a pleasure. So with evil, the recovery from evil makes more apparent the benefits of freedom from evil, and so enhances the joy of holiness. The same principle can be applied on a higher grade. Deliverance from sin, giving occasion for the self-sacrifice of Deity, reveals the love of God more than would be possible in any other way, and so it is the means of greater bliss than otherwise could be attained. The more dreadful sin appears the more blessed is deliverance from it. This is one reason why God has allowed sin to work out its natural effects.

But there is a more special reason. It lies in the fact that the highest bliss is only attainable by a being who is able to decide for himself. Animal happiness or any pleasure secured only by the power of God, would be mechanical and not to be compared with the blessedness attainable by free rational beings. And such beings can only be controlled by motives, among which experience is one of the strongest. The sight of the terrible evil that comes from sin is one of the strongest motives to keep from sin. But the very strongest motive is the love of God as revealed in deliverance from sin. And both of these are most effective when examples are before our eyes.

It will help us to see the wisdom and love in such a course when we believe the promises that the number of the redeemed will be vastly more than of the lost. And when we take into account the countless worlds probably teeming with rational beings who will all be kept from sin by the drama which is being acted on this earth, we no longer hesitate. But there is another incidental benefit which it is not small. Evil causes strife, and opposition to good, and this opposition strengthens, and thus increases the good. The hero of a victory is not only crowned with a brighter crown, but he himself has gained in nobleness and strength. There is no strife without evil. So that we can see that God brings the highest good out of the state of the world.

BOMBAY Y. M. C. ASSOCIATION.

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

Please insert the following in your paper:— In the beginning of the year 1875 the late Rev. Dr. Somerville conducted a series of meetings in Bombay when it was proposed to start a Y.M.C.A. Thus the Bombay Young Men's Christian Association was first established in the Framji Cowasjital on the 25 April 1875. After sometime the rooms of the Bombay Tract and Book Society were hired and the meetings of the Association held there from time to time. But the continued and rapid progress of the Association necessitated the possession of rooms which it could call its own. The Rev. Dr. Macpherson, whose name will ever be remembered in connection with the B.Y.M.C.A., raised a very large subscription with great zeal and perseverance and built the Apollo Bunder Rooms at a cost of about Rs. 25000. The price of ground and the cost of building being very heavy, especially in the city of Bombay, the association's rooms, consist of only a Lecture Hall, a Reading Room a Coffee Room, Lavatory and Bath Room, and Superintendent's quarters, all surrounded by verandahs. There is a beautiful garden in front of the rooms and the remarkable feature in the site is that on the south and west it faces the sea. The Superintendent's quarters are intended for one

who looks after the Association Rooms and sees if everything is in proper order and the Coffee Rooms for the selling of tea, coffee and refreshments for the members of the Association. The first meeting in this new building was to be held on the 5th of August 1881 conducted by Dr. Macpherson, but on that memorable day he was attacked with cholera and passed away the next morning. However a meeting was held on the 5th and prayers offered for the life of this man who had done so much for the Association and whose life was on that day hanging in the balance. The members did not fail to do the fullest justice to their duty in connection with the Association; and thus the Y. M. C. A. continued to prosper with unprecedented rapidity notwithstanding it had lost one of its most valuable members.

As it was found difficult for the members who lived at a distance to regularly attend the meetings, the desirability of establishing branches in different parts of the city was greatly felt and thus a branch was opened in Bandora in 1885, another in Grant Road in 1889, a third in Parel in 1890, and a fourth in Byculla in the beginning of the current year. Each branch has its own office-bearers and is managed by a sub-committee of its own, the proposals of which are subject to the sanction of the General Committee of the Apollo Bunder association. There is also provided in each branch a small library and a reading room where there is always a good collection of newspapers and magazines.

There are many Christian young men who have no relations to look after them in Bombay, and who are either employed in offices or have come to study in colleges. As it was necessary that these young men should be surrounded by Christian influences in a town like Bombay, where temptations especially for young men are more numerous than at any other place in India, a Y.M.C.A. Home in connection with the Grant Road Branch has been started next to the Branch Rooms, which provides board and lodging for a limited number of members at a moderate rate.

There is also a Library in connection with the Association, named after its founder, the late Rev. Dr. Macpherson, which consists of about 900 well selected books, essays and other standard works. Every year additions are made of fresh books as soon as the proposals of the members in connection with them are sanctioned by the General Committee.

An Athletic Club is also lately started in connection with the Association, for the physical improvement of members, including Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Football &c. For the spiritual improvement of the members, meetings are held both in the Apollo Bunder Rooms and in its branches; and each young man is expected to bring with him one or two of his friends to the meetings, most of them being open to all. Besides the business meetings of the Association, the average number of meetings held by it amounts to about 60 a month, which comprises evangelistic meetings, prayer meetings, literary meetings, Bible Class and those of a debating nature, lectures, debates, and discussions, held in the Association, tend to the intellectual welfare of young men. Besides the members gain great benefit from the Macpherson Library and the Reading Room. This Reading Room is supplied with two daily, 11 weekly, 15 monthly newspapers and periodicals of great utility and about 33 Y. M. C. A. Magazines from all parts of the world. Frequent social gatherings, tea meetings, concerts, and other receptions, are held occasionally for the welfare of young men from a social point of view. There are also games of various kinds such as chess, reversi, fishing pond &c. and suitable accommodations provided for those who wish to play at these. Excursions of various kinds are organized from time to time, especially to the Lanorah Hills at a distance of about 80 miles from Bombay. Mr. Henry Conder, the General Traffic Manager of the G.I.P. Railway and who is also the Honorary General President of the Bombay Y. M. C. A., generally reduces the railway fares on such occasions to a great extent. He has become so popular and his attendance in the Association Rooms so regular, that a member on speaking at a special meeting interpreted Y.M.C.A. into "You Meet Conder Always."

The expenditure of the Association under all heads amounts to Rs. 9000 a year including the expenditure of the four branches which amounts at an average to about Rs. 650 each, the whole of which is subscribed by the members. The Association at present consists of nearly 600 members and associates, all of whom are expected to subscribe according to their ability. Thus there are many members who pay two annas a month, and there are some who pay even Rs. 40 a month.