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The design of the Society is to institute and promote inquiries into the History, Religions, Languages, Literature, Arts, Sciences and Social Condition of the present and former inhabitants of the Island of Ceylon

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N. B.—Members are requested to note that through the courtesy of the Director of Museums the Society's Office and Library are now housed in a building within the grounds of the Colombo Museum. Entrance by the main gate.

MACDOWALL'S EMBASSY, 1800

from the French account by

MONS JONVILLE

(NOTE:—Jonville has been sufficiently mentioned in No. 104 of the Journal, pp. 231—234. The title of his narrative is *Journal d'un Voyage á Kandy, fait á l'occasion de l'Ambassade de Maj. Gl. Macdowall en 1800*. The Mss covers forty pages, of which the last six are devoted to a study of *Termes*, popularly whiteants; it appears to have been cursorily glanced at by Sir James Emerson Tennent, who makes the surprising statement that Jonville accompanied the expedition "in the capacity of Naturalist and Draughtsman", oblivious of the fact that he was the Portuguese interpreter. No other writer refers to it, and it disappeared till it came up in the sale list of Messrs. Chas. J. Sawyer Ltd., Grafton St., from whom Mr. Martin Russell purchased it. They have written "We purchased this, together with other books, which were formerly in the library of Mr. Bois who was for many years a tea planter in Ceylon and retired to settle in London about thirty years ago." He must have been one of the partners of the Colombo mercantile firm which was long known by that name. With the Mss was a translation into English apparently by "S.M.W.", initials which so far have not been identified: this is the translation now published, but substantially corrected, mainly where defective local knowledge had led the translator astray. The pen-and-ink sketches on scraps of paper which accompanied the Mss, and some of which Tennent used, are later in date, and in some cases are copies from the drawings of others.

Jonville's narrative is different from the hackneyed and wearisome accounts of embassies to the Sinhalese Court; it is the record not of trivial political events, but of the observations of a trained scientist, unhampered by the prejudices of Sinhalese and English narrators, and blessed with a sense of humour and the French lightness of touch.—P.E.P.)



NARRATIVE OF A JOURNEY TO KANDY MADE ON THE OCCASION OF THE EMBASSY OF MAJOR GENERAL MACDOWALL IN 1800

MONSIEUR the Governor of Ceylon having been kind enough to entrust to me the interpretation from English into Portuguese in the Embassy of General Macdowall, I found myself more closely in touch with the Kandians than were the other members of the Staff. This advantage gave me the opportunity of collecting some notes which were jotted down on the spot—or nearly so.

The Ambassador had already started with an escort of 1000 men when I set out on the 16th of March. I was to join him at Angwell or Gourouwadi,¹ distant fifteen miles from Colombo. Angwell is an outpost which is garrisoned whenever the good understanding between the power in authority at Colombo and the King of Kandy, is broken. It is rather pleasantly situated. A river, the Kalani Ganghe, flows from Adam's Peak past the somewhat feeble entrenchments which were constructed a few years ago. Nearby is a government building which serves as a resthouse for travellers. The escort was about 200 paces from this, between the river and two or three conical hills covered with trees. My tent, placed at headquarters, was like a furnace compared with the temperature of Colombo, the thermometer marking 91° Fahrenheit in the afternoon.

On the 18th H.E. the Ambassador and his escort went to Avisavelle which is separated from the King of Kandy's territory by the already mentioned river of Kalani, and lies about 28 miles from Colombo. The Kandian Prime Minister,² whose title is Adikaré, was a short distance off, on the other side of the river. The Ambassador sent word to him that he would leave on the following day. On the 19th, therefore, we struck our tents, and the Ambassador crossed the river. Here began the ceremonies which were never omitted as long as the Embassy remained in the territory of His Kandian Majesty. The central feature of the procession is the letter of credence; as it bears the King's name quite special honours must be paid to it³. Four men called Apoohamis, of the caste of Gellats,⁴ (the highest caste at Kandy but of an inferior grade in the Cingalese military service), are appointed to carry a canopy of white linen ornamented with a fringe under which walks a fifth Apoohami, bearing on his head and supporting with both hands, a silver dish in which is the letter wrapt in four coverings of muslin, the whole secured in a bag of gold tissue. A large piece of gold tissue covers the whole, only leaving

1. Hanvalla Gurubavila

2. Pilima Talavva.

3. As already explained elsewhere the King's name was so sacred that it might not be uttered and he was referred to as Maha Vasala, the Great House.

4. As will appear later on Jonville applies this word to the Goivansa people; the Appuhamis referred to were officially known as Safframado, the word Gellats representing the Sinhalese Galladda or Game Etige from the group being formed of holders of *gan*.

visible the lower part of the Apoohami's body. Twenty-four Lascoryns¹ or soldiers of the Cingalese military service, and four Sepoys formed an escort for the letter. The Ambassador followed with his escort, but as on this occasion it was rather too numerous to attend in full force at the ceremony of crossing the river, he took with him only his suite and one Company of Sepoys. The moment the latter started, some rounds from cannon were fired in salute. On the other bank three Mohandirams of the Court were waiting. The Ambassador touched their hands and pretty compliments were exchanged: all of which are laid down in writing and from that these gentlemen of Kandy never deviate.

"How are you?"

"Very well, since I have the pleasure of seeing you. And you?"

"Just the same."

"No doubt you would like to rest now, for it is late?" (It was only one o'clock in the afternoon; the same is said at five in the morning.)

"As you please."

Then they start and 200 paces from the river reach the house for the letter and that of the Embassy. On arriving in front of the former the letter is saluted again with some rounds from the cannon. The Ambassador takes the dish on which it is laid and presents it to the Mohandirans of the Court, who turn the bag containing it over and over and without opening it, replace it on the dish. Then the Ambassador enters a small room about six feet square by a door eighteen inches wide and four feet high² and places the letter on a little stage shaped like an altar and draped in white. No sooner does he come out than the trumpets sound two or three notes which they keep on repeating for quarter of an hour; after that two men perform on the drum (*caisse*) fairly well; then two different kinds of *tame tame* are beaten alternately and the compliments begin again.

"As it is so late is it not time to retire? What do you think about it?"

"Indeed I think it is late."

But all is not yet over. The Mohandirans conduct the Ambassador and his suite to the house where he is to stay, and show him over every hole and corner of it. This house is a sort of cloister. A court of from fifteen to twenty paces square is surrounded by little cells, eight feet long by ten broad, their only opening a very small door. The walls are of mud coated with bright whitewash outside and hung with white linen inside. In the centre of the court is the little house for the letter. The two cells nearest to the door are reserved for the presents which His Excellency the Governor is sending to the King. I was almost forgetting about the presents. The Dutch usually sent European stuffs, especially those from Lyons, Indian muslins, mirrors, small knives, packets of needles and boxes of pins, pairs of scissors, needlecases,

1. Hevapanayo.

2. The narrowness of Sinhalese doors is discussed in Sinhale and the Patriots.

tortoise shell combs, tinder boxes and children's toys. These are wrapt up in such quantities of rags and straw that even the smallest articles make large parcels, and necessitate a great number of packing cases. Unless there was a goodly show of at least fifty or sixty cases the Republic was annoyed¹. The cases and the Bamboos used for carrying them, had white cloth covers; they had two or three changes of linen for the journey.

Shortly before the capture of Ceylon by the English troops, the Dutch Republic had ordered an iron temple to be made—or rather a sort of monument surmounted by a cupola—in which the Kandyans place some of the bones of Boudhon. It was intended for the King of Kandy, but some political quarrel had prevented its being presented. This object was of much greater value than the little knives. It formed part of the present which the Governor, on behalf of his Britannic Majesty, was sending by the embassy of General Macdowall. These details, tedious though they be, should not, I think, be omitted, for if it should strike the fancy in Europe to perform a Cingalese Comedy, it would be well to know them.

The first halting place of the Ambassador and the letter is called Cittavakka. It was the chief town of a little Kingdom at the time of the Portuguese Conquest. The ruins of a Pagoda are still to be seen which must have been of great importance. The sanctuary and surrounding walls are built of granite. I had visited this a month before; the Adikaré with whom Mr. Boyd, acting Government Secretary, and myself had gone to confer had ordered the surrounding brushwood to be cleared away. Just before reaching it there is a little brook over which the men of old had thrown a bridge formed of five slabs of granite 10 feet long by 4 feet wide and eight in thickness. One of these had been broken, it is not known by what chance, but as here a miraculous explanation must always be found for everything that one cannot understand, it is said that a young girl who was on her way to make an offering to the Gods, found herself in a state of impurity and that the stone gave way under her to prevent her going on any further. About 60 paces from the bridge is the enclosing wall of the Pagoda forming a square of 119 feet the side. In the centre of each face is a door only $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide. The architecture of this monument may be judged by the small section of it which I have sketched. The four walls are not more than five feet high. At each corner there are one or two animals sculptured in relief, or other figures now unrecognisable, except at one angle where a lizard can be clearly made out. On one of the doors may be seen the head of a cobra de capello. Of the sanctuary itself only the base remains, formed of an infinite number of mouldings one on the top of another. Among the ornamentations with which they are loaded is a body without a head, which I do not understand, and above two heads without bodies. It is believed that this Pagoda was dedicated to Vishnou.²

1. The length of the train of presents was intended to impress the King's subjects with an idea of his greatness.

2. Dedicated to Bhairava-Andi
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On the 19th at five o'clock in the evening, I interviewed the Adikaré, who had just arrived with the Maha Mouttia and two ordinary Mouttias. The Adikaré's dwelling is placed in the midst of a thick wood on a granite eminence, and in reaching it one risks many a fall for the steps leading up to it are formed of rounded, badly fitted boulders. The Adikaré had with him seven or eight hundred men, about a third of whom were armed with guns in bad condition; he had also seven or eight small cannon for 4 oz. balls; they were long and slender, mounted on tripods, and were of Cingalese manufacture. He occupied a room about six or seven feet square, with no window, and the door so narrow that it did not admit sufficient light to read by. On two occasions I spent six hours with him, from nine o'clock in the morning till three in the afternoon, in this den with a light burning. The King alone has the privilege of a window, but others may have a little hole about six inches square, through which one could hardly pass one's head. This little room had an equally small verandah in front in which there was a cannon; behind it was draped a piece of white cloth, and it was explained to me that this was a mark of respect shown to the cannon. A white cloth is always placed on a chair in which a guest whom they desire to honour, is to sit, and they hang it on the walls of the room in which he is to sleep.

At eight o'clock the Adikaré, the Mouttias and the Mohandirans came to visit the Ambassador preceded by cressets (pots a feu) or braziers with rags steeped in coconut oil and followed by some men at arms and above all a great number carrying a kind of fans used to protect from the sun by day and as a windscreen by night. The Ambassador went to meet him a hundred paces from his quarters, and they met under a Bo gaha where the Adikaré had arrived a few moments in advance. He would have waited there four hours rather than fail in this important point of etiquette. The Ambassador touched his hand, as well as those of the other grandees of the Court, then sprinkled them with rose water. After some compliments they proceeded to the Ambassador's house, His Excellency leading the Adikaré by the hand and each of us one of his companions. On arriving in front of the little house of the letter, the door was opened and the Adikaré and all the rest examined the letter, then it was shut whilst the Ambassador and the members of his suite ranged themselves on the right of the door. Profound silence followed for several moments, then suddenly the Adikaré began to chant some words, most of them in Sanskrit, and the intoning lasted about quarter of an hour. The meaning of it was that the King had commanded him to come and receive the Ambassador, and had ordered him to provide his Excellency and his escort with all necessary food, and porters to carry the presents or the baggage of the Gentlemen composing the Embassy. The Ambassador thanked them (without chanting) and asked for news of the King. After they had recovered a little they replied that His Most Puissant Majesty, the King of a vast Empire and Child of the Sun, was well. Next mutual inquiries were made for news regarding all the grandees of the Court of Kandy, the Governor of Ceylon, all the Government officials, etc. I will spare the reader details of this colloquy which lasted for nearly an hour. It was followed by music similar to that already described. We accompanied the Adikaré as far as the Bo gaha, where we parted.

1. Offensive weapons were draped in white as an emblem of peace. See Tri Sinhala first ed. p. 53.

On the 20th at 5 o'clock in the morning, we were awakened by a horrible din; it was of the musicians come to pay homage to the letter. In the evening at 6 o'clock the same ceremony took place. The next day, the 21st, the same thing, and so on for every day until the date of the Audience when we were relieved of the letter. Music is likewise played, morning and evening, in front of the King's parlour and before all the temples scattered over the surface of the Empire.

At nine o'clock on the morning of the 22nd the Adikaré joined the Ambassador, to attend at the removal of the letter. It was taken from its shrine with all becoming ceremony and the Adikaré followed it. The Ambassador ought to have followed it also, but his presence was required about the despatch of 1000 men whom he had with him, and he started later; Mr. Macpherson and I followed the letter and the Adikaré. The Ambassador and his escort halted halfway, at a place called Gole Broké. The road from Cittavakka to Rouvanvelle runs almost throughout across flat open country intersected by gullies over which some wretched bridges have been constructed on posts supporting small boughs often tied together. One must be very sure footed to avoid tumbling into the gully, which is sometimes forty feet in depth. Two and a half miles before reaching Rouvanvelle there is a mountain 200 fathoms high, of which the escarpment facing the road shows handsome masses of granite amidst a tangle of shrubs and even tall trees.

A torrent pours its waters with a roar amidst these ruins of nature and forms several waterfalls worthy of the brush of Poussin and Salvator Rosa. There is a little temple to Boudhon the roof of which is a stone a hundred feet high. In skirting this mountain we walked through a garden of coconut palms called Palangomuva vatta belonging to the King, who leaves its produce to a temple. At its bottom flows the river of Rouvanvelle which ten miles further down falls into that of Kelane.

Half a mile from the river are the Bangalos of the Ambassador and the Adikaré. I will not repeat the honours paid to the letter nor the Adikaré's speeches. Every day it is the same thing, without the slightest variation, for the whole is written down. The Ambassador's Cingalese interpreters were obliged to study their lesson long before starting. On the 24th the Ambassador and his escort encamped at Palenghemouve vatte. On the 31st the Ambassador having decided to go on to Kandy with only four companies, crossed the river with this small escort. Rouvanvelle would be a pleasant spot if only one had passable quarters. One reaches the Bungalo by a fine avenue of *tekka* (Tectonae). Alongside is a level patch on which we pitched our tents. Behind is a screen of mountains harmonising well with the rice fields lying at their feet, making the foreground of the landscape prettier than what we had crossed, with handsome clumps of trees of various colours. At the entrance to the avenue leading up to the bangalo there is a large Bo gaha shading a cubical stone on which are always kept thorns to prevent anyone sitting down on it. This is in remembrance of Ragia Singa, a King whose memory is revered, who once rested on it for a few minutes.

The vegetation at Rouvanvelle is pretty much the same as that on the edge of the plain which skirts the west of the Island. One sees more of those wild bananas of which the fruit, from two to two and a half inches

long, is filled with seeds, which in the cultivated variety are hardly to be found. From the day on which we left Sittavakka we had constant rain and storms in the afternoon. Sometimes at dawn the thermometer stood at 60° Fahrenheit and by one o'clock it had mounted to 83°. The difference of temperature in the course of the day was there 25° whilst at Colombo the difference is not more than 14 all the year round.

On the 1st of April the Ambassador set out with a simple escort of four companies, made up partly of Sepoys, partly of Malays, Pioneers, and Lascars. The gentlemen composing his staff were Captain Macpherson, Secretary to the Embassy; Captain Wright Aide de Camp; Captain Witley, commanding one detachment; Mr. Olouve, Surgeon; Mr. Marson, Lieutenant in the Malay corps; M. de Moreau, Lieutenant in the de Meuron Regiment, travelling for pleasure; and myself in charge of the interpretation and the presents for the King.

The Ambassador went through the ceremony of the letter and then set out at six o'clock in the morning. I started half an hour later and we all arrived at Idemalepani at 11 o'clock. The road was detestable; sometimes it led over slippery rocks up a steep hill and down again, sometimes on the bed of a torrent covered with waterworn boulders, and sometimes through a marsh. Occasionally the path was so narrow that the palanquin could scarcely pass. The country seemed uncultivated, but less than we thought: we saw in the valleys some gardens with coconut palms, though few in number, but plenty of arecas. All the very low marshy land is almost always cultivated with rice. Every three miles or so one finds a wayside shelter formed by four wooden pillars supporting a thatched roof. These are called Ambellans, and are always shaded by a superb Bo gaha or else by a Na gaha (ironwood tree or Romme Mesua Lin).

After a four hours' march we found ourselves in a valley bounded on the right by a great mountain at the base of which lay a granitic rock, from 16 to 18 feet high and about the same in thickness. The top of it forms a natural platform on which has been placed a little monument of conical shape, covered over by a small pavilion with delicately carved wooden columns. At the side of the rock is a dark recess out of which issues a stream of clear water shaded by flowering shrubs, several species of ferns, creepers and other plants. Devout Buddhists pause at this spot to address some prayers to the Divinity whom the conical little monument represents. The place is named Arranderé.

About 200 paces from the bangalo of Idemalepani is a river named Gourougode Oye, which is 115 feet wide. Its banks are adorned with large beautiful trees of which advantage has been taken to suspend with creepers a bridge made of bamboos. The view from here is very picturesque, otherwise Idemalpani offers nothing of particular interest, but one finds some plants which are not met with on the coast of the Island. We left Idemalpani at 5½ a.m. on the 3rd and crossing the Gourougode Oye, after seven hours' march arrived at Attapettia, where I found that at one o'clock the barometer stood at 29.168 inches (London); this—calculating from the height of the mercury at sea level at the same hour—gives our elevation at 121,4 *toises* or 266 yards. The road was dreadful; it was almost impossible to get a palanquin along it, but on the other hand the country is extremely picturesque. The composition of

the terrain is in some places secondary granite or gneiss, and in others mixed layers of sand, mica and clay, alternating with beds of milk-white quartz, sometimes in the state of shingle, sometimes of..... The formation of this terrain is difficult to account for. Without doubt the earthy strata are formed by the debris of the high granite mountains of the Island, but how have they been deposited there from those living peaks which seem never to have been subjected to the attrition of water? It is probable that this terrain is at present in process of resetting.

We found awaiting us at Attapettia the Dessauve of Matelé and five elephants, come there from Kandy to do honour to the letter. The elephants had also to help to push the baggage in the difficult parts of the road. The Bangalo of Attapettia is very romantically situated. The view from it is bounded on the East by high mountains rising gradually and all wooded. To the South-south-east is the curious mountain called *Battale Gale Kande*, which can be seen from several points fifteen miles off. Its summit is in the shape of a coffer, and from the route which we have just covered we saw three of its great lateral faces. The rock is precipitous on these three sides, but nevertheless several shrubs have managed to take root in their crevices, which seem to run horizontally. If the fourth face, which we could not see, slopes away, we may infer that the strata of the mountain are inclined North to South, or thereabouts. It must be about 300 fathoms above sea level, but the precipitous portion is little more than fifty, and the base is a tangle of large trees and undergrowth which prevent approach.

To the North of the Attapettia Bungalo is a hill called *Devene Galle*, a corruption of *Devio Galle*, the Stone of God. It is cone-shaped with a rounded top, or rather it is like a cupola, and on its southern face shows an absolutely bare rock. To reach it one must cross the river *Maha Oye* which flows close to the Bungalo. On the summit of this hill there is a temple to *Boudhon*, held in great veneration, and beside it are the ruins of another temple which appears to have been very much larger, the granite stone of which the walls were built being from 18 inches to two feet thick. General *Macdowall*, *M. de Moreau*, and I climbed the mountain to look at the temple; it would have been almost impossible to reach it, especially in rainy weather, were there not steps cut in the rock, for the slope is very smooth and slippery. No sooner did the priests, who had no previous notice of our coming, catch sight of us than they made off at full speed, abandoning their idol and its treasures to the strangers who they thought had come to loot. The doors of the temple were shut and we were obliged to return without seeing the interior. We could have sent a messenger running after the priests to reassure them and induce them to return, but it was late and we were afraid if we delayed on our way back, we might meet herds of elephants whose traces we had seen while awake at night.

About 5 to 5.30 in the morning the Ambassador crossed the river *Maha Oye* and we immediately began to climb; then we descended and continued thus ascending and descending until 8.30 when we found ourselves on the Col of *Balani Kandé*. This mountain is the continuation to the North of the ridge or chain which traverses a part of the Island longitudinally, and of which the highest point is *Adam's Peak*, in

Cingalese Samanala Sripada. On this Col the barometer stood at 28.033 which gives 294 fathoms in height above sea level or 629 yards. This climb would be impossible in a palanqueen or on horseback. The last stretch above all of nearly an hour is dangerous even on foot because of the great number of granite boulders encumbering the road with their surface rounded by the water. This part of the road is moreover very steep; it is almost a straight line. Up till now the Kandyans have not troubled to render the road more practicable by making it zig-zag. Except the portions of the mountains which are absolutely precipitous, everything else in the Island of Ceylon is covered with trees. Balani Kande exhibits an astonishing luxuriance of vegetation. Almost all the plants of the plain are to be found here, and many others besides. The trees are of great height and very umbrageous; the mosses, ferns and all the little plants of the plain are two or three times greater in height.

Our passage of this mountain would have been a very curious sight for a European if he had been suddenly transported hither on arriving from Europe, and would have inspired him to verse, if a poet. An almost perpendicular road, crowded with an innumerable company of Koolis carrying tents, palanquins and enormous cases; pioneers, Lascars and soldiers, their wives and little girls of ten all carrying packages. The nobles of the Court dressed in cloth of gold and beautiful muslins, being pushed from behind to help them to scale the rocks and roaring at those who allowed them to tumble; the cries of the one, the falls of the other, the shouts of laughter from the greater number, the wailing of babies at the breast, the troubles of the horses on the ticklish road, the finery of the costumes, in short the whole thing presented a whimsical mixture of.....and incidents that its description was worthy of the pen of Ariosto or of the author of Richiardetto. We were all astonished that in spite of the confusion, the efforts of the coolies to climb the rocks with the loads they carried, and innumerable tumbles, not a single person was injured. We rested for about half an hour near the Col; the view was hidden on all sides by the high trees, nevertheless some of us thought we could catch a glimpse of the sea to the West through the foliage. We reached Valgovouvagodi at half past ten o'clock; the barometer stood at 28.25 inches, which gives the height above sea level as 260 fathoms, from which one can gather that Valgovouvagodi is only 34 fathoms lower than the Balani Col. The Bangalo is pleasantly situated. Round about are some gardens and all the valleys are cultivated with rice. A few steps from the bangalo there is a view of the mountain Alagale Kande. It can be seen from as great a distance as Battale which I have already mentioned. It is conical in shape and makes a fine background to a landscape of which the middle distance and foreground are enriched with gardens of different varieties of trees.

We left Valgowuvagodé on the 7th at 6 a.m. and at nine o'clock we arrived within a mile of Gounorouvé, where on an open space without shelter of any kind we were told to wait an hour for the arrival of the gentlemen from the Court of Kandy. We waited for five hours, but under a tent which the Ambassador ordered to be erected as soon as we arrived. At last they came and announced that those gentlemen awaited us about 500 yards from the tent. We went there and found the First Adikaré and the nobles who had accompanied us, the Second Adikaré, three Chief Dessauves, several Mouttiers, Rattiralles, Mohandirans etc.

We all gave a hand to as many as we could but as they were more numerous than we, several of them were obliged to go by themselves and they walked in front of us. The two Adikares were preceded by men armed with whips which had lashes six feet long; these they cracked to scatter the crowd. Each of them had also twelve men carrying large sabres which certainly they could never have wielded.¹ Almost the same number of archers and two or three hundred Fusiliers lined the route. Besides all this retinue each had in front of him two men fanning him with large round fans and walking backwards; others walked behind with still larger fans intended to shield their masters' complexions from the rays of the sun.²

Thus escorted we arrived at the bangalo of Gannarouvé which was to be the Ambassador's residence as long as his mission lasted. Innumerable compliments were exchanged there; the Second Adikaré had to do the chanting. The words meant, to the best of our comprehension, that the King had sent him to meet the Ambassador to congratulate him on his safe arrival, to ask for news of the Governor, and to settle him in his lodging. The Ambassador made a suitable reply to all this, and we accompanied the cortege for 200 yards from the bangalo to the bank of the river Mahavellé Ganghé. Before crossing it to return to Kandy they presented to the Ambassador the Dessauve of Ouva and two or three Mottias or Mohandirans who had been instructed to remain at Gannarouwe so that the Ambassador and his suite might lack nothing. At last they left us. The letter had of course been placed in its little house with all the usual ceremony; in the evening it had the music, in the morning the same, and so on all the following days until the Audience.

Gannourouvé is a plain intersected by the Mahavallé, one of the great rivers that have their source on Mount Samonalé Sri pada. The Ambassador's bangalo stood at the base of a mountain covered with jungle, of which he had a portion cleared to provide a promenade. From the summit one has a view of a large portion of the province in which is situated the capital of the Kingdom, and the King's residence. The most curious thing to be found at Gannourouvé is indeed a saddening sight. Behind the bangalo there is a beautiful tree which when in flower spreads a pleasant scent. On it is a dead man's skull. The caretakers of the bangalo told us its history, which is indeed common knowledge. The legality of the present King's election is questioned by several Kandyans, and, as may easily be imagined, especially so by those who have pretensions to the throne. Now since the death of the present King's predecessor, some nobles who had been extremely attached to him, manifested particular interest in his relatives, of whom two had claims to the succession. Those who had placed the new King on the Throne first of all got rid of these pretenders by sending them to exile, and then bethought them of their partisans. The Second Adikaré, although faithful to the oath he had sworn to the new King, had been the most conspicuous of them all, and was marked out for death. They

1. These men were the King's Indian Guards.

2. Auvatu.

told him that he was to be exiled to one of the Southern Provinces but they took him to Gannourouvé. When he reached the river he had a suspicion of the fate that awaited him, and when he crossed it he had no longer any doubt; for they immediately handed him over to the custodian of the bangalo, who was known to be the executioner for all the secret murders committed under the new regime. The Adikaré was led under the tree of which I have spoken and the custodian told him he would be put to death. He received this announcement quite calmly and replied "May my assassin's good deeds be such that they will wipe out his crime. I know that the King is ignorant of my fate; he is so young, he would never have permitted it." He examined the sword to make sure it was well sharpened, and begged the executioner not to prolong his suffering. Thereupon the executioner flung away the sword and fled. It was handed to a second man but he also took flight. Finally they so intimidated a third that the head was severed. He picked it up, placed it on the breast of the corpse and immediately withdrew. Only the wild beasts dared to touch it. I erected for the head a little monument of rough stones under a bush.⁷

The night of the 9th was the time fixed for the audience but it had to be announced to us with all ceremony. Two Dessauves were despatched from the Court for this purpose. They sent to tell us that they were at the river bank and we went to lead each of them by the hand to the Bangalo. They announced to us His Majesty's intentions in a chant—a much longer one than usual—and then we conducted them back to the bank of the river. It was arranged that we should start at six o'clock in the evening, but before describing the Audience I think it will be best to tell you something about the Kandyan Court.

The King cannot be a Cingalese nor even the son of a Cingalese woman; he must be chosen from Malabars of Royal Caste or from the Brahmin Caste. The son or one of the sons, succeeds the father. If the late King has left no male issue, then the nearest relative has the right to the throne; but whether he be merely a relative or a son, the successor must be well-educated and religious. Consequently there must be an election. The electors are all the nobles (*grands*) of the Court, and the inhabitants of six provinces, of which the largest is Yati Nouveré. This manner of succession to the throne seems the best possible in the circumstances, but in Kandy, as in many other places, it is intrigue which decides the election.

The nobles of the Court are the First Adikaré or Prime Minister, who is always styled *Palle gampahé Adikaré*, which signifies, in charge of five villages on the Low level or of the Plain.

The Second Adikaré, called *Oudegampahé Adikaré*, in charge of five villages on the high level.

Four Chief Dessauves or Governors of Provinces, namely

Hatera Korlé
 Hat Korlé
 Matalé Korlé
 Ouva Korlé

1. This seems to be the authentic account of Aravvala Adikar's death.

Seven Ordinary Dessauves, namely

Tuné Korlé
Haberegroumé Korlé
Vanapanahe Korlé
Oudapalatie Korlé
Bintenne Velessi Korlé
Nouvere Kalavie Korlé
Brulatgame Korlé

The Maha Mouttia or Chief Secretary to the Crown, who is also the Archivist.

Six Ratie Rallé, or Chiefs of the Electoral Provinces.

These twenty make up the King's Council. There is also a very large number of officials functioning at the Court but without right of entry to the Council. For example the ordinary secretaries called Mouttias or Lekames

Vadikaré Lekamé
Attepattuva Lekamé
Padikare Lekamé
Nanayakra Lekamé
Vadana touvakkou Lekamé
Koditouvakkou Lekamé
Dounoukaré Lekamé
Kourouvé Lekamé

and several Mohundirans who act in some sort as Lieutenants in the Lascoryn military service.

The present first Adikaré unites in himself the Dessaval¹ of Hatera Korlé, Hat Korlé and Tuna Korlé; he is besides Raté Ralé of Yatinouvé, the principal province in regard to the election of the King.

The Second Adikaré now in office is Dessauve of Haberougami, which Europeans call Sofregam and which is the province where the finest precious stones are to be found. He is also Ratté rallé of Doumberé.

The Chief Priest of the religion of Boudhon at Kandy, who controls all the others, has no official position at Court, but he attends there and is almost always summoned to the Council where he is permitted to give his opinion like the rest. He bears the title of Mahanounanse, Ounvahanse signifying Seigneur, man of very high rank, and Maha means great (grand).

In times of peace the King has no other body of soldiers than his Guard. It numbers about 300 men, of which one Company is armed with large sabres, another with bows, and a third with guns. Besides them there are a good many Lascoryns, who are distinguished from those of the Provinces or in private employment by a small staff *a bei a corbin*.² They convey the King's orders whether written or verbal.

1. The correct use of this word in the plural is noteworthy.

2. The Katapurulu ralala, with staffs similar to the Adikar's in shape.

The King has his palace in the town of Sangodagal, to which name is always added that qualification *Nouvaré*,¹ signifying a Royal not just a common town, as one might otherwise imagine it to be. The Europeans call this town Kandy or Kandya, I suppose because of the image of the Moon represented on the walls of the palace and on the Royal Ensign.² The Cingalese word for Moon is *Handé*, which may have been corrupted into *Kandé* or *Kandy*. Seeing that this town is situated on a plateau very high above sea level, one may also surmise that *Kandé*, the Cingalese word for mountain, may be the origin of *Kandy*. The King's palace is called *Maligové* from *Mahall*, flatroofed, and *gové*, house; that is the true etymology of the word according to Cingalese letters. I thought that *Maligové* came from *Maha Bali Gove*, House of the Great Bali, but I was informed that King Bali never came to Ceylon; he reigned on the Continent.

The King is absolute; he can condemn to death without trial. All the property which his subjects enjoy belongs to him; they have only the use of it. He has a Council composed of all the nobles of the Court but he alone has the deciding voice. He alone also can pass sentence of death.

In the Provinces the only punishments that the *Dessaupes* can inflict are monetary fines and corporal punishments which do not cause death. All the inhabitants when called upon are required to work for the State or the Governors of the Provinces, and are paid according to the liability of the caste to which they belong. The caste of tillage farmers called *Goi Vanse*, named also *Gallait*, usually furnishes soldiers in time of War; but the King may command all his subjects without distinction of caste, to take up arms with which he must furnish them. There is no fixed rule about their food; sometimes the soldier lives at his own expense, sometimes the King furnishes him with food.

Every subject has the right to petition to the King for the redress of wrongs he may have suffered; he may lodge complaints against all the nobles of the Court without exception, even against the princes. Whoever has a prayer to submit watches for the moment when he appears at his window and then prostrates himself flat on the ground and cries "Justice." The King generally appoints all his suite as a Commission, or it may be a single individual, to inquire into the matter, and gives judgment according to their report. Sometimes he himself listens to the complainant.

The sons of the King by a legitimate wife, that is, a foreigner of royal race, are *Koumareis*, princes. The sons of a concubine are bastards without right to the throne or any official position. Both are always a kind of appanages and throughout live at Court; the legitimate sons are above employment, but they may command armies.

Now let us pass on to the Audience. A message was received at six o'clock in the evening that the *Dessaupes* who were to conduct us to the

1. A correct explanation.

2. Probably he could not distinguish between the Sinhalese representations of the Sun and Moon.

King were waiting for us ; the Ambassador sent word that he was just going to dinner but would start immediately afterwards ; he requested them, while waiting, to send the palanqueens and all the cortege across to the other side of the river. We arrived at the bank at half past eight o'clock but were obliged to wait another half hour until the rest of our people crossed ; at last we started in terrible rain which never ceased all through the night. Everyone noted that we were going through an eclipse of the moon, and that the next day, 10th, would be a Cingalese festival. Some of the Court nobles who were present were rather disturbed about the eclipse, but none of the customs always followed in the Continent of India on such an occasion, were observed.

At 11.20 we arrived at Kâthoupelele,¹ and we fervently hoped that we would not have to wait there till Midnight ; fortunately the astrologers had decided that this was the propitious moment, so a Dessauve and several Mohandirans and Mouttias came to tell us that it was time to start. We were on foot ; a number of talipots were poor protection against the rain which poured down. The road was a torrent. A score of braziers scattered among us wrapped us in smoke and choked us. The crowd surged round, pressing on us without any regard for the Embassy or the Kandyan Court ; in the confusion one of the men with a brazier tumbled over the Dessauve of Matala, whose furious wrath was for us a very amusing compensation for the torture in which we found ourselves.

At last we reached a Bo gaha half a mile from the Kâthoupelele ; we waited there half a quarter hour in a deluge of rain for the two Adikares and some Dessauves who were to come and tell us that His Majesty awaited us at the palace. At the foot of the Bo gaha stood six elephants, the largest in Ceylon ; those of us not interested in the exchange of compliments between the Ambassador and Adikaré, busied ourselves with these animals, which stood there immovable as rocks, heedless of the jostling crowd, the lighted braziers which passed close to their trunks, and the sight of European dress, a novelty to them. We were informed that the King had no white elephants, which is an animal of the Gods alone ;² but he has some with flesh-coloured patches on their heads which sometimes are so large and numerous that the trunk appears white ; small-pox and leprosy produce similar patches on the Indians.

The Bo gaha is about 50 yards from the front of the Palace. As far as one could judge by the light of the braziers, the facade is all in one plane surface. The entrance is at the top of a flight of ten steps at most six feet wide without any railing. Passing through this we found ourselves in a courtyard sheltered at the sides by a verandah supported by wooden pillars covered with white cloth for the ceremony. On the right of the entrance were three or four small bronze cannon beside which stood seven or eight soldiers clad in white from head to foot, each carrying a gun covered with puffed white muslin. On reaching the end of the verandah on the right we stopped in a salon lighted by some braziers, and ornamented with glass lamps without lights, not even candles ; we could only

1. Katu palalla, the gate of a kada vata made of interwoven thorn branches.

2. Probably a reference to the fabled one in Sri pada adaviya which is mentioned in connection with the worship of Saman deviyo.

imagine they had forgotten to kindle them. At the end of this salon is the Audience Hall, the entrance to which is screened by a white curtain. The Ambassador took the letter and raised it upward with both hands; four Apouhamics bore the canopy, all the Dessauves and two Adikares being in front. Suddenly the curtain was drawn aside and almost simultaneously five others; a few minutes later a seventh was drawn back and the King was revealed to us on his golden (or gilt) throne at the end of a little alcove which was fairly well lit. Immediately the Dessauves prostrated themselves flat on the ground with loud ejaculations; we were made to kneel down at the same time and had to continue thus while the Court nobles prostrated themselves nine times and nine times repeated their ejaculations in his honour, which signified "May Your Puissant Majesty live as long as the Sun and the Moon." To which the King replied "That is right and shall be." I assure the reader that such is the exact translation of his response.¹

But before going further let us take a glance at the Audience Hall. It is oblong, fifty feet by twenty-five, the roof supported on twelve wooden pillars, six a side, halfway up each of which springs an arch, of bamboo, I believe. Each row of pillars is three feet from the side walls. Everything is covered with white cloth in puffed pleats, except the lower part of the pillars which is swathed in coloured stuffs from India. The six arches formed as many divisions by means of a curtain. At the far end of the Hall there is an aperture hardly wide enough to allow a good view of the throne and the canopy. The wall on each side is covered with large mirrors which have a fine effect; between the pillars and the wall hang candelabras ornamented with flowers of coloured paper. These end in a very thick candle, above which are fixed little sticks which burn when the flame reaches them and give out a pleasant perfume. A group of Kandyans forming the household Guard are seated on their heels round the walls, armed some with pikes, some with swords, and a very few with bows and arrows. The King was seated on the throne, his chest covered with a kind of gilt cuirass, over which were several gold chains set with gems. He wore a four cornered hat; this is his crown and is encrusted with diamonds, rubies and other gems. The moment the curtain is raised one heard from the neighbouring Piasas the sound of five or six voices and two or three tambourines.

The nine prostrations ended the King commanded his Ministers to make the Ambassador draw near, and we all rise and advance about three paces within the Hall of Audience. Then, fresh prostrations from the Court nobles. A second time the King commands the Ambassador to approach, then a third time when he comes as far as the feet of the King, who takes the letter and hands it to his First Minister; the Ambassador thereupon moves backward to the middle of the Hall, where there is a carpet on which we sit down with the gracious permission of the King, who said that the

1. Percival devotes a couple of pages to proving that Macdowall did not go down on his knees. The curious reply ascribed to the King appears like some confused explanation of the Sinhalese expression "Ai Hondai". I remember meeting two Indian students in London who were members of a prominent Bengali family, who frequently used "Well all right" as a greeting; this was in 1895.

Ambassador and the members of his suite may sit down as convenient. All the time the interview lasted the Dessauves were most anxious that our feet should be so hidden that His Majesty should not see a single one. So there we were, thank Heaven, seated, or rather squatted; we needed it badly. In front of us and a little on one side was the Dessauve of Ouva; near the entrance to the King's recess was the Second Adikaré, and within it on the right was the first Adikaré, (of whom we could see only the nose) who addressed His Majesty in a whisper. When everything had been thus arranged the King summoned the Second Adikaré by name, who prostrated himself ejaculating "May Heaven crown your Majesty with prosperity." The King asked him "How is the health of the Governor?" The Adikaré, after prostrating, said "Dessauve", and he replied "Adikaré". whereupon the Adikaré intoned the King's question. The Dessauve repeated his words in a low voice to the English interpreter who repeated them to the Ambassador.

Then the Ambassador asked, through the Interpreters, the Dessauve and the Adikaré, for the King's permission to reply. The King gave his consent, which was conveyed by the same circuitous route, and on receiving it he replied "The Governor is very well," which was conveyed to His Majesty with the same ceremony. Next the King asked for news of the Government officials, and the Ambassador replied that they also were very well, upon which the King asked after the health of the Ambassador, who replied with dignity and eloquence which His Majesty did not understand. The King then asked if on the Ambassador's journey all becoming honour had been paid to the letter and presents and whether he had been provided with everything he needed. The Ambassador then announced that he had a message for the King from the Governor, and on His Majesty giving permission he enquired for news about His Majesty, to which query as far as I can recollect he gave no reply. He then intimated that he was entrusted with some presents for His Majesty, who replied that he had permission to go and put them in the Storehouse. We all retired backwards going on our knees three times, and went and took up our position beside the door of the palace, while the presents were brought into the Court, except the horses and some cases which were still on the Balani Col. We returned to the presence of the King with fresh genuflections and again sat down on the carpet. The King asked if the Ambassador had forgotten any of the Governor's commissions; he replied briefly and we received permission to withdraw.

On coming out from the Audience the Adikare conducted us to a *piece* at the end of which stood a table covered with *patisseries*, kitul sugar, betel, areca and bananas. We sat in front of it and spent an hour gazing at the supper with which His Majesty had honoured us: we had for spectators the whole crowd of the servants and porters. The moment we got up that crowd, by some misunderstanding, flung itself on the table and in the twinkling of an eye took away all the dishes, candlesticks.....even the tablecloth disappeared. This demonstration of discontent with His Majesty's bounty ought not to have been made till the day of our departure.

The Maitre d' Hotel¹ conducted us as far as the Bo gaha where we

1. Probably Maha Gabada Nilame.

found the Adikaré; he presented to us a Dessauve, Mouttie, and some Mohandirans who were to take charge of us at Gannourouve. He himself accompanied us to Kathoupelele where we found our palanquins and we reached Gannourouve at seven o'clock in the morning. Here we had a very dull time until the twenty first without being able to obtain any information about the country or secure the smallest specimen of the arts of Kandy: It appears that craftsmen and tradespeople are forbidden to hold any communication with the foreigners composing the Embassy under any pretext whatever. We obtained with difficulty some bows which the Adikaré presented to us but no one was willing to sell to us. If on our walks we asked a question, may be about a plant or stone, they always either replied with an untruth or gave no response at all. Except for that we were very well treated both by the nobles and the common people, and were furnished with abundant supplies of food, except only beef which the Candyans do not eat and which they do not like to see killed. Before our arrival all the cattle round about Gannourouve had been driven into the woods, and with them the women and children. In order to prevent any communication it is the custom to make the people believe that foreigners carry off the women and children to people their own countries.

The 21st was fixed for an Audience at Kandy and we went there by night as on the former occasion; but, for reasons which are of no interest to the reader, we returned on the 22nd without seeing the King. We went again on the 24th for our farewell audience, at which everything was almost the same as at the first, with the addition of some very strange presents. When all the compliments were ended and we received permission to retire, a gold chain was placed round the Ambassador's neck; attached to it was a pendant set with small kabouchons of rubies, topazes and sapphires. Each of us also received a chain, but without a pendant. Then the Ambassador, the Secretary to the Embassy, and the European Interpreter were presented each with a ring set with precious stones, the bezel of the General's ring being nearly two inches in diameter. Next each of us was given a parcel containing a length of muslin, two of white linen, and one of silk stuff; and lastly a wooden case holding a large pair of scissors, a *gierra* for cutting arecanuts, inlaid with gold; three knives, one with a wooden (horn?) handle, the second of ivory and the third of crystal. (These little tools would not cut butter); an ivory comb roughly carved, and a pretty little silver box, *quilloata*, for holding the lime which they chew with areca and betel. On leaving the Audience Chamber we went into the eating room where everything was as on the first occasion, not excepting the plundering of His Majesty's table. We left for Gannourouve at five o'clock in the morning, which gave us a chance of seeing a little of the country.

The route from Gannourouve to Kandy is thickly peopled, judging from the great number of little huts lining it. About a mile from the palace are the dens of the Malay Guard, that is to say, some little houses, very low, built of mud, each with a very narrow door and a window six inches square. It was still too dark when we started from Kandy to judge what the houses of the nobles were like. The country is broken up into small hills between which lie valleys all cultivated with rice. At the foot of the hills and on their slopes are the gardens containing chiefly

Kitouls and handsome Kackuna trees crowned with large white leaves. Those trees adorn every view point where they occur.

The Malay Corps just mentioned is composed of one hundred men, deserters from the Hollanders troops. They are armed with guns of European make and ridiculously clad in the rags of the deserters or of prisoners, taken since time immemorial from the Hollanders troops. Some newly dressed for the ceremony of the Embassy had been clothed in red. They had also been given hats, some with four points and some with three, and several with none at all, but all were adorned with some fragments of imitation gold braid. The Colonel of the corps was the most striking spectacle. His uniform was a long coat *afal falalas*, and long trousers, the whole enriched with imitation gold braid four inches wide.

Between Gannourouve and Kandy there are four guard posts protected from enemy attacks each by a high large gate made of thorns. This formidable defence could be demolished in three minutes with a hunting knife.

The afternoon of the 25th was the time fixed for our departure for Colombo. The Second Adikaré came to present to the Ambassador a Dessauve and two Mohandirans who were to accompany us to the frontier. On 7th May General Macdowall and the gentlemen accompanying him having reached Rouvanelle, and immediately embarked on flat-bottomed boats to go down river as far as Colombo. I went on to Cittavakka; the Dessauve and two Mohandirans, disappointed that the Ambassador had escaped the last ceremonial of crossing the river at Cittavakka, avenged themselves on me and would not leave me any more than their shadow until, after all the compliments, I jumped on a raff to cross to Avisavella.

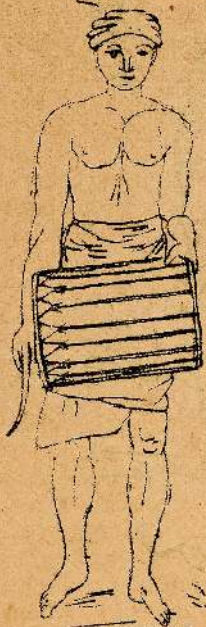
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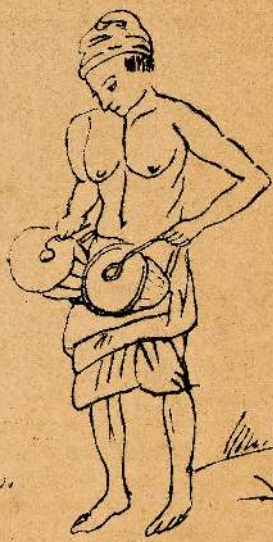
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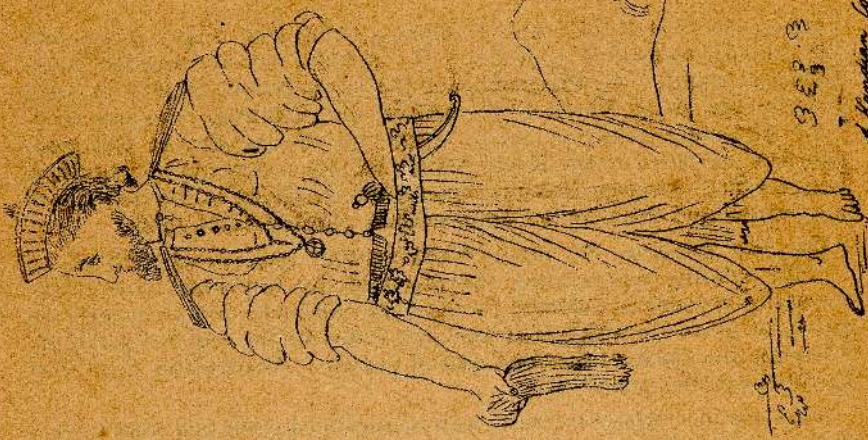
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A DUTCH PAINTING, 1766

By

P. E. PIERIS

THIS was on view at the Society's Meeting of 8th Nov. 1947; it is in oils, the canvas measuring 5 ft. by 3 ft. and the massive wooden frame plain and un gilt. The Proceedings of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain (vol. ii. 15 March 1828) contains the following reference to it. "Sir Alexander Johnston out of respect to the memory of this great man has presented to the Royal Asiatic Society a very interesting drawing, in which Governor Falk is represented as signing in the presence of his Council and the Candian Ambassadors, the Treaty of 1766."

On the beading in small black writing appears the following: "Oil painting representing the reception by Governor Falk of the Ambassadors sent to Colombo by the King of Kandy in 1766 to sign the treaty of peace by which that monarch ceded to the Dutch East India Company the whole of the Sea Coast of Ceylon. Presented in April 1828 by Sir Alexander Johnston."

Sir Alexander, whose interests were varied, took with him from Ceylon many pencil drawings, a few watercolour paintings by local artists (village and otherwise), wooden models, and other similar articles of ethnological value. He also took away many documents from the Public records, including Dutch surveys and Maps, some of which he distributed to Societies, and others he retained. It seems likely that this painting—obviously an official record—was included among them.

The Dutch in Ceylon, who produced good work in architecture, jewellery and furniture, took so little interest in painting that this specimen appears to be unique for work on canvas. It is the record of a unique occasion, for the embassy of 1766 was the most important during the Company's history in the Island since by the Treaty which resulted, the Sinhalese lost all sea ports and their trade came entirely under the Company's control.

The scene depicted is a meeting between the Company's Council and the King's Ambassadors round a long table. A richly coloured carpet covers the floor, lamps and candelabra hang from the roof and pictures large and small from the wall, with the cords by which they are suspended, visible. The centre is occupied by the three ambassadors, fully bearded men with crimson cloth caps and gold chains round their necks. On the left, at the head of the table, Falk is shown seated in a chair of a special shape, wearing his hat above his wig. By his side appears the head of the Maha Mudaliyar who interpreted, and behind him are military officers and two more Mudaliyars, bare-legged and with straight combs in their hair. The group is full of colour according to the dress of the period. The right is devoted to the Members of the Council, all with long hair, seated in highbacked chairs of one design. The extreme right is filled by a maid with a tray of refreshments—probably Mestica, judging from her dress. On the table are small silver spittoons, and there is a large one resting on the ground by the Governor's side. About the use of these last Eliza Fay wrote on 19th Feb. 1780, when describing the house of Isaac the wealthy jew of Cochin who befriended her, in the following terms :

"Though religious prejudices banished us from *their* table ours was loaded with every delicacy—all served on massive plate; among many other articles of luxury which I had never seen before, were numbers of solid silver *Peekdanees* which served the purpose of spitting boxes. They stood at each end of the couches in the principal room; some of them were nearly three feet high, with broad bottoms; the middle of the tube twisted and open at the top, with a wide mouth, for the convenience of such as had occasion to expectorate. These are not what *we* should call delicate indulgences in England; but in a country where smoking tobacco and chewing betel are universally practised, they must be allowed to be necessary ones." p. 154.

At the Rijks Museum in Amsterdam there is a water colour drawing which seems to be a reduced fac-simile of this painting; the label attached to it gives the date of the event commemorated as 1772, which I am unable to explain.

SOME SEVENTEENTH CENTURY NOTABLES

By

P. E. PIERIS

(contd. from Vol. xxxvii, Pt. I.)

V. ANTONIO CORREA

c. 1615—1690

In February, 1640 Negumbo Fort was captured by the Company's troops from the Portuguese who however recaptured it in November. In January 1644 it once again changed hands and with the help of the King's Disāvas was greatly strengthened; a garrison of five hundred men was stationed there when Francois Carron, who was in charge of the expedition, sailed away on 28th March. In July the Portuguese made a fresh attempt to win it back and were repulsed with heavy loss. A body of Lascarins were with the Dutch, and were under their Vidānē: he seems to have been largely independent of the Dutch, for the Diary of the siege (printed in *The Dutch Power in Ceylon*: Pieris) mentions the fact that his permission had to be asked for sending a Sinhalese as a spy to the Portuguese camp. The Diary runs from 28th May, 1644 to 31 August. On 16 April 1644 the Vidane at Negombo appears to have been Anthony Fernando... Col. v. 1.

Johann von der Behr, a native of Leipzig who had entered the Company's service, arrived at Negumbo by sea on 11 Decr., 1644. The bastions which had been shot away during the fighting had not yet been rebuilt and little accommodation was available within, so the 600 men who at this time formed the force of occupation were lodged in six temporary lines formed of coconut tree trunks roofed with coconut branches. On Duva it was estimated that 3000 of these trees were growing; from these toddy was drawn, the tappers collecting it morning and evening in calabashes secured round the waist, which were emptied into large earthen vessels. Close to the fort was a bazaar, roofed but open all round, where the villagers for some miles round used to bring their produce for sale. He witnessed the exhumation on 16th Decr. of the body of Dom Antonio Mascarenhas, which was removed to Colombo for interment.

On Wednesday, 24th Jan. 1646, the Council meeting at Negumbo decided to take back Madampe from Maria Teles on account of the Company, and as a Dutchman fit to administer it was not available, to rent it to Antonio da Costa and Antonio Correa for a term of nine years at 650 reals of eight of four larin each. Galle 2½ f. 8v. Senhora Maria Teles was the daughter of João da Silva Teles, Conde de Aveiras, Viceroy 1640—1646. She was married to Lancarote de Seixas Cabreyra who succeeded Antão Vaz Freire as Veebr, and in 1614 was Senhorio of what was the principality of Madampe, the possession of which in Sinhalese times, according to Alagiyavanna's evidence as recorded in the Tombo, was confined to royal circles. The Senhora had a great reputation for her acts of charity. Details regarding Madampe will be printed in a separate article.

"The important lands of Madampe and Monasseron, these being the most magnificent, the most beautiful, the most fruitful, yea verily the most delightful lands of the whole Island of Ceylon."

Van Goens to Hustaert, 1663, tr. p. 7.

By a Resolution dated Negumbo, Monday 19 Feb. 1646 the Council decided to appoint Antonio Correa of Ceylon, at the time Chief of the Lascarins there, to be Controller or Kankany, as it was not satisfied that the Company's Disava correctly accounted for the Pingos and other Dues f. 9. The office was identical with that of Canacapol, borne by the first of the delegates from Negumbo who met on 20 Aug. 1613 to assist in preparing the Tombo: the English Collector would correspond to the office.

On Monday 26th Feb. 1646 the Council received an ola from the Kangany Antonio Correa with the news that an army of 7000 men was advancing from the King's country. f. 9v. On 24th April Correa was appointed Captain over the Lascarins. f. 16.

A Dutchman, Joan Meerman, had been appointed Disava over the District, but that was in time of peace, and on his own admission he was not qualified to control the Lascarins at the present crisis. Nor could any other suitable Dutchman be found. The Council recognised that Correa was respected and could enforce his orders among the military, and he was therefore appointed Captain over all the Lascarins with the title of First (eerste) Modaliar or First Captain: (probably instead of the earlier title of Vidane). Further to assist him in winning over the Lascarins, the sum of 200 reals were placed at his disposal. There was another Modaliar over the Lascarins, and he was described as onderhoedige (subordinate) Modaliar. v. 3 f. 66).

At this time, as the result of a treacherous attack on the King's Disava who was in the Hiriyala Korale, Raja Sinha had descended on the Sat Korale: On 12th May Adrian van der Stel with a large force left Negumbo to drive him away and on the 16th a naked soldier arrived with the news that the Sinhalese had attacked and wiped them out near Topputurai; this was followed by the news of the surrender of the garrison of 400 men at Pannara to the King. On the 19th and 20th the portion of the town which was occupied by Moorish merchants, was burnt down in preparation for an expected attack by the Sinhalese. On 9th Nov. it was possible to report that he had withdrawn leaving the Negumbo district stripped of its inhabitants (p. 133).

On Monday 5th November 1646 the Proceedings show that Joan van der Laen had returned the previous day from an expedition into Katugampola, with all his Dutch soldiers and the Lascarins. He brought with him 20 women and children and 16 men, including the Durias of Visnave, and these were expected to be of great service. For this valuable capture the Lascarins were rewarded as follows:

Captain Mudaliyar, <i>i.e.</i> Correa.	6 reals of eight
Mudaliyar (Don Manuel)	4 reals of eight
Arachchis	1 real each
Lascarins	$\frac{1}{2}$ real each

21 Decr. 1646, Friday. The question of certain coconut plantations was considered. The owners had fled to the Portuguese, but had later returned and claimed them. Their claims were rejected as not supported by evidence, and out of the trees, 3000 in all, a certain number were presented to those whom it was desired to reward. Seventy trees were thus allotted to Antonio Correa, Captain Modliar of the Lascorins. f. 26.

(On 28th March 1647) "came Anthon Curre whom the Hollanders had appointed captain over 500 Laszkerins from Solau (Chilaw) and brought 20 niggers from the territory of the King of the Singelese as prisoners into Negumbo. On the 29th instant the prisoners were sent with new clothes and rice for provision together with a letter to the Singelese King at Candy; the soldiers stationed in the fort of Negumbo had to escort them under arms." De Behr, Cey. Lit. Reg. vi. p. 100.

3rd August 1647. As a certain soldier who had been sent to forage had not returned Antonio Correa with all his Lascorins was sent to arrest him and stop his flight, a reward of a hundred larins being offered for the arrest. f. 29. The explanation of the anxiety was probably the information which a fidalgo who was acting as a spy for the Company, had furnished that the Portuguese were determined to get back Negumbo, by war if need be. (Dutch Power, p. 133).

On the 19th instant (Decr. 1647) Licut. Franz with the Freeholder Gerth's wife and Antonius Curre with the galliot left for Colombo—de Behr.

On Friday, 7th Feb. 1648, the Council meeting at Galle, decided to lease the important village of Bambarenda, then possessed by the Jesuits, to Henrico, Cannacapel of the Company, and Antonio Correa, late Modliar of Negumbo, for two years at a rental of 150 reals the year, which sum was to be devoted to the Orphan House. v. 3. f. 138.

On 28th Jan. 1670 Anthony Correa as Corala of Dehegampal Corle received a reward of 12 rxd in connection with the Elephant Kraal. v. 7. f. 219.

On 7th Sept. 1671 Anthony Correa was Corala of Hapitigam Corle. v. 9. f. 106.

On 16th Aug. 1687 the Council considered an application from Anthony Correa, Corala of Hina Corle, for the village Pasjael (Pasjala) and its annexed Naboele Gama (Nabuluwa) the two containing 17 Amunam. v. 22. f. 31.

PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a **Council Meeting** held at 5-15 p.m. at Four Furlongs, Bullers Road, on 19th September, 1947.

Present—Sir C. H. Collins, President, in the Chair; Messrs. P. E. P. Deraniyagala and S. A. Pakeman, Vice-Presidents, Drs. G. P. Malalasekera and Andreas Nell, Messrs. E. A. P. Wijeyeratne and S. J. C. Kadirgamar, Mudaliyar P. D. Ratnatunga, and the Honorary Secretaries.

Letters of excuse from the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. R. L. Brohier and Muhandiram D. P. E. Hettiaratchi were tabled.

Minutes of the Council Meeting of 30th April were confirmed.

Resolved—that Rs. 1,000/- should be borrowed from the Chinese Translations Fund to meet the expenses of the Journal. On this sum interest must be paid at the Savings Bank rate, and all receipts from Journal sales credited to this loan account.

2. That a peon should be employed on Rs. 20/- a month, when the present peon can be discontinued.
3. That a part-time clerk on a salary not exceeding Rs. 40/- a month should be employed in place of the present full-time clerk.
4. The Treasurer should take steps to get in arrears of subscription by employing a collector on a percentage basis.
5. That the Treasurer be recommended to persuade Members to use Bankers Order forms for the payment of their subscriptions.
6. That the Clerk should personally call on Mr. D. C. Gammanpila to obtain the return of the Society's books which are with him.
7. That M. Karpelles be informed that the Council will welcome an address by her when she visits Ceylon, in January.
8. That the question of housing be postponed till the Treasurer is able to be present.
9. That Mr. J. F. Jansz's resignation be accepted without his paying subscription for 1947.
10. That Mr. Pakeman's letter regarding the Galle Face Guard House be forwarded to the Chief Secretary for such action as may be considered suitable.
11. That the Translation of Jonville's Narrative of the embassy of 1800 be read at a General Meeting (date to be fixed by the President and Secretary) and printed in the Journal.

Minutes of a **General Meeting** held at 5-45 p.m. on 8th November, 1947 at the Museum Lecture Hall.

Present—Sir C. H. Collins, President, in the Chair. Mr. S. A. Pakeman, Vice-President and about 50 Members and Visitors.

After the Minutes of the General Meeting of 20th June, 1947 had been read and confirmed, the President addressed the Members on the financial position, which was very grave. Rs. 300/- had so far been received in donations. He announced the names of the following elected as Members since the last Meeting :—

Mr. W. D. De Z. Rajakaruna
Pro. by —Mr. C. M. Austin de Silva
Sec. by —Muhandiram A. E. Jayasinha

Mr. W. P. Weerasinghe
Pro. by —Hon. Mr. George E. de Silva
Sec. by —Mr. U. D. P. Dharmaratne

Mr. A. C. G. Abeyewardene
Pro. by —Dr. P. E. Pieris
Sec. by —Mr. J. D. De Lanerolle

Mr. I. G. P. de S. Jayawera
Pro. by —Mr. E. W. Kannangara
Sec. by —Mr. M. F. S. Goonatillake

Mr. Martin Russell (Non Resident)
Pro. by —Dr. P. E. Pieris
Sec. by —Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala

Mr. W. Raymond Jacks
Pro. by —Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala
Sec. by —Dr. P. E. Pieris

Mr. M. B. Ariyapala
Pro. by —Dr. M. D. Ratnasuriya
Sec. by —Mr. P. E. E. Fernando

Mr. T. B. Worthington
Pro. by —Mr. S. A. Pakeman
Sec. by —Sir C. H. Collins

A contemporary oil painting of the reception of the Sinhalese Ambassadors in 1766 was exhibited and explained by the Honorary Secretary.

Comments were offered by Messrs. E. Reimers, J. H. O. Paulusz, R. L. Brohier, S. J. C. Kadirgamar and M. D. Raghavan and the President.

In reply to Mr. M. D. Raghavan's suggestion that the painting should be secured for the public, the Honorary Secretary explained that if a purchaser can be found the money realised would be devoted to the purposes of the Society; but any sale would be subject to the condition that the painting must be displayed where the public could have access to it.

The Honorary Secretary read extracts from the French Journal of Mons Jonville, Portuguese Interpreter to General Macdowall, Ambassador to the Sinhalese Court in 1800. This with a translation, had been sent by one of the Members, Mr. Martin Russell.

Comments were offered by Messrs. M. D. Raghavan, and C. M. Austin de Silva and the President.

The Meeting closed at 7-45 p.m.

PROCEEDINGS AT A MEETING HELD ON 8-11-47 AT THE MUSEUM LECTURE HALL

Sir C. H. Collins in the Chair.

The President—I am afraid it will not be possible for His Excellency to come as he is not well. He has sent me a note saying that he will not be able to attend and to convey his regrets; his Doctor has advised him not to attend any meetings. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the names of members elected since the last meeting announced. He then read out the Treasurer's statement on the finances of the Society, and continued. We have had to carry on the work of the Society with the greatest difficulty. The Library as you know is housed in the Museum grounds and we have had to spend a good deal of money on fittings. In addition to that, we have to look for a new Home; we cannot go on indefinitely without a Home. We shall before very long, have to start a fund. It would be a great pity if the Society does not go ahead now. It is just the time, with the new Constitution coming in, for people to be interested in the history of their country. The Society deserves a great deal more encouragement, and unless we get more help we will find it very difficult to carry on. We have one of the best Libraries of its kind in the Island and our Journal is recognised everywhere. The Donation List is still open and I hope that those who can afford to help us will do so, to put us in a better position. He then called upon Dr. Pieris to explain the painting which was on exhibition. His remarks are embodied in the note "A Dutch Painting, 1766."

Mr. Reimers—The combs were adopted by the Sinhalese from the Javanese. The painting is definitely Dutch, but what puzzles me is the inscription in English.

Dr. Pieris—That must have been put in by the Royal Asiatic Society when it was presented to them.

Mr. Reimers—There were a number of people in Ceylon who could draw and paint. One word about the Treaty. The Ambassadors were here from the 12th of December, 1765 when they came to Colombo. They stayed in Colombo for about 12 days, went back to Kandy came back again towards the end of January, 1766 and stayed on till the 14th of February, when the Treaty was signed.

Mr. Paulusz—Mr. Codrington gives the date as 1772. So does Mr. Anthonisz. Unless more evidence is forthcoming, it will be very difficult to decide which is the proper date, 1766 or 1772. In favour of 1772 there is the fact that there are 3 Kandyan Envoys shown in the picture, but in 1766 there were 5 Envoys. As against that, in 1772 the Ambassadors were purely routine visitors; there was nothing extraordinary about their visit. Were they likely to make a record of a normal routine visit? There is nothing decisive yet which I have been able to find, but I am certain there will be evidence and I am searching. Some of our Diaries for that period are missing.

Mr. Brohier—Will it not be more correct to refer to the rather large frames in the picture as 'hatchments' rather than pictures. They are so much like the hatchments in the Wolfendhal Church that one is likely to think that they are more hatchments than pictures. On the question of long hair worn by the Dutchmen, I would like to refer to a statement by Mr. Anthonisz in describing the early Dutch period in Ceylon.

Mr. Kadigamar—This whole picture seems to have been painted for the benefit of those 3 Ambassadors only. Their faces are shown in full.

Dr. Pieris—Mr. Codrington guided himself by a photograph of the Amsterdam copy, but curiously fell into error over the names of the Envoys of 1772. Can it be that the water colour is the original sketch from which this oil painting was prepared?

Mr. Kadigamar—There is a painting of the Law Courts prepared for Johnstone in which appear all classes of people, with Rajapaksa Maha Mudaliyar in the fore front.

Dr. Pieris—That was a composite picture intended to celebrate two events, and was prepared by Stephanoff from material collected in Ceylon.

The President—We have had a very interesting discussion. Mr. Paulusz has to go to Europe next year; I hope he might be able to find something in the Archives in Holland, which would establish once for all whether this picture was painted in 1766 or 1772. The question still remains to be settled.

Mr. Raghavan—Dr. Pieris has drawn our attention to the cultural value of this picture and we shall esteem it a great favour if he would make a loan of it for exhibition at the Museum, at least as a temporary measure, pending further consideration whether we should purchase it or not.

Dr. Pieris—I am so glad that Mr. Raghavan has shown himself so eminently qualified to be the Acting Director of the Museums. If a Museum is to flourish, a Director should never keep quiet, but should worry people. That is how, for instance, the great Museums of Europe were built up. It has taken me 12 years persistence to get this, because I realised its value. It is the most important historical painting about Ceylon which exists. It gives me pleasure to see it; let the public share in that pleasure. I will loan it to the Colombo Museum, which I hope will exhibit at Kandy as well. If the picture finds a purchaser, the entire proceeds will be devoted to the Society; but any sale will be subject to the condition that it must be kept at a place where it can be seen by the public.

The President—I am sure everybody is most grateful to Dr. Pieris for obtaining this painting for Ceylon, and his intention to let the public have the advantage of it.

He then called on Dr. Pieris to read Jonville's Diary. (This is printed in the Journal).

Extracts were then read with comments. The writer was neither politician nor military man, but a scientist turned interpreter; hence the value of the Journal. He uses Sinhalese terms, like ganga, oya, tekka gaha. Here there is authentic details about the houses of the Sinhalese—the door was only eighteen inches wide.

Why? Because the Sinhalese had no saws, and the doors consisted of single planks formed by splitting a tree. The rooms were 8 feet by 10; there were no windows, and artificial light was needed. The ambassadors' procession was most imposing. That had to be so, to impress the King's subjects. The Company's gifts included pins and needles—because the Sinhalese did not have any, for their clothing rarely called for stitching. There is some plain speaking about the military strength of the Sinhalese. At an Audience, the person of the King was kept as little visible as possible...he sat in an alcove. Note the refreshments served after the exhausting interview—such as you expect at a humble village wedding of today, with cold water to drink.

But the Sinhalese did not believe in tourist traffic. The embassy could buy no curios, and only obtained a few bows by favour of the Adikar. Note the description of the dress of the King's Malays at Katukale.

Mr. Raghavan—The intrinsic worth of the Diary points out the great need for inaugurating or initiating a cultural history of Ceylon. We have had such a long number of histories of Ceylon, and when one goes through the various writings one feels very much that there is really no account of the cultural growth of the development of the typical Indo-Ceylon culture. I should think nobody is so qualified to initiate such a task than the Royal Asiatic Society. I would just make this suggestion for the consideration of the Council of the Society.

Mr. C. M. Austin de Silva—As regards those presents taken by the British to the King, Percival says that they included a coach drawn by 6 horses; betel dish with ornaments of gold valued at 800 pagodas, rose water etc. At the final audience the King put a gold necklace round McDowall's neck and also a sword and a ring, and presented him with an elephant. When the officers went he presented each with a gold necklace and a gold ring, and to the soldiers a piece of coarse cloth. That wayside temple was built in 1567 A.D. Its importance is due to rock inscriptions which are found there.

The President—I think you would like me to express to Dr. Pieris our thanks for this very interesting Diary. I do not think there is any other account so full as this, and I hope that it will be published early. Once again, thank you very much.

Minutes of a **Council Meeting** held at 5 p.m. on February 27th at the Society's Office.

Present—Sir C. H. Collins, President, in the Chair, Dr. S. Paranavitana and Mr. S. A. Pakeman, Vice-Presidents; Dr. Andreas Nell, Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, Mudaliyar P. D. Ratnatunga and Messrs. A. H. M. Ismail, E. A. P. Wijeyeratne and S. J. C. Kadirgamar and the Honorary Secretaries.

Letters of excuse from Messrs. E. W. Kannangara and R. L. Brohier were read.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th September, 1947, were confirmed.

2. Tabled List of Members elected by Circular since the last Council meeting:—

W. D. De Z. Rajakaruna	Mr. I. G. P. de Jayaweera
<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. C. M. Austin de Silva	<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. E. W. Kannangara
<i>Sec. by</i> —Muh. A. E. Jayasinha	<i>Sec. by</i> —Mr. M. F. S. Goonatilake
Mr. A. C. G. Abeyewardene	Mr. W. Raymond Jacks
<i>Pro. by</i> —Dr. P. E. Pieris	<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala
<i>Sec. by</i> —Mr. J. D. De Lanerolle	<i>Sec. by</i> —Dr. P. E. Pieris
Mr. Martin Russell	Mr. T. B. Worthington
<i>Pro. by</i> —Dr. P. E. Pieris	<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. S. A. Pakeman
<i>Sec. by</i> —Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala	<i>Sec. by</i> —Sir C. H. Collins
Mr. M. B. Ariyapala	Mr. W. A. Fernando
<i>Pro. by</i> —Dr. M. D. Ratnasuriya	<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. C. M. Austin de Silva
<i>Sec. by</i> —Mr. P. E. E. Fernando	<i>Sec. by</i> —Mudlr. A. E. Jayasinha
Mr. Gunasena de Soyza, C.C.S.	Mr. A. M. Amin Didi
<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. E. W. Kannangara	<i>Pro. by</i> —Dr. P. E. Pieris
<i>Sec. by</i> —Mudlr. A. E. Jayasinha	<i>Sec. by</i> —Mr. J. Pieris Deraniyagala
Mr. J. P. Obeyesekere (Jnr.)	Mr. K. Lolimbavansa
<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. J. Pieris Deraniyagala	<i>Pro. by</i> —Mr. C. M. Austin de Silva
<i>Sec. by</i> —Dr. P. E. Pieris	<i>Sec. by</i> —Mudlr. A. E. Jayasinha
Mr. W. P. Weerasinhe	
<i>Pro. by</i> —Hon. Mr. George E. de Silva	
<i>Sec. by</i> —Mr. U. D. P. Dharmaratne	

3. Donations amounting to Rs. 490/- were announced:—

His Excellency Sir H. M. M. Moore, G.C.M.G. ...	Rs.	100.00
Dr. P. E. Pieris, C.M.G. ...	..	50.00
Mr. D. N. Wadia ...	..	50.00
Mr. C. E. Jones, C.M.G., C.C.S. ...	..	35.00
Sir C. H. Collins, C.M.G., C.C.S. ...	..	30.00
Mr. E. W. Kannangara, O.B.E., C.C.S. ...	..	30.00
Mr. D. Wanasundara, J.P. ...	..	25.00
Mr. L. C. Van Geysel ...	..	25.00
Hon. Mr. H. H. Basnayake, K.C. ...	..	25.00
Mr. C. L. Unamboowe ...	..	25.00
Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara ...	..	20.00
Mr. Justin Pieris Deraniyagala ...	..	20.00
Miss Lena Wickramaratne ...	..	20.00
Mr. S. F. Amerasinghe (Snr.), J.P. ...	..	15.00
Mr. A. R. T. Gibbon ...	..	10.00
Mr. H. C. Wijesinghe, C.C.S. ...	..	10.00
	Rs.	490.00

4. The Treasurer's audited accounts for 1947 were tabled and adopted after scrutiny.

Resolved—(a) That the Treasurer should take necessary action to secure payment of the Government grant of Rs. 500/- for 1946—47.

(b) That on receipt of the Government grant for 1947—48, the loan borrowed from the Chinese Translation Fund be replaced with the stipulated interest.

5. The Draft of the Council's Annual Report was read and adopted.

6. The following nominations were made to fill vacancies on the Council:—

Vice-President--in place of Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala, whose term expires--Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, O.M.I.

Honorary Secretary--Dr. P. E. Pieris, C.M.G.

Co-Honorary Secretary--Dr. C. E. Godakumbura.

Honorary Treasurer--Mr. K. Vaithianathan, C.C.S.

Dr. Andreas Nell and Mudaliyar P. D. Ratnatunga retiring by seniority and Messrs. J. H. O. Paulusz and C. W. W. Kannangara by least attendance, the following were nominated to be Ordinary Members of Council:—

The Hon. Mr. H. H. Basnayake, Messrs. E. W. Kannangara and P. E. P. Deraniyagala, Dr. Andreas Nell and Mudaliyar P. D. Ratnatunga.

7. Dr. P. E. Pieris was nominated to represent the Society in the University Court.

8. The condition of the Library was discussed. Resolved that on the Government grant be received a sum not exceeding Rs. 400/- thereout be allotted towards obtaining farther shelves.

(b) That legal action be taken by the Secretary in consultation with Mr. S. J. C. Kadirgamar to recover the value of the books which Mr. D. C. Gammanpila has failed to return.

(c) In view of Dr. Nell's claim that the books removed by him were his personal property no action be taken.

9. The question of the future home of the Society was mentioned, but no practicable plan presented itself.

After considering the Museum's decision to charge a fee for the use of its Lecture Hall, resolved that the President should approach the proper authorities to have the

charge reduced to a nominal figure, in view of the Society's century long connection with the Museum.

10. On Dr. Nell's motion, resolved to place the papers on place names received from Mr. Skyes, at Professor M. D. Ratnasuriya's disposal.

11. The President undertook to get into touch with the Maha Bodhi Society and Dr. G. P. Malalasekera to arrange for the disposal of the stock of the Extended Mahavamsa, including the unfinished version in Sinhalese type.

12. The material selected by the Secretary for the next part of the Journal was approved.

13. The Annual General Meeting was fixed for 9th April, when Dr. S. Paranavitana will give an address on the recent work of the Archaeological Department.

ANNUAL REPORT

THE last Annual General Meeting being unavoidably delayed, was held on 20th June 1947, when the Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Co-Honorary Secretary were re-elected and Messrs. S. J. C. Kadirgamar, R. L. Brohier, J. D. de Lanerolle and Muhandiram D. P. E. Hettiaratchi were elected to fill vacancies among the Ordinary Members of Council. Since then there have been one General and two Council Meetings.

The Membership on 31st December, 1947 stood as follows :—

Honorary	...	...	...	...	1
Life	...	...	...	...	72
Ordinary	...	...	...	...	198

25 new Members were elected in 1947, and the Society has lost 6 by death, among whom special mention must be made of Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy who while in Ceylon took a helpful part in its activities. One member has resigned.

Part IV of Volume XXXVII of the Journal was issued in August 1947. Among other material it contains :—

Dr. Edmund Peiris' paper, The Maga Salakuna, descriptive of the route from Badulla to Kandy as given in a unique ola from the Nevill Collection at the British Museum.

P. E. P. Deraniyagala's Fossil Animals from Ceylon, being part V of a series dealing with his valuable discoveries in this obscure field.

Two Notes by the Honorary Secretary, one on the original drawing of the meeting between Pilima Talauve and Macdowall; and the other illustrating the Seal of the British Settlements, in 1810.

The financial situation has deteriorated during the year, and an appeal addressed by the President to Members for donations has so far only brought in Rs. 490/-. As a temporary measure the Council has dispensed with the services of the Society's peon and retained its clerk on a half-day arrangement, while borrowing Rs. 1000/- from the Chinese Translation Fund. An increased Government grant for 1948 is now assured, but in view of calls on its resources which can no longer be avoided ...e.g., housing and book shelves, members are reminded that the list of donations is not closed.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947

RECEIPTS

To Balance	...	...	...	Rs.	5,459.59
.. Entrance Fees	...	...	Rs.	125.75	..
.. Annual Subscriptions	...	...	..	2,360.75	..
.. Life Membership	...	...	..	367.50	..
.. Sale of Publications	...	...	..	696.16	..
.. Sundry Receipts	...	...	..	1000.00	.. 4,550.16
.. Interest, Ceylon Savings Bank	...	...	..		.. 108.53
.. Deposits, Ceylon Savings Bank	...	...	..		.. 301.35
					Rs. 10,619.63

PAYMENTS

By Salaries and Wages	Rs.	1,975.48	
.. Audit Fee	..	200.00	
.. Pension	..	70.00	
.. Printing and Stationery	..	1,872.27	
.. Repairs and Maintenance of Building	..	32.50	
.. Travelling	..	70.95	
.. Postage	..	108.02	
.. Sundries	..	49.08	
.. Advertisements	..	31.00	
.. Bank Charges	..	6.25	
.. Withdrawal—Ceylon Savings Bank	..	3,000.00	Rs. 7,415.55
Cash Balance—			
With Imperial Bank of India	Rs.	1,119.78	
With Ceylon Savings Bank	..	2,059.38	
In Hand	..	24.92	Rs. 3,204.08
			Rs. 10,619.63

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

The above Receipts and Payments Account, subject to our Report of even date, is in accordance with the books and vouchers produced to us and the explanations received.

(Signed) POPE & CO.

Chartered Accountants

} Auditors

Colombo, 7th February, 1948.

CHALMERS ORIENTAL TRUST FUND

To Balance on 1st January, 1947	...	Rs.	405.33
.. Interest for the year ended 31st December, 1947	...	..	8.10
.. Balance on Trust as at 31st December, 1947	...	..	413.43
To Balance with Ceylon Savings Bank as at 31st December, 1947	...	Rs.	413.43

The above Account is in accordance with the Ceylon Savings Bank Pass Book produced to us.

(Signed) POPE & CO.

Chartered Accountants

} Auditors

CHINESE RECORDS TRANSLATIONS FUND

To Balance on 1st January, 1947	...	Rs.	1,340.03
.. Deposit in June	...	Rs.	1,500.00
.. Interest for the year ended 31-12-47	...	..	36.80
		..	2,876.83
By Withdrawal on 2nd October, 1947		..	1,000.00
To Balance of Fund as at 31st December, 1947	...	Rs.	1,876.83
To Balance with Ceylon Savings Bank as at 31st December, 1947	...	Rs.	1,876.83

The above Account is in accordance with the Ceylon Savings Bank Pass Book produced to us.

(Signed) POPE & CO.

Chartered Accountants

} Auditors

SOCIETY MEDAL FUND

To Deposit on 18th June, 1947 ...	...	Rs. 3,000.00
To Interest for the year ended 31st December, 1947 ...	...	30.00
To Balance of Fund as at 31st December, 1947 ...	...	<u>Rs. 3,030.00</u>
To Balance with Ceylon Savings Bank as at 31st December, 1947...	Rs.	3,030.00

The above Account is in accordance with the Ceylon Savings Bank Pass Book produced to us.

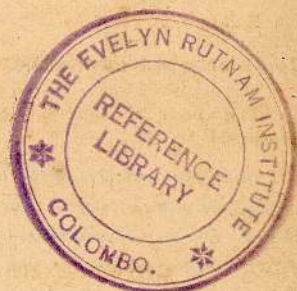
(Signed) POPE & CO. } Auditors
Chartered Accountants }

FOLK SONGS OF THE SINHALESE FUND

To Balance as on 1st January, 1947 ...	...	Rs. 1,984.85
Less : Transfer to Chinese Records Translations Fund ...	Rs. 1,500.00	
Transfer to General Account ...	Rs. 484.85	Rs. 1,984.85
		<u>NIL</u>

The above Account is now closed.

(Signed) POPE & CO. } Auditors
Chartered Accountants }



PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

- Jnl. Royal Society of New South Wales—V.LXXX—Pt. ii, 1946; pt. iii, 1946; pt. iv, 1947.
 Ceylon Trade Jnl.—V.XLI, Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11.
 Royal Geographical Society of Australia—V.XLVII, 1946.
 Quarterly Jnl. of the Mythic Society—V.XXXVII, No. 2; Index to V.XXXVI, V. XXXVII, Nos. 3 and 4, 1947.
 M.A.N.—V.XLVII, June and July, August, September, October, November, December, 1947; V.XLVIII, Art. 1—13, 1948.
 Jnl. of the Dept. of Letters—V.XXXIV, 1946.
 The Middle Way—V.22, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 1947.
 Endeavour—V.VI, Nos. 22, 23, 24, 1947.
 Administration Report of the Director of National Museums, 1946.
 Jnl. R.A.S. Great Britain & Ireland—pts. 1 and 2; List of Members, 1947.
 American Jnl. of Philology—V.LXVIII, No. 270, 271, 272, 1947.
 United Empire—V.38, Nos. 4, 5, 1947.
 Ancient India—No. 3, 1947.
 Jnl. of the Geographical Society of China—V.VXIV, No. 1, 1947.
 D. B. U. Jnl.—V.37, Nos. 2, 1947; V.38, No. 1, 1948.
 University of Ceylon Review—V.V, No. 2, 1947.
 Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies—V.XII, pt. 1, 1947.
 The Indian Historical Quarterly—V.XXIII, No. 2, 1947.
 Quarterly Jnl. of the Library of Congress—V.4, No. 3, Annual Report; 1947.
 Jnl. R.A.S. North China Branch—V.LXXII, 1946.
 Jnl. R.A.S. Malayan Branch—V.XX, pt. 1, 1947.
 Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research—V.XXI, Nos. 9, 62, 1946—47.
 Smithsonian Misc. Collections—V.107, Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10; Publication No. 5; Annual Report, 1946; Misc. Collections, V.106, (whole volume).
 Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences—V.XXIII, No. 41, V.XXXV, Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 1947; Occasional Papers No. 21.
 India Antiqua—Oriental Studies.
 L'Ecole Francaise Bulletin—Tome XL and XLI, 1940—41.

Letter addressed to Members

10th September, 1947

Dear Sir,

I think that members of the Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch, will be aware that during the years of war the Society was put to heavy expenditure by reason of the fact that the Society's Headquarters had to be moved on a number of occasions, that it had to pay its staff war allowances to meet the high cost of living, and that the cost of printing rose much above pre-war prices. The result has been that the financial position of the Society has deteriorated very much and it has now insufficient means at its disposal to provide for necessary printing and for the payment of its staff. The regular income of the Society has not increased, and now consists of less than Rs. 2,000/- a year from members' subscriptions, and Rs. 500/- a year from the Government grant. The whole position is being considered by the Council of the Society at an early meeting, but meanwhile the Council has asked me to invite members to make a special donation to the Society to enable it to meet its present obligations. Such donations should be sent to the Treasurer, at the Colombo Museum, and will be duly acknowledged.

Yours faithfully,

C. H. COLLINS,

President

BOOKS by P. E. PIERIS

Tri Sinhala, the Last Phase, 1796—1815, third ed. Rs. 3.50

Ceylon and the Hollanders, 1658—1796, third ed. Rs. 3.50

Ribeiro's Ceilao, fourth ed., Rs. 5.00.

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*Printed at the Ceylon Observer Press, Lake House, MacCallum Road, Colombo, by
Bernard de Silva, for the Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch, Colombo.*