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THE JILTING OF GEORGIE GERARD; OR A BIT OF CEYLON SOCIETY LIFE.

IN 12 CHAPTERS.

BY C. LEWIS,

Formerly of Ceylon.

(Continued from page 194.)

CHAPTER VIII.

Many long cogitations followed between Marmaduke and his wife.

By little and little he was disabused of the idea that Donald Lawrence was all to blame, or Georgina all to pity in this affair.

Aunt Judith's ears might tingle however, as no one seemed inclined to think her a fit guide for youth and inexperience, and though hardly liking to expose her aunt's foolish vanity, Mrs. Le Marchant was compelled in the interests of every one concerned to show her husband all the letters. The first nearly sent Marmaduke into an apoplectic fit.

"Upon my soul!" he ejaculated more than once, and "tut-tut" many times, by way of relief. "Really, my dear, your aunt is a most foolish, vain old woman! She ought to be thinking of her grave instead of love-making! A man so much her junior,—ri—dic—ulous!"

Mrs. Le Marchant was obliged to smile.

"Her grave! I suppose Aunt Judith thinks hers a very long way off yet; we cling to this life most when on the borders of the next. I wish, I almost wish, Marmaduke, that we had had Georgie out when she left school instead of allowing her to go to Aunt Judith's!"

"My dear Caroline! In your state of health, and in a feverish place like this, a young and giddy girl such as is your sister, what an incongruity!"

He said the sentences very slowly and with such long gaps between, that his hearer, it was to be supposed, might supply the vacancies with ideas. Her quick perception usually did this when her husband talked in outline.

"It is indeed a very great responsibility, a very serious charge that we have had thrust upon us, and, my dear, it will behove you to alter your sister's line of conduct. To teach her that, as your sister and mine, such frivolity—I may say such insubordinate ways are not seemly. It will be your pleasing duty to instruct her in all household matters; to persuade her to continue her studies; to help her in her music, needlework, and botany, and such like feminine occupations; we will have no nonsense about falling in love for a long while yet!"

"It is still to be seen if Georgie is fond of feminine occupations," sighed Mrs. Le Marchant. "She has had nothing but balls and parties at home; it is hardly to be expected that she will take an interest in our dull life. Besides, Marmaduke, you say that she is not to fall in love, and I cannot see how we can prevent it!"

"My love! with whom can she fall in love (what a foolish, modern phrase it is!) within the radius of the province almost?"

"Marmaduke, you forget," hesitatingly. "Mr. Crawford lives at our very door. Georgie will be constantly thrown with him, and if we do not have him here as usual, it will be so marked."

"Lewis Crawford, my love, is ineligible—a detrimental so to speak—too poor to think of matrimony, with a mother dependent upon him. My dear! the notion is a preposterous one. Pray tell your sister about the young man's poverty and circumstances at your earliest. No, no, that would never do!"

"If I see any signs of mutual liking, Marmaduke?"

"Then you must hasten your visit to Nuwara Eliya, my love."

"Very well, that is something settled at least."

It was to be queried if matters would have been easier had Georgie left school for Ceylon at once. For my part I think she would have been more giddy, and even less amenable.

Schools for young girls were, and are, too usually kept by strait-laced spinsters, who exclude the world in every form from their virtuous walls, and teach their charges to look upon the opposite sex as man the ogre.

Unnatural ideas tend to unnatural results, and the life that school-girls lead makes them, unless imbued with religious belief and high principles, ready for any escapade, any intrigue!

Georgie was one of those young women, not so common, thank heaven, as most men think, who profess and really feel the strongest aversion to their own sex.

She was a pronounced woman hater, and did not attempt to disguise her sentiments; but anything in the shape of a man, however young or however old, caused her to brighten up, rally her forces, and be at her best.

In woman's society only, she would not try to be otherwise than glum and stupid. She was the sort of girl that cannot leave a man alone.

That sort of girl worries and makes advances, very rarely repels. And old women say "How attractive Miss So-and-So is to men!"

She is, and she is not.

Ten to one, though they may sometimes be amused by such a girl's pertinacity, touched and flattered by her wish to please them, they will often be exceedingly bored, and will probably marry quiet Miss Puss-in-the-corner, with the low voice and the shy smile.

To a girl of Miss Gerard's sentiments to come to a land of men was very near Paradise indeed!

Her life at K——— was one of careless indolence. Her sister's good example and persuasion had not done much towards a reformation of character. She showed no bias for household matters or for needlework. Her botanical lore went no further than finding out which flower looked best in her hair, and which lasted longest:

Her studies reached no deeper than a noonday drowse and a few tears shed over the "Sorrows of Werther." Her music consisted of fitful practising. But in music Georgie was proficient,—it was her one gift. A light touch, a brilliant execution, wonderful mechanical dexterity, were hers,—pathos and expression might come,—perhaps. So far, neither was there, and even when singing the most sentimental ditties (her singing was not so good as her playing) there were no tears in her voice.

Here was fresh enchantment for Lewis Crawford, who in those days was keenly alive to the rapture of music. A little more cultivation, and his voice, a good baritone, would have been very good. His taste in music was refined and manly, with a leaning towards early English music, and ballads, both Scotch and English.

Miss Gerard's taste was the modern drawing-room piece of that day, and our day is an improvement upon it. There was but little choice then. Classical music was scarcely thought of for school-girls, save by way of exercise. Much operatic music, waltzes, with variations; and for songs, the ultra-sentimental, such as "'T is but a little faded flower." "Oh! the heart is a free and a fetterless thing," "The blind girl to her harp," and so forth.

The days passed by, each day bringing Mr. Crawford at some hour or other of the day. Now with a rare orchid for Mrs. Le Marchant which perhaps her sister would care to see. Now with a duet that perhaps both sisters could help him out with, or a book; besides the times they glimpsed him in eager converse with Mr. Le Marchant on purely official matters.

And so it came to pass that when he did not come there was a reaction and a blank, and pettish words had sometimes to be endured by Caroline from Georgie. And Caroline could not but own that there was mutual liking between the young man and the girl, it was only natural, she would reason. Two young things together, she and Marmaduke were so elderly in their ways and habits; and then Georgie's music!

No wonder that Lewis Crawford was enchanted by that. She herself could play a little, and sing old airs with a touching sweetness, though with little voice, but compared to herself, Georgie was a perfect genius, she thought.

"Marmaduke, our two young people are certainly getting fond of each other," said his wife one day. She had ventured into his sanctum with a face so troubled that her husband could not choose but lay down his pen and enquire the cause.

"Well, my dear?"

"It is not well, Duke, indeed. They have so much in common to talk about always, they are both so devoted to music. If Lewis Crawford happens to be away for a day or two Georgie gets quite moped. Of course he is the only nice young man in the place; Georgie might not care so much for him if he were one of many."

"My dear, you had better hasten away to a place with a greater choice of young gentlemen," said Mr. Le Marchant, with very unusual irony.

"Oh, Marmaduke! you are laughing at my fancies. But you know you said you would not approve of such a match for my sister."

"True, my love. I shall send off Mr. Crawford to collect some paddy rents for me soon. That will separate the young people for some days.

"Shall I settle to leave for Nuwara Eliya as soon as the Nugents have paid their visit to us here?"

"Perhaps that would be better still. Let me see, the Nugents come next week?"

"Yes, on Thursday."

"Then, my love, arrange your plans for leaving on the Monday after."

"Yes, Marmaduke. Perhaps it is as well we never had a daughter to marry if a sister proves such an anxiety."

She laughed in spite of herself, and left the room with her care half-gone by the telling of it.

(To be continued.)

RIBEIRO'S ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF MANNAR AND THE SIEGE AND CAPITULATION OF JAFFNA IN 1658.

[The following is a translation of the last chapter of Book II of Ribeiro's *Fatalidade Historica da Ilha de Ceilão*, in which he describes the capture of Mannar and the siege and capitulation of Jaffna in 1658, when the Portuguese were finally expelled from Ceylon by the Dutch. Accounts from the Dutch point of view are given by Baldaus and Saar, the dates given by the latter differing greatly from those given by the other two writers, and being evidently erroneous. I have added some notes pointing out certain variations in the narratives. The double brackets show where Le Grand's MS. is defective.—D. F.]

CHAPTER XXVII.

How the Hollanders captured the Island of Manar, and besieged the fortress of Jafanapatão and conquered it.

The Hollanders seeing that after we had lost the city of Columbo we brought a large force and with it reinforced it the Island of Manar, and the Kingdom of Jafanapatão, where was assembled a fleet of rowing boats, which had been sent for the relief of Columbo by Manoel Mascaranhas Homem, who was governor of the Dominion, through the death of the Conde de Sarzedas, Vice Roy thereof the Captain Major of which was Francisco de Seixas Cabreira; and also another of twelve *sanguicels*,* which the same Governor sent to Manar, and the Captain Major of which was Manoel de Mello de Sampaio: as also one hundred and ten soldiers and captains, whom the Hollanders had landed at Negapatão, who had been conquered at Columbo, and had gone as prisoners in the ships.†

* A kind of boat or small vessel used in war. (See *Hobson-Jobson* s. v.)—Tr.

† This sentence is badly arranged and punctuated: it should be connected with the following one, which contains the qualifying verb. Ribeiro's corrected MS. (see *Jl. of the C. B. R. A. S.*, vol. X, p. 304) reads:—"The Hollanders seeing, after they had taken from us the city of Columbo, that we brought a large force to the island of Mannar, and Kingdom of Janapatão, [sic] where had assembled the fleet of rowing boats which the Governor of India had sent by the Captain Major Francisco de Sexas Cabreira; and the other of 7 *caturres*, of which Manoel de Mello Sampaio was captain major: and knowing that the same governor of India, after having been informed of the loss of Columbo, had nominated as Captain General of the island of Ceilão Antonio d' Amaral Menezes, who actually occupied the post of Governor of that Kingdom, who informed him of the despatch of reinforcements which might do to them what they were now carrying out, which would not be difficult for the Portuguese while they continued in Janapatão, [sic] determined, in order to guard against the mischief that they feared, to drive us out of the island of Mannar, also."—Tr.

The same Governor had appointed as Captain General of the Island of Ceilão Antonio do Amaral de Menezes, who at that time occupied the post of Governor of that Kingdom: and that we might continue with so many reliefs, by which we might give them trouble, when a remedy would be difficult for them, on account of our having these forces in the same Island; and in order to free themselves from that anxiety, they prepared to expel us therefrom: to this end, in the middle of February [1]658, they came with ten ships, in which were three thousand two hundred soldiers, and some Chingalás, men of valour who had been ours in Columbo. The first place for which they steered was Titecorim, on account of there being five rowing ships guarding that port, the captain of which was D. Alvaro da Silva; and as it is open they were able to come so easily to the land that they proceeded cannonading without resistance, as our ships had no other artillery with which to oppose them beside a piece of two pounds in each, and consequently no defence: by reason of which the enemy was able to defeat them, sending two to the bottom, and the other three were scarcely able to get to land with the greater part of the men dead or wounded: where, as there was no help for it, the captain ordered them to be set on fire and he set off with several who wished to accompany him for Jafanapatão;* [[upon which the enemy turned about towards the Island of Manar, where was the Captain General Antonio do Amaral de Menezes with twelve companies, in which were little more than four hundred soldiers;† as also some rowing boats and *sanguicels*, with which he formed a fleet, and the Captain Major of it was Gaspar Carneiro Girão. With the companies that were on land he made on the edge of the seashore an intrenchment, for the distance of a league, which he garrisoned with them, in order to prevent them from being able to disembark.

* The portion from the commencement of the chapter down to this point is rendered by Le Grand very incorrectly, as will be seen by the following translation of his version:—"After the loss of Colombo we all retired to the Island of Manar & to Jafanapatan, & we thought to fortify ourselves there as well as it was possible for us to do so. Manüel Mascarenhas-Homen who had been appointed governor of the Indies after the death of the Count de Sarzedo who was Vice-Roy thereof, had prepared a convoy of some small boats, to carry provisions and some reliefs to Colombo; he had given the conduct of it to François de Seixas-Cabrera, who having encountered a Dutch vessel, was obliged to put into Titecorim, & to return to Goa. The Governor of the Indies some time after sent another, the command of which he gave to Manüel de Mello-Sampayo, with the rank of *Mestre de camp general*: he appointed as Captain general of Ceylan Antoine de Amaral y Menezes: this did not please the Hollanders; they saw that we were still in a position to send larger relief to the Island of Ceylan, & that by joining with the King of Candy, who did not love them, we should always be in a position to cause them much annoyance: so they resolved to drive us entirely from the Island, and to keep us as far way from it as they could. They first came to attack us at Titecorim, where they found Alvare da Sylva with three ships, they sent two to the bottom, & after having killed & wounded many of our men, they obliged us to run aground, & to burn our own vessels. Alvare da Sylva then crossed over to Jafanapatan, with those of his force who wished to accompany him thither." As this portion of Le Grand's MS is perfect and clearly written, his alterations are utterly unwarranted.—Tr.

† Baldæus says that the Portuguese defended their intrenchments with 1,000 men.—Tr.

As soon as the enemy arrived with their fleet, the boats and *sanguicels* set off, but were defeated with repeated volleys of artillery, some being sunk, and others being run aground, not one failing to suffer the same fate, while the greater part of the men were killed or wounded; wherefore the enemy were left free to disembark where it was most convenient for them; and as from Manar to Talemannar there are two long leagues of sandy shore, and the bottom is very clear, and the companies were garrisoning the first league of intrenchment, as I have said, most of the shore had no one to defend it: to this part they proceeded with their vessels to the land, and in the launches they placed five hundred soldiers, who disembarked without any opposition, and with them they formed a squadron, which our men seeing, they left the intrenchment as they were in file, in order to attack them; and on account of the small number of those who formed the vanguard they were not able to withstand them; the only one of them who engaged with the squadron was an ensign, by name Sebastião da Costa, who was determined to show his valour, and was speedily killed; and most of the companies leaving the intrenchment began to form up in order to attack the enemy; but the volleys of artillery which they fired from the ship were so great and so continuous, that there was no chance of doing so, and they killed several of our bravest captains and soldiers, among whom also was the Captain General Antonio do Amaral de Menezes: so that the enemy were able to land all their troops, which our men having seen, they began to retire, and the enemy marching in our rear and reaching the fortress captured it, as there was no defence, it being incapable of resistance.*

Our men crossed the river † with all the haste that necessity required, and set out for Jafanapatão † marching those eighteen leagues nearly dead with hunger, where they arrived with the field Captain Major Antonio Mendes Aranha, who arranged with the Governor of that Kingdom, João de Mello da Sampaio, to form these men into companies; since most of them had no captains, and this having been done they took up their posts at the salt river to defend that passage against the enemy, who in a few days arrived to attack us in our encampment, having also marched thither by land, bringing by the same river all the launches and a number of boats with warlike provisions and stores; and fighting with them we began to retreat as far as the first street of the town, where we fortified ourselves. After three days they attacked that position, which being difficult for us to maintain, we retired by night to the last one, situated closer to the fort: in it we took shelter, and remained four days, when they made a breach on one side of us, and forced us to retire at night to the fortress, in which all the inhabitants had also taken refuge, and others of the people, and as there were available for them there only the houses of the Governor, the hospital, and a convent of St. Francis, they all lodged in the Church and its cloister, as best they could, close to one another. The fortress was a regular square with four bastions; from one angle to another was twenty-five paces, and in the middle of the stretches of wall certain

* According to Saar, these occurrences took place on 13th-20th April. Baldæus gives February as the month.—Tr.

† The strait between Mannar and the mainland.—Tr.

† On 15th May, according to Saar; but at the beginning of March, according to Baldæus.—Tr.

towers, or half-oranges,* all very circumscribed in the old style, and the whole structure made of pumice stone:† on one of the sides the river bounded it, and the other three were protected by a ditch of the width of twenty-four spans, and twelve in depth: between the ditch and the wall were encamped the infantry, who that night threw up an entrenchment to protect themselves, which served us as a barbican.‡ The enemy erected three batteries, with which they began to batter the two bastions on the river side, as the ditch ended at their bases; these were easily destroyed, as the whole of the solid part was like the earth of a cemetery, [on account of the nature of the stone of which the whole was built. With three mortars also they threw amongst us a large quantity of bombs, and without intermission many stones,‡ with which they killed many people. In the fort there was nothing but some rice already bad, without any other kind of food; not a grain of salt was there; and for want of these we all endured great sufferings, the consequence being that many of our people fell sick and died. We made some assaults upon the enemy in order to prevent the works which they had begun, and they did not continue them in consequence of the opposition which we made.

At the entrance of the bar, which was little more than two leagues distant from the town, we had a fort,§ next to that of the Ape,|| and it was garrisoned by a company of infantry, fourteen pieces of artillery, a gunner, and two artillerymen. The enemy, placed batteries on the point of the *caes dos Elefantes*,¶ because in that quarter the fort was nearest to the land; and because moreover it was made of pumice stone they easily destroyed it; as they lacked food and ammunition they surrendered in little more than a month.]* The siege of the town continued with all activity, and with the sufferings that all endured, and want of food, and other necessary things, after two months of battering the enemy made a summons to us, in which they offered us reasonable terms, which we would not accept, insisting on the defence, which we continued from the 20th of March [when we retreated, until the 2nd of June; and everyone seeing that there was no powder, rice, nor any other food,] and that the greater part of the people were dead, the bastions destroyed, and that it was impossible for help to reach us, and as for some

* Semi-circular projections in the fort walls: see the plans of Jaffna fort in Baldaeus and Valentyn.—Tr.

† Really madrepora.—Tr.

‡ These were the tombstones from the cemetery, broken into pieces by the Dutch for this purpose.—Tr.

§ Baldaeus says that this fort was built by Antonio, do Amaral de Menezes; and Haafner says that it was called by the Portuguese "Reil" (? Real). The Dutch writers called it "Cays" (Kaits) or "Hammenhiel" (Ham's Heel). For a description of this fortlet as it now is, see *L. R.* vol. I, page 24. On "Cays", see note ¶.—Tr.

|| *O Bogio*.—Tr.

¶ "Quay of the Elephants." This was on Karaitivu, being shown in Baldaeus's map. Baldaeus says that elephants were embarked therefrom for transportation to Coromandel and Bengal. The strong stone ramp of the elephant shipping place still exists, but the wooden jetty has long since disappeared. (See *L. R.* vol. I, p. 24.) In Resende's plan of Jaffna fort the little fortress between the island of Velanai (entered in Baldaeus's map as "Leyden Olim Ourature") and Karaitivu is called "Fortaleza do Caes" (Fortress of the Quay), and hence the Dutch name of "Cays" and the English "Kayts."—Tr.

** See Baldaeus for fuller details, including the letter sent by the Dutch to the commander of the little fort and his reply.—Tr.

time back we had missed the firing from the fort, a manifest signal of its having surrendered; for these reasons, and the great sickness that existed, a council was held, at which it was resolved that we should surrender the town, [[and having called a parley with the enemy, who seeing that we acted from necessity, since it was impossible that help should come to us, they being masters of Manar and of the fort at the bar, where they had five ships; as they did not wish to concede to us any honorable terms: only as regarded the honors of war were they lenient, and for the rest we as it were surrendered at discretion. They conceded that we should go out with our arms, match lighted, banners flying, drums beating; but deprived of jewels, gold, silver, and every similar article; that they should place the Governor, Gentlemen and captains in one of our fortresses in that territory, and the same with all the married soldiers and their families, and that the soldiers should be sent in their ships to Batavia, and thence to Europe: which they fulfilled badly as all were taken to Batavia.]]†

On the 24th of June† [1]658 the men of war went out [[in the form of the capitulation,]] and we were one hundred and forty all told: as soon as we piled our arms in the appointed place, the first thing that they did was to surround us with several squadrons, and very slowly one by one we had to pass to where stood their fiscal, who caused each to be stripped, [[and their private parts felt, himself taking off their shoes, and generally taking from all what they carried, not sparing even things of little value, and the assistants who helped him were so zealous, that they took from us our clothes and our very hats; and in order to relieve us of everything, when we wished to go out of the town, they gave order that we should leave all our things in the house of the Governor, where they placed an adjutant on guard over them, because we had surrendered; we had much to thank them for for this carefulness, for they guarded them so well, that none of us ever saw a single thing again in his life. Let us dismiss]] this zealous officer; [[after the business was concluded, they put us almost naked in the College of the Company of Jesus.]] With the rest of the people they performed the same ceremonies, not excepting the women, this scoundrel searching the parts which nature has determined should be hidden, without the tears and misfortunes of those unfortunates being of any avail, even the noblest not escaping; the thirst of ambition causes such follies to be wrought. They put us all in their ships in which we suffered much hunger and misery, until we reached Batavia, and in that city we were put into a prison.

The Gentlemen and chief persons who were present at this siege are the following. The Governor of that Kingdom João de Mello de Sampaio, the field Captain Major Antonio Mendes Aranha, Diogo de Sousa de Castro, Manoel de Saldanha e Tavora, his cousin Manoel de Saldanha, D. Alvaro da Silva, Alvaro Rodrigues Borralho, D. Gonçalo da Silva, João Botado de Seixas, Gaspar Figueira de Cerpe Mathias Catanho, the *Vedor da fazenda* Leonardo da Oliveira; and other persons, who took part in the siege, each according to his duties, showing themselves not unworthy of the blood of their ancestors.

* The *fortaleza do caes*.—Tr.

† Owing to the omissions in his MS., Le Grand's version of the preceding paragraphs is very brief and incorrect.—Tr.

‡ Baldaeus says 22nd June; while Saar makes the date 1st Sept.—Tr.

ROYAL COLLEGE UNION.
COLOMBO, CEYLON.

1. This Association shall be called the Royal College Union.
2. The following shall be eligible as members of the Union:—
 - (1) Past students of the Colombo Academy, Queen's College and Royal College.
 - (2) Former masters of the above Institutions and masters for the time being of the Royal College.
 - (3) Students for the time being of the sixth form of the Royal College.
 Provided that persons not coming under the above descriptions and not exceeding fifteen in number may be elected as honorary members.
3. The objects of the Union shall be:—
 - (1) To promote social union among the members.
 - (2) To maintain the interest of Old Boys in the welfare of the Royal College.
 - (3) To encourage the students in their studies and sports by the institution of prizes and otherwise.
 - (4) And generally to advance the best interests of the College.
4. A meeting of members called by order of the Committee shall be considered a General Meeting, to constitute which twelve members at least shall be present. Fourteen clear days' notice of such meeting shall be given by the Secretary to the members.
5. The officers of the Union shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
6. The Principal for the time being of the College shall be the President of the Union, and in case of his inability to act, a President shall be elected at a General Meeting from among the Old Boys who are members of the Union.
7. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected at the annual General Meeting from among the members of the Union.
8. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected annually at a general meeting from among the Old Boys who are members of the Union.
9. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers and twenty-five members to be elected annually at a general meeting, five to form a quorum.
10. Admission of members shall be by the Committee on application in writing to the Secretary. But honorary members shall be elected only at a general meeting of the Union.
11. Members shall pay an annual subscription of R2, which shall be due on the 1st day of January.
12. The Union shall observe the 25th day of October as "Old Boys' Day," and the Committee shall have the power to arrange details for the celebration thereof; and to spend out of the funds of the Union a sum not exceeding R250 for that purpose.
13. The annual general meeting shall be held on the "Old Boys' Day."
14. Provided that the Committee shall have power to fix any other day, when necessary, for the purposes mentioned in Rules 11 and 12 of which a month's notice shall be given.
15. The Committee shall have power in the case of any vacancy in their number, occurring from resignation or otherwise, to fill the same, pending the next general meeting.
16. The Committee shall lay before the Union at the annual general meeting a report of the condition and work of the Union during the year.
17. No rule shall be altered or adopted except at the annual general meeting and by a special resolution of which previous notice of at least a fortnight should be given in writing to the Secretary.

18. The Committee shall also from time to time arrange such other meetings and gatherings as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out the objects defined in Rule No. 3.

SAMBAS IN WESTERN BORNEO.

(Translated from the "Indische Mercur" for the "Literary Register," by Mr. John Dent-Young.)

There was a time when the very name of California caused excitement. Huzza! for California! the cry gold! gold! resounded on every side. Later on Australia was the centre to which all eyes were turned. There again was gold, the attraction which drew vast crowds to that part of the globe. And now whenever we take up a journal, we find gold to be the great exciting cause of the multitude.

Numerous are the associations which are now working gold mines with more or less success in South Africa, and multitudes are presenting requests to the Resident of West Borneo for permission to set on foot scientific examinations of sites for gold mines. No less than thirty-three such applications have been tendered in Sambas alone, whilst in other parts of the Residency 60 concessions have been applied for. Public attention had hardly been turned on Sambas before requests poured in for such concessions. Thanks to the ready co-operation of the Resident and the Sultan, but little formality is necessary in making those requests. Frequently the simple mediation of a friend has been sufficient. As a preliminary, the application is made for permission to institute a scientific search for gold, for the Government insists on this, and it is only after the lapse of three years that the permission is exchanged for a notarial contract. In this way the danger of sinking capital in a bottomless pit is greatly diminished if not altogether avoided. During these three years there is surely time to make such an inspection of the ground as can establish proof of its being able to repay the cost of working or not; if unfavourable, no further loss is incurred, than the outlay for making the inspection, a risk inseparably connected with all such undertakings.

But we are speaking of the district of Sambas as if it was a well-known locality to each and all, whilst some of our readers may be desirous of knowing more about the possession, for which reason we propose to give the following brief sketch of it:—Sambas is under a Sultan dependent on Netherland, situated at the northern extremity of West Borneo; it is bounded on the north by Sarawak, on the east and south by Landak, on the south by Mampawa, and on the west by the sea, or to be more precise it stretches from Tandjong Datu in the north-west to the Duri river which forms the southern boundary, to the north and north-east it is bounded by the mountain chains of Krinabang-Semadja and Kewai, whilst on the south and south-east it is separated from Sanggow and Landak by the Kurum, Bajang, Mint and Pandang mountain ranges. Sambas comprehends the basin of the river of the same name, from its mouth to its confluence with the Sambas Kiri and Kanan.* The Sambas river takes its rise in the above-named southern chain of mountains, and falls into the sea at Pemangkat after traversing the Chinese settlement of Larak, becoming navigable at Ledo. To the north of the Sambas river rises the mountain of Palo, well-known for the iron of superior quality that it used to furnish.

Sambas, the chief town of the State, lies at the confluence of the abovenamed two branches. It presents to the visitor but little beauty for his admiration. It contains however a good place of entertainment, so

* Kiri and Kanan are the Malay words for right and left.

that anyone wishing to make some stay there will find no difficulty in obtaining a lodging. Simas is at the same time of easy access. Every month a steamship belonging to the Ned. Ind. Steam Navigation Company leaves Tjandjong (Chanjong) Priok for Pontianak via Biliton. Soon after the arrival of this ship, a steamer belonging to the transport contractor leaves the port according to the terms of the contract for Santang, whilst one of the ships belonging to the Indian Marine leaves for Sambas via Singkawang. The vessel of the transport contractor leaves Pontianak on the last day of every month for Singapore via Singkawang and returns by the same course.

Should the traveller not wish to go direct from Batavia, he should take his passage on board one of the fine steamships built expressly for this service, the "Ban What Soon" or the "Ban What Hien," the former of these two has plied for years between Biliton and Pontianak, and the latter has for some months taken her course via Sambas. The development of the mining and cultivating operations on the concessions will decide if steam communication can be continued. As the two lastnamed vessels are bound by no contract, they do not adhere to any particular time, and therefore the transit via Batavia is to be preferred, as well as on account of the necessary formalities which have to be fulfilled. Let us then select this route, go over to Pontianak, and thence make our way to the Sambas river. As we enter its mouth, we see what appears to be a vast lake, as the river for some distance inland is of great breadth. Both sides are bordered by thickly-wooded hills, amongst which the lofty Peribangan rears its head, overtopped in height by the more distant Bukit Pemongkat, whose dark summit and light-green sides are recognized at a great distance. On the right bank towers on high the Kalimbu, a so-called saddle mountain. To the left of us is the Chinese settlement, while in our front, to the north-east the Bukit Raja extends its crown towards the heavens, whilst its foot stretches away like a tongue of land ending in the rocky Kalimbu. But let us make way for the words of the admirable writer on Borneo's West Coast:—"Further eastward a noble panorama opens to the view, endless forests fringed on the seaside with tjemaras (chumara trees) and extending beyond the Kumé and B. tong Mountains, which appear like grey masses defined in sharp outline against a cloudless sky, with the Sambas river shining through occasional openings like a silver band. Here bright green rice-fields and gardens, next clumps of coconut palms and other fruit trees, lie like islands spread about in this of sea green. In the midst rises the Bukit Pemangkat. Its summit is clothed with heavy timber, its slopes are planted with enau palms, or are terraced for rice cultivation. From all parts flow rivulets; here, rushing wildly over bare crags whence they are led to water the neighbouring rice-fields; there, winding gently amongst magnificent orchids, and picturesquely intertwined, climbing plants which serve to protect man and beast; westward lies the boundless sea before us, always in motion, always full of life. And through the green waters shine huge stones and rocks with which the coast is strewed."

A sandbank in the embouchure of the river, alas! prevents the entrance of ships of greater draught than 12 feet; higher up the Sambas presents no features of importance except to the lover of the picturesque. "Besides the Chinese Settlement at the base of the Pemankat," thus continues the Heer Veth, "nothing beyond the town is to be met with, as a sign of habitation not a speck of cultivated ground. All is morass and wilderness, amongst which trees of amazing height force their way upwards, and the silence of the forest is seldom disturbed by the traces or presence of animal life. The small river (a branch of the Sambas) presents at its frequent windings most lovely prospects often not less remarkable for their fantastic forms than for their tropical luxuriance. There is the home of the orangutan (Malay—*orang* man, *utan* forest), and of thousands of smaller apes, here the buzzing of myriads of insects unites with the song or divers noises of birds, whilst dangerous crocodiles lurk for their prey amongst the water-plants on the banks."

The country between the river Sambas and the already mentioned river Duri is intersected by numerous small streams, most of them having their sources in the Mandor districts.

Amongst these and further inland the Chinese Settlements are spread about, the inhabitants of which are occupied in the cultivation of rice near the coast. This district is considered the most productive in the western division; still further, inland, the dwellings of the Chinese who are employed in mining operations are met with. This is the scene where the sanguinary drama of the Mandor insurrection was enacted, which originated in the obstinate resistance of the Chinese "Kongsis" against the steady extension of the Netherlands authority.

The connexion of Netherlands with Sambas is of ancient date. The first treaty with this State was concluded by the East India Company in 1609, and stipulated chiefly that the Company would defend the Sultan against all foreign enemies, particularly against the Spaniards and Portuguese. The Sultan on his side engaging to exclude all other European nations from intercourse with his country, and to concede the exclusive right to free trade with his State to the Netherlands, with the right to build a fort for the protection of their persons and possessions, and ensuring them the monopoly of the diamond trade from which even the native traders were excluded. In 1816,* after the restitution of our Eastern possessions by England a new agreement was made with the Sultan, by which he recognized the sovereignty of Netherlands, and ceded all the revenues of his Sultanate and of its tributary states to the Government, in return for which he was to be paid a fixed income, the amount of which depended on the full tax levied on the Chinese and on the Dayaks. In 1819 this arrangement underwent further changes, containing amongst other stipulations a clause by which the Government was placed altogether in the power of the Netherlands. After further amplifications and renewals, the present existing Charter was established in 1848 with the following principal clauses:—The State of Sambas forms an integral portion of Netherlands India, and is immediately under the authority of the King of the Netherlands, locally represented by the Governor-General, and accepts his State as a fief from the supreme government and exercises authority in concert with officials appointed by the Government. The successor to the throne according to adat (ancient custom) is elected, the election being subject to the approval of the Governor-General; all the revenues including the poll-tax paid by the Chinese, rents, customs and public property of all kinds belong to Government, the Sultan receives an allowance of R12,000 guildens a year (12 guildens being equal to £1 at par). In the interior of the State the Sultan is bound to provide reasonable maintenance for all the members of the princely family, the village contribution of labor shall be at the disposal of Government for the public service; the Sultan is to appoint the native chiefs in accordance with custom, and in consultation with the chief Netherlands official, he is to maintain law and justice; afford all help to the law courts and to the police, and decide minor matters of police and justice. Europeans, Chinese and foreign Easterns are subject to the legal authority of the Government.

The Sultan will do all that is possible to suppress "head cutting"† the slavetrade, piracy on the sea

* Which had been held since 1811—(Note by Translator.)

† Potong-kapala, a time-honored institution amongst the Dayaks, is a kind of duel in which two men at a time engage in a fight with heavy swords, sharp as razors, the delicate attention of each is confined to the endeavour to chop off the head of his opponent; other wounds are not allowed to count, so the entertainment goes on until one of the players loses his head and the game at the same time. Until "the grinding tyranny of the Dutch" interfered these exhibitions afforded great amusement to crowds on all State occasions; in the case of the combatants

and coast; he will do all he can to abolish the pawning system, and will give all practicable aid to encourage trade, navigation and all useful branches of industry; and to render the utmost help in case of shipwreck, and to shipwrecked persons; he will not enter into any compact with foreign princes or people, or permit them to establish themselves in his State, but will give intimation to the Netherlands authorities immediately on the occurrence of any attempt at so doing. He binds himself on oath in writing to fidelity to the King of the Netherlands; and lastly, he acknowledges a debt on his State to Netherland of f48,080, and will submit to all such measures which the Government may deem necessary for the recovery thereof. As may be seen from the foregoing, Sambas is a well-regulated State, in which the security of person and property is as well guarded as in any European country. The present Resident, Heer J. van Nieuwkuijk, lately replaced by the Heer Tromp, both most excellent men, and the present Sultan Mohamed Tsafudin, Knight of the Netherlands Lion, an enlightened man, do their utmost to promote the welfare of the country.

As we have already mentioned, there are many persons desirous of establishing themselves in Sambas for the purpose of cultivating the ground as well as for working gold mines. Up to the present time the latter pursuit has been exclusively in the hands of the Chinese, whose appliances are of the most primitive nature, yet they are the people in whose footsteps Europeans are about to tread. Applications for concessions have for some time past been pouring in. Thirty-three mining concessions have already been granted, but of these only three have passed into formal contracts. The others remain still, only permits to examine the ground in order to ascertain its adaptability for the proposed purpose. This examination, as we have already said, lasts only for three years, at the end of which period it must be changed for a notarial deed, or be given up. As soon as a contract has been signed, the rent becomes payable, at an annual rate of 10 cents per bouw and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the gross produce. So that those who enter into the contracts naturally limit the extent of the concession to the land which has been found absolutely necessary.

We have just said that hitherto the gold was collected principally by Chinese who obtained it chiefly by washing, being ignorant of any other mode of working the quartz reefs. These gold washings are situated on the slopes of hills or in their immediate neighbourhood, and are connected with a flow of water which is essentially necessary for the work. When a site has been selected, every effort is made to turn a sufficient supply of water into it, no trouble or expense being spared in the construction of an efficient watercourse.

The nature of the gold deposit, whether mixt with sand, incorporated with quartz or in veins, necessitates the adoption of different processes for its collection. The Dayak goes to work in the most simple manner. When the burong (bird in Malay) Soho has indicated to him where the gold lies, he washes away the earth in a wooden trough until nothing remains but the particles of gold. The Malay goes a step further; he digs a pit, and gathers all the gravel and earth, and washes it out, whilst the Chinaman goes to work in different ways, according to the formation of the site. If the gold stratum lies above the level of the water, and if the water supply is sufficient, as is the case near Pagong in Montrado, all the surface earth is dug away, and the stratum of gravel or silt thus exposed is carefully washed in broad wooden *kotaks* (troughs) arranged in steps, then removed into small tubs and rinsed, and from the residue the particles of iron ore are removed, by means of a magnet.

Where the gold containing silt lies below water level a sufficient number of channels are dug, which are kept dry by means of a (tal) v (a) a

it used to be considered that the mor (a) e (a) er and a successful stroke of the gollok or razor-like sword was "mighty pleasant to behold."—(Note by Translator.)

Acting like a chain pump. As soon as the sought-for stratum is reached, it is removed gradually into trough, and washed until the gold is separated. Should the gold lie in veins, the stratum through which the veins run is broken into pieces with sledge hammers, until the depth of water puts a stop to the process, the ore is then picked out and reduced to powder in wooden mortars, and then washed. It need hardly be pointed out that in this last method there is much gold lost: in the first place, the sorting of the ore is done by the eye; secondly, the appliances are of the roughest kind and very inefficient; thirdly, it is only practicable to a very little depth.

The European engineers will manage matters better. A large quantity of machinery has already been introduced. That the gold strata are frequently rich is evidenced by the amount of gold produced with very defective appliances and most clumsy methods by the Chinese, who obtain as much as yields about 200,000 guildens (or guilders) a year. With the method described they get 0·012 per cent of gold from the quartz.

If the above data are not exaggerated, colossal results may be looked for; even if the proportion of gold should turn out to be only one-third of what it is said to be, the mines will be well worth the trouble and expense of working, and with good management will yield considerable profits.

AGRICULTURAL UNDERTAKINGS.

Thus far we have confined our observations exclusively to mining enterprise; we now propose to consider the question of the application that have been made with reference to the extension of cultivation in these regions.

The number of persons desirous of obtaining land for agricultural purposes is also great. The newspapers from India give us the names of those who from time to time continue to swell the list of proposed agriculturists, and so it will go on until all the western division shall be parceled out.

In Sambas alone 55 concessions have been granted, of which 25 have been confirmed by contract entered into. That more contracts have not been made is explained by the fact that within a year after the completion of the contract, the rent becomes due for 10,000 bouws, 2,000 guildens is the sum that has to be paid as rent, for the second year 4,000, for the third year 6,000, for the fourth year 8,000, and for the fifth year 10,000, without any regard to the fitness of the land for the proposed cultivation or to the circumstance of its being uncultivated. [The contractor has to pay the stipulated rent whether he cultivates or not.—Note by Translator.]

Of the twenty-five concessionists who have passed over this difficulty, many of them are members of a Syndicate at Singapore, the name of which does not appear in connexion with the undertaking. The contracts are in favor of the person who enters into them. Amongst these there are several who have begun to work on their own account.

The produce of the cultivation thus begun is up to the present time not very satisfactory. The reason for this is to be sought, not so much in the constitution of the soil, as in the great difficulties which the planters have to overcome. In proof of this, may be mentioned that two persons who are members of the Syndicate have produced tobacco of excellent quality which was received in town with high approval, but that an outlay of 80,000 guildens was made before the result was obtained.

Another concessionary established a tobacco enterprise on a large scale, which according to Heer K. (Bat. Nieuwsblad, 15th July 1890), promises very well but he had his full share of troubles. In the first place he could not obtain sufficient labor. The Chinese coolies displayed gross ignorance as cultivators, as well as unwillingness, and when at last help came from Singapore, it was found to be of little use. Shoemakers, tailors and clerks were sent, but no people who knew anything of planting. These were soon found to be very difficult to manage, and were continually deserting. To trust exclusively to Dayak laborers, seemed to him to offer as little hope of success. He

has therefore endeavoured to engage a better class of Chinese work people.

But all this does not disprove the assertion that Sambas has very certainly a good future, if these difficulties can be removed out of the way. More than once has the soil of this region been examined, and the conclusion has always been arrived at, that it must be regarded as in every respect most favourable for cultivation. The soil has been found well adapted for the planting of sugarcane, tobacco, coffee, rice, pepper and many other products, whilst there is a great variety of good timber ready to hand, which will amply repay the cost of felling and transport.

We furnish the above as explanatory of the map which accompanies this number.

As will be seen by the map, Sambas is very favourably situated. It should be remembered that the divisions there marked indicate chiefly the lots where permission has been awarded for mining inspections, or for which requests have been tendered for concessions for cultivation. Only one contract has been entered on to the south, 20 miles from Sambas, when Heer P. van Dijk has commenced operations. Further south, near Mentrado, Mr. Gordon has brought a tract of land under cultivation on similar terms, and a little further north Mr. Liddelow has in like manner commenced operations near Benkajang; whilst twenty-five cultivators have contracted.

Too much importance should not be attached to the absence of the names of many of the concessionists; in a latter map of concessions, for it is more than probable that many of those whose names now appear on the map, may withdraw from the undertakings. Our readers are not to consider this article as written for the purpose of urging the cultivation of Sambas, or for encouraging the enterprise. Our only object is to convey a correct idea of the present condition of the country, and nothing more. It is certain that great expectations are entertained regarding Sambas. It is said even that applications have been made to the Sultan for the formation of a railway, but we are not in possession of any particulars.

DAYS OF OLD IN CEYLON.

(From the "Ceylon Government Gazette.")

(Reprinted from the "Colombo Journal" of 1833)

ON THE RUINOUS STATE OF THE CHURCH AT CALPENTYN.

To the Editor of the Colombo Journal.

SIR,—Assured of your willingness to admit into the columns of your valuable journal matters relative to the temporal as well as eternal interests of the Inhabitants of this Colony, I venture to communicate the following particulars in the sincere hope that they will meet with efficient notice.

At Calpentyn, where there is a large community of Protestants, there is only one Church, which, though built of clay and thatched with *olas*, yet boasts of some antiquity, having stood for nearly two centuries, as appears from the date on a Tablet placed over the grave of a Dutch Lady, who has been buried in it.—Under the administration of the Dutch East India Company, the expenses for the occasional repairs of this sacred edifice were defrayed from the interest accruing from Loans made by the Deaconry's Fund established at Calpentyn, but since the accession of the present Government, the said Fund having been transferred to the Cutcherry of Chilaw, and the recovery of the Interest subsequently abandoned, no thorough repairs have been made of late, as the Inhabitants from their penurious circumstances are not able to collect by subscription more than is sufficient to renew the thatch at times.

At present, the two side walls are falling out, and the whole building is tottering to its very foundation, and probably will not outstand a couple of years more. Mr. Templer, our present worthy

Collector, having seen the condition of the Church, suggested to the Inhabitants to set on foot a subscription to build a new Church in the place of the old one and very generously set his name down as a subscriber, but alas! the total amount of the different subscriptions promised proved inadequate to the proposed work, and the undertaking was of course relinquished.

As there is a large amount of money due to the said late Deaconry's Fund by several Individuals at Calpentyn on Mortgage of their Lands, and as many of them are now in circumstances able to repay it, I beg to propose that at least 100£ may be recovered from them by the interference of authority and applied for the erection of a new Church on the site of the present one, and the Inhabitants will ever remember this favor on the part of Government with gratitude.

There is a spacious Church yard attached to this Church, which formerly had only wells on three sides, and a stick fence on the other side. The three walls had decayed away, but a few years ago Simon Casie Chetty Maniagar very laudably undertook and completed the reconstruction of the three walls at his own expence, and latterly Mr. Templer whose zeal to promote the welfare and happiness of the Inhabitants of the district cannot be sufficiently commended, has caused the fence to be removed and a new wall to be raised at his own expence on that side, so that the Church-yard has been placed in as good order as possible.

It may not be irrelevant to remark here, that this is not the only instance in which Mr. Templer has exhibited his generous spirit, for that elegant Church lately erected at Chilaw, and called in compliment to his name St. James's Church, stands as another monument of his generous aid and superintendence.

We are sadly in want of an English School, and a Clergyman to solemnize the marriages at this station; but since His Excellency The Governor in his late visit to our Town, was kindly pleased to promise to establish a School and permit the Revd. C. David (our old and popular Chaplain) to make periodical visitations to this place, there is no doubt that we shall be shortly relieved from these wants, and I shall therefore not trespass on your time or columns any further on that subject.

I remain Sir, Your's very obediently,
Calpentyn, 1st December, 1832. CEPHAS.

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