

THE CEYLON PATRIOT.

MAY 20th, 1864.]

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CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENT.

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Half a column—seven shillings six pence.
A whole column—ten shillings.
For the second insertion two-thirds and the third and every future insertion, one-half of the above charges if printed on succeeding days of publication.
If Advertisements are to be both in English and Tamil, one being a translation of the other, the Tamil will be charged at half the above rate.
No Advertisement will be printed for less than one shilling.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

All advertisements received without specifying the numbers of insertions will be continued in successive issues until countermanded, and charged for accordingly.

Notice to Subscribers.

Subscribers are respectfully requested to give notice of any change of address, or any irregularity in the delivery of the paper.

No verbal orders for discontinuing subscriptions can be attended to. Subscriptions are considered to be in force until countermanded in writing.

Notice to Correspondents.

All communications to the Ceylon Patriot must be Post Paid. We also request that all letters to our address as the Editor of the Ceylon Patriot be authenticated as otherwise they may not receive attention.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

"Lynx Eye" attacks and advices a "Young top" of our town, who is seen in the evenings to drive round the fort with "three ladies." Whilst we respectfully decline the insertion of his communication, we can but express a hope that the party attacked will, in future, not give occasion for such remarks upon his doings.

NOTICE.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION

AN AGENCY of this Corporation was opened in Jaffna, on Tuesday the 16th ultimo for the transaction of Banking business.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS may now be opened.

FIXED DEPOSITS may be lodged for periods of One, Two, and Three months, to bear interest at the rates of Three, Four, and Six per cent per annum, respectively, and LOCAL BILLS will be received for Collection.

DRAFTS will be issued and purchased on the Head Office, on all Branches and Agencies of the Corporation on the Cochin Branch of the Bank of Madras, and on all Branches of the National Provincial, and Commercial Bank of Scotland, and on the Provincial Banks of Ireland.

Information as to Rates of Exchange, &c., may be obtained at the Bank.

R. V. DUNLOP, Acting Agent.

A. WILLISFORD, Act. Accountant.
Jaffna, 4th March, 1864.

FOR SALE.

A hackery, one Bullock, and the Library of the late Rev. Mr. Philips.

Apply to the undersigned,

J. Wesley Philips.

Jaffna, 12th May, 1864.

FOR SALE.

A good English lever Watch recently cleaned and repaired. Price £6.

Apply at the Office of the Patriot.

May 13th, 1864.

NOTICE.

MANIPAY YOUNG MEN'S MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

The second annual meeting of this Society will be held at the American Mission Station, Manipay on Friday the 20th instant.

Addresses will be delivered on the occasion by the Rev. M. D. Sanders, M. A. and Mr. T. Snell. There will also be other exercises by some of the Society members.

The chair will be taken at about 7, P. M. The public are hereby invited to be present.

R. O. D. ASBURY.

Manepay, May 2nd, 1864. Secretary.

NOTICE.

Mr. C. H. PATTERSON has just received for sale,

Fancy and Cabin Biscuits.

Assorted Tart fruits.

Do. Jams and Jellies.

Do. Sauces.

Mustard, Pickles.

Salad Oil.

White wine vinegar.

Calfs' foot jelly.

Caraway seeds.

Tapioca.

Meats and Soups.

Fresh Salmon.

Red Herrings.

English Currants and Raisins.

Candid Peel.

Caper, Olives.

Green Peas.

Carrots.

Sardines.

Black and Green Tea.

Mamilla Cigars.

Baddula do.

Good Tobacco.

English Butter.

Do. Soap.

Candles.

Superior Pale Brandy.

Port Wine English Bottled.

Sherry do.

Ginger Wine.

Whiskey.

Old Tom.

English Bottled Beer.

Country do. Porter.

Soda Water.

Lemonade. &c.—

May 19th, 1864.

The Ceylon Patriot.

THE LAND REGISTRATION.

The Land Registration Ordinance enacted last year by our "Parliament" is doubtless calculated to effect much good and would operate as a preventive to the many disputes that arise with respect to rights in landed property. But why should the registration of titles be postponed for so long a time? The "Interim Registration" which we admit, is beneficial in some respects, will we fear, involve questions of landed rights, which will be difficult of solution in future. If we can depend upon rumors and suspicions there are designing parties who are getting deeds executed to confirm and corroborate their pretended rights to land and thus defraud the honest owners. We can readily believe this, as we are neither wanting in men that are avaricious, nor in Odiars and Notaries who lend themselves to such tricks. The other day a dismissed Odiar was reported to us to have granted many fraudulent schedules within a few days after his dismissal antedating them so as to have been executed before his removal from the service. The sooner the Government arranges for surveys and for the virtual working of the Ordinance, the better it will be for the ends of justice.

We wish also to record here that the Jaffna land-holders feel it to be a hardship when they find that they cannot complete a deed affecting landed property without incurring heavy expences. They have not only to

fee the Notaries and pay for stamps twice, for the execution of the deed in the first instance, and for registration in the second instance, but have also to pay for an Odiar's schedule at the rate of 2 per cent and more. Paying an Odiar for a schedule is an additional burden on the grantors of deeds in the Northern Province. And whether under the new Ordinance the schedules cannot be dispensed with without damage to public interest, is a question which we should be glad to see discussed.

THE LATE R. W. DAVIDSON, Esq.

We deeply regret to announce the sudden death of the above gentleman belonging to the Planting community of this place, and who, we can unflinchingly say, was an ornament and a pride to that class. The deceased died at Mogamalai Estate on the evening of Monday last at 7 o'clock, P. M. His remains were brought from the Estate and interred at the burial ground belonging to St. John's Church Chundicooly.

Suspensions having been aroused as to the cause of his death, engendered by the suddenness of the event, a post-mortem examination was ordered to be held on the body and the verdict of the Jury was to the effect that the deceased came to his death by natural causes.

Our intimate acquaintance with the late Mr. Davidson warrants us to say that he was a most excellent and amiable gentleman—a sincere and devoted follower of Christ. We will not attempt to panegyricize him, for the public have had the means of testing the high character of the man.

The Missionaries have suffered a great loss, for he identified himself in every effort put forth to evangelize the heathen.

In this gentleman, the people of Jaffna have lost a man of good principles whose object was not so much to please others, where they were interested, as to do what his conscience told him was right. He would not oblige an old friend by doing a gross injustice to an innocent stranger: he was not anxious to be considered 'a good fellow' by those who only give that title where they find that the eyes are blind to see things which are inconvenient to be seen. His look was that of a frank, honest and brave man. Those who felt his honesty may have ascribed harsh qualities to him; but he has not passed away without experiencing and returning the affection and esteem of those whose affection cheers and esteem is worth having; and his domestic history has even been tinged with some sentiment. However, few will care to follow the example of rectitude that has now been removed and it is our duty to arrest the fleeting fact for the benefit of those who may be of the few. Mr. Davidson may have left few goods but they were strictly his own and his long residence in Jaffna whilst making no doubt all his faults patent to our busy-body community, has not failed to establish his good name in those respects in which a MAN aspires to be honored.

THE "COMET".

The long expected Steam boat entered the Jaffna port on Wednesday week with 2 new Wesleyan Missionaries, Mr. Folkard the local Engineer, and Mr. Price, the second son of our late D.J. on board, whilst a number of spectators led there by curiosity, lined the shore about the flag-staff, being eager to catch a sight of it. The boat now rides there at anchor. It is assuredly a valuable acquisition.

tokens good for the land, since it has landed two Missionaries who will labor for the enlightenment of the people. The introduction of the Steam boat will ever be associated with the pleasant memory of Mr Folkard's service to the Province.

REV. W. WALTON.

This missionary left this on the 17th inst. for Madras to be absent for some time.

NEW MISSIONARIES.

As is stated elsewhere in our columns today, the Rev. Messrs Stott and Mitchell landed at Jaffna on the 18th inst. One of them, we hear, will preach at St. Paul's Chapel on Sunday evening next. Mr. Stott, as some of our readers might be aware, was born in Jaffna and is the son of the Rev. Mr. Stott who labored as a missionary successively at Pt. Pedro, Trincomalie and Batticaloe.

THUNDER AND LIGHTENING.

On Wednesday last at about 3 P. M. the residents of our town were started and stunned by a tremendous thunder-burst. We understand that 2 palmira trees standing in the vicinity of Neervavee temple at Vanarponne, were struck. But as to the cooling shower which generally accompanies such loud thunder and vivid lightening we were disappointed,—no rain fell.

CHOLERA.

We drew the attention of our Jaffna authorities to the fact of the ravages of this fearful epidemic in certain parts of the District and hoped to be informed ere this that steps have been adopted to administer relief to the poor sufferers. But we are doomed to disappointment. We hear that the plague is still rife at Vadamorately. We need scarcely inform the authorities what may be the result of the prevalence of Cholera in such a thickly populated village as Valvettytorre where the disease is now said to be virulent. If human lives are more valued than a sum of few pounds this is a fit opportunity to prove it.

JAFFNA RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

The Report of this Society for the last year has just been put into our hands too late for a notice in this week's issue. We shall in our next call attention to this useful Society.

MADRAS AND COLOMBO STEAM-SHIP COMPANY LIMITED.

We publish in to-day's issue certain correspondence which has taken place between the Manager of the above company, and the Ceylon Government. The Government have referred the matter to the Planters Association, and the reply of that body is also published.

The Planter's are really an enterprising class of men, and the Company may well calculate upon their zealous support and active co-operation.

It will be seen that the Committee of the Planters' Association have recommended that an annual subsidy of £3,000 be given for the service of the Company.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 13th April, 1864

The Planter's Association.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by His Honor the Officer Administering the Government and the Executive Council to refer to you for any observation you may desire to offer, the enclosed copy of a letter from the Secretary and Manager of the Madras and Colombo Steam ship Company.

I have &c.

(Signed) JAMES SWAN.

Nagapatam, 10th March, 1864.

SIR,—I am instructed to lay before you the following views of the Directors upon the points wherein information is requested in your letter dated 16th January.

Size and Number of Vessels.—It is at present contemplated, in the event of the subsidy proposed being accorded, to employ three full-powered Iron Steamers of 180 tons register each, leaving for future consideration the desirability of increasing the Company's fleet.

Number of trips.—The above if carried out will enable the Directors it is believed to guarantee 5 weekly trips being accomplished between any two fixed ports of call south of Nagapatam. Two of the small vessels would be employed exclusively between Colombo and Nagapatam and the third in taking the traffic weekly between Madras and Colombo.

Should the pressure of the traffic at any particular season of the year demand more frequent trips, one or both of the smaller steamers may be exclusively employed, for the time, between such ports as is required thus increasing the number of calls to about 6 weekly trips equal to the transport 3,000 coolies.

Rates.—The rates of passage for bona fide Emigrant Coolies have been determined upon as follows:—Between Colombo and Paumben per head . . . 4s.
Do. and Nagapatam do. 6 ”
Do. and Madras do. 10 ”

These rates are exclusive of Diet. One half the above rates only will be charged for children under ten years of age. A reduction of 5 per cent, on published public rates will be allowed on Government Freight and for passage of all other descriptions. Troops will be carried at twice the Cooly rates. Mails free.

Subsidy.—The following is submitted as the amount of annual subsidy, under which the Company will guarantee periodical calls at the several ports between Colombo and Madras.

1. For a weekly call at Colombo and Nagapatam and their intermediate ports. £1,500
2. For two calls weekly between Colombo and Nagapatam and intermediate ports, and one from Madras, Colombo and their intermediate Ports. £3,000.
3. For four calls weekly between Colombo and Nagapatam and intermediate Ports, and one from Madras to Colombo and intermediate Ports. £5,000
4. For every additional trip between any two ports South of Nagapatam. £30

I am directed further to enclose tracing of the vessel now on her way out from England. It will be seen that she is specially arranged with the view to the accommodation of Coolies, with which object the forward bulkhead has been carried as far forward as possible and the space thus gained fitted with an intermediate deck, well-ventilated.

In the floor of the Captain's cabin a treasure chest is fitted.

The ship has been built and equipped by Messrs. Stephenson and Co. of Newcastle-on-Tyne in accordance with Lloyd's regulations for vessels of the longest A. 1. register, and is powered equal to a rate of about 9 knots per hour under steam alone

In the event of your intimating to me the wish of the Ceylon Government to negotiate upon the terms of this letter, the Board are prepared to appoint an Agent at Colombo with power to enter into final arrangements on the subject on their behalf.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. OLIVER.

Sec. and Manager, M. & S. S. Co. Limited.

The Hon'ble the COLONIAL SECRETARY, Colombo.

Planters' Association:

Kandy, 25th April, 1864

The Hon'ble the COLONIAL SECRETARY, Colombo.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 13th instant, I am to beg that you will convey to His Honor the Officer Administering the Government and the Executive Council the thanks of the Committee of this Association for referring to them the proposals of the Madras and Colombo Steam-ship Company.

The Committee are of opinion that regular Steam Communication between Colombo, and the ports of the Coast of India, South of Madras, would be of the greatest service to Planting interests, and that it is highly probable that a little timely assistance in the establishment of the proposed communication may produce hereafter benefits quite out of proportion to the present expense.

Two calls weekly between Colombo and Nagapatam and intermediate ports and one between Madras and Colombo and intermediate ports, it is thought, would be sufficient for an experiment with the new Company.

The Committee would therefore recommend that the annual subsidy of £3,000 be accorded for the above mentioned service.

I have, &c.

(Signed,) WM. MARTIN LEAKE,

Secretary.

Colombo Observer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHURCH MUSIC.

Mr. Editor:

I am glad to see in your columns "Church Music" at length really heading discussion of the subject.

Indulge me in a few queries that arise on reading the article from the "Morning Star" in your last number.

What else but their own style of music, would Missionaries use at the outset, knowing no other? Tho' not prejudiced against Tamil music, would they have no prepossession in favor of their own?

I am not familiar with the biography of Schwartz or Rhenius. Was the former a Tamil scholar? Did either of them understand music? Had either of them a taste for poetry? Did the commission of these and other Christian Missionaries, to "go into all the world" &c., contain any command or promise, as to the propagation of music?

Does not the acknowledged existence, of most artistic poetry among the Tamils, suggest the probability, of a corresponding merit in their system of music? Where we find one, do we in any nation fail to find the other? Life long association, cannot at will be laid aside, either for the Tamil to judge of English music, or for the European to judge of Tamil music. Can any reasonably expect the Tamils to adopt Western Music? It is to them, the expression of multifarious and foreign associations. Ages might elapse, before they could even doff their own rich language for another; but how easy this, compared with the change of what lies so much deeper!

Let one take a choice passage from the prose of Boxer or Bunyan, and sing it to some ordinary meter.

Would it not shock the taste of any refined European!

And yet this same selection, would be good English and pious in sentiment. Shall we call it the patience, or the carelessness of Tamil Christians, that allows their own music and verse, to be superseded, by that which to them, is little music and poor prose? Shall we not rather attribute this to the condition of infancy and pupilage in which hitherto the native church has stood? And may we not hope that now as they have somewhat matured, they will act for themselves and intelligently deal, with the matter of song in the house of God?

Heathen or Christian, the Tamils will have music and have it in their worship. About this there is no question, as the "Star" article would imply. Every *Tiruvila*, sounds out the devotion of music to Swami. Let Christianity refine and transfer this,—praising God "with trumpet and loud symbols"—chanting his glories in their own charming (and then sanctified) poetry, after the manner of Miriam and David, in the palmy days of Israel.

yours, &c.

S. F. GREEN.

For the "Ceylon Patriot."

Dear Editor:

It would be well for Mr. R. A. to read the book of Proverbs [by Solomon] and learn wisdom. He seems to be full of words. He has given that an evasive answer to my question about the fair end of the subject.

He says that his former communications still remain unrefuted. The Essay [No. 20 Vol. 1] is headed "Tamil in preference to English music." This, it seems, Mr. R. A. devised to gain advocates on his side. Let him refer back to the records of the Society for a correct statement of the question proposed. He has prejudiced many a person apparently so that the original subject given for discussion is overlooked and all seem to be discussing the question whether the "Tamil music is better than the English music." The real question at issue is, "Whether it is advisable to substitute the existing Tamil music in the place of European Music in Christian worship in the Native Churches?"

Mr. R. A. says "Each person has a countenance of his own and the same may be said of the faculty of hearing." We distinguish one man from another from their countenances and there is a variety of countenances in one and the same race. If this variety is said to be true of the faculty of hearing, each person will have a music of his own so that there cannot exist a national music as Tamil music, Eng. music, &c.

He asserts that the Asiatic and European are, it seems, forever decreed to be unlike in many respects. I ask him, can this be said to be true of their taste, habits, and manners also? No, the Asiatic as well as the European have the same mental powers and faculties which are capable of improvement. The two races may be said perhaps "to be decreed to be forever unlike" only in such things as pertain to the climate of that part of the world in which they live. But as the world advances in civilization, the tastes, habits and manners of the people become much changed for the better. What great changes have already taken place in Jaffna!

His illustration of the crow, the cuckoo, the snap of the whip, the dog and the tom-tom are fallacious, being carried farther than the "safe side of the hedge." There are different species in one and the same kind of birds and beasts and every species of them while having resemblances which make them as belonging to the same genus possess peculiarities in form, cry, color, size, &c. There are two kinds of crows even in Jaffna one being called *அம்பலஞ்சாம்ப* and the other, *அரசை சாம்ப*; the former is most common and its note is, *caw or ka* and the latter is not very common and its note sounds more like *crow*. The same is true of the cuckoo and the dog. We observe even here a great difference in the bark of dogs. The bark of English dogs which we have seen even to a Tamil ear sounds more like "bow, wow" than "wull, wull." Having stated the illustrations he goes on asserting "it is then a difficult thing to deduce" &c. A moment's reflection on these illustrations will show that there is as much ground for asserting that European sciences should not be introduced among the Hindus as that European Music should not.

Again he compares the cultivating European Music in the native Churches of India to sowing paddy in the fields of England and says to the effect that the quantity and quality of the paddy will not be so good as the paddy raised in India. Does he suppose then that India will raise paddy without any cultivation? Does he not think that the people of England will put forth their earnest efforts to raise paddy of good quality in large quantities if the climate would admit of it and it can be made profitable? If the native Christians have a heart to praise their Holy God by undefiled sacred tunes they would either get up such music and tunes as will be entirely separate from their ancestors' heathen music and tunes or they would naturally adopt and cultivate a music which may be universally sung by all protestant Christian churches. There is no physical impossibility as in the case supposed by Mr. R. A.

He then asks a question, how long would these exist and makes a supposition that these will exist as long as the European Missionaries are connected with native churches. This supposition will be granted only by the prejudiced minds on the subject. How often we meet persons who are prejudiced against Christianity, who say that Christianity will all be gone when the European Missionaries are gone to their native land! Such suppositions are only absurdities.

His query "Is there at present a craving desire among the Hindus for the European music?" is more general. The heathen will, of course, seek after such music as has more show about it than solemnity and spirituality and the Christians who are come out just from heathenism and who are surrounded by heathen must have a music which cannot be identified with their former music. They must be enforced to accept such a music and be taught in it. Sing the English music in all its four keys in connection with a Harmonium and see if it will not please any-body. I have been told that even in Christian land there are persons who are not pleased with Christian Psalmody and are more pleased with dancing and similar music. This has not been any inducement for the Christians to give up their spiritual psalmody and adopt such kind of music as will be more congenial to all, both the heathen and themselves.

[To be continued.]

May 9th, 1864.

A Native Christian.

Dear Mr. Editor,

It is with regret and sorrow that I lay before your readers the following sad intelligence. Mr. Navasewiam Cadiamer Wannial of Tamblegam Pattoe, having been found guilty of dishonesty and neglect of business is recommended to Government for dismissal. The Wannial, I am informed, has also memorialized His Honor The Officer administering the Government to allow him a certain pension. But under the existing circumstances it is a matter of doubt whether his prayer will be granted to him. He is said to have served the Government for a period of about 30 years. Pity indeed, that the poor man should be now deprived of his pension after a service of so long a period. It is not as yet known who will be selected to be appointed in his place. The Government Agent, I presume, will not recommend any at random, but will, as he generally does on similar occasions, seriously consider the responsibility of the office, and use his discretion in selecting for the office an able and efficient person who is possessed of property in the district and of influence over the people thereof. This much about the Wannial and his office. The Government Agent is at present absent from the place having gone to Batticaloa District on his circuit; and it is the flying report that he will take about four or five weeks to return.

The Telegraph wire is extended from the Rest House as far as the 4th mile post; and I believe that in a month or two more, it will commence to work.

There are now three "Man of war" ships riding at anchor in our harbour. "The Hornet" which is another "Man of war" is daily expected. The Admiral's ship "Princess Royal," we understand, is at the cape, and will be here very shortly. The naval authorities, it is reported, have come to a determination to make our town as their naval station. If such a change be effected, it is the general opinion that the necessaries of life will become dearer than at present.

The poor salaried officers will have to suffer more than any other class of people. The retailers and coolies alone will be benefitted by such a change. There is already a scarcity of almost every thing just now.

Some of the sailors and mariners are on shore walking up and down through our town, and make it ring both night and day with their voices of gladness and merriment. The native females, yea, even some of the males, being afraid of the sailors, have imprisoned themselves in their houses.

We have had a few showers of rain during the last week of April, and none since. The place is now fearfully hot, and fever prevails to some extent; and there have been a few cases during this week which proved fatal. For the last four or five days it threatened to rain almost every evening. But I do not know when we shall have the blessing of a copious effusion.

Trincomalee, May 7., 1864.

Philaethes.

POINT PEDRO.

During the last week, we had small showers of rain, which replenished the scorched vegetation. On the 23d Instant, there was some indication of a black squall, the sky being overcast, and the sea being unusually rough. The merchants sent their anxious thoughts after the vessels, which hastened to the Indian coasts to import paddy. However on the 24th Instant, the weather became clear and the anxieties of the merchants subsided. The South West Monsoon has set in with its salubrious effects. As usual the vessels have betaken to the harbour at Kayts, with the exception of a few which are shortly expected from the coast.

During March and April last, 24,458 bushels of Paddy, and 954 bushels of rice have imported, whilst the quantity of Paddy imported during the corresponding period in 1863, amounted to 42,093 bushels, and that of rice to 587 bushels, showing a decrease of 17,635 bushels in Paddy and 367 bush-

els in rice. The revenue collected at the Customs in this year is £416—17—11, whilst that of the last year is £591—13—7, the decrease being £174—15—8. The decrease is the distant effect of the recent gale, which set many a vessels of our port in disorder and wrecked them and those that survived the tempest had to undergo repairs, before they were equipped for their usual voyage, which commenced but later this year.

The Magistrate (P. Selbey, Esq.) is diligently clearing off the arrears. At Valvettiyore there was I understand a serious assault, between two seamen of the place on one side, and another on the other side. But the two assaulted parties have given a different colour to the assault, and dragged into Court three innocent souls, with a view to revenge upon them. It is a striking and startling fact, that the innocent become a prey to justice, sharing a common fate with the guilty. Human laws are so imperfect, that it becomes difficult to discover truth, through the mazes of human testimony, which often mislead us.

Cholera is lurking here and there in our District. It has broken out also near the Customs at Valvettiyore. Our cautious and diligent Magistrate, I understand, suggested the expediency of employing a resident medical practitioner in the vicinity of the places where this epidemic prevails. We hope that this sanitary measure will be carried out so as to carry timely medical aid to the doors of the patients. But Mr. Classz has spared no pains to afford every medical relief to the patients. You know who.

Point Pedro, 26th April, 1864.

THE ENGLISH BIBLE, THE ACCEPTED STANDARD OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

If any one would appreciate fairly the influence of the English Bible, in keeping the language from drifting away from its standards, let him reflect that, in this respect, now, at the end of two centuries and a half, we are not farther from Shakespeare, whose writings were contemporaneous with king James' version, than Shakespeare was from Spenser, who was only some twenty years his predecessor. The change in two hundred and fifty years since the publication of the English Bible, has not been as great as it was before in less than a single generation. Had it not been for the influence of this marvellous book, Shakespeare might, even now, be to us the almost sealed book that Chaucer is; and Dryden's translation of Chaucer would itself need to be again translated into more modern English. In fact, down to the time of James I., the language was in a constant state of flux. The authors of one generation became obsolescent to the next generation, and obsolete to the third. But, all at once, this onward and downward tendency was arrested. This wandering Island became fixed, a solid and enduring continent in mid ocean, receiving from all quarters increments and additions, enriched and enlarged by contributions from every clime, but retaining, in its centre and heart, all its primeval elements, towards which every wandering bark might safely direct its course, as to a haven of rest.

"To this benign result, there can be no doubt that our English Bible has contributed more than all other causes combined. It has done for the English what no societies of the learned, no autocracy of letters, or of science, has been able to do for any other tongue. It has given to our language a fixed point, immovable as the everlasting hills, a solid granitic formation of rude, homely, elemental Saxon. No floods of change can ever disintegrate or wear away this enduring mass. Whether our race shall survive for 2 centuries, or for 20 the great back-bone of the language, the central stock of its elements, its household words, all the grand old terms by which the heart still continues to tell its joys and sorrows, will still be the same that you and I now use, and that our forefathers and foremothers have used for more than ten generations. No legislation, civil or ecclesiastical, can ever weed out from the heart, or banish from the tongue, of the English speaking race, the words of its English Bible. While infancy still continues to learn at its mother's knee, in its first lisping accents, to say, "Our Father who art in heaven," or old age with its last expiring breath shall say with Simeon, "Now lettest thy servant depart in peace, . . . for mine eyes have seen thy salvation; while the lyric pathos of David, the lamenting wail of Jeremiah, the trumpet notes of Paul, or the subdued majesty of John the Divine, shall find an echo in the devout believer's heart, the words to which these glorious thoughts have been wedded shall live, and shall be a common medium of thought, to all the unborn millions who shall speak this dear English tongue of ours to the end of time.

"Thank God, then, my friends, for the Holy Bible! Thank God, especially, for our good old ENGLISH BIBLE!"—*Extract.*

POET'S CORNER.

ALICE.

(From the "Welcome Guest" February.)

Of all the flowers that bloom on earth

My Alice is the fairest—

A peerless beauty from her birth,

The kindest and the rarest.

So constant, gentle, and so wise,

She seems to me perfection;

And more than all the world I prize

This maiden's deep affection.

With such an one I'd be content

To roam o'er land and ocean:

For sweetly would my life be spent,

Allied to such devotion.

For never knew I maid so true

Arrayed in so much beauty,

And none more anxious to pursue

The sacred path of duty.

Her winning smiles and sparkling eyes

Dispel all shades of sadness—

Like gentle zephyrs are her sighs,

Perfumed with love and gladness.

Now when this belle becomes my wife,

My joy will be unbounded;

For doubly blest will be my life

With all her charms surrounded.

CROSSED CHEQUES.

By DAVID DICKSON, Esq., Wholesale Stationer, Edinburgh.
(From the *Journal of Trade and Commerce*.)

The system is very little known in Scotland. The few who use it find it by far the safest and most convenient of all modes of remitting or paying money. It had its origin in London, where the plan of paying by cheque instead of money had long been preferred. These cheques being payable to the bearer, much risk was incurred in the event of their being lost. To save such risk the practice was introduced of crossing the cheque by two parallel lines, there being written between these '& Co.' or the name, if known, of the receiver's bank. It was agreed on between the various London banks, and between the banks and the public, and became a gradually established usage, that on a cheque being crossed it became no longer payable to the 'bearer,' but only to a bank, requiring the receiver to pay it into his own bank as cash, the bank receiving the amount on application to the bank on whom the cheque was drawn. This was an admirable contrivance, because cheques that might happen to be lost (and there will always be such accidents) became of no use to the finder, if he was disposed to make a dishonest use of them. They could only yield him cash through the connivance of a bank, a very unlikely supposition. No bank would cash a crossed cheque to one whom they did not know and if they knew him, this circumstance would, of course, bring the act directly home to the guilty party.

The system was found to work admirably. A question was raised upon it, however, a few years ago. A party presented a crossed cheque for payment at the bank on which it was drawn; payment was refused, and he was told to pay it into his own bank, who would receive the amount. This was done; but in the interval, the drawer of the cheque stopped payment, and the cheque was dishonoured. The holder sued the bank on which it was drawn, and successfully; the courts of law deciding that the local custom of crossing cheques was in law no bar to getting cash for a cheque payable to bearer. So convenient, however, had the system of crossed cheques been found, that a short act of Parliament was immediately passed, authorising banks to refuse payment to the holders of such cheques, so that they might be payable only through a bank; and letters of credit were included in this legislation. The system is now more generally adopted, though by no means so extensively as it would be if better known. In making remittances by letters of credit, or cheques, these should be invariably crossed. A letter of credit for a large amount, sent by an Edinburgh house, to one in London, was stolen in London, the name of the party in whose favor it was drawn forged, and the money received. Happily most of it was recovered; but such a thing as this could not have occurred had the draft been crossed. At least the thief would have found the draft utterly useless to him. We trust the Scotch banks will give every facility for the use of crossed cheques, whereby remittance may be made so easily by parties whether residing in country or town. To farmers, for example, as well as others residing in the country, how much trouble and delay is often caused by having to get letters of credit or post office orders. By the use of crossed cheques, they can, without any trouble, remit to any place any amount, within or beyond bank hours, with perfect safety, and at no greater expense. We trust, ere long to see this safe, simple, and convenient mode of remittance almost universally adopted. The wonder is how it has hitherto been so little used.

GRAVE AND GAY.

THE LAWYER AND THE IRISHMAN.—

As a number of lawyers and gentlemen were dining at Wiscassett, a few years since, a gay son of the Emerald Isle appeared and called for dinner. The landlord told him he should dine when the gentlemen were done. "Let him crowd in among us," whispered a lawyer, "and we will have some fun with him." The Irishman took his seat at the table—You were born in this country, were you, my friend? No, sir, I was born in Ireland.—Is your father living? No, sir; he is dead.—What is your occupation? A horse jockey, sir.—What was your father's occupation? Trading horses, sir.—Did your father cheat any person while he was here? I suppose he did cheat many, sir.—Where do you suppose he went to? To Heaven, sir.—And what do you suppose he is doing in Heaven? Trading horses, sir.—Has he cheated any one there? He cheated one, I believe, sir.—Why did they not prosecute him? Because they searched the whole kingdom of Heaven, and could not find a single lawyer.

