

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 54.

Jaffna, Thursday the 27th of September. 1894.

No. 20

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

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION.

This Convention of the Churches in connection with the American Mission will be held at Tellipalay on Friday, the 11th of October.

NOTICE

The subscribers of the *Morning Star* who have not as yet sent in their dues are hereby reminded to remit the same at their earliest convenience.

RECEIPTS TO THE MORNING STAR.

		94
Batticoita	Messrs. K. Gnanapirakasam, V. Isaac A. Arulambalam, A. Kartigan and E. V. Michael	6.00
Araly	Messrs. Anpalavanar, V. Velupillai, J. S. Anpalavanar and M. Namasivayam	4.75
Moolai	Messrs. A. K. Nanney, R. Sinnatambiy, A. Venasanthiy and K. Nanney	4.75
Changanai	Messrs. S. Winslow, A. Arulprakasham and Seeyarannam	3.75
Karadiva	Messrs. M. Munegon, P. Saravannam, J. Clough, A. Thillaiappalam, R. Jacob, E. T. Mc Lean Charles Sinnatambiy, S. P. Arumugam, David Saparthy, David Karadiah and S. M. Tambipilly	13.75
Straits Settlements	Messrs. A. Naganathan and S. Somaasundaram	5.00
Aravayata	Mr. S. Nanniatambiy	2.00
Colombo	P. W. Conolly	1.50

MARRIAGE.

On Sept. 12th 1894, at Christ Church, at Pt. Pedro, by Rev. S. Knapp, assisted by Rev. J. M. Oakes, Mr. D. E. Poopalapillai, Head master of the Kaimunai Girls' Boarding School, to Miss Susan N. Sinnatambiy, daughter of B. S. Sinnatambiy.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE.

DEATH.

JOSEPH. On the 31st August at "Low Lodge", Batticaloa, Winifred Regina Gertrude the beloved daughter of Percy and Lucy Joseph aged 7 years and five months. No elite. Friends and relatives at a distance, please accept this information.

"Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven"

BIRTH.

At Manipay, on the 25th September, 1894 the wife of Mr. S. W. Ariacuty Lyman, Medical Practitioner, of a son.

READY FOR SALE,

AN OUTLINE OF GENERAL GEOGRAPHY TAMIL.

Designed for the V, VI, VII & VIII Standards. PRICE 50 cts. Apply to A. Canakasalha Pillai 1 milepost Oodoville, Jaffna.

IN THE PRESS.

THE FIVE CENT LYRIC BOOK.

A little book containing forty of the lyrics most popular in Jaffna, together with two temperance lyrics and ten children's hymns, has just been compiled and is now being published by Messrs. Strong and Asbury at Manipay.

It is intended for the children of the day schools, many of whom are beginning to sing lyrics, but who are unable to buy expensive books. A number of teachers are now able to teach singing; their work, however, is rendered very difficult when the children have no books. It is believed that "The Five Cent Lyric Book" will meet the present need, and give a stimulus to singing in the day and Sunday Schools.

Much will depend upon the action of those in charge of schools. A missionary writes from Kandy, "I have only one Tamil School; kindly send me 50 copies."

Fifty copies in each Tamil School in Ceylon would mean an edition of more than 12,000 copies. And what teacher would be unable to sell 50 Lyric Books at 5 cents each? Will all who need these books kindly send their orders to Messrs. Strong and Asbury at Manipay, Sept. 21st, 1894. S. KNAPP.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary } No. 624.
Jurisdiction }
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Nagamuttu wife of Sinnatambiy Ponnampalam of Vathirayan Deceased.
Valliamme widow of Kanapathiar of Vathirayan Petitioner

1 Sinnatambiy Ponnampalam of Oodotorra Respondents.
2 Kanapathiar Vayamuttu and wife
3 Katpagan of Vathirayan
This matter of the Petition of Valliamme widow of Kanapathiar of Vathirayan praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased Nagamuttu wife of Sinnatambiy Ponnampalam of Vathirayan coming on for disposal before F. J. de Livera Esquire, District Judge, on the 12th day of September 1894 in the presence of Mr. T. M. Tampoe Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 7th day of September 1894 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the mother and next of kin of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 16th day of October 1894 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 12th day of September 1894. F. J. de Livera, District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary } No. 625.
Jurisdiction }
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Kathirgamer Sinnatambiy of Batticoita East Deceased.
Renuchilly widow of Kathirgamer Sinnatambiy of Batticoita East Petitioner.

1 K. Kathirgamer Kathirgamer of Batticoita East and Kathirgamer Anpalavanar of Batticoita East Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Renuchilly widow of Kathirgamer Sinnatambiy of Batticoita East coming on for disposal before F. J. de Livera Esquire, District Judge, on the 14th day of September 94 in the presence of Mr. T. M. Tampoe Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 12th day of September 1894 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful widow of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 16th day of October 1894 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 14th day of Sept. 1894. F. J. de Livera, District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary No. 623.
Jurisdiction }
In the Matter of the Estate and property of Paripara than wife of Muttokommar Somanathan of Udavill Deceased.
Muttokommar Somanathan of Udavill Petitioner.

1 Kanakaratnam Muttokommar and his wife
2 N. Kanakaratnam
3 Muttokommar Kanakaratnam
4 Muttokommar Somanathan all of Udavill and
5 Kadikarar Thanthathampilly and his wife
6 Thanthathampilly of Chunnakam Respondents.
This matter of the Petition of Muttokommar Somanathan of Chunnakam praying for Letters of Administration to the Estate of the above-named deceased Paripara than of Udavill coming on for disposal before F. J. de Livera Esquire, District Judge, on the 26th day of September 1894 in the presence of Mr. S. F. G. Carpenter, Proctor, for Petitioner and the Petition and affidavit dated 19th day of September 1894 having been read.

It is declared that the Petitioner is the husband of the intestate Paripara than and is as such entitled to have Letters of Administration issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person or persons shall on or before the 15th day of October 1894 show sufficient cause to the contrary.

26th Sept. 1894. Signed F. J. de Livera, District Judge.

Local and General.

—His EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR at ANURADHAPURA. In reply to the address read to His Excellency the Governor, at Anuradhapura on the 17th inst., the Governor said amongst other things that "He had no doubt and was firmly convinced that the abolition of the paddy tax

was for the people's good, and the whole country's. He was glad his efforts to that end were appreciated. Careful inquiries were made as to whether the extension of the Railway from Kurunagalle would pay its expenses, which he hoped it would; and if it were found that it would pay, he hoped to sanction the beginning of the extension before he leaves."

—THE DISTRICT JUDGE. Mr. F. J. de Livera's term of office in Jaffna will expire in October and it is said Mr. P. W. Conolly will probably be sent back to Jaffna.

—THE OFFICE ASSISTANT JAFFNA. Mr. P. Bowes will go to Anuradhapura, to act as Government Agent of the North Central Province. Mr. W. E. Thorpe takes up the duties of the Office Assistant as well as the Assistant Collector of the Customs at Jaffna.

THE CENTRAL COLLEGE. Mr. J. K. Sannagoda B. A. L. assumed duties in this College as its Professor on the 17th inst. The College is to be congratulated on having Mr. Sannagoda who is an efficient and qualified teacher, as one of its professors. Rev. G. Leese, the Principal of the College, has gone to Trincomalee to relieve Rev. W. T. Garrett, who has taken a short leave for his marriage, which took place in Kandy on the 21st inst.

—OUR GOVT. AGENT. Mr. Twynam, the Govt. Agent, is at present in the Mannar District. He is expected to visit the island of Delft in his way back to Jaffna. It is rumored that a batch of Delft horses will be brought over from Delft to Jaffna for sale.

—DR. ATTYGALLE. Within one day's notice Dr. Attygalle left Jaffna for Galle on the 14th inst. by the Steamer. It is, we believe, a promotion to Dr. Attygalle and an increase of pay which he well deserves. The regime of Dr. Attygalle in Jaffna has been a remarkable one, for it was in his time that several new Dispensaries have been opened, and the epidemic diseases which in days gone by before his time, caused havoc and destruction, have been very successfully suppressed by timely preventives and arrangements. Dr. Attygalle had much forethought, and understood well his work and responsibility and we are sorry to lose from our midst such an able and judicious medical officer. Dr. Attygalle will be succeeded, we understand, by Dr. Dias who comes from Galle.

—MISSIONARY NEWS. Rev. Mr. Little from Madras is now in Jaffna, staying with Rev. Mr. Primmer in the town. Rev. and Mrs. Pickford went to Colombo last week.

—THE SALT PAN AT UPPIAR. The salt collected and hooped at the Salt Pan at Uppiar is now being carted and removed to the salt Store at Passaior.

—THE F. N. S. HOSPITAL. New medicines have been lately received by the F. N. S. and on the 25th instant, some of the members of the committee were engaged in verifying the medicine in stock and appraising the new supply of medicine.

—THE POLICE MAGISTRATE OF CHAVAGACHERY AND PT. PEDRO. We have seen a list circulated for the signature of the people residing within the jurisdiction of the Minor Courts at Chavagachery and Point Pedro. The list is headed with a request to His Excellency the Governor to confirm Mr. J. Cassichetty as the Magistrate and Commissioner of Requests of the Courts at Chavagachery and Point Pedro. We endorse the prayer of the memorialists and have full hopes that the memorial will be numerously signed. We have confidence in Mr. Cassichetty's ability and believe that he has so well studied the manners and characteristics of the people over whom he administers justice, that it may be safely said that he is the right man in the right place. The European Magistrates who have worked in these two localities, have very often been obliged to apply for a change, and to our knowledge, their stay in these stations has been of very short duration. The work both Civil and Criminal is heavy, but we have, however, found that Mr. Cassichetty has been able to cope with it, as appears from the returns made to the Government.

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இக்கனம், மலையாளம்.
(இன்னும்வதம்)

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

In his last Report the Director discusses somewhat the Revised Code. Its principles are payment by results of individual examination, and was based upon the English Code of 1870. In 1891 that Code was changed, adopting the principle of "sample examination" i. e. the grant-in-aid consists of two portions, one fixed, and the other variable depending on the general condition of the school, which is tested by examining a few of the pupils, choosing at random a third or more from a class, adding a few selected by the teacher. It is thought that this method will tend to do away with cramming, and lead to more rational instruction.

We think there is no doubt, but that this system would be an improvement in towns and more central places. But we fear that many of the schools in country places are not yet up to such a state of efficiency as to make the change wise at present. Possibly it might be applied to schools that have for several years attained a certain degree of efficiency. But if its difference were made in this way, it should be so carried out as to make the teachers see that it is to their advantage to meet the new system.

In the matter of "unseen text-book" the experience of England is again referred to. The Report in '93 says, "the introduction of unseen books is gradually improving the reading," and there is more testimony to the same effect. The expression "unseen book" is rather anomalous, as it would naturally imply that the child read with his eyes shut, as indeed many Tamil children are able to do, but probably the convenience of the expression justifies its use to mean a book brought by the Inspector. The Director says, "the present position of education in Ceylon justifies the application of a similar test in the interests of the further development of school possibilities." In accordance with this a Circular was issued a few weeks ago saying that two or more reading books must be used by each class, or the children would be tested by an unseen book. This evoked so many protests from Managers that soon after another Circular said the first would not be applied for the present to Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular schools. The principal objection would be the difficulty of getting the children to pay for

acquisition of the physical aspects of the countries, and seek to establish some association between the names of the places and those historical, social, or industrial facts which alone make the names of the places worth remembering."

In Ceylon schools a description of the commercial relations of the island, with the various centres of commercial activity in the rest of the world, should go far to quicken life into the sometimes lifeless statistics of the Geographical Manuals available. And for effective instruction in the subject generally constant practice in map drawing is essential. For vernacular schools there is the initial difficulty at present of the want of an atlas in Sinhalese at a cheap cost.

In village schools in England a similar want is hardly accentuated. The present issue of cheap atlases, not exceeding in price more than three or four pence, puts it within the power of school agencies to furnish their schools with appliances for instruction in geography which were impossible a few years ago.

PLANTAINS.

The last number of the Kew Bulletin was unusually large, nearly 100 pages, and all about the banana or plantain family, with many illustrations. This family of plants has the largest leaves of any in the world. The Victoria Regia lily has pads several feet in diameter which sometimes can bear up a child, and the talipot palm has very large fans, but one species of plantain in Abyssinia has leaves nearly 30 feet long and 3 feet wide. All of the family have large leaves, and many are very beautiful. The principal branch of the family is called *Musa*, which comes through the Arabic, from the Sanscrit *mocha*, which is from the same root as the word for heaven. The specific name of the common kinds is *Musa sapientum* (of the wise men) said to be so called from the report by the ancient Greeks that the yogis of India sit in its shade. In the descriptions of the Greeks it was confounded with the *jak tree*. The plantain, as distinguished from the banana, is called *Musa paradisiaca*, from an absurd idea that the leaves were used by Adam and Eve. The dried fruit was formerly often called Indian figs. The word plantain is from *plantanus* (Latin) meaning bread leaved. This word is used in India for all kinds of *Musa*. But in Europe the edible kinds are called *bananas*. The Tamil name *varlei*, (*varai*) seems to denote the plant as a symbol of prosperity. This book describes 25 different species of *Musa*, some of

uniform. The common plantain fibre can be used for various purposes, including the making of paper, but its preparation usually costs more than that of other fibres, so that it has not as yet come into general use. But with the improvement of machinery and simplifying of methods, it will probably in time become profitable. We cannot do better than close with the poet's words.

"But round the upland huts, bananas plant:
A wholesome nutriment bananas yield,
And sunburnt labor loves its breezy shade.
Their graceful screen let kindred plantains join
And with their broad vans shiver in the breeze."

A short account of the Addresses of the Brahman Evangelist in Colombo, from Sept. 24—18th 1894.

In pursuance of the programme advertised, the Brahman Evangelist made addresses at several meetings at the Wesley College Hall, Jampettah Chapel, St. Thomas' Church School Room, Colpetty Chapel and Maradana School Chapel to large audiences.

The preaching was very impressive heart-stirring and on the whole full of matter and deep sentiments supported by arguments logical and powerful, here and there quotations from Sanscrit verses of the Rig, Yasur and Sama Vedas and Upanishads etc. Several friends who have listened with attention have remarked to this effect.

Without entering into the particulars of all the addresses we would give a sketch of only the three continued addresses of the three evenings at the Wesley College Hall, on the grand subject of "What was chiefly regarded by the ancient Hindus as an atonement for sin", hoping it will be beneficial to our Hindu friends.

The Evangelist said that the ancient Hindus according to what we read from the *Igveda*, did not at all play with sin as we do of the present time. Their ideas of sin were quite different from that ordinary Hindus of nowadays possess about the heinousness of sin and the necessity of the Atonement. He proved from the *Rigveda* that the ancient Rishis who wrote the vedas were neither gods nor holy beings, nor free from the sinfulness peculiar to all men, but were weak and stained with sin like the generality of mankind. He also stated that the prayers they offered were in perfect accordance with the sentiments found in the book of Psalms and some parts of the Old Testament Scriptures, that when we look at the deep sense of sin, the confession of sin etc. we find that they did know well that sin was the cause of all misery. That sin by it were estranged from the knowledge of God and on that account separated from God the fountain of life, and were without peace and subject to the death of body and soul.

What was it then that they did to be delivered from this? Was it idolatry? or Abstinence? or exact observance of all sorts of these? For these reasons several friends (The Evangelist addressed several parties for the evening)

in the proper time and almost immediately after the service (though not grasping it) of the atonement for sin. Sin originates from lust and lust from fire, but the sinner and seat of liver is in the blood therefore the blood which is the seat of life should be purified. "The wages of sin is death. Without shedding of blood is no remission." (to be continued)

FOREIGN NEWS.

COREA. The reports from the east of war are very varied. One day comes a report that the Chinese have been coerced in North Korea and reduced to the necessity of eating their horses. Also that Corea under pressure had made defensive alliance with Japan against China. Another day comes the news that Southern Corea has revolted against Japan, and that of 2,000 Japanese who landed at Pusan and attempted to march on Seoul, only 800 got back to Fusan.

A great battle was fought at Pingyang in which the Japanese gained a great victory. Of the 20,000 Chinese engaged 2,000 were killed and about 13,000 taken prisoners. A naval battle was fought at the mouth of the Yalu river. Four Chinese vessels were destroyed and the Japanese vessels badly damaged. The Japanese withdrew and the Chinese continued to land troops.

ENGLAND. The death is announced of Prof. Brugsch, the noted Philologist and Egyptologist.

The British Court went into mourning for ten days for the Comte de Paris.

INDIA. A convention has been signed for connecting the telegraph systems of India, Burmah and China.

MADAGASCAR. M. Villers, who negotiated the Franco-Siamese treaty, is proceeding on a special mission to Madagascar to ascertain whether the Hovas will submit to France or an expedition is necessary to compel them. Four men-of-war have been sent here. All trade in the island has come to a standstill owing to the strained relations between the French and Malagasy Governments.

SOUTH AFRICA. A Syndicate has bought Port Delagoa Bay, probably as a commercial speculation, tho it was at first reported to be for the Transvaal.

AMERICA. Lieutenant Perry has returned from Greenland from his head-quarters on Bowdoin Bay, Inglehold Gulf. His reports go far to show his explorations, but the cold was the greatest ever recorded.

MOROCCO. A party of Moors attacked the British Consulate at Casa Blanca Fa and Darell Baida Fa and stripped the Vice-Consuls of two powers of their clothing.

to pay for the use of the books, as a subsidiary test and not of itself a decisive one. It is beneficial to the schools.

The remarks on Arithmetic and Geography we quote as they are useful for our teachers to consider.

ARITHMETIC.

From the general tenor of the reports of the several Inspectors, and from the examination reports forwarded after the yearly inspection of the majority of schools throughout the Island, I gather that arithmetic is too often one of the weak subjects, and the low percentage of marks gained in that subject is explained only on the grounds of want of efficiency or want of system in its instruction.

The merely mechanical instruction in arithmetic must necessarily involve failure so soon as the simple rules become applicable to problems requiring a more or less knowledge of the principles underlying arithmetical processes. When children obtain answers to sums by mechanical routine without knowledge why they use the rules, they cannot be said to be well instructed in arithmetic.

Under the Revised Code of England and Wales the instructions issued to Her Majesty's Inspectors authorize them to continue the practice of awarding passes even when the minimum number required to be correct are all mechanical sums. But they are told at the same time that "it will not be right to report that this subject has been well taught unless the greater part of the scholars work the problem (i. e. not necessarily give a correct solution, but make an intelligent attempt to solve the problem) and answer correctly three questions out of four."

There should be hence difficulty in applying similar instructions with reference to the examination of schools in Ceylon. The essential point determined in the instructions above quoted is that to qualify for any grant in the subject it is no longer sufficient to obtain correct answers to the questions involving only elementary and mechanical processes, there must be evidence of some intelligent instruction in the principles which underlie the solution of problems. Instructions to the effect will be issued to the Inspectors.

The importance of the constant use of the blackboard on the part of the teacher, so that every step of the process may be made intelligible and interesting to the scholar, is obvious.

GEOGRAPHY.

Another markedly weak subject in too many schools presented for examination is geography. This seems to be essentially due to an imperfect system of teaching. So long as the course of instruction is confined to a simple enumeration of facts, to pointing out places on a map, to learning definitions, and to stating facts, so long must the subject remain to the child barren and uninteresting. Geography, if taught to good purpose, includes also a des-

cription of the physical aspects of the countries, and seek to establish some association between the names of the places and those historical, social, or industrial facts which alone make the names of the places worth remembering."

In Ceylon schools a description of the commercial relations of the island, with the various centres of commercial activity in the rest of the world, should go far to quicken life into the sometimes lifeless statistics of the Geographical Manuals available. And for effective instruction in the subject generally constant practice in map drawing is essential. For vernacular schools there is the initial difficulty at present of the want of an atlas in Sinhalese at a cheap cost.

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