

TO CORRESPONDENTS

"MR. J. C. A. MORTIER" should consult his legal adviser on the subject of the property in question.

"B. S. T." writes too wide of the mark to render his letter of any value.

Hollogg's Ointment and Pills.—Throat Affections.—All the varieties of these distressing complaints may be readily and effectively treated by rubbing this Ointment twice a day upon the neck and chest, and supporting the strength by suitable nourishment. By this simple means diphtheria, croup, and relaxed throat, irritation of the wind pipe, quinsy, and all glandular enlargements will have their progress arrested and the destruction they have caused repaired. *Hollogg's Ointment* is the most trustworthy remedy for all internal and external throat ailments, and may be safely and effectively employed by all persons, without regard to season, sex, age, or constitution. It is highly efficacious for its ready cure of spasmodic coughs, chronic bronchitis, and disagreeable discharges from the throat and nose.

The Ceylon Times.

COLOMBO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1870.

TELEGRAPHIC ITEMS.

Special for the Ceylon Times.
London, February 15th 1870.

The Colonies discussed in the House of Lords, Lord Cairns animadverting on the omission of the topic from the Queen's speech. Lord Carnarvon introduced the subject of the withdrawal of troops from New Zealand. Earl Granville replied that the troops were removed to test the ability of the Colony to defend itself. England would never desert her Colonies.

A motion is to be brought forward in the Commons next month, in reference to the Colonies.

February 18th, 1870.

Disturbances are reported in Paris, but of no continuance. The military were not called out.

The Empress is said to be ill.

The Irish Land Bill meets with general approbation.

Calcutta,—no date.

The Duke of Edinburgh and the Viceroy will meet at Jubbelpore on the 7th March when the line of railway will be opened right through, connecting Calcutta with Bombay.

QUOTATIONS OF PRODUCE IN THE LONDON
MARKET BY LATEST TELEGRAMS.

Coffee—Plantation Middling, 74s.
Native good ordinary, 54s.—(758)
Cotton—Tinnevelly good fair, 98d.
Cocoanut Oil 128

A PECULIAR USAGE.

Now that the Tuticorin season is fairly at an end, and before any new transactions are commenced, we think it incumbent on us to offer a few remarks on a peculiar usage which although sanctioned by the practice of many years, has nothing in it to commend itself, but, on the contrary, is fraught with serious inconvenience and occasionally with some loss.

We allude to the usage of cash advances to Chetties in Colombo on account of contracts for the delivery of Tinnevely Cotton at Tuticorin. The question of the proportion of advance to be made to native contractors came under the consideration of the Chamber last year, and some improvement was effected in that respect, but it is none the less, in this aspect of the matter we would refer, to the extreme difficulty amounting often, to

impossibility—attending the verification of the bona fides of any of the Colombo native Agencies. In almost all cases the Chetties of Colombo are not dealers on their own account, but act as Agents of certain firms on the opposite coast of India. This would not be so awkward a circumstance were it not that these reputed Agents are constantly flitting from our town, being succeeded by others as unknown personally in this place as were their predecessors.

AS matters how stand, the Colombo Merchant who wishes to contract for the supply of a certain quantity of Cotton, has very frequently to deal with a Chetty who professing to be the Agent of a Tuticorin Firm, is entirely unknown to him or his broker. He has no alternative but to pay several thousands of pounds to a native dealer who probably possesses no more personal effects than a rupee's worth of extremely hazy grey cloth cut in half, and made to do duty as some slight improvement on the primeval fig-leaf.

In the event of Cotton remaining in the technical language of commercial men "steady" or taking what is professionally known as a "downward tendency," the quantity of cotton bargained for with the lightly clad Oriental, will in all probability be delivered to the venturesome purchaser, but, on the other hand, should this article of produce take it into its head to "look up" or become buoyant or perform any of those other acts of agility which commercial men superstitiously attribute to inert bodies, then the said contracting merchant is heard to whistle audibly and lugubriously for those thousand bailes of good fair Tinnively for which he is most unfairly destined neyer to make up an invoice. On a

quity it is found that the Colombo Agent has "gone to the Coast," a term so exceedingly vague and embracing such a vast extent of country that its extreme limits have never as yet been defined, his supposed Coast Firm being in technical parlance "nowhere."

We would suggest that this matter is one well deserving the attention of the Chamber of Commerce, and shall hope to find the members of that body taking some action in the matter before the opening of the new Cotton season.

*IRRIGATION IN THE SOUTHERN
PROVINCE.*

In a former issue of this paper we gave some particulars of the Irrigation work in course of construction at Kakenadure near

Matara, pointing out at the same time, the benefits derived from them by the inhabitants of the adjacent villages.

There is besides this work the Bund at Denegam by the repair of which the tank at that place called "Wepotame" capable of containing sufficient water for the irrigation of fourteen hundred acres of land, also bunds being thrown across the Denegam Oya with the view of damming up that stream and so forcing its waters over a low saddle into Wepotawewe. By this means a reservoir of water will be formed having a head of fully twenty feet for the irrigation of the adjacent lands hitherto cultivated under the most disadvantageous circumstances, and as the Denegam

Yya is constantly replenished by streams taking their rise in the hilly country of the interior fed by rains, there is no fear that the water supply for this tank will fail. The bund across the course of this river will be a fine work twelve chains in length, and thirty-nine feet high in the lowest part of the valley. There is another bund much shorter and only twenty-six feet high, across another portion of the valley, in which there is a twenty-four inch sluice to allow of the irrigation of the Denegam valley. The other bund now completed will contain two sluices of two feet each in size, one at a low, the other at a high level, to enable an extensive tract of fields in their rear to be irrigated.

A third but smaller tank is situated lower down the Hakmanne plain, now being enlarged and supplied with sluices. It contains only about thirty acres of water but has a very good head. All these works are now nearly completed, and being in the

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The annual Revenue of the Standard Company is now upwards of £650,000, and the Accumulated Funds amount to upwards of £3,000,000. The new Business transacted during the past year amounted to the large sum of £1,375,000 sterling, the corresponding Premiums amounting to £45,337 per annum.

MODERATE RATES.
 charged for residence in the Colonies, India, and other places abroad.

LOCAL BOARDS AND AGENCIES
 In India and in all the British Colonies, where every facility will be afforded in the transaction of business, and where Premiums may be received and claims paid.

Immediate reduction of Premium on return to Europe or other temperate climate without Medical Certificate. Profits divided every five years.

The new Colonial and Foreign Prospectus may be had on application at the chief offices of the Company, or to the agents at home or abroad.

(Ceylon Board.)
 J. T. WHITE, Esq., of Messrs. J. M. Robertson & Co. Merchants.
 RICHARD CAYLEY, Esq., Barrister at Law.
 F. J. DE SARUM Esq.

A. WISE Esq., of Messrs. GEORGE STEWART & Co. Merchants.
 W. P. CHARLEY, Esq., M. D., M. R. C. F. Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Medical Adviser—Dr. F. W. WILLISFORD.
Agents & Secretaries of Board—ALSTONS, SCOTT & CO.

SUB-AGENTS:
 Messrs KEIR, DUNDAS & Co.—Kandy.
 DELBEG, REID & Co.—Galle.
 J. R. DUNLOP Esq.—Jaffna.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
SECURITY
 Should be the First Consideration in Insurance Transactions.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY have the pleasure of supplying the following information to the public, as evidence of the ample security they afford to their assured:—

THE CAPITAL
 of the Company, available for the purpose of meeting any unusual calamity happening to the Assured, is

TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

The amount actually paid up is £288,495. This, with the Accumulated Funds in Hand, makes the invested resources of the Company upwards of **ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS**, which amount is invested as follows:—

INVESTED FUNDS OF THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
 30th June, 1869.

Real Property owned by the Company	£219,571 11 3
Mortgages on Freehold Property	33,500 0 0
India Government 5 per Cent. Consols	28,085 1 3
English Railway Debenture Bonds	100,000 0 0
First-class English Railway Preference and Guaranteed Stocks	69,000 7 7
Loans to Local Authorities of various towns in Great Britain, who have obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State to borrow the amounts	335,476 11 11
Bonds of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board	1,550 12 6
Bonds of the British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Company	62,341 14 8
Bonds of the Liverpool Corporation	10,000 0 0
United States Government Stocks	5 1 0
Canada Bonds and Canada Dominion Stock	101,330 7 10
Short Loans on first-class English Dividend-paying Stocks with margins, from 20 to 50 per Cent. on market value	31,106 11 6
Loans on Security of Life Policies	47,195 0 0
	63,958 8 5
	£1,672,356 16 11

The above is a complete list of the Investments of the Company at the date specified, in addition to which the funds are still further increased by monies constantly varying, at different periods, in the hands of the Bankers and the Company's Agents. At 31st Dec., 1868, these stood at £168,059 2 0

For the satisfaction of the Public, the whole of the Securities belonging to the Company are annually submitted to the careful scrutiny of two independent Auditors, and the following is an Extract from their Report to the last Annual Meeting:—

"The whole of your Books have been Audited—every Document, every Account, every Voucher, your Bank-book, and every Security—all have been most carefully kept, and there is not one doubtful Security in the whole."

THE ACCUMULATIONS OF THE LIFE DEPARTMENT.
 After payment of Losses, Annuities, and Expenses of every description, have been as follows:—

Funds in Hand at the last Quinquennial Valuation, 31st Dec., 1864	£261,434 15 5
Added to 31st Dec., 1865	103,146 7 3
" " " 1866	124,165 7 2
" " " 1867	128,583 5 10
" " " 1868	144,945 12 5
Total Accumulation of the Life Department on 31st December, 1868	£1,122,275 8
exclusive of shareholders' Capital	

THE DIRECTORS ALSO THINK IT DESIRABLE TO STATE THAT
THE BUSINESS OF THE ROYAL HAS NEVER BEEN AMALGAMATED WITH THAT OF ANY OTHER COMPANY,
 And that the **LIABILITY** of its Shareholders is **UNLIMITED.**

LEECHMAN & Co.
 AGENTS FOR CEYLON.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND. Life Assurance Institution.
 HEAD OFFICE, 9 & 10 KING STREET, CHANCERY LONDON, E.C.
 ESTABLISHED 1840.
 (Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.)
Capital One Million.

IN addition to all ordinary Assurances this Company issues policies by which the sums assured are made payable to the policyholder himself on his attaining a specified age, or to his representatives in case of his death before arriving at such age thus enabling the assured to provide for their families and secure retiring provisions for themselves.

FREE POLICIES are granted. These can never become altogether void by non-payment of premiums.

Premiums payable annually, half-yearly, quarterly, or monthly as desired.

CLERGY FUND. One-tenth of the Proprietors' Profits periodically set aside for the benefit of Clergymen and Ministers, whose lives are thus assured on more favorable terms than in any other office.

Full information may be had from FOWLER, RICHMOND & Co., Agents in Ceylon.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.
 Capital £2,000,000.
 Fully subscribed by upwards of SEVEN HUNDRED SHAREHOLDERS, whose individual responsibility is unlimited.

ANNUAL REVENUE UPWARDS OF £200,000.

Head Offices:
 ABERDEEN, DUNDEE, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, AND AT 1 MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

Life Department.
THE COMPANY has two distinct scales of premium for the assurance of lives in the East, suitable respectively to persons residing there for a short time only, and to those whose residence is likely to be of longer duration. By one scale ("Reducible Rates") Premiums are lowered to the Home Rates, and the Policy placed on the Home conditions of Assurance then current, on the assured returning to Europe. By the other ("Non-Reducible Rates") the assured instead of being subjected to a heavy extra premium during his Eastern residence, has the option of spreading the same over the whole currency of his assurance by paying an unchanging premium, little higher than that charged for residence at home.

Fire Department.
 INSURANCES granted on most favorable terms on every description of property and produce in the island, including Stores in Coffee Estates, not covered with thatch, also on Oil stored in open yards.

Prospectuses and particulars furnished on application to the Agents.

C. SHAND & Co.
 COLOMBO.

SUN FIRE OFFICE LONDON.
 ESTABLISHED 1710
INSURANCE effected upon Dwelling Houses, Warehouses, Shops, Coffee Works, Estate Buildings, and their contents, at the Current Rates of premiums.

Claims arranged by the Local Agents, and paid with promptitude and liberality.

FRYER, SCHULTZE & Co.—Agents.
 KEIR, DUNDAS & Co.—Agents