

way scandals. The defeat of the industry was brought about by a coalition of Socialists and Conservatives.

THE TILLIPALLY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

[Contributed.]

The new steam plant of this institution has just arrived and is to be installed at once. The ten horse power engine and 15 h. p. boiler when installed will cost about 3250 rupees, the sawmill about 1250 rupees. The new building will be 140 by 21 feet, and two storeys high with one storeyed verandah rooms twelve feet wide on both sides. It will include a dining hall, kitchen, store-room, well and bath room and cistern for storing rainwater, a boiler room, machine shop, wood working room, composing room, forge and iron working room, with a shed for the saw-mill extending to the west; and up-stairs, a book binding extension, a room for storing manufactured furniture, and a room for training large classes in drawing.

The building will cost about 5000 rupees thanks to the fact that most of the work is doing by the pupils themselves of the Industrial School. The machine shop still needs for its complete equipment a planing machine costing rs. 400, an emery wheel costing rs. 100, a combined drilling and mortising machine for rs. 600, a screw-cutting lathe for rs. 300. The complete re-equipment of the school will thus cost about rs. 10,000. Of this sum it is desired to raise rs. 2000 in India and Ceylon in addition to any special grant which the Government may be induced to bestow.

The old students of the Training school responded very generously a few years since to an appeal in behalf of a memorial of the late Mr. Sanders the founder and first Principal of the school. Nearly every "old boy" contributed a month's income towards the building of Sanders Hall and with some help from private friends in America and a grant of one thousand dollars from the American Board, Sanders Hall, a two storey building measuring some 45 by 100 feet and containing some 14 rooms besides the school room of 24 by 30 ft. was erected at an actual cost of about 8000 rupees and a real value at current rates of 1200 rupees, more than two thirds of the labor on the building being done by the pupils.

The general public of Jaffna and Ceylon contributed but little to that earlier enterprise nor was their aid particularly sought. Now, however, we do need the help of all in providing a really adequate building and plant for the Industrial School. The old dining hall and kitchen have been quite outgrown and will be taken the former for a store-room and the latter for a boiler room while a new dining hall 30 feet square and a good kitchen and godown will be provided in the north wing of the new building.

Five hundred dollars have been raised for this north wing by the efforts of a venerable old lady in America Mrs. Mac Coll as a memorial of her son recently deceased who was specially interested in the work in Jaffna through the reading of Miss Leitch's book "Seven Years in Ceylon." One hundred pounds sterling have been given by another generous but unnamed donor towards the erection of the new "Hall of Industry." Other sums have been promised from England and America but they will not be enough to complete the buildings and plant without generous aid from the people of Ceylon and especially of Jaffna. But few Tamil boys can hope to enjoy the benefit of a training in the Technical school in Colombo but when this re-equipment has been completed there will be ample chance for a thoroughly practical training at far less expense in the Industrial school at Tillipally.

The first considerable local donation to this object was the generous gift of fifty rupees from the late Mr. Ranganathan of Tillipally. A gentleman in Madras has given a similar sum, so has Dr. Abraham of Rukwana. We are hoping to add many more names to this 50 rupee list. Mr. A. M. Sittanabalam is collecting funds for this object among the Tamils, chiefly Jaffna men, in Colombo, and will, it is hoped, be able to secure some hundreds of rupees. Donations of any amount will be most gratefully received and we hope that many even who are not ready to aid ordinary forms of missionary enterprise will be willing to respond generously to this appeal in behalf of industrial training for the boys of Jaffna.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE J. A. B. S.

The annual public meeting of this Society was held in the Wesleyan chapel in Jaffna on the 29th ult. A large audience was present and listened most attentively to the various addresses of the evening. Our Govt. Agent W. C. Twynan Esq. of M. G. occupied the Chair, and

after the preliminary exercises made a stirring speech on the importance of distributing the Bible among the people. The Bible was God's revelation to man. It showed man his condition; taught him his needs; and offered him salvation. This no other book did. How important therefore that it should be carried to every individual, &c. &c.

The annual report of the work of the Society was of more than usual interest, and showed that commendable progress had been made in every branch of the Society's work.

The report of the Treasurer showed a balance in hand that was satisfactory. It was said however that owing to the increased prices which the Auxiliary hereafter would have to pay for all Bibles, Testaments and Portions purchased, there would be need of all friends of the Society contributing liberally to its funds. Four resolutions were moved and seconded by missionaries and native pastors of the three Protestant missions, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for kindly consenting to take the chair on this occasion.

We rejoice that this Society has been permitted to do so good a work in the past, and pray that it may be even more successful in its labors in the future. It is a Society which appeals strongly to every Christian, and we trust that funds will be liberally provided for the carrying on of the work vigorously in the year to come.

FAULT FINDING.

It is a common evil. We are constantly finding fault. Either there has been too much rain and the growing grain has been submerged, or there has been too little, and the plants have been scorched. We find fault with the weather, forgetting that it is God who sends the rain, and causes the sun to shine. We look around on our little faults and complain if we are losers, though all the world besides may be the gainers. It shows a small, unkind, unthankful spirit to be ever thus complaining against our Maker and His dealings with us.

Again we find fault with each other. Instead of remembering the commendable qualities in a person and the good things he has done, we pick out all the unpleasant characteristics; and dwell on his mistakes or sins of omission. We condemn such and such an action neither knowing the motive that influenced it, nor sometimes even knowing aught of the deed itself except that we have heard that others said so and so. We should exercise great care in judging others simply on hearsay, lest it be the old story of the three black crows over again. Not less careful should we be in attributing motives for action where none such existed in the mind of the doer. Suppose the act is against our preconceived ideas of what is right and proper. Suppose in our opinion it does violate our conception of the proprieties. We are not called upon to pass judgment, and even if we were our judgment might be quite different if we knew his motives, or all the circumstances of the case. Let us not find fault. Let us not misconstrue motives. Let us not be so quick to take up every little act of apparent wrong-doing, and put the very worst possible construction upon it. May we be slow to pass judgment.

Y. M. C. A. WEEK OF PRAYER.

The following are the topics proposed by the Central International Committee for the Week of Prayer to be held from Nov. 10th to 16th inclusive.

Sunday, Nov. 10th. Faithfulness in Thanksgiving and in Benediction. Prayer that we may love God with a whole heart, and that His Word may become more precious to us.

Monday, Nov. 11th. Faithfulness in communion with God, individual and collective. The place God's Word should take in our lives; the action of the Holy Spirit in our souls, &c. Prayer that in all these things God's mind and will concerning us be fully realized.

Tuesday, Nov. 12th. Faithfulness in striving against sin. Prayer that we may be delivered from all worldliness; that our hearts may be purified from selfishness; that sin in every shape and form may become more and more hateful to us. Prayer also in behalf of Purity and Temperance work.

Wednesday, Nov. 13th. Faithfulness in the Inner Life of the Association. Prayer for the increase of brotherly love, mutual submission, of the spirit of intercession & prayer.

Thursday, Nov. 14th. Faithfulness in the missionary spirit. Prayer that the love of souls may inspire each member.

Friday, Nov. 15th. Faithfulness in the family and in society. Our duties towards relatives and employers & acquaintances & uprightness in business, &c. &c. Prayer that in all these things we may glorify God more and more.

Saturday, Nov. 16th. Faithfulness in the church; and without narrow-mindedness. Activity in Sunday Schools and other branches of church work, &c. Prayer for all the children of God.

THE MOST IMPORTANT MAN IN CHINA.

Rev. Gilbert Reid who is a missionary among the higher and official classes in China writes to an American paper as follows:—

The most important man in the Chinese Empire, next to the Emperor, is Prince Kung. According to age and experience the Prince should be at the head of the Government, while the young man who now sits on the throne, the son of a younger brother, might well hold some minor office, learning statesmanship from older men.

Prince Kung was the man of power from 1860 to 1884. When the Emperor, his older brother, died from Peking at the appearance of the English and French soldiers, he remained behind to receive the enemy and arrange the terms of peace. His ability then as a young man of thirty was recognized on all sides, and today as a man of fifty-five he commands the respect of foreigners and the veneration of the Chinese.

When he first appeared on the scene of action in 1860 he displayed a keenness, courage and energy which saved the Empire from destruction and the dynasty from collapse. He adapted himself to the new conditions with remarkable facility for a representative of a conservative people and a retreating Government. He displayed a progressiveness superior to that of most of the princes and mandarins, and was ably seconded by the energetic and enlightened Grand Secretary, Li Hung Chang. He was reviled by many as a follower of the foreigners, probably it was his progressive tendencies more than anything else, which caused the Empress Dowager to seek his retirement in 1884, at the close of the hostilities with France.

On his re-appearance, with reëffected health and with probably a degree of moribundity over the foulhardiness of others and the mess they had made, he hardly displayed the courage and progressiveness of former years. He has been circumspect not only as to the country but as to his own interests and reputation. If he favored peace and the appointment of Viceroy Li, he yet refrained from conspicuous insistence on the ratification of the treaty, and so saved himself from the reviling which others received. He has sailed the storm well with no disaster to himself or the dynasty.

Prince Kung is by far the most intelligent man I have met in Peking. His equal would be Li Hong Chang, who lives at the treaty port of Tientsin. He is more outspoken abrupt and direct, than most of the officials, and at the same time is courteous, respectful and cordial. He is not bound down by formalities, but is quick to see the first claims of business and the necessities of passing events. Whether he will at his age espouse the more needed reforms is very doubtful. He realizes their importance, but knows the task to be one of many years and of stupendous difficulty.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Morning Star."

DEAR SIR,

In view of what may be called the experimental attempt that is being made by an Italian gentleman in Colombo to grow the vine on a large scale, and what the Colon papers testify to be a successful one, it will not be unwise to note a few facts about the prospects of the vine in Jaffna for the attempt that Jaffna is making, ground, and I might almost say has come to the front, in the field of vine-growing is evident from the fact that in districts like Matlakal, where there were a few years ago no vineyards, families are now being chiefly, if not entirely, supported by them. This vine grows here, so far as the writer has been able to ascertain, learned to regulate the periods of its yield, to suit their requirements. The absence from the nature of the soil which has been admitted on all sides to be peculiarly suited to it, the absence of frequent rains—rain at stated seasons only of the year—places Jaffna above all other parts of the Island as the most favorable for this promising and still much-to-be-done industry. I will not be far wrong in saying that the benefits realized by the experimenters who have been deeply impressed with the issue of this undertaking, are more than supplied an impetus to others to follow in their wake.

As an instance worth recording I might mention the success achieved by the Police Vedhan of Valvettrimal in his attempt at growing the vine. His plant is now three years old. At the end of its first year it is said to have reached a height of 8 feet. In its second year it was pruned when it yielded a crop of 30 lbs. of grapes. He also attended to picking in the third year but it was well matured with castling and bone dust. The tree is now seen sprouting out on a "Pothai" 24 by 10 paces. Its trunk measures one foot in circumference. The owner now expects a yield of 100 lbs. or more which there is every likelihood of his realizing. Instances of this kind can be multiplied if further proofs are required as to the peculiar suitability of Jaffna for Vine culture. The above facts, however, are instances illustrating how the growth is facilitated by the soil and climatic conditions of Jaffna, notwithstanding the paucity of ears bestowed on it. Labour and land being cheap and favourable in Jaffna for a successful venture, it will not be a bad idea for the Italian gentleman who is now experimentally disposed in the south to turn his attention to the north, where, if he tries his luck, he is likely to be more successful. As the people of Jaffna are interested in it, and as the industry is not one likely to die a natural death, and with the easy steamer service between Jaffna and Colombo, where locally produced grapes find a ready and large sale, it will not be premature or unwarranted to predict that very desirable proportions could be attained in a trade which has till now been confined to a few individuals.

It will be all disposed to act upon the writer's suggestion and wishes for further information on it, may I request you to be good enough to furnish him with the names of the parties who are best able to deal with the subject.

Yours truly,

"VINUS."

[We have already dealt editorially on this subject in a recent issue of the Star, and are glad that others are coming interested in the subject of fruit growing. We believe that much could be done on a small scale in Jaffna, along these lines, and we hope that there will be some ready to take up the industry in earnest. E.M.S.]

Printed at the Press of Strong and Ashby Manipay, Published by American Ceylon Mission.