

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 56.

Jaffna, Thursday 20th of Aug., 1896.

No. 17

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

OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Please remit the dues at your earliest convenience without any delay.

J. F. COOKE.

Manager.

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR.

Singapore	Mr. V. Murugasapillai	2.50
Singapore	Messrs. V. Murugasapillai and A. Kandasamy	6.00
Tellipally	Messrs. S. S. Jeremiah, S. Thuryappah, V. Nagalingam, Thambijilloi, V. Appathurai, Daniel Supper and S. Kanapathipillai	7.00
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Flat, ridge, glass and ventilators, (First Quality)

WILLIAM MATHER.

THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd.

The Company's Steamship

santurai for Colombo on the following dates.

September	1st.
"	15th.
"	29th.

The Steamer "Lady Gordon" is appointed to sail from Kangesanturai for Colombo via Trincomalee on the noon of the following dates.

September	4th.
"	18th.

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THESE CHOORIES are specially indented from Germany. Set with imitation Diamonds, Emeralds, Rubies, Pearls and each Choori opens by a clasp. Can be easily worn. It meets the requirements of females of all nationalities. Choories of the above description set with real Jewels would cost Rs. 3,000 per pair. The brightness and lustre of the Choories are perceptible on opening the boxes containing them.

No. 1 Choori per pair	4.8 0
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Packing Ans 3. Postage extra.
K. SARKAR & Co.,
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KAUMARARANJAN OIL.

MANUFACTURED BY NEPAUL
KAVIRAJ KRISHNAJI.

This Excellent oil cools the whole system, expels venereal poison and imparts fresh vigour to the brain and eyes. It is indispensable to all who live in hot climates.

Females who suffer from womb disorders will find a ready cure by using this oil in two weeks time.

Price 4 oz. bottles	Rs. 25.
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WARD & DAVY

Jaffna.

NOTICE.

The Jaffna Commercial Corporation Limited opens banking business on Monday the 7th September 1896 at 10-30 A.M.

WM. MATHER.

Managing Director.

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LIMITED.

OFFICE BANK HALL, SEA STREET, JAFFNA.

The company opens current accounts with sums of not less than Rs. 100 and allows interest at 2% per annum on minimum monthly balances of Rs. 500, and upwards.

Fixed deposits received on following terms:—
For 12 months interest at 5% per annum allowed
" 6 " " 4 " "
" 3 " " 3 " "

Approved bills discounted. Money advanced on pledges.

Remittances can be made to and from Colombo. Colombo Bankers, Bank of Madras. Cheques and foreign drafts and bills of exchange on the Colombo Banks cashed.

Inland and foreign goods imported on Commission.

Office hours from 10-30 A.M. to 4 P.M.

WM. MATHER.

Managing Director.

Durai & Co.

DRUGGISTS, CHEMISTS & GENERAL MERCHANTS.

VICTORIA HALL, VANKARPOONAI, JAFFNA.

Bag to inform the public and the Medical profession that they have just to hand heavy consignments of chemicals, drugs, Chemists' and Druggists' sundries, Surgical Instruments and appliances, Patent Medicines, Stationery and other general sundries from houses of established reputation both in England and in the continent. Prices moderate and comparatively cheap and special allowance made to wholesale purchasers.

Dispensary Department is in the charge of an excellent hand. Prescriptions are compounded at very low rates, promptly and accurately.

There is attached to their premises an Out-Door Dispensary under the management of an able and experienced Medical Practitioner who can be consulted at all hours of the day free.

For Excellence and cheapness their goods are unrivalled. A Trial order earnestly solicited.

Local & General.

Eclipse of the Sun. Clouds prevented the expeditions to watch the eclipse, from being successful both in Europe and in Japan.

Wesleyan Mission. The Acting Chairman after spending three days in the Point Pedro circuit, went to Jaffna where he remained four days. The festival on Friday the 7th was a grand success, the court house in the evening being crowded with people to witness the acting of the Central College students in a scene from "The Merchant of Venice." On Tuesday the 11th Revs. Restarick and Knapp and Misses Lamb and Jackson accompanied the Chairman to Mannar. They were absent about a week returning to Jaffna on the 17th. The next day the Chairman visited Batticoles, Tellipally and Oodoville, and yesterday called at Maneyar. Mr. West and family expect to embark for Batticoles on tomorrow's steamer.

Jaffna Auxiliary Bible Society. The last Sunday in August has been recommended by the Committee for the presentation of the claims of this Society. There is no greater work than placing the Bible in the hands of the people, and we hope the contributions will be liberal for the carrying on of this work.

Meeting of Managers. On Monday the 10th inst. a number of Managers came together in St. Paul's school room in Jaffna to talk over matters of educational interest. Nine were present representing the Protestant, Catholic and Hindoo bodies. The acting Chairman of the Wesleyan mission from Batticoles was also present. It was resolved to ask the Ceylon Educational Association to allow the Managers and others in the Northern Province belonging to that association, to form themselves into a Committee or branch association for the purpose of discussing questions concerning education and to transmit the conclusions arrived at to the Colombo Society. One or two other matters relating to the conduct of English schools were discussed briefly, and the meeting adjourned. We think it would be greatly to the interests of all Managers to form such an association here in Jaffna, as we hope it can be done. It will promote unity and harmony between the different sects laboring for the elevation of the people.

Ordination at Nunavil. The dedication of the new chapel at Nunavil is to take place on the afternoon of the 17th of September. The ordination and installation of Mr. Abraham who has been laboring there for some years, will follow in the evening. We hope there are other exhortations who will be ready to imitate Nunavil in organizing and calling and installing a pastor, in the course of the next few months.

Senson Report. For the month of July last, the Government Gazette of the 14th inst. contains the following report. The rain gauged at Jaffna is 0.26 inches. The blowing of the South-West monsoon has been unusually strong. Faddy lands are being ploughed and manured. Kurakkan, Pinat and Cham are in ear, and are being harvested, prospects are not bad, considering the want of rain, and the blowing of the South-West monsoon.

Onions and Chillies are being raised in some parts. Tobacco harvesting is over, sale is going on and prices low.

Explosives. Mr. R. V. DeWangso has been gazetted as the Inspector of Explosives for the Jaffna District, and the Managars of Tennaradich, Vadamaradich and Pachchilappai for their respective divisions.

Mr. D. A. Tambiah. We are glad to see that Mr. Tambiah an "old boy" of the Jaffna College has been one of the successful candidates in the Senior Examination of the Surveyor General Department, which was held in January last. Mr. Tambiah is already in the Department, and his success in the examination will entitle him for a promotion.

Central Road Coach. We learn from the Ceylon Patriot that Mr. Charles Pate, the head of the firm of Messrs. A. Pate and Son has secured the contract for the conveyance of mails between Matala and Jaffna for five years from January 1st 1897. "Mr. Pate will at once commence to build light roomy coaches for this line, so as to expedite the conveyance of mails as well as to promote the comfort of the passengers."

Rainfall. The amount of rain we have had so far this year has been unusually small. For the first six months of the year there was registered at Jaffna only 1.87 inches and at Uduppiddi on the northern coast 1.29 inches. The mean for Jaffna is about 9 inches for the first six months, and for Uduppiddi nearly 10 inches; so that it has been far below the average at these two stations where a record has been kept the longest. At Batticoles over 4 inches of rain fell from January to July.

Mr. R. C. Alexander. The Sheriff and accountant appointed for the "Jaffna Commercial Corporation" is expected to arrive at Jaffna by the end of the current month. He has a good experience in banking and commercial business and we trust the "Jaffna Commercial Corporation" will be much profited by the appointment of Mr. Alexander.

Naitampi Nodr. This gentleman, who was staying in Jaffna for about a month, returned to Colombo on the 18th inst. Mr. and Mrs. Samanthiraja and Mrs. Brato who were staying in Jaffna for the benefit of the health of Mrs. Samanthiraja have also gone to Colombo by the steamer which left on the 18th inst.

Marriage. Mr. Edgar A. Niles who is at present employed by the Trust Society, Madras, was married on the 14th inst. to Miss A. Hensman, the first daughter of Mr. Proctor Hensman, in the Church at Chendikulam. From the Church the party drove to Chavagacherry to the residence of the bride where cake and tea was served to the guests. Mr. Carter, the principal of the St. John's College with which Mr. Niles was connected as tutor in a choice speech proposed the health of the new couple to which the bridegroom replied in fitting words. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Niles joy and prosperity.

D. C. Interpreter. P. Modir, Elankannayaka Modir, has been granted leave for six weeks beginning from this month, and on the expiry of the leave he will retire from work. Mr. Nicholas the Head Clerk of the Court is acting as the Interpreter which acting appointment he has held on several occasions before this in addition to his own duties as Head Clerk.

The Hon. Mr. Layard. The Attorney General has returned to the Island from England (where he went on a short leave) and resumed his duties from the 10th inst.

Educational. The St. John's College and the Jaffna College re-opened on Monday last after a short vacation. The Vempadi Female Boarding School was closed for a month's vacation on the 18th inst. The Oodoville and Uduppiddi Girls Boarding schools opened the latter part of last week after brief holidays.

Navakkeeri Well. Pumping was commenced at the Navakkeeri, or Puttur well, as it is more commonly called, on Tuesday the 18th inst. The result of ten hours of steady pumping was to reduce the level of the water by about three fourths of an inch. Operations were stopped at 5 p. m. and resumed yesterday morning at 7 o'clock. During the night the water rose about half an inch.

Crowds of people are visiting the place and it would be well if two or three policemen were stationed there to keep order. The driver of the engine is a man from the Government Factory at Colombo. The pump goes to the depth of 7 feet only in the water, whereas good water has been found as far down as 40 feet. The water is carried off about a quarter of a mile, and then allowed to spread over the plain.

Mr. S. Chelliah Paul M. B. C. M. We are glad to learn that this young man, the son of Dr. Wm. Paul of the F. I. N. S. Jaffna, has successfully passed his examinations in the Medical College at Madras. He also won the Johnston medal awarded to the best outgoing student from the Medical College. The Christian Patriot says of him, "Mr. Paul is the first native Christian who has gained the distinction of taking a first class in the reputedly stiff examination of M. B. and C. M."

The Kuravdie Hospital. Work has been commenced at this new hospital erected to the memory of Dr. S. Green by one of his former pupils, Mr. Dutton who a student in medicine in Madras has charge of the work and once in two or three weeks Dr. Scott goes over from Maneyar to spend several hours in inspecting the work &c. &c. The public and formal opening of the institution will take place some months later.

Missionaries. Rev. and Mrs. Carter who went down to Colombo last week are expected back by tomorrow's steamer. Misses Myers and Smith are expected back from their trip to Nurvera Elia and Colombo by the same steamer. It is rumored that Mr. Trimmer has secured two young lady missionaries who are to be stationed at Puttur.

[illegible]

THE NATIVE EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.

This society which has just entered on the 50th year of its existence has suffered a great loss within the past fortnight. The house at Pungudut was set fire to (probably) by some one who thought he had reason to be displeased with the occupants. The Pastor, Rev. Samuel Veerakutty, and family were at Thunay on account of the sickness of their child, and the accident occurred while they were away. They lost all their furniture and some clothing and other personal property valued, all told, at nearly Rs. 500. The little church standing in the same compound escaped unharmed.

This is the story of the loss. Now what should be done about it? It will take at least Rs. 500 to put up a new building. Whether the walls are still standing or not we have not heard, nor whether any door or window frames escaped the ravages of fire. If there is anything left to commence work on it will lessen the total cost by just so much; but at any rate Rs. 300 are wanted, and wanted at once in order to put up a shelter for the pastor and his family before the rains set in. Will not the friends of the Society come to its aid in this time of need? There are a hundred persons, here and in the Straits, who could pay out Rs. 5 each and never feel it. It is not the time for criticism. There may be some things to criticise in regard to the Society's work but criticism, if need be, can come later. It is a time for prompt and wise action. But two months remain before the rains set in, and the work of re-building should not be delayed a day. Let all the friends of the Society realize this and send in generous contributions at once. The President is T. C. Changaripallai Esq. Proctor, the Vice President Dr. C. T. Mills, the Secretary Rev. T. P. Hunt, the Treasurer Rev. C. M. Sanders. Contributions for this object may be sent to any of these gentlemen or to any of the American missionaries.

We hear that every effort is being made to discover the incendiaries. The Police Magistrate of Rays and the Island Manager spent two days in inquiring into the matter. Two young men who are suspected of the crime have been arrested and are to be tried. Pungudut has an unenviable reputation for crime. Last year there was a murder in that island, and no one was brought to justice for it. Evidently the headmen need to be hauled up and warned to do their duty more carefully. The Manager bears the name of being an energetic and capable officer, and we trust he will soon discover the offenders and bring them to justice. Life and property ought to be as safe in that island as any where else in Jaffna.

Our sympathies are with the pastor in his personal loss. We hope that he will be recompensed in some way. In his own words, "if this is for the salvation of that island, it is no loss." This is true. Every true Christian will count it no loss to be stripped of everything he possesses provided souls are saved. The value of an immortal soul is worth more than worldly possessions, and after all our home is not here, it is above. If we lay up our treasures in that heavenly home they are forever safe.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FOR 1895.

The total value of exports for 1895 deducting specie, was Rs. 84,496,874.40 while the imports amounted to Rs. 76,543,473.23 giving a balance in favor of exports of quite a handsome sum. The trade of the Colony for the past twelve years has been steadily increasing, in 1895 the value being more than double the amount for 1884. The imports are principally grains, cotton manufactures, spirits and liquors, kerosene oil &c. &c. The exports really show what is being done in a country in the way of manufactures and produce. The total value of exports show an increase over the previous year and is encouraging. Coffee and tea have both increased in value of amount exported by over three million rupees each, the total amount realized from coffee however being hardly an eighth of the amount realized from tea. The number of lbs of tea exported in 1895 amounts to no less than 95,581,060 lbs, seven eighths of which goes to the United Kingdom. The amount sent to the United States has increased during the year, but is only a mere trifle after all. Australia takes about 9,000,000 lbs, all other countries hardly taking enough to be recorded.

The value of the products of the coconut palm such as arrack, coconuts, coir fibre and ropes, copperah, coconut oil &c. &c. was Rs. 88,696 over the previous year. The principal other articles exported are arecanuts, cinnamon, plumbago and tobacco. We notice a falling off in cinchona and cocoa which is not explained. Liberian coffee also makes a very poor showing. Most of the exports go to England, the countries of Europe, India and the Straits. If the price in coffee keeps up, planters will be tempted to engage once more in trying to raise it in spite of the coffee leaf disease. As for tea, India is rapidly increasing the cultivation of this plant, and in time Ceylon will suffer though there seems no indication of it at present. It seems strange that the island has to import so much grain, but we suppose it is unavoidable. The report shows that the Colony is in a flourishing condition and our new Governor enters upon his term of service here under very favourable circumstances.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The report of the Director of Public Instruction for 1895 lies before us. From it we learn that there has been an increase of 6038 in the number of pupils of all grades under instruction, while on the other hand there has been a decrease of 103 in the number of schools, in spite of the fact that 77 schools were registered during the year. Government schools increased by 9 and grant-in-aid by 54; but unaided schools show a decrease of 166. The total number of schools in the island is 3815. As to scholars the increase is wholly in grant-in-aid and unaided schools, the Government schools showing a slight decrease. The total number of scholars in Ceylon is 169,834. The average number in the Government schools is 93; in grant-in-aid 82; while in unaided schools it is considerably below 40.

We note with satisfaction that the proportion of children under instruction to the population has increased. In 1894 the average was one in nineteen; in 1895 it was one in seventeen. The Western and Northern provinces lead off with 1 in 11, the Southern province comes next with 1 in 17, and the Eastern province follows closely after with 1 in 18. The cost per pupil in grant-in-aid schools has increased to Rs. 3.10 while the cost per pupil in Government schools remains about the same or over 50 per cent above the rate for grant-in-aid schools.

71,385 children were presented for examination during the year in the eight standards, of which 1,705 were in the VI, VII and VIII standards of English schools and 1,949 in the same of vernacular schools. Between seven and eight thousand pupils were examined in the Primary standards of English schools, and over sixty thousand in the first five standards of vernacular schools. The percentage of children therefore who pursue their education above the 5th standard, including High schools, and Colleges not reported to the Department, is only about eight in a hundred.

Thirteen Training schools are reported instead of the nine for the previous year, 5 for girls and 8 for boys. The number of scholars who passed their first year's examination was 21 of whom 13 were from Jaffna, and the number who passed the second year's examination was also 21 of whom 15 were from Jaffna. This speaks well for the Northern Province in the matter of training up teachers. In the License examination 22 out of the 58 candidates in Tamil passed, and 63 out of the 264 candidates in Sinhalese. In addition to these, 42 other certificates were given during the year to those who were entitled to them.

The number of Girls Boarding Schools in the island remains the same as last year, i.e. 23. The number of girls presented for examination was 48 more than the previous year, the Northern Province still leading in the number of schools and scholars presented. Thirty one per cent of the total number of scholars came from the north. This gives the Managers of our province a strong claim to be heard in the councils of the Department in re Girls Boarding schools. We trust that the Code for 1897 may revise the clauses by which grants to these most important schools, have been practically reduced.

The report of the different Inspectors are appended, as well as the reports of the Principals of the Royal College, the Agricultural school, and the Colombo Technical school. The Director refers to the proposed school of forestry which he hoped might be opened soon in

connection with the Agricultural school and with very little extra outlay of funds.

The Director refrains from all allusion to the troubles that arose last year between Mr. Walker and school Managers, nor does he indicate what changes are in contemplation in the Code for next year.

MARS.

The only planets within living beings at all resembling those with which we are acquainted could find a home are the planets Mars, and, possibly Venus. On all the others the conditions are so entirely different from our own that terrestrial life would certainly be impossible.

Mars is better placed for observation than any other of all the heavenly bodies, the moon alone excepted. Sometimes he comes as near as 36,000,000 miles, and with our telescopes we are able to make out upon his surface features of great variety and beauty. It has a diameter somewhat exceeding 4200 miles, the area of its surface being therefore about three-tenths that of the earth, and its bulk one-seventh.

By means of its two little satellites we are able to "weigh" it, and we find that the planet's mass is only about one-ninth that of the earth. Then from the planet's size and mass we can easily calculate the force of gravity upon the surface, and it turns out to be only about 37 per cent of terrestrial gravity—i.e. a man who on the earth weighs 160 pounds would weigh only 60 pounds on Mars. This is a most important peculiarity of the planet, and its consequences are numerous and far-reaching. Creatures which are unweildy on the earth would be agile here, and masses which our engineers cannot handle here would be easily dealt with there.

The day of Mars is only a little longer than our own (24 hours, 37 minutes, and 22.67 seconds.) Its axis is inclined to its orbit almost exactly at the same angle as that of the earth. Mars must, therefore, have seasons in many respects like our own, modified, however, by the effect of the ovalness of its orbit. It is 27,000,000 miles nearer the sun during its southern summer in the opposite portion of its year, and in consequence the southern half of the globe is shorter and hotter than the northern, and the southern winter longer and colder.

The surface of the planet is remarkably level; no great ranges or lofty peaks appear, though some minor elevations, perhaps two or three thousand feet in height, now and then show themselves on the twilight-line. The most salient and significant fact with respect to the planet's constitution is the way in which the polar caps wax and wane with its seasons, just as they would do if they were composed of snow and ice. And recent observations have made it no less certain that during the apparent melting of the polar caps the features of the planet undergo marked changes, most of which are such as can be accounted for by the water that flows from the melting collects and moves from the polar regions towards the equator along certain lines of depression, and that as a consequence vegetation springs up wherever the water makes its way. The theory is attractive and appears reasonable, the one chief difficulty with it is that the planet's distance from the sun, and the unquestionable variety of its atmosphere, seem to necessitate a temperature so low that water, if present on the planet at all, could exist only as ice. This objection is fatal, unless for some reason the planet is warmer than the facts at present known warrant us in assuming. The time may come when our instruments will become sufficiently delicate to give us certain indications as to the planet's actual temperature.

We must not assume that the inhabitants of Mars must be human in their form and constitution in order to be intelligent and effective. (A French astronomer insists that they are winged creatures.) Mars is very likely a much older planet than the Earth so that there the arts may have reached a development which they will not here attain for ages to come. As to the possibility of communication with them if they exist it may be said that if a colony of human beings could be transported there, supplied with all the appliances of our present civilization, and by some means kept warm and provided with air dense enough to breathe, and food to eat, they could not make any signals which we with our present instruments could even see.

Prof. Young in Harper.

NEWS FROM THE WIDE WORLD.

Crete. Thousands of Christians are emigrating from Crete to Greece. It is reported at Athens that the Mussulmans butchered twenty-five Christians near Candia, and burned a priest alive. The ghastly tragedy took place at the monastery at Anapoli.

England. Li Hung-Chang, the famous statesman of China, was entertained at the Crystal Palace, London, by 250 Chinese merchants, the Manager of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank presiding. The next day a reception was held by the London Chamber of Commerce in his honor when Li Hung-Chang promised to do his utmost to make the remotest corner of China accessible by railways.

Parliament was prolonged on the 14th inst. The Queen's speech says,—"My relations with foreign Powers continues to be friendly. The hostile movements of devils on the Nile and against the Italian position in Abyssinia convinced me that it was necessary that the English Government should arrest their advance, and by my advice and sanction an expedition has been undertaken to restore to Egyptian territory as far as Dongola. The condition of some portions of Turkey, especially Crete, continues to cause me much anxiety; and while observing strict neutrality I have endeavored conjointly with the Powers to effect a reconciliation by proposing to establish a system of government acceptable alike to Christians and Mussulmans."

United States. Intense heat prevailed in New York the early part of this month. 130 deaths from sunstroke and heat apoplexy occurred in five days.