

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 57.

Jaffna, Thursday 7th of Jan., 1897.

No. 1

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

Morning Star for 1897

will be published on alternate Thursdays by A. C. Mission and Thambiah Strong Cooke Esquire, English Editor Rev. S. W. Howland M. A. D. D., Tamil Editor Allen Abraham Esq. B. A., Manager J. P. Cooke Esq.

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RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR.

Udappilly	Mr. C. Arudhantham	1.25	
Manipay	Rev. W. P. Nathanael and Dr. C. T. Mills, Mr. A. Sippiah	3.75	
Moolai	Mr. C. Murugasu	1.00	
Chiragachery	Messrs. J. K. Chinnatamby, K. Kanagasabay and Cooch	3.75	
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Manipay	Rev. W. P. Nathanael	1.20	
Straits Settlements	Mr. P. Chandrasagie	2.25	

NOTICE.

Mr. M. N. Sundrampillai is appointed to be our Agent at Anuradhapura. The subscribers are requested to send their subscription through him. J. P. COOKE, Manager.

THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd.

The Company's Steamer "Lady Havelock" is appointed to sail from Jaffna for Colombo on the following dates.

Via Pamban	6th. January
" Point Pedro	16th. do
" do	27th. do

The Steamer "Lady Gordon" is appointed to sail from Jaffna for Colombo on the undermentioned dates.

Via Point Pedro	8th. January
" Pamban	27th. do

There will be no accommodation for 1st and 2nd Class Passengers in the Lady Havelock appointed to leave Colombo on the 13th January and due at Jaffna on the 15th. Those who intend to travel by this steamer in the above classes are requested to avail themselves of the previous trip.

W. MATHER & SON.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

From and after 1st January 1897, the present free delivery of Telegrams within a distance of 5 miles from a Telegraph Office will cease.

Telegrams will only be delivered free of charge within a radius of 1 mile. A charge of 10 cents per mile or portion of a mile for the 2nd and 3rd mile will be made, beyond 3 miles the charge will be 20 cents per mile.

The above charges will be doubled for the delivery of Telegrams during the night.

Night delivery of a message cannot in all cases be guaranteed although endeavour will always be made to effect it.

C. E. PENNYCUICK.

Postmaster General.

Postmaster General's office, Colombo, 9th Dec. 1896.

THE MANEPAY COMMERCIAL CLASS.

Owing to the absence of the undersigned this will be closed till the end of January when a new class will be formed. S. VYTHILINGAM.

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that Elephant Pass and Panikukulam Rest Houses will be closed to the public on the 20th and 21st January 1897. Provl. Road Committee's } G. W. WOODHOUSE, Office, Jaffna, January } for R. W. LEVENS, 6th., 1897. Chairman P.R.C.

NOTICE.

The formal opening of the S. F. Green, Memorial Hospital at Karadive will take place on Tuesday the 12th inst. at 2 P. M. Interested friends are invited to be present.

T. B. SCOTT.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna

Testamentary } No. 802.
Jurisdiction.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Teywanappillai wife of Chinnatampi Ponnampalam of Puttur North

Kantar Velayutar of Puttur North Deceased Petitioner

1. Chinnatampi Ponnampalam of Puttur North
2. Chavunthirippillai wife of Kantar Velayutar of do
3. Velayutar Tiagarajah of do and
4. Velayutar Kantayah of do Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Kantar Velayutar of Puttur North praying for Letters of Administration to the Estate of the above named deceased Teywanappillai wife of Chinnatampi Ponnampalam coming on for disposal before H. H. Cameron Esquire, District Judge, on the 26th day of November 1896 in the presence of Mr. T. C. Changarappillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated 23rd day of November 1896 having been read it is declared that the Petitioner is the next of kin of the said intestate and as such is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall prior before the 18th day of Jan'y 1897 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this day of December 1896.

H. H. CAMERON District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary } No. 807
Jurisdiction.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Naka Ayer Thampayah Ayer of Alway Deceased

1. Naka Ayer Kumaraswamy Ayer and
2. Naka Ayer Velanthu Ayer both of Alway Petitioners.

This matter of the Petition of Naka Ayer Kumaraswamy Ayer and Naka Ayer Velanthu Ayer praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above named deceased Naka Ayer Thampayah Ayer coming on for disposal before H. H. Cameron Esquire, District Judge, on the 5th day of December 1896 in the presence of Mr. Tambiah S. Cooke Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioners dated the day of December 1896 having been read it is declared that the Petitioners are the brothers of the said intestate and are entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to them unless any one shall on or before the 18th day of January 1897 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 5th day of December 1896.

H. H. CAMERON District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna,

Testamentary } No. 730
Jurisdiction.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Achchoppilla wife of Vettivelu Chuppiramaniar alias Henry Knight of Arali East. Deceased

Vettivelu Chuppiramaniar alias Henry Knight of Barnagalla Petitioner.

1. John Katirochar Tampaiyah and his wife
2. Chellachchi of Arali East Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Vettivelu Chuppiramaniar alias Henry Knight of Barnagalla praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above named deceased Achchoppilla wife of Vettivelu Chuppiramaniar alias Henry Knight coming on for disposal before H. H. Cameron Esquire, District Judge, on the 9th day of December 1896 in the presence of Mr. T. C. Changarappillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 13th day of December 1896 having been read it is declared that the Petitioner is the widower of the said intestate and as such is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the

said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents of any other person shall on or before the 25th day of January 1897 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary. Signed this 9th day of December 1896. H. H. CAMERON, District Judge.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Rev. W. T. Garret. Mr. and Mrs. Garret and child with Miss Garret are now in South India for a change. Mr. and Mrs. Garret will stay for a few months at the Hills, and Mr. Garret will return in a few days.

Rev. and Mrs. Trimmer. The Chairman of the Wesleyan mission Northern circuit Rev. J. G. Trimmer with Mrs. Trimmer and child were expected to start from England on the 3rd inst. and to arrive in Jaffna by the end of this month. On the arrival of Mr. Trimmer at Jaffna Mr. Restarick will go to Point Pedro to relieve Mr. S. Knapp who is going to England on leave.

Mr. Cyrus Ankettell. We have received a copy of the Inspector's Report of the Canadian Mission High School, in which occur the following words. "As already remarked a further improvement has resulted from the rearrangement of the duties of the staff, and from the care and attention of the Head Master and his assistants; and the year's work reflects great credit on Mr. Ankettell and his assistants as well as the Missionaries under whose general direction the work is carried on. I examined each class both orally and by means of written papers and was very well pleased indeed with the results. Great care is taken with the Physical Education of the boys. Drill is taught, and dumb bell exercises were very smart."

Legislative Council. The first sessions of the Legislative Council for this year will be held on the 12th inst. on the day prior to the Governor's departure from Colombo to Jaffna.

Cholera in Colombo. The epidemic appears to be still lurking in Colombo. For some time there was no report of fresh cases, but again it has broken out and up to 31st. ultimo there were 95 cases of which 89 proved fatal.

Mr. H. Nevill. We learn that Mr. Nevill who was our District Judge for some time is not retiring from the service as was supposed. He goes on leave for a year to England and will probably return to serve in the Island for five or six years to complete his full term of service.

Medical Missionaries. The two Lady Medical Missionaries Miss Mary H. Irwin M. D. C. M. and Miss Isabella H. Orr L. R. C. S. & P. who were appointed by the American Board for Medical Mission work in Jaffna arrived in Colombo on the night of the 29th ultimo. They are expected to spend some time in study of the language before opening the new hospital building at Inuvil. We are glad to welcome them.

Miss Louise Grice, M. D. has been visiting Jaffna for a few days preparatory to leaving for home. Although her stay has been short, her services as a volunteer worker in the Medical line have been well appreciated, and many will be sorry to have her go.

Mr. Charles J. Asbury B. A. L. E. B. We learn with great pleasure the success of this young man in the last L. B. examination of the Bombay University. He is the eldest son of the late well known Mr. R. O. D. Asbury of Manipay and is now employed in the Bombay Govt. **C. W. Chattramuttal Esq.** The veteran Police Magistrate of Kaites continues in office, though his name is in the list of those officers who have to retire. We shall be glad if the order to retire is not issued to him for some time to come. He is in the best of health and retains all the qualifications requisite for discharging his official duties in all their accustomed vigor.

Sir W. R. Kinsey Kt. C. M. G. We are glad to congratulate our Principal Civil Medical Officer on his receiving the well merited honor of being knighted, and we trust that he may long continue to give the Island the benefit of his wisdom and experience.

Sir Chas. Bruce Kt. C. M. G. We learn with pleasure that our former Director of Public Instruction has now been promoted to the Governorship of Mauritius.

The heavy rains. The past two months have been unusually rainy. In many places it is said that such rains have not been unusually rainy. In many places it is said that such rains have not been known for 25 years. Especially in the centre of the Island was the rain damaging. The railway to Matale and the Central Road from there were washed away in many places, and the travel interrupted and mail delayed. At Batticaloa the rainfall for the year was 58 inches which is above the average, but below that of last year. Of this, 21 7/8 fell in Dec. and 17 1/8 in Nov. Udappity registered a little more than this. But places in the interior of the Island reported 11 inches and even 19 in. in 24 hours, and one station gave the almost incredible fall of over 23 in. in one day. It is no wonder that much damage was done and even several lives lost. It seems that no less than three cyclones passed over the island in the two months. The wind was not especially violent in these storms as it had apparently spent its fury before reaching the land. But on the 16th ult. the wind was so strong in Colombo harbor, that many cargo boats, and some launches were sunk, and much damage done.

We would not presume to give an explanation of these unusual events, but it is worthy of note that a double sun spot of considerable activity, was at that time passing near the centre of the sun's disc than usual. It is not the year for very numerous spots, but there are other periods than the eleven year one. Astronomers are in many places constantly studying these and learning their causes and laws.

சென்றவற்றியலாக் மற்றைய பிரவுங்
தெற்றெனவுணர்தறென்பியோக்தனே.”
ஒர்கிறீந்தவங்.
சுநற் மாக்ஷியமாசம் 23 ித் தேதி லொர்ப்பட்ட இங்
னென்குணம் பத்சிகளையிலி “விமோசனாச”மெ
ந்நது” எப்பவா லெழுதப்பட்ட விவரத்தை வதகு
வகிர்ப்பாட[.]
ஒர்கிறீஸ்தவங்.

THE NEW YEAR.

We are glad to greet our readers with good wishes for the New Year, and trust that they are equally pleased to welcome the first number of another year. This is the LVIIIth year of our paper, and we expect it to improve and not deteriorate as time passes. It has been proposed that we issue a number every week, instead of fortnightly, and we might do so, if we were sure that the majority of our subscribers desired such a change, sufficiently to sustain it well. Our readers are in such varied circumstances that we cannot expect to satisfy all. Some see daily papers, and do not care for the general news of the day. Some want Jaffna news, and others want foreign news. We attempt to follow a golden mean, and furnish a good Christian family paper for a moderate price. We give items from the North, East, West and South, which together make up N. E. W. S. and mean to present such as are of the most importance and interest to our readers, so far as we can strike a fair average. But we aim to make it instructive rather than a mere diary of events of passing interest. The profits of most papers come largely from the advertisements, but we grudge the space they occupy, and reject many that are of questionable value or propriety. Our circulation has considerably increased and we shall gladly hear suggestions from subscribers when they send in their subscriptions, if they will kindly remember that we probably cannot follow all. We do not like to meddle with local politics, and yet we cannot always keep aloof from matters of public interest. We endeavor to be always on the side of Reason and Right, without Prejudice or Partisanship, and in all we hope to follow our Divine Human Model.

THE AMERICAN MISSION CHURCHES.

The Annual Meeting of Pastors and Delegates from the eighteen churches connected with the American Mission was held at Udruil on Thursday Dec. 31st. There were thirty four present, being twelve delegates, sixteen pastors, two licensed preachers, and four missionaries. Two pastors were not able to be present, one owing to sudden illness, and the other, the senior pastor, because of old age. Two of the churches are at present without pastors, and two of the pastors are not in pastoral charge of churches, one being in the College, and the other, having retired from active service is calmly, though in great feebleness, waiting the welcome summons to come up higher. The reports from the churches were quite encouraging. The number of additions on profession of faith 115 was larger than any year before except in 1886. Only one church was without any addition. More than half of these additions were from the four boarding institutions, but this was a smaller proportion than usual. Death has been busy among the members and called away thirty, which is five more than the year before. Seven were excluded from membership, leaving the total in all the churches 1789, a gain of 77. There are also on the lists 1022 baptized children, though the infant baptisms of the year were only 54. It is to be feared that some of the parents do not realize their privileges in bringing their infants into the covenant privileges.

Among the deaths two were of pastor's wives, both of whom had long been connected with the work. The various death-bed testimonies reported were interesting as showing that Christ does deliver from fear of death. Especially noticeable were the deaths of Mr. Arnold, who was for so many years Tamil Editor of the "Star" and of Mrs. Tappan, who has a wide circle of relatives in the Christian community. Nearly all the churches closed their accounts without a debt. And it is very pleasant to observe that the amount raised from native sources was about Rs. 9000, or nearly Rs. 700, more than the year before. Of this about Rs. 800, went to the Nat. Evn. Soc. which works in the Islands, including a good sum for the rebuilding of the house at Pungudutive, which was burned by some miscreant in the middle of the year. The churches also responded well to the appeal for help to the persecuted Armenians, many giving of their poverty, feeling deeply for those who suffer for Christ's sake the loss of all that they hold dear. It was a joy to see how the stronger parent churches at all the stations have been helping their daughters, so that with this help nearly every one of the eighteen organizations was independent of Mission funds. The Bible Society received over Rs. 200, from these churches during the year.

Some large amounts which have been secured but not yet expended, did not appear in the accounts. Two new chapel buildings were completed, another nearly so, and the foundation of a fourth was laid, for which most of the needed money has been secured. Two or three communities are nearly ready to separate from mother churches and be organized.

THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT.

It is understood that His Excellency is visiting Jaffna, among other parts of the Island, to acquaint himself with the needs of the various places, in order that the Government may supply those needs if possible. On this supposition, the people of Kaits ask for an improved harbor, and he visits Kangyasanturai to see the place proposed as the terminus of the railway, and Puttur to see what prospects there are of making the supply of fresh water useful to the district. Other projects are brought forward, and other requests will be made. For ourselves we wish to present but one request, and that is that our Governor follow the example of his predecessors in honoring the Lord's Day. Certainly the exigencies of official duties are not so pressing as to require a public visit to so prominent a place as Kangyasanturai on Sunday.

As the Queen's Representative it seems a great pity that he should do what the Queen herself would not do, or approve of being done. The hearts of many of his most loyal subjects will be pained unless His Excellency reconsiders the proposed arrangement, as we sincerely hope he may. There is One who has said, "Them that honour me I will honour."

MISLETOE.

This is a plant much in demand for decoration at the Christmas season in England. The thick green leaves and white berries keep fresh for many days. The ancient Druids of England are said to have gathered it with various religious ceremonies. Its name is *Viscum album*, which was given because of the viscous or sticky nature of the seeds from which bird lime is prepared. This bird lime is so adhesive that if a bird alights on a limb on which it has been spread it is stuck fast and cannot escape. A very similar species *Viscum orientale* grows in some places in Jaffna.

These belong to the Loranthus family, which is quite common here, though the *Viscum* has small green flowers, while the *Loranthus* proper have larger showy flowers, yellow-shaded with red. This name means the *strap shaped flower*. The common Tamil name is *kuruvichchi* which is evidently connected with the word for little bird (*kuravi*) either because the flower looks like a bird, or because it furnishes food for birds. The other name is *puluruvu*, which is supposed to be connected with the word for grass. But it seems more probable that it is connected with *pul* meaning bird, and that the hard *l* was softened by the influence of the following soft *r*. Birds are said to aid in the fertilizing of these flowers. The brilliant sun birds are very fond of the honey found in them and in order to get it split open the long tubes with their beaks. In doing this the pollen is scattered on their heads, and carried to the next bunch or tree.

The glutinous seeds when ripe stick where they fall, and if it is on the branch of a suitable tree they quickly sprout, and sending a root through the bark very soon begin to draw nourishment from the tree and then grow rapidly. Many trees are seriously injured or even killed by these parasites, which suck their juices, and thrive at their expense.

There are animal parasites, of many kinds, and even human parasites, who live by flattering others. The tropics seem especially favourable for such plants and animals, and they have a good purpose in the world, but they are detestable, and the more so the higher they aspire. Especially are those men to be despised who thrive at the expense of others while doing nothing themselves. Manly independence makes worthy men. And in religious matters too the best life is where we go direct to the fountain head, each for himself and draw life from the Source of Life.

ELECTRICITY IN COLOMBO.

Within two years great progress has been made in our metropolis in the use of electricity. In this time electric lights amounting to 28000 candle power have been introduced. Most of the lights are what is called 8 candle power, but

there are also some arc lights. This is likely to increase very rapidly in the near future. The new tram cars which are being prepared are to be run by electricity. There will be a steam engine of 300 horse power to generate the electricity, and the motors on the tram cars will be 15 horse power each. Such cars are now in use in Madras, but we learn that they have experienced much difficulty from the floods, the wires being under ground, and thus affected by the rains. In Colombo the central station is expected to supply electricity for lighting or other purposes as needed. The great advantages of these lights for the tropics are their being free from much heat, and not being affected by the wind. They are to be introduced into the Legislative Council's Hall. Already this hall has four fans driven by electricity which take the place of the old fashioned punkabs. They are 24 inches in diameter, countersunk in the walls, and can be made to revolve at different speeds at pleasure. When at full speed they are invisible, and they keep the air in motion in every part of the room. Electricity is being introduced in other places in the Colony. The General Electric Company of London, are doing most of this. We have a copy of their latest magnificent Catalogue, of about 700 quarto pages beautifully illustrated and giving details for everything connected with the recent wonderful development of electricity.

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY DAY.

"Take a little dash of cold water,
A little heaven of prayer,
A little bit of sunshine gold
Dissolved in morning air.
Add to your meal some merriment,
Add thought for kith and kin,
And then as a prime ingredient,
A plenty of work thrown in.
Flavor it all with essence of love
And a little dash of play;
Let a nice old book, and a glance above
Complete the well-spent day."

Chankuvil robbery. The inquiry into this case took up the whole day of the 30th ultimo. Seven were in the dock and many visitors were present in the Court to witness the proceedings of the case which has had no precedent in the history of Jaffna in the recollection of the oldest man in Jaffna. After inquiry Mallan and Chellappan were remanded and the other five accused were enlarged on bail. It is a pity that there is no evidence to reach several other scoundrels who are suspected to have had a hand in the commission of the offence in company with those who are just now on their trial.

The Governor in Jaffna. From a programme which was shown to us, it appears, that His Excellency the Governor is expected to land on the morning of the 15th inst and proceed at once to the "Queen's Home" in the Fort. The afternoon of the same day he is to be entertained at a Garden party at the "Old Park" Kachcheri, to which all the members of the General Committee of the reception will be invited. On the evening of the same day he will be accorded a reception in the Pandai which is in course of construction in the Esplanade in front of the Police Lines. The procession will probably start from the "Old Park" and proceed by the Main road to the Pandai. The Main road will be illuminated and decorated with arches at various places. At the close of the reception in the Pandai there will be a display of fireworks. On the 16th inst His Excellency will inspect the several Offices and in the afternoon he will hold the Levee in the Queen's House. The plan includes a visit to Kankasanturai on the 17th. On the morning of the 18th inst he is expected to proceed to Kaits via Batticotta and return to the Town in the evening, and on the 19th inst he will go to Puttur and leave Jaffna on the 20th inst by the Central road, taking breakfast at Pallai.

The latest report is that His Excellency will not land until Friday night.

The New Coach Contractor. Mr. Pato has been running his coach from the 1st inst. The carriages are large and fitted with good accommodation for passengers, the mail bags finding a place on the top.

Dr Storrs' Jubilee. The President of the American Board of Foreign Missions has just been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his settlement over his church. His church is one of the largest in the city of Brooklyn, which has recently been made a part of the city of New York. During these fifty years he has received 2593 persons to his church, of whom a third are now members. Other churches have grown from this on all sides. The city itself has 25 times as many citizens now as then, and he has been a leader both among the ministers and the people. No minister in the country has had so remarkable a history, and he is second to none as an orator. The various meetings for celebration continued about 10 days in the church in association, with the citizens, etc. One speaker said, "He has been not only a preacher but a theologian, not only a historian, but a wise and skilful administrator, not only an administrator but a statesman, not only a statesman, but a philanthropist, an educator, a counselor, and an evangel of every cause which has made the gospel of help a very part, and the very best part of the Gospel of Christ among men." He called him "America's Grand Old Man."

When Dr. Storrs introduced the writer of this in his pulpit a year ago, he spoke of him as a native of Ceylon, and recalled the fact that he received his license to preach in that church twenty two years before.

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