

# THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 57.

Jaffna, Thursday 9th of Dec., 1897.

No. 25.

RIGHTBOUNDED HEALTH A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE.

## REMINDER.

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Via Pamban 21st Dec. 1897.

do do 22nd do do

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The Jaffna Commercial Corporation, Ltd.

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This Journal, started in January 1890, is owned and conducted entirely by Indian Christians.

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## NOTICE.

No special License will be issued in 1899 unless the applicant has taken out licenses for both surveying and Levelling under ordinances No. 15 of 1889 or undertakes to do so before the 31st June next. All special licenses issued for 1897, must be returned to me by the 31st December next with applications for renewal.

VAM.

Surveyor General's Office. Asst Sur. General Colombo 22nd Oct. 1897. } for Sur. General.

## Local & General.

**Weather.** In Jaffna November's rainfall was far below the average. In Colombo it was very little below. From Eastern Province the report comes that the paddy crop will be a failure. As for Jaffna in many localities the paddy crop will be at least a partial failure, while in Vavuniya, Chivayagacheri and Southwards, the prospects are fairly good. We have had some good showers this week, but we need a heavy downpour to wash the earth clean and fill the fields.

**Temperance Meeting.** A series of Temperance meetings were held in the St. Pedro district the last week, and they were as much liked that two or three meetings have been appointed for this week also. A number of prominent Societies are interested in the movement, and it is hoped that some good will result.

**Principal Medical Officer.** Surgeon Major Perry who has been appointed in Sir Wm. Kyssow's place is expected to arrive in Colombo the latter part of December.

**Government Agencies.** Mr. F. R. Ellis has been appointed Government Agent of the Western Province in place of Mr. Dawson. Mr. Wace takes Mr. Ellis's place as Government Agent of the Southern Province, and Mr. Moysey takes Mr. Wace's place as Govt. Agent of the Sabaragamuwa. These promotions are well spoken of in one or two cases they have been placed over the heads of Seniors. Evidently the Governor proposes to put his new scheme in working order at once. The Registrar General, Mr. P. Arunachalam has been permanently appointed to the District Judgeship of Kuruwagala which is also a promotion from the 2nd to the 1st class.

**The Tamil Sent.** Meetings still continue to be held in different parts of our peninsula, but the excitement is dying down. Several reports of such meetings have reached us which we must decline to insert as they were held some days ago.

**Dentist in Jaffna.** Mr. Stanley Newton, an American Dentist, has taken up his head quarters at the rest house in Jaffna and is ready to give careful attention to any in want of his services who will call.

**Mr. Senathirajah.** Mr. and Mrs. Senathirajah entertained a number of friends at a Seize on the 29th ult.

**Sales in the C. M. S.** A sale for the benefit of the Church at Pallai was held on the 30th ult. In spite of the heavy showers in the morning a number of friends were present and the affair passed off very successfully. A sale is also to take place at Chundicully on the 11th inst. for the benefit of the Girls English school.

**Manipay Eng. School.** The public examination of this school took place on Thursday the 25th ult. when a large number of friends were present. The scholars acquitted themselves very creditably. The school has made very rapid progress in the past two years under the efficient management of Rev. T. B. Scott M. D. It numbers over 160 pupils and has six well qualified teachers besides a Tamil master, or pandit. It deserves the loyal support of all the people of Manipay and vicinity. A decision was taken by prominent men present, to the effect of a new building and a room for former students and friends to erect a building in the memory of the founder of the school and former prominent educators.

**New Chapel.** The first stone of the Araly North Chapel was laid a fortnight or so ago. It is being erected near the road from Jaffna to Batticoota and about a mile distant from the latter place.

**Day of prayer for India.** The day appointed is Sunday the 12th inst. We trust that no one will forget the day, but that earnest prayer will be offered both in public and private throughout the island, for the outpouring of God's Spirit upon the peoples of India and Ceylon. And let us not forget the conditions which will bring the answer to prayer. We cannot mock God. If we want His blessing we must seek it in the right way.

**Cholera.** This dreadful epidemic has broken out in Jaffna. Reports of cases are received from Vannarpouze West, Chunnanshan and one case from Chathumalai. There have been 15 deaths in all up to the 6th inst. Strict and early measures should be taken by the authorities concerned to arrest its progress. More precaution is needed at this unhealthy period of the year, which favours the spread of any epidemic.

**Magistrate's Retirement.** The retirement of Mr. C. V. Canevalupillai has been postponed till the month of April next. This arrangement is due to the delay in bringing into operation the reclassification of the Civil servants.

**Cricket.** A cricket match was played on the 3rd and 4th insts. between the "Central Club" and "Old Club" at the Jaffna Club. The match was won by the "Central Club" by 10 runs. The "Central Club" were captained by Mr. Fisher and the "Old Club" by Mr. Fisher. Mr. Fisher was the Captain of the "European Club" and he encouraged the "Central Club" by offering Rs. 15 to the highest score of runs, which was won by a boy named Annandi who scored 60 runs.

**Jaffna Railway.** His Excellency the Governor with the concurrence of the Executive Council, has sent a Despatch to the Secretary of State on the subject of the Jaffna Railway recommending the immediate construction of the line. The approval of the said Despatch by the Secretary of State is anxiously awaited by the Ceylon Government.

**Magistrate's Court.** Mr. F. Struys the Secretary is laid up with fever and his duties are attended to by Mr. Nicholas the Head Clerk in addition to his own. Mr. Francis the 1st. active writer has not yet returned from Colombo where he went for his clerical examination, his *Locum Tenens* is a Proctor's clerk, Mr. Vaitalingam. The District Judge expects to be away on a short leave on the 16th inst. The Police Magistrate Mr. T. M. Tampoe, it is believed, will take up the work of the District Court in addition to his own during the time the District Judge will be away. No change in the District Judgeship will be effected till April next. In this reclassification of the civil servants the District Judgeship of Jaffna has been reduced to a class below its present standard, and the Jaffna Magistrate and the Landing Surveyor of Jaffna are to be given to one officer. The said re-classification will operate from April 1898.

**Five cent Lyric Book.** This book will be ready for distribution before Christmas, and orders may be sent in at once.

**G. E. B. S.** The Goodboville Girls Boarding school, and the Goodboville Girls English school opened on Tuesday the 7th inst. Most of the girls are already back, and others are coming in every day.

**Mr. Ashby.** From the *Advocate of India*, we learn that Mr. C. J. Ashby B. A. L. L. B. Judicial Clerk to the Fourth Presidency Magistrate, has resigned his post. Mr. Ashby will practice as a pleader in the Local Courts.

**Appointments.** Mr. Kandiah of the Jaffna Courts, is to be Secretary District Court, Trincomalee; Mr. K. C. Katherakumar of Batticaloa to be Head Clerk, Ficala's Office, Jaffna; Mr. Sutanambay to be Head Clerk, Ficala's Office, Batticaloa; Mr. Kanagaratnam of Mannar goes to Trincomalee to be Ficala's Clerk, and Mr. J. Moses goes to the former place. Mr. P. Elkentir Modir. retires on pension. Mr. Poovirasingham becomes Interpreter Modir. District Court, Jaffna. Mr. Sapapathy of Police Court, Jaffna succeeds him, and Mr. Venasiambay succeeds Mr. Sapapathy, and Mr. Arunampalam succeeds Mr. Venasiambay.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

**Turkey.** Five thousand Albanians are in full revolt against the Turkish authorities. Severe fighting has taken place with heavy loss on both sides.

**India.** The plague is spreading in India. A case was reported in Madras which has since been detected. It is increasing in the Punjab. Up to Nov. 27 the total number of those who have had this disease in Poona was 6238 and twelve 4503 were fatal. Twenty five more plague doctors and twelve more nurses are being sent to India. Owing to the failure of rain in the Madras Presidency, there is likely to be scarcity. In an accident at Calcutta 10 workmen were killed and several injured.

**England.** A terrific gale swept along the coast of Great Britain the closing days of November doing immense damage. Twelve vessels have been totally lost with all hands. Seven thousand troops were employed at Woolwich Arsenal in saving stores and ammunition which were in danger of destruction owing to floods. The loss amounted to many thousands of pounds.

**China.** Germany has made heavy demands on China in consequence of the murder of a German missionary.







CIVIL SERVICE RE-ORGANIZATION.

A list of the changes in the Civil Service has reached us which shows a decrease in the amount usually expended of over one thousand rupees. There has been a decrease of 8 in the number of officers, the saving thus made being added to the salaries in the 2nd and 3rd classes. The chief feature of the scheme is that hereafter persons will be appointed for the positions for which they are fitted. This of course is a gain and in the hands of a right-minded Executive this scheme is bound to serve the interests of the Colony. But a Governor who takes every thing on the report of his advisers without troubling himself to make careful investigation would be likely to play havoc with the Service. The system has its defects no doubt, but on the whole it is thought will be a distinct gain to our Service. We give the list of the officers.

The Colonial Secretary is a staff appointment and gets a salary of Rs. 24,000. Twelve officers are found in the 1st class as follows:—

Auditor General, Treasurer, Govt. Agents of the Western, Central, Northern, Southern, Eastern and North Western Provinces, Principal Collector of Customs, Postmaster General, District Judge Galle, and District Judge Kurunegala. The District Judgeship of Jaffna which was formerly in this class has been placed in the Second, and the District Judgeship of Kurunegala goes to the 1st class. In the 2nd class there are 16 officers, one only in Jaffna. In the 3rd class there are 18 officers, none in Jaffna, and in the 4th and 5th classes 11 and 13 respectively. In these we have the Police Magistrate and Landing Surveyor of Jaffna, the Police Magistrate of Point Pedro and Kayts, and the Assistant Govt. Agent of the Northern Province. It will be seen that the Police Magistrate of Jaffna in addition to his duties has to take up the duties of Landing Surveyor as well which does away with one appointment in our peninsula.

The salaries in the 1st class are from Rs. 14,000 to Rs. 18,000; in the 2nd from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000; in the 3rd from Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 9,000 in the 4th Rs. 5,000 each and in the 5th Rs. 4,000. His Excellency has also indicated his wish to see more of the subordinate places filled by the natives of Ceylon which will meet with very general favor. It will be interesting to watch the practical working of this new Scheme.

INTEMPERANCE.

Intemperance is on the increase in Jaffna. Whatever the cause, the fact remains, the habit of drinking intoxicating liquors is growing. The increased revenue from the sale of arrack proves that renters are willing to pay high for the monopoly of the trade in the intoxicants of the country. This involves a heavy retail trade which means of course a larger number of consumers. And it is by no means a losing business.

Again there is a great deal of illicit selling in the country. It is difficult to prove this for the people and even the head men we fear, connive at this evil, and render very little help to those who are trying to ferret out these illicit places. It may not be always in a building that this takes place. Often it is in a palmyrah garden, or in some other spot agreed to by those thirsting after drink. In these ways the habit is increasing, and unless steps be taken at once to arrest the growth of this evil, it will soon become almost unmanageable. The cause of Temperance, therefore, should be dear to the heart of every one who loves his country and his fellow men. Drink is a curse to any country and all in Jaffna, Sivites and Christians, should be alive to the danger that threatens us from this evil. What then should be done to check its growth, and ultimately to abolish it altogether.

First of all, it is important that all should realize the terrible evils that follow the use of intoxicating liquors. Nothing will be done so long as the people do not realize that this habit is ruining their body, and spirit, and destroying their houses and country as well. The deleterious effects are too well known to need to be recounted at this time. One of the saddest results is the effect upon the mind. From lofty ideals, the victim descends to the one thought of how he can appease the horrible thirst which torments him, and which in itself is part of the punishment. His will power is gradually destroyed until, if the thought of reformation ever enters his mind, he is fain to cry, "Oh wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body

of this death." First of all then we must realize what a terrible curse drink is.

A second step is no less important. It is to resolve not only, to have nothing to do with liquor, but also to discourage its use in others. The first is comparatively easy for those who have not commenced to indulge; but to speak to others about the glass of toddy or wine that apparently does them little or no harm, is not so easy. On the other hand, if we believe it is harmful it is cowardly on our part not to speak of it. A very common practice is to take the glass of liquor offered you in the house of a friend with hardly a murmur of dissent, because it would be displeasing to him to refuse. Far better to lose his friendship, than to go against one's convictions. We need more courage. We need to show to all where we stand on this important matter, fearing neither taunts and sneers, nor loss of friendship. A courageous united front would do much for the cause of temperance.

A third step should be to take a watchful stand against the sellers of intoxicating liquors. This means all legitimate petitions to Government, as well as public exposure of all illicit traffic in this pernicious trade. It is not pleasant work to play the spy, and to report offenders of the law to the authorities, but it is necessary if we would succeed in reducing the amount of liquor consumed. There are many unlicensed places where one can satisfy his craving for strong drink, and these places should be made known to the authorities. And we should be watchful also that no saloon is licensed in close proximity to a school for it is a menace to good morals, and a snare to those too young to withstand the alluring temptation. If we can prevent the lads from learning the habit of drinking toddy, we shall be preventing the filling up of the ranks of toppers. Twenty five years hence would see a great change for the better in our peninsula if our boys and young men are saved from this cursed habit.

Last of all, we need Divine help. Without it we are powerless to cope with this gigantic evil. Nothing but the grace of God can save a confirmed drunkard, and His aid should be sought and obtained in this warfare against one of the most specious and alluring forms of sin.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE C. M. S.

The present Bishop of London within a High Church man is evidently a man of broad sympathies and thoroughly interested in Foreign Missions. He has lately visited the Head quarters of the C. M. S. and has addressed a Meeting of the C. M. S. Jaffna City Union. The following is an summary, given by the Record, of the Bishop's address on that occasion.

"The Bishop's speech was eminently practical and helpful. It was full of useful hints and wise counsel, and was lightened with flashes of humour which were quickly taken up and keenly appreciated. His Lordship commenced by paying the Union a compliment on its business method. He said Mr. Sanders had given him the opinion of speaking first before the business of the Meeting had been transacted, but he preferred to wait, and he was glad he had done so, for he had seen that the Union conducted its affairs in a way which was a happy augury for its future success. The Bishop then referred to the lack of interest which the great body of Churchmen as well as clergy took in foreign missionary effort, and the hostility that was sometimes shown towards the work. He also spoke of a certain amount of jealousy existing regarding the respective claims of home and foreign missionary work, and said he had been somewhat horrified to find that at a recent ordination the candidates seemed to be jealous of the men who were going abroad to work in the foreign field. A feeling prevailed that the clergy ought to be kept at home, where their powers and their zeal could be more adequately used. That, said the Bishop, was a sentiment which existed amongst the younger clergy, and it should be part of the business of the Union to dispel it as rapidly as possible. He proceeded to urge that the duty of missionary enterprise fell upon every Christian man and woman who valued the Christian name. One could not possibly be excused on any grounds. Missionary work must also be regarded as a necessary part of the organization of every parish. It was a cause that could not be emphasized too much, and could not be urged too often. He pointed out that those who were ever ready to criticize Missions were not fully acquainted with the subject, and he was confident that if they took the trouble to look into the matter they would be surprised at the large amount of success. But the progress and success of missionary work amongst the heathen must of necessity be slow, and while progress was actually being made it seemed to the more impatient as if they were really living in times of regress. In this connection he alluded to the conversion of England, remarking parenthetically that the Christianizing of England was one of the most beautiful stories in the world, and pointed out that it was some years before any substantial results followed the work of the first missionary to our shores. The Bishop at this stage said he should like to make one or two practical suggestions, although his experience went to show that a Bishop's communications to his clergy were invariably received with respect, but that the matter very seldom went any further. His Lordship then entered into a friendly criticism of the conduct of missionary Meetings, and gave some helpful advice regarding their improve-

ment. He had attended many missionary gatherings, and had often felt that the returned missionary did not always make the best speech. He suggested that the younger clergy should form a sort of 'missionary' guild, the members of which should each take a particular Mission, read up its history, study its geographical position, and get up an interesting and instructive lecture which he would be ready to deliver in any particular part of the country to which the Society might send him. He advocated the holding of quarterly missionary Meetings in every parish and urged that more pains should be taken to interest and instruct the people in the missionary cause. The Bishop referred to the thoughtful terms of the increasing number of clergy who were being ordained with a view of service in the foreign field, and closed with the weighty words, "We work at this great work simply and solely because the love of Christ constrains us, and we cannot help going and saying to others, 'Come and see what the Lord hath done for us.'"

THE AWAKENING OF INDIA AND CEYLON.

A series of interesting and thoughtful papers have lately been written on the above subject. We subjoin a paper lately written by the Rev. R. T. Dowbiggin which will be read with much interest by all who desire to see the peoples of India and Ceylon aroused to a sense of sin and the hopelessness of Hinduism, Buddhism and Mahomedanism to satisfy the needs of the soul. We cannot read Mr. Dowbiggin's paper without feeling thankful for some droppings, but we still wait for the showers of blessings.

Mr. Dowbiggin writes:—  
Perhaps no one feels more unequal to the task of writing an article on the above subject than I do. At the same time I could not seem to say to myself, to write it, and in dependence upon the grace and inspiration of the Holy Ghost, I will try and put on paper some indications of an awakening in Ceylon. As compared with 21 years ago, I see many causes of thankfulness and praise. There have been great advances made in that time, and there are better men and more hopeful than then.

At that time there was scarcely any movement of any kind among the Buddhist population. It is very different now. They are very active and aggressive. They have multiplied schools rapidly, and send out their itinerant preachers even to remote villages. And whence all this? They have been stirred by the upward forward movement of the preachers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is plain from the fact that the Buddhist "Buddhist" and Evangelists both as regard Day and Sunday Schools, and Evangelistic work. "They think evil against us, but God means it unto good." Their opposition and tactics are trying to faith and patience, but I am glad of this awakening. Anything is better than stagnation, and in the end, we shall not be the worse for it.

It was with great satisfaction upon the increased spirit of liberty among our Christian people, in contributing towards the support of their own Missions. In this respect the advance is marvellous. Then it was next to nothing, and now it is counted by ten thousands of rupees a year. The interest taken by the people in spiritual things and Church matters is greatly in advance of what it was 30 years ago. Among the more godly of our members there is also a longing for fullness of blessing, which was not so remarkable formerly. There is an effort to lead a higher holier, purer life. The frequent meetings for the deepening of spiritual life are proofs of this. There is also among them a craving for longer to save souls, and this has found expression among other things by Missionary Societies of their own, to carry the Gospel to the remote portions of the country. There is more endeavour to overtake work, grasp opportunities and to redeem the time. I see awakening in the increased number of Girls' Boarding Schools, the multiplication by Missionary Societies of High Schools, for both girls and boys, showing a determination that if possible the rising generation and its brightest and ablest shall be won for Christ, and at all events that they shall be taught upon high religious and moral principles.

The seed sown will not be lost. There is an awakening in the decided effort to reach the women of this land by means of Missionaries of their own sex. Thirty years ago there was practically nothing done, save that which the wives of Missionaries were able to accomplish. I do not mean that nothing was done by them. God forbid. Much was done in a quiet, unobtrusive way which was never reported, both in the schools for girls and among the village women around the Mission Houses, and which they still carry on; but it was small by comparison with that now done by these specially set apart for it. Then surely there are signs of great awakening in the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, and Boys' Brigades, Total abstinence Societies and Bands of Hope, which are comparatively of recent growth in Ceylon. Bible women in all are now largely employed whereas few years ago there were none. As another indication of awakening I would mention a more active part taken in the Lord's work by ladies and gentlemen of the different races in Ceylon, in the way of Bible classes, hospital visitation, and work among the soldiers and sailors. Other signs of awakening are not wanting in the Missions to domestic servants, grass cutters and coolies, and in efforts to reclaim the out cast and fallen.

With all this, and with so much for which to thank God and take courage, I feel that we are only as yet half awake to our responsibilities and opportunities. European, Tamil, Singhalese and Eurasians, we all need to be enured with power from on high and filled with the Holy Ghost.

All the vast and varied machinery and organizations which I have mentioned are like the stones and wood and water and victim on Elijah's altar of sacrifice; we want the fire from heaven to fall upon us and the zeal for God's glory and the salvation of souls to consume us. Thank God that there is this sign of awakening also. We feel our need and are crying out to bless us. The prayer He has inspired, He will abundantly fulfill. We will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them.