

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 58.

Jaffna, Thursday 19th of May., 1898.

No. 10.

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

Gentlemen.

Please remit all dues for Star as early as possible.

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LIMITED.

OFFICE BANK HALL, SEA STREET, JAFFNA.

The company opens current accounts with sum of not less than Rs 100 and allows interest at 2 1/2 per annum on minimum monthly balances of Rs. 500, and upwards.

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

Approved bills discounted. Money advanced on pledges.

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WM. MATHER.

Managing Director.

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LIMITED.

In connection with our Store Department we are prepared to undertake and sell by public auction any property, Household furniture, Effects &c. &c. which may be entrusted to us. If desired we will advance half the value. For terms and particulars apply to the Manager

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Grey shirtings, Mulls, Jaconettes &c. of different kinds imported direct from Manchester.

Chemists to suit the Jaffna fancy. All fast colours. Sold by pieces and wholesale.

Exceptionally cheap. Cloth superior.

BASEL MISSION CANNANORE GOODS.

Cuttings, trousseings of various kinds, sheetings, towels &c.

Waterbury Watches, for Gentlemen and Ladies.

Boots, Shoes, Harness &c.

Trial solicited. Prices cheap, monthly supplies from Manchester, England.

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ALL orders for printing and other communications relating to our Printing Press should in future be addressed to Mr. S. K. Lawton, STRONG & ASBURY

Proprietors, Manipal Press.

THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd.

The Company's Steamer "Lady Havelock" is appointed to sail from Kankesanur for Colombo via Paumben on the evening of the following dates:—

1898	May	17th
"	May	31st

The Steamer "Lady Gordon" is appointed to sail from Kankesanur to Colombo via Point Pedro on the noon of the following dates:—

1898	May	6th
"	May	20th

W. MATHER & SON,

Agents.

Local & General.

Weather. A strong south west wind has prevailed most of the fortnight, and there have also been one or two light showers of rain. The big monsoon will probably set in before long.

Meeting of the College Directors. The annual meeting of the Directors of Jaffna College was held on Saturday the 7th inst. Sir Wm. Twycross K. C. M. G. presiding. Mr. W. E. Hitchcock M. A., the vice Principal, returned home from India the previous day. There was a

good attendance and the report of the work of the College in the year past fairly encouraging. Dr. Scott was chosen as a Director in place of Dr. Howland resigned. Mr. Hitchcock was elected Acting Principal for the coming year. One of the principal items of business was a vote that those receiving help from the Scotch Bursary Fund should hereafter give a bond to repay, when able, the amount expended on them unless they entered Mission work.

Native Evangelical Society. The annual meeting of this Society will be held at Manipay on Thursday next, the 26th inst. It is hoped that the meeting will be very largely attended.

Correspondents. We have had a long communication from Matale which is altogether too long for our columns, and too personal as well. Another communicates from London is declined with thanks.

Plague in India. A riot has occurred in Calcutta and another near Bombay. The panic has not entirely subsided in Calcutta, the fear being that the Government is concealing the true condition of affairs. In other places of India the plague seems to be abating. A case was reported from Suez, taken from Bombay.

Fire in India. A disastrous fire occurred at Sioni, 26 miles from Hindu. The loss is estimated at 2 1/2 lakhs of rupees.

Misses Leitch. At the recent annual meeting of the London Society for the suppression of the opium trade, a resolution was passed according to which these ladies, with several others, were elected as corresponding members of the Executive Committee. *Ceylon Observer.*

Judicial. The proceedings in the abduction case referred to in the last number of Star, have been forwarded to the Crown Council for instructions. After a thorough investigation, the Magistrate framed charges against ten of the accused for abducting the girl to compel the marriage and against seven of the said accused for concealing and keeping in confinement an abducted person. The case stands postponed for the 25th ult. and the 1st accused R. Solomon and K. Valsajjala of Vassavien are kept under remand. *Cum.*

House breaking. On the night of the 14th inst. the house of a certain Vyalalingam of Vannarponne was entered into by night, by making an opening in the eadjan roof and property, mostly jewels, to the value of over Rs. 2000 was stolen. Three coast young fellows, of the weaver class, have been arrested, who in the statement before the Magistrate eliminated each other. A large portion of the stolen articles has been found out by the Police Vidhan of the place, in the compound of one of the accused who himself gave the clue for the discovery. The other accused are under remand for the further inquiry. *Cum.*

District Court, Jaffna. Mr. F. Struy, the Secretary, is away from work, sick leave for two weeks. Mr. Nicholas the head clerk, is attending to the work of the Secretary in addition to his own.

Medical. Dr. R. Blanchard took leave of his friends at Pallat on the 16th inst. where he has been serving for several years. He has been transferred to Mankulam and Dr. Chinnampai will succeed him at Pallat.

Kaifs. A large quantity of paddy is brought to shore daily at this port, and removed to Jaffna by boats. The new Police Magistrate has heard and disposed of over 150 cases in the month of April. Institutions of cases in this month are comparatively few, and the islanders are beginning to respect the law. People who live within about a mile from the sea shore are suffering for drinkable water. It is highly desirable in the interests of such people, that some arrangement should be made by the paternal government, so that this indispensable commodity of life may be procured within a easy distance. *Cum.*

Kachcheri, Jaffna. Mr. Subraman the head clerk will retire by the end of this month.

P. N. S. Hospital. Dr. F. Grenier will soon sever his connection with the Hospital. The Committee of the Society which met on the 3rd instant recommended to the Govt. Dr. Chelliah Paul to succeed Dr. Grenier as the Visiting Surgeon to the Hospital. Dr. Wm. Paul will retire from work, and the Committee has suggested the appointment of an officer to succeed Dr. Paul with a reduced salary. The sanction of the Government is awaited by the Committee before carrying into effect the proposed change. *Cum.*

English University Scholarship Examination. The examination for the English University Scholarship began May 16th in the office of the Director of Public Instruction. Six candidates presented themselves for this examination, of which, three were from the Royal College, two from St. Thomas College, Colombo and one from Trinity College, Kandy.

Grant in aid Teachers' Examination. The Examinations for Licenses to teach in Grant-in-Aid and Mixed Schools will be held in the following centres in the usual subjects prescribed by the Director of Public Instruction commencing on Monday, July, 4th 1898 at 10 a.m. Colombo, Galle, Jaffna, Kandy, Batticaloa, Trincomalee and Matara. Candidates who are not yet employed in teaching work must pay a fee of Rs 50, while those who are already engaged in that work will be admitted free. Applications for cards of admission must be made before the 31st inst., the list being closed on the first of June next. *Observer.*

Dr. Strong Duds. Dr. Strong has obtained leave of absence for six weeks on account of ill-health. He has removed to Manipay and put himself under the care of Dr. Scott.

Miss Garrett. Miss Garrett, sister of Rev. W. T. Garrett, B.A., principal of Central College, Jaffna, is preparing to return to England, she leaves Jaffna (D.V.) by steamer on the 31st inst.

Returning Missionaries. Mrs. Hitchcock and child are expected to return from Kodaikanal via Negapatam by steamer of 27th inst. Miss. Case will also accompany her returning by the same steamer.

Jaffna Christian Provident Association. The annual meeting of this Association will be held in the Manipay church on the evening of the 26th. A large gathering is expected.

Manipay Hospital. The new buildings are almost completed and it is hoped that they may be opened to the public by the close of the next month. There will be accommodation for not less than forty patients. The plan followed in the erection of these buildings is to provide a separate room for each patient and to furnish a small kitchen in which the friends of patients may prepare food for them. This latter may not be all that is desired from the standpoint of the physician, but it has at least this advantage of economy in hospital expenditure. From the point of view of the Mission Boards this is not by any means a small matter.

The separate rooms meet the difficulty experienced by many with regard to entering a general ward. It is becoming more recognized in the construction of hospitals in America, than formerly, most hospitals having a large number of private rooms attached. Few people desire to be put into a ward with many others when they are sick. The increased efficiency in the management of hospitals is making it popular for those who could afford to have the physician call regularly at the house to prefer to take a private room in a hospital. In the East, where the accommodation in the home is usually very meagre, and at the same time class distinctions much more rigidly observed the separate room is a boon to many.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Italy. Serious riots are taking place in Italy. Not since Italy became one united kingdom, has there been so serious an outbreak, and the situation is considered very critical. In Milan and Naples there was severe fighting, and it is rumoured that the casualties were heavy. Eight thousand troops were called out and the riots quelled, only to break out anew in Florence. Martial law has been proclaimed and all the railways are under government control. Very strict measures are being taken to prevent news of the disturbances from being made known to the world. It is thought that a republican form of Government is being aimed at by the people.

Africa. The native tribes have risen against the government at Sierra Leone and troops are being sent to quell the rebellion.

China. A mob burned the custom house and foreign property near Hankow, and general uneasiness prevails. If China awakes from her lethargy, woe to the foreigners living within her borders.

Japan. Japan is to evacuate Korea in a month's time. She has agreed with Russia not to interfere in Korean affairs. It is doubtful whether England will consent to Port Arthur's being occupied by Russia. Wars and rumours of wars are rife, and the political horizon the world over looks threatening.

THE WAR.

Our news covers two weeks—from the 1st to the 14th inst. inclusive. On the 1st a naval engagement took place off the Philippine islands. The Spanish force was superior in numbers, but their action was bad. The result was that the eleven vessels comprising the Spanish fleet were totally destroyed with a loss of 300 killed and 400 wounded so far as ascertained.

The American's loss was almost nothing. The town of Cavite was destroyed and Manila partially burned. The islands are in a very disturbed state and a force of 5000 Americans is to set sail from San Francisco to take possession of Manila and the principal ports of the group.

In the West Indies nothing very important has occurred. An American torpedo boat attacked three Spanish gunboats but withdrew after a spirited engagement. On the 11th the Americans made an attack on two towns in Cuba situated on the coast but were repulsed in both cases. A torpedo boat and a gunboat were both disabled and a number killed and wounded. Provisions are being sent to Cuba under the escort of the military. It is reported that the Spanish fleet is still at Cadiz, but there is reason to believe that this report is false. It is either near Cuba when a naval engagement is sure to take place, or aiming at some point in America on the Atlantic coast.

In Spain there was great excitement after news of the disaster at Manila reached Madrid. The existing government was condemned for not being ready for war. Martial law has had to be proclaimed in several of the provincial towns.

நீதி இராச்சியத்தாரை உயர்த்தும், பாவமோ எந்தச் சனங்களுக்கும் இகழ்ச்சி.

[நாடகம் புத்தகம்.] யாழ்ப்பாணம், தலைநகரம் வருவதற்காகக் கட்டிய விலையாகியிருக்கிறது.

[சங்கியை, கரி,

இலங்கைப் புகைக்கப்பற்
கொம்புனி (லிமிற்றேட்)

“வேடி அவலக்” புனைச்சப்பக் பிஸ்வத்
திகளில் காக்கேசுற்றறையிலிதத் பாம்பு
திராய்க் கொழும்புக்குப்போகத்தக்கின்றது.
1998 ம் வரு வருவதாச் 17 க் வ.

“லேடி கோடல்” புகைக்கப்பல் பிணவரும் தேசிக
ரில் நாகக்கோட்டை நிறையிலிருந்து பதத்தித்தனைவற்றையாய்
க் கொழும்பு பத்திரப்போதித்திடுகிறது.
1898 ம் ஆண்டு வைகாசி மீ 11-ம் நாள்

W^m MATHER, & SON. Agents.

யாழ்ப்பாண வியாபார
சமூகநாயகம்

இச்சமுதாயத்தையுடம் பின்புற் சொல்லப்படும் சாமா
ன்கள் ஸ்தபனவகித்தசிறுவன்.
உடனடிகள் நோப்பிகள் மலிகைகளுக்கெற்றதும், பன
வித பூக்களுள்வதுமான கோத்தியன் வேகல்வெற்
பெற்றது. புகழ்மையுடைய பிறந்தொண்ட

வெள்ளை, பச்சை, கருப்பு, கிளிஞ்சல் போன்றவைகள், ஆகியவை பெண்களுக்குற்ற காலியில் உற்பத்திக்கின்றன. இவற்றைக் காலியில் உத்தியோகத்திலுள்ளவர்கள் இறுதிச் சிவனில் கொண்டு, கலவைகள், கோமுகம், கண்ணாடி பலவற்றை உற்பத்திக்கின்றனர்.
 நெய்தலியான தீண்டப்படாதவைகள் - வாடிகாட்டி, மரத்தெருவாட்டிகள், வெள்ளை உட்கட்டிலைகள், வலியைத் தட்டைகள்.
 வெள்ளைச் சரிகைக்குறையங்கள், பாலியுறையச் சரிகைக்குறையங்கள்.
 கட்டாசி, பேண்ட், பென்சின் - மையதல்ப் பழத்திற்குக் காய்ந்தவை.

விளம்பரம்.

[illegible]

கனகசபைத் தலைவர் சீர்திருத்தம் பற்றி கூற வ.

விளம்பரம்.

[illegible]

விளம்பரம்

[illegible]

பா. கி. ச. வருடாந்தச்சுட்டம்.

இத்தொடரில் 20 க்கு சிறிது வியாபகச்சிறுமை அளவுதான்.
மணிபாளையே மணிப்பலயத் தோவாஸயத்திலே யாற்பு
யிற் சிறிது தாமிரத்திற் சிறிது வுருடாகத்திற்
பட்டம் காட்டுபது. பதய தவலமாசிய சம். கோரிச்ச
(Rev. H. Horsley) தயர் துச்சிராணாவிற்று கட்ட
காத்ததவலம் கோரிச்சயல்திசியாசுலாத தவலம்

உபாதிதியர் மெஸ். தம்பாபிள்ளை ஆசிரியராக, ஒட்டை-
உபதேசிகர் மெஸ். பொன்னம்பலரும், கைதசையிலிருந்
தார். ஸ்கொற். (Rev. T. B. Scott, M. D.) ஆயுதம்பி
ராகக் கஞ்செய்வார்கள்.

அதற்கு முற்பட்ட நிலைப்பாட்டிலிருந்து கடுமையாக மாற்றம்
 சில வருஷங்களுக்குடனாக மாற்றம் பெறப்பட்டிருப்பதாக, அந்
 தத்துவம் சமீபகாலமாக இருக்கும் ஓரோரமாகியே குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிரு
 ம் எனப்போலிருக்கிறது. இவ்விதமாகவல்லியே வகுப்புகள்
 நடத்தவேண்டிய தவறான முறைப்போலிருக்கிறது. அப்போது
 யுடனே செல்லவேண்டுகிற செயல்பாட்டைக் கற்றுத் தருகிற
 ம. சமுதாயத்திற்குப் புகழ். இதற்கான மனவலி கொள்ளத்தக்க
 முறை.

இவ்வாறு, S. Abraham.
 Nunavil, May, 12th 1898. Secretary.

விளம்பரம்.

[illegible]

புத்தக விளம்பரம்

காலஞ்சென்றபோன மெஸ் எஸ். எஸ். ஜெகதீரியா வாஸிபற்றப்பட்ட காலகாலம், இந்தமும், ஆதும், ஏழாம்நூற்
வாசனப்பட்டதென்கள் லீலவந்தபாங்க அலம்புவோர் அ
ராவிலித்தென்கும் அமர்து மானலிலித்தென்கும் வடமத்தென
டனடமத்தென்கும் அமர்து மானலிலித்தென்கும் வடமத்தென

SCHOOL BOOKS FOR SALE.

புத்தக விளம்பரம்

[illegible]

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உதயதாரைக

கருகூறம் (வடு) வைகாசி மீ ௧௯௭௭

ஞானத்திட்டு.

தேவனில்லையில் நவமாயுதபணம்பெற்றதில் துள்ளிவிடுவதான
நடவழியில் இசுசீலித்தொழினை உபயோகப்பாக்கிகளாக
தமிழ்ப்பொறிப்பொய்ப்பு இதல் நவநாததொழினை எவ்வி
வளாதிஸ் ஸனகத்தகதக செத்திழிஸ் வெளிப்படுத்தப்பட
பட்டதெனினுள். (வெளியுயர்வார, துணைதகதக) பத்
தாள்கள்கள் ஆரியதகதக, கி, கடபாச் இயமவசனே
வ்யாய சந்தகததகா. வியசு ௧௩, 13.

அரசனுக்கும் கடவுளுக்கும் உள்ள பேத

[illegible]

பேரரசுமாதரம். — War News — திருச்சி

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

ACCLIMATIZING CHRISTIANITY.

(A paper of which the following is a part was read by the Rev. A. E. Restarick at the Missionaries' Monthly Meeting a few weeks ago. As the matter seems of especial interest to the Tamil Christians in whose hands the future lies, the writer was asked to publish some of the paper so as to invite information and opinion from others. Mr. Walton at the United Ministers' Meeting next month is likely to speak of one or two of the points raised.)

Missionaries are often accused by travellers of meddling unduly with the habits of the people among whom they work, and in this country one often hears of objections against Christianity on the ground that it means a wholesale change of national and personal custom.

Whatever has been the case in the past, it is probable that every sensible man is actually desirous of maintaining whatever of national habits of thought and custom are consistent with a pure and holy religion; and it is certain that Christianity finds its boasts in its power of adaptation. Language, climate, race, and age have been no barriers to its progress, and it has seemed to breathe its native air in every environment. Its history is a testimony to its claim of universality.

It is true that some parts of Christianity are unchangeable, and have to be accepted or rejected in mass. We cannot preach a pantheistic religion to entrap Hindus, nor a libertine religion to entice Caffrs, nor a Unitarian religion to make it easy for Mohammedans. We are bound in conscience to preach the truth as we know it. The principles of the moral law are not to be withheld nor minimized nor trilled with. No pretense of picturesque in idolatry or shamelessness or folly can be pleaded against the claims of righteousness. But in other respects Christianity will assume variations and will grow most rapidly when such modifications are taken into account and even encouraged.

Even in respect of doctrine there will be a change of the point of view. All people cannot emphasize the same details, and historically each race and age has contributed something to the stores of our common religion by its discussion of some truth especially suitable to itself. The Hindu church will doubtless thus add their tribute to the Theological Treasury.

Doctrines can be acclimatized only amongst a church raised of the soil, though missionaries may and in fact do much to show Christian suggestions in heathen errors. Worship however is nearer at hand, and every week we are helping to form habits and ritual. Now it cannot be denied that Protestant Missionaries have brought their own ritual and enforced it thoroughly. The services in our churches are to the services at home what a photograph is to a picture—the same forms but without colour—and in many cases badly faded. Hymns in western metres, churches in western forms, the habits which may be called the little courtesies of worship, may be convenient, but they do not taste of the soil. The largely increasing use of Indian music in spite of prejudice shows that worship will not proceed altogether on introduced models, and we might well watch for opportunities of letting genuine native feeling create authorized forms of expression. Without suggesting any details, I might mention the attitude in prayer, the reading of religious poems, public charities, as topics upon which the last word has not been said.

In the sphere of religious custom some developments have already taken place; and many more will. To the early church Easter seems to have been the greatest festival. Climate and existing habits have raised Christmas to that place in Northern and Western Europe. We have not yet discovered the possibilities of the Christian year in the East. All holidays to the Hindu have been holidays. The Government has outstripped the churches and provided holidays whilst we have no holidays. Steadily however the necessity of Christian Festivals has been forced upon us. In Jaffna the convention has filled part of its place, but the element of holiday, of enjoyment, will have to be supplied either with or without the sanction of the churches. At any rate a Christian villager should not be compelled to live a smaller and less interesting life than the one he has quitted, and the fact that Jesus honoured religious festivals with his constant presence prevents us from talking about their heathenishness.

A Sivite Catechism provides for the religious observance of every moment of the day. Christianity liberates men from this absurd bondage but might take account of the existence of it. There are certain elements of piety which are best developed as habits: such as prayer in private

and in families, studying the Scriptures, and systematic giving. I believe the Morning Watch has conferred a real benefit upon our young people and it is a question whether it is not worth while to adopt its advocacy as churches. Bible Reading Unions and prayer unions so long as they do not become a new burden to the conscience tend in the same direction. The fact that they so often fail does not prove that they always will.

Customs observed on great family occasions such as marriages and funerals and at different periods of life are sometimes indecent, sometimes distinctly un-Christian. It does not appear to me that there should be undue hurry in calling a thing un-Christian however. Frenzied wailing for the dead may be, but the use of tom-toms to call upon the whole neighbourhood to sympathize is no worse than the tolling of the bell in a church. The use of the ring in marriage must have been introduced by persons totally destitute of imagination, and as it is so generally followed by the tying of the *saree*, actually leaves the marriage incomplete so far as the spectators are concerned until a separate ceremony has been performed. Some of the simple and beautiful symbolical actions in a marriage ceremony, an appropriate place in a Christian ceremony. Our western funeral customs were largely derived from impossible views of the resurrection. Our heavy coffins, our walled in graves are bad in themselves and worse in the ideas to which they give rise. Christianity has nothing to say against burning and less than nothing against the inexpensive, appropriate and sanitary committal of the body to the earth without coffins or vaults.

It is too early to discuss the adaptation of church organization. So many are being tried in perfect good temper and generally without a claim to plenary inspiration that one may well wait for the survival of the fittest. Meanwhile a committee appointed to adapt to Ceylon requirements certain orders and forms of business for some of our Methodist organizations found little that required altering at present. No doubt it is the same with other churches, and the lesson may be that, given simplicity, the necessary elasticity finds itself. One would like however to find a convenient plan for treasurerships in a poor, and bankless country: to know the secret of the village communities, of temple management, and those very few other organizations which have survived so many centuries of foreign rule.

Methods of appeal for money have naturally been among the first adaptations which we have seen, and the collection of gifts, in kind, of thank offerings, of weekly monthly yearly gifts has proceeded I suppose everywhere; and although many who ought to give still hold back, it is perhaps not more than people do in Christian countries. But do we make as much effort to adapt ourselves and our helpers in appealing to people's consciences in other respects. It is possible that the sermons, the preaching places, and preaching times of a Hindu church may differ from ours and that the reader in the temple and the wandering story teller may contribute some ideas to the pastor and evangelist of the future.

In social life Christianity finds our greatest enemy in caste, and yet sometimes has found unexpected aid. The bond of union which is created by caste has a counterpart without its enormous disadvantages in the brotherhood teaching and practice of the religion of Jesus; and much remains to be done in this direction. The use of family influence, so strong amongst the Tamils, and of marriage arrangements, may well be used for Christ—not it is true evangelistically for that must result in indifferent or half convinced Christians but pastorally to prevent the loss of souls committed to our charge.

The problem is to secure the essentials of Christianity in an environment entirely suited to the country as to the age in which we live. The solution cannot be hastened but may be forwarded by calm discussion and exact knowledge.

CUBA & THE PHILIPPINES.

How many of our readers would guess rightly if the questions were asked,—Which is the larger island Cuba or Ceylon? and how large is the largest of the Philippine islands? We confess that our ideas of the relative sizes of these islands were far from right. The area of Ceylon is in round numbers 25,000 sq. miles; of Mindanao the second largest island in the Philippine group about the same; of Cuba 43,000 square miles and of the largest of the Philippine islands 51,000 square miles. The total area of the Philippine group is 114,000 square miles.

Then as to population Cuba has but 1,600,000, possibly three or four hundred thousand less; the Philippine islands from six to seven millions nearly three fourths of whom are very likely in the above mentioned two large islands. Ceylon has twice the population of Cuba, and only about half of the Philippine.

There are over 1200 islands in the Philippine group, and nearly all are subject to Spain. A few are governed by independent princes. The Spanish force there is not very large but the capital, Manila is strongly fortified, the harbour been well mined. American and European merchants have quite a trade in the island. Ebony, Ironwood, Cedar, Logwood & Gum trees are found in great abundance and form a very principal part of the exports. The soil is exceedingly fertile and well watered, little fresh water lakes being especially numerous. The rainy season is from May to December. Of the minerals iron and coal are found in paying quantities, and sulphur and quicksilver are even more abundant. Gold is also found. The country needs developing to make it a very rich and prosperous Colony.

Education has been neglected unless more has been done in recent years of which we have failed to find any record. The Roman Catholics have been especially successful and number a large proportion of the inhabitants in their fold. The principal exports besides the forest woods are sugar, tobacco, indigo, and Manila hemp.

Cuba exports some of the same things, i.e. sugar and tobacco especially. To these should be added the tropical fruits which are sent principally to the United States. Cuba is only a hundred miles or so from Florida and is easy of access from America. In the last 20 or 30 years the sugar industry has been pushed vigorously, three fourths of it find their market in America. Cuba has been saddled with a heavy debt which makes it not at all a desirable possession.

Both the Philippines and Cuba were discovered by the Spaniards, the latter by Columbus in 1492 (and the former by Magellan in 1521. In both places serious revolts have taken place during the past three years owing to the intolerant government of the mother country. Both are seeking to be free and independent.

THE PARTITION OF CHINA.

The Celestial Empire so long inaccessible to the nations of the West, is at last going to pieces. We shall probably see more changes in the geography of Western Asia in the next decade than in any other part of the world. Slowly but surely, since the middle of the sixteenth century Russia has been subduing the peoples of Northern Asia from the Caspian to the Pacific, and more significant than the subjugation is the fact that she has assimilated them, won their respect, and bettered their physical condition. Along the Northern border of China stretch outposts of Russian troops, and farther north runs a railway, which when completed 18 months hence, will give Russia an outlet for merchandise in times of peace and troops in times of war, and be another link in binding Europe to Asia with ties that never can be broken. To find an outlet for this railway on the Pacific, in a harbor free from ice and even the year round to a Russian fleet has been the aim of Russian diplomacy for a decade. The mouth of the Amur river is not suitable for this purpose, and so Russia has been trying to get the control of Port Arthur and the Peninsula on which it is situated. But Japan is a factor now that has to be reckoned with, and Japan objects. The exports to China from the United States in 1897 were valued at over ten millions of dollars, and so she is likely to protest against any scheme of partition which will give Russia, France or Germany any great control in that Empire.

Great Britain, with its preponderance of trade in China—eighty two per cent—does not wish any change in the *status quo* for the reason that by the treaty of Tientsin she is guaranteed by China free and equal participation in all privileges, immunities, and advantages that may have been or may be hereafter granted by the Emperor of China to the government or subjects of any other nation.

She will go to war rather than see any part of China given over to the exclusive commercial as well as political control of any power. Germany and France as well as Russia are aiming at the seizure of some part of China. The murder of some Missionaries last year gave Germany a pretext for seizing the port of Kiao-Chan and demanding indemnity. She has since secured the pledge of exclusive rights in the rich province of Shantung (South of the Russian possessions) for a long period of years. France is to the south and is reported to have secured exclusive rights in two other provinces. The island of Hainan is also claimed by France. England is to have control of the Customs service as long as she retains the great bulk of Chinese trade.

Russia however is not to be trusted, and Germany seems anxious for a conflict with England on any good pretext. Japan will likely side with England. In fact the "Eastern question" seems to have been transferred from the Bosphorus to the Yellow Sea, and complications are likely to arise at any time. But if China found a leader who had the right qualities she might still drive out the foreigners and unify and consolidate her Empire. The chances for such a one being found seem to grow less and less, and in all probability, we shall have to revise our geography of eastern Asia within the next few years.

GLEANINGS.

Every man has two educations,—one which he receives from others, and one, more important, which he gives himself.—Gibson.

Never hesitate to do a kindness, because it seems too small. Even the little act of giving a cup of cold water to a thirsty one, if it be given in the right spirit, will receive God's blessing. A good talker is not made. But by reading good books, by keeping one's self well informed as to the interesting events of the day, one may become a good conversationalist. Still, the most fascinating talkers are by no means those who know the most, but, instead, those who have the greatest amount of tact, are most sympathetic, versatile, and most important of all, have the wonderful something that lacking a better name, we call magnetism. "Every woman owes it to herself and the world to be a perfect lady; every man is under obligation to show himself a faultless gentleman. To that end each should cultivate the little refinements of conduct, the graces of speech and bearing, the gentle tactfulness of demeanor, that are the delicate manifestations of inward beauty. Jesus was the finest gentleman the world has ever seen, and by his thoughtfulness of speech and manner the loveliness of his spirit was often revealed. Let us not despise the acquirement of life. Rightly used they may be made ministers of Christ."

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