

# THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 58.

Jaffna, Thursday 30th of June ., 1898.

No. 13.

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

## ALMANAC-பஞ்சாங்கம்.

June.—ஆடி மீ.

தமிழ் துனி கக—ஆடி கக.

இவ். தமிழ் வார இவ். தமிழ் வார இவ். தமிழ் வார  
ஆடி. துனி. ம. ஆடி. துனி. ம. ஆடி. துனி. ம.

1	சு	வெ	11	உ	தி	21	வ	வி
2	உ	சனி	12	க	செ	22	அ	செ
3	உ	சு	13	க	பு	23	க	சு
4	உ	தி	14	ச	வெ	24	க	சு
5	உ	செ	15	ச	வெ	25	க	சு
6	உ	பு	16	உ	சனி	26	ச	செ
7	உ	தி	17	க	சு	27	க	பு
8	உ	செ	18	ச	தி	28	க	வி
9	உ	சனி	19	சு	செ	29	க	செ
10	உ	சு	20	ச	பு	30	க	சனி

○ பெளமணி சு. மிப்பகல் 4 நிமிசி 2 மணி நிமிசி  
● சுமரவாசி சு. மிப்பகல் 19 நிமிசி 1 மணி நிமிசி

### RECEIPT FOR THE MORNING STAR.

Straits Settlements Rev. S. Peter and Messrs. N. Gunese-  
kara, S. Sapapathy for '98 6.50  
Vavinya Mr. G. W. Chevaladurai for '97 & '98 4.00  
Straits Settlements Mr. S. Sapapathy for '95-97 10.00  
Jaffna, Town Mr. P. de Silva for '98 1.50  
Mr. M. Comarasamy for '97 1.50

## 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 2½ per annum on minimum monthly balances of Rs 500, and upwards.

Fixed deposits received on the following terms—  
For 12 months interest at 6½ per annum allowed  
" 6 " " 5 " "  
" 3 " " 3 " "

Approved bills discounted. Money advanced on pledges.

Remittances made to and from Colombo, Colombo Bankers, National Bank of India Ltd. Cheques and foreign drafts and bills of ex. change 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.

### NOTICE.

Know all men by these presents that I the undersigned do hereby cancel the General power of Attorney I gave to my brother R. C. Jacob in the month of January, 98 at Batugajah Perak, Straits.

13th May 1898

E. P. JACOB

### THE JAFFNA APOTHECARIES' CO.

We have commenced business at "Jayavasa near the Grand Bazaar. Every description of articles connected with medicine and Pharmacy has been ordered and will be sold at comparatively low prices. Prescriptions are compounded and charged moderately. Trial orders solicited.

14th June 1898

S. Ponnusamy Medical adviser

Manager

The Jaffna Apothecaries' Co

Jaffna.

### THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd.

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

1898 May 31st  
" June 14th and 25th  
" July 12th and 26th

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

1898 June 3rd and 17th  
" July 1st, 15th and 29th

W. MATHER & SON,

Agents.

### THE JAFFNA TRADING COMPANY LTD.

Clearance Sale.

Grand opportunity.

Terms hCas.

This following goods will be sold in the rooms of the Jaffna Trading Company Ltd at reduced price for seven days from the 11th July 1898.

Drapery:—washing and unwashing tweeds, flannels, check, drills, cashmere rose and blue merinoes, chintz, towels, horrocks, cambric, &c. Glassware:—Kerosine oil hanging table and wall lamps, carriage lamps, chimneys, &c. &c.

Stationery:—Notarial and ordinary foolscaps, fancy note papers and envelopes, blottings, cartridges, pen, pencils &c. &c.

Hardware:—Saws, adzes, chisels, files, augers, hinges, bolts, screws, locks, &c. &c.

Haberdashery:—Buttons, needles &c.

Paints and oils and fancy soaps & sundries

V. AIYARU PILLAI

Manager.

29th June 1898.

### NOTICE.

About 30 heads of cattle, bulls, cows, heifers, and milking cows of the undersigned will be sold in public auction at Manalkadoo Estate on Monday the 8th August next at 1 P. M. Tattovancotty, Pallai } Yours truly  
27th June 1898. } V. SUPAR

### ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary No 902

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Pattinippillai widow of Velathur Kanapattipillai of Velanai West

Deceased  
Velayntar Kattikechar of Velanai West Petitioner.

1. Palanyachchi wife of Velayntar Kattikechar of Velanai West.  
2. Kanapattipillai Nagalingam and  
3. Kanapattipillai Sent of do Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Velayntar Kattikechar of Velanai West praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Pattinippillai widow of Velayntar Kanapattipillai of Velanai West coming on for disposal before C. E. Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 27th day of April 1898 in the presence of Mr. T. C. Changarapillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 25th day of April 1898 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the brother-in-law and next of kin to the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 11th day of July 1898 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 27th day of April 1898

Signed C. Eardley WILMOT

District Judge.

### ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary No. 905.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Chinnattampiar Arumkampilai of Vannarponnai Deceased

Ilayachchi widow of Chinnattampiar Arumkampilai of Mallakam Petitioner.

1. Chinnattampiar Ponnampalam of Vannarponnai employed at Kwa Lumpur  
2. Malvakannam Chinnattampiar his  
3. wife Achekikundi of Vannarponnai East  
4. Chinnachchi wife of Kanasekari of Chundikuli  
5. Venachittampi Kanapattipillai his  
6. wife of Nakamutti of Nirvelo  
7. Chinnappa Arunachalam and his  
8. wife Chinnattanakachchi of do Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Ilayachchi widow of Chinnattampiar Arumkampilai of Mallakam praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Chinnattampiar Arumkampilai of Vannarponnai coming on for disposal before C. E. Wilmot Esquire, District Judge, on the 13th day of May 1898 in the presence of Mr. T. C. Changarapillai Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 19th day of April 1898 having been read it is declared that the Petitioner is the widow of the said Intestate and as such is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to her unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 4th day of July 1898 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 13th day of May 1898

Signed C. Eardley WILMOT

District Judge.

### Local & General.

**Weather.** The monsoon has been blowing steadily though for the past three or four days there has been something like a lull. The mornings were close and sultry the wind rising only about noon. A few good showers of rain would be very acceptable.

**Pilgrims.** A large number of pilgrims from Jaffna have gone to the church at Madadu. The festivities at the church will be over on the 2 Prox and it is the time for the medical authorities to watch the egress of the pilgrims from the place in order to prevent the introduction of epidemic diseases. Com.

**Theft.** Theft of a daring character was committed on the night of Saturday last, in a rice boutique at the junction of the four roads near the chettie's godown. A police constable is expected to be always on beat at the said junction both day and night. It is inexplicable how the theft should have been committed without being detected. The police authorities, it is necessary to remind them, should do their duty. Several thefts have been reported within the police limits, and people without the police in the villages appear to be better off than those who pay the police tax. Com.

**Suicides.** Suicides of Europeans are reported from Galle and Trincomalee, as well as from Marutta. The man who takes his own life, dies a coward's death.

**A bar dinner.** Some of the members of the Jaffna bar made a start in the direction of initiating a bar dinner. The idea did not meet with any serious opposition, although difference of opinion prevented some of the members of the bar from joining in the dinner which was eaten by nine on the 23rd inst. in the Jaffna Rest House. The promoters of the dinner have decided to hold the function once in three months and they trust that the continuance of the social meet will be the source of many good results. Com.

**F. N. S. Hospital.** Dr. F. Grenier goes to Kallut on promotion as the Govt. Medical Officer of the station and Dr. E. Rasasingha a son of Mr. Nicholas chief clerk of the Point Pedro Courts has been appointed to succeed him. Com.

**Dr. Fairbank.** One who knew the Doctor very intimately writes of him as follows.

"The dear old Doctor passed away without any pain or any apparent consciousness of approaching death.....His body buried first in the town where he died was disinterred, and the dear old form now lies beside his wife in the Ahmadnagar Cemetery. In many ways it was most providentially ordered. He died within the sphere where his life work was. He lies among his own at rest. The sweetness and simplicity of his life are our inheritance."

**Dr. Rockwood.** In spite of the opposition made to the appointment of Dr. Rockwood, Her Majesty the Queen Empress has approved of his appointment as a member of the Legislative Council.

**Point Pedro.** Dr. M. W. Ropes has been appointed Dr. Strong's successor as Port officer and dispenser at Point Pedro.

**The Jaffna Trading Company.** The Directors of this Company met together on the 27th inst. It has been found that the Company's customers have been in default to pay its dues, and that its trade has been retarded by a very large portion of its funds being in the hand of its customers. Speedy steps have been proposed to be taken in Court against its defaulter. Com.

**The late Sub-collector at Point Pedro.** We are sorry to record the death of Mr. Martens which took place at Jaffna on the morning of the 28th inst. Mr. Martens was in the service of the Govt. until he was compelled by old age to retire on pension about a year ago. He preferred to spend the last days of his life at Point Pedro, and remained there since his retirement from service. Mr. W. Tossaint, a nephew of the late Mr. Martens, removed him to his residence in the town the day before his death. The funeral took place on the same day of his death and we express our sympathy to all the friends and relations of the deceased. Com.

**Mr. J. J. Cassi Chetty.** Mr. Cassi Chetty came by the last steamer and landing at Kankasanturai he proceeded to Point Pedro and left with his family and children in the same steamer to his station at Malata. Com.

### FOREIGN NEWS.

**England.** The new British first class battleship "Albion" was launched on the 21st. instant. The displacement of water as the boat slid down, caused a large wave to overwhelm a staging on which some two or three hundred spectators, mostly women and children of the dockyard hands had assembled to witness the ceremony. A number were drowned. Thirty four bodies have been already recovered, and a number of others are missing.

**France.** The division of parties is such in France that the minister of State refused to undertake the formation of a new cabinet. His place was filled by another who failed, and now the President has called upon a third, to form a new cabinet, with what result remains to be seen.

**India.** A rather severe shock of earthquake took place at Darjeeling on the 17th inst. Floods at Midnapore have rendered many people homeless and caused the loss of several lives. In other districts the scanty rainfall is causing great anxiety about the crops. An European was murdered at Karachi and his wife seriously wounded, revenge being the cause. Plague returns from Calcutta up to June 22nd gave the total number of cases at 123 with 37 deaths.



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## LIGHT FROM THE BURIED PAST.

In these days of Higher Destructive Criticism it is refreshing to every devout believer of Holy Writ to come across some new proof of the genuineness and authenticity of the books of the Bible. Not that the Higher Critics have given us nothing of value in their researches; Christianity owes much to the Higher Criticism in the incentive it has given to a more careful and systematic study of God's Word. But many of the conclusions of those who belong really to the Destructive Criticism have been based upon mere assumptions, and have been presented to the church more in the form of dogma than possible theories to be examined carefully before being adopted.

The swinging pendulum has reached its limit however and is on the return. The influence of such Higher Critics is on the wane and the church is coming back to a purer and more intelligent faith. There is fascination no doubt in assuming that our more cultured minds cannot accept the conclusions reached by the scholars of remote ages. What was *real* to them we explain by calling legendary. But there is great danger in this age of intellectual activity of minimizing the value of God's voice in the soul; and we are glad that the tide has turned while we rejoice over the results given us from the searching investigations of scholarly minds. Those who have neither time nor ability to investigate for themselves will do well to ponder both sides of a question before allowing their better judgment to yield to mere sentiment.

Prof. A. H. Sayce LL.D., F.R.S. one of the greatest living authorities on archaeology, in a recent letter to one of the religious papers writes as follows:—

"Oriental discovery has firmly established two facts. One of these is the literary character of the civilization of the ancient East; the other is what may be called the solidarity of ancient Oriental history. Writing was known and practised in Western Asia and Egypt centuries before Abraham was born. The age was one ... in which the educated and commercial classes were all supposed to be able to write and read. We even possess the actual letter written by Khammurabi, the Amraphel of the book of Genesis; in one of which he refers to Arioch of Ellasar, and Chedorlaomer the king of Elam. ...

If the age of Abraham was literary, the age of Moses was still more so. The clay tablets found at Tel-el-Amarna in upper Egypt, prove that letters were constantly passing backward and forward along the roads which intersected the civilized world of that day, and that these letters were written and answered by persons of all ranks and conditions and often related to the most trivial matters. Even Bedouin sheikhs take part in the correspondence, as well as women, who, it may be noted, busied themselves with both trade and politics, almost as much as the men. Canaan was the center of the literary intercourse that was thus going on, and must have been full of libraries and schools where the cuneiform script and language of Babylonia were taught and learned. We can never again talk about the illiteracy of the ancient East, or imagine that literary culture began among the Greeks in the sixth century B. C. The Old Testament is no isolated literary monument—so isolated, indeed, as to oblige criticism to bring down its composition to as late an age as possible; on the contrary, the world for which it was written was a world as literary as our own, and had been reading and writing and producing famous books long centuries before the period of the Exodus."

Prof. Sayce goes on to say that the antiquity of literature overthrows the arguments and conclusions of the "Higher Critics." "Their arguments rested on the tacit assumption that the Israelites were illiterate nomads, that literature did not spring up in the East until long after the Mosaic age, and that consequently Moses could not have written the Pentateuch nor could his contemporaries have read it." He goes on to say that recent discoveries overthrow this and similar assumptions and that the superstructure built upon such assumptions must necessarily fall. So the stories of Genesis pronounced as legends by the Higher Critics must be restored to sober history. So also institutions declared by "higher criticism" to be inventions of later ages have been proved to be of great antiquity. Archaeology has rendered valiant service to the Bible and is destined to do even more in the future than it has in the past. At the same time we must remember that even were it proved that Moses was not

the author of the Pentateuch it would not overthrow the Bible or any portion of it as God's Word. Undoubtedly mistakes have crept in from more than one source but they are after all comparatively few. The persistent attempts of those who would like to throw out of the sacred canon several books of the Old Testament and possibly one or two of the New remind one of the picture of the Anvil and the broken hammers.

Hammer away ye hostile bands.

Your hammers break God's anvil stands."

## PINEAPPLE FIBRE.

A few years ago a great deal was said about the Palmyra fibre industry, and in Jaffna a large amount was collected and sent to Colombo for re-shipment. There was considerable anxiety felt here lest the stripping of the palmyras should be carried too far, and injury be done to the young trees. Fortunately for the palmyra the prices for the fibre soon went down and at this present time there is very little done in collecting it. Not long ago we came across the following in one of the Home papers and we wondered whether the pine grew in sufficient quantities in Ceylon to make it worth while trying to get the fibre. The article was as follows:—

The leaf of the pineapple has a fibre which is destined to take a prominent place among the constituents of textile fabrics, according to statements made in the report of the United States Department of Agriculture. The report shows that both the wild and the cultivated plants of this description yield fibre which when spun surpasses in point of strength, fineness and lustre, those obtained from flax. In China it is used in fabrics for clothing for agriculturists; it is in request in India as material for stringing necklaces, and is the substance of the well-known pine-cloth of the Philippine islands. It is remarkably durable, unaffected by immersion in water, is white, soft silky and flexible."

We presume that the pine does not grow in sufficient quantities to make it pay to collect the fibre, but if not, would it be worth while cultivating it for this purpose? In these days we are on the watch for new industries and it might not be a bad idea if the question of raising pines for fibre was thoroughly ventilated. Years ago Mr. Ferguson wrote:

"In the low country of Ceylon there are hundreds of thousands of acres of fine land available for fibre cultivation, and a vast population of Sinhalese villagers who as soon as they found a demand sent in from European traders or planters, would speedily cultivate fibrous plants, for which they could get a return, as they now do for their coco or coconut fibre."

In his Hand book Mr. Ferguson speaks of the Plantain and the Pineapple both as yielding excellent fibre and being abundant. It is said that a very good quality of paper is made from plantain, and that is surely abundant enough. If the material that now goes to waste could be utilized we believe considerable would be added to the wealth of our island. Our farmers are more anxious to raise tobacco than any other crop because the money comes in a lump; but if the deterioration of the land is taken into account we doubt very much whether the raising of tobacco pays. It would be a great thing for the Northern province especially as the railway is now an assured fact if new crops were tried and new industries started.

## THE WAR.

Our news of the American-Spanish war is brought down to the close of last week.

June 11th 600 marines were landed at Calamara in Cuba. A night attack was made by the Spaniards which was unsuccessful. The loss is unknown. Further re-inforcements with cannon were landed, and Guantanamo harbour is occupied by the American fleet as a base. The whole Spanish fleet is at Santiago. On the 16th the American warships bombarded Santiago for an hour, over 5,000 projectiles being fired with the result of silencing a number of batteries. The American dynamite cruiser, Vesuvius, fired three 250 lbs charges of gun cotton over the fortifications into a small bay where the Spanish torpedo vessels were lying, with what result is not known.

The report that an exchange of prisoners was to be effected is untrue, the Spanish Admiral having refused. General Shafter's army has arrived off Santiago, but finds it difficult to effect a landing. The shore is lined for 15 miles with Spanish troops, and it is claimed that 45,000 men can be brought against the Americans on short notice. The report that yellow fever had broken out among the soldiers in one of the forts at the mouth of the Mississippi has

not been confirmed. An attempt was made by a Cuban to assassinate the Commander of the Spanish forces, Marshal Blanco, but he escaped with a slight wound.

In the Philippines two events are noticeable. One is the concentrating of German warships at Manila and the very injudicious remarks of one of the German Captains, if rightly reported, may lead to complication. The foreign residents are leaving Manila in neutral ships. Two more British warships have been ordered to proceed to Manila. The other event of importance is the advance made by the insurgents. They have captured Delage, the second town of importance and have taken 4,000 Spanish and 1,000 native prisoners.

A Spanish general who with 3,000 mixed troops was advancing to the relief of Manila was drawn into an ambush and after three days fierce fighting was killed and the remnant of his force forced to surrender. The Captain General of Manila proposed to surrender but his Council refused to accede to the proposal, whereupon he resigned and the Deputy Captain General superseded him.

A third expedition from America is to set sail from San Francisco this week. General Merritt, the Commander of the American forces in the Philippines will probably accompany it.

In Spain peace is being talked of especially in the rural districts. The war has been denounced as an injury to the trade and industry of Spain. The Cadiz fleet which was reported to have left Spain for the Mediterranean has returned to a port in Spain.

LATER: The American have succeeded in landing near Santiago and have surrounded the town. Germany disclaims any intentions of interfering in the Philippine Islands. French warships are proceeding to Manila. The Cadiz fleet has finally left Spain and is on the way down the Mediterranean.

## NORTHERN RAILWAY.

From the Summary of correspondence between the authorities in Colombo and those in England re-Proposed Railway Extension we take the following paragraph as showing the present position regarding the construction of the line in Jaffna:—The Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain M.P. writes:—

"The following is the present state of the case I have decided that the whole of the Northern Railway, when made, must be on the 5 ft. 6 in. gauge; that the first section from Kurunegala to Anuradhapura may be made at once; that of the Rs. 4,000,000, which is estimated as its probable cost, Rs. 2,500,000 must be found from current revenue or cash balances, while Rs. 1,500,000 may be borrowed; that the early construction of the third section—the line through the Jaffna peninsula from Kangesanturai to Elephant Pass—may also be undertaken, if it can be shown that that line is likely to pay on the 5 ft. 6 in. gauge, my words on the subject being: "You may consider that the commencement of the section from Kangesanturai to Elephant Pass should be postponed for a time, but I do not refuse to sanction the early construction of that section if on reconsideration you can satisfy me and my expert advisers that on the light 5 ft. 6 in. gauge it can be made to pay *ab initio*," and finally, I decided that "the construction of the intermediate line between Elephant pass and Anuradhapura must wait for the present."

## UNFIT FOR SERVICE.

It has been stated that a large number of the young men of the United States who have offered themselves as volunteers for the war with Spain have been rejected as "unfit for service." The reason given by one of the army examining physicians is that of those rejected nearly per cent have injury to their constitution and impaired the heart's action solely by the habit of smoking! The excessive use of tobacco is the dreadful fact which has kept back, many young men who were ready and eager to serve their country. How many look upon the cigaret as harmless. Here is an illustration of the way of its working.

Likewise thousands of young men are "unfit for the service" of the King of Kings. How many are unfit to take their part by reason of some foolish habit which they have lightly permitted to enslave them. If many allow as not objectionable in a man's character renders them unfit for service in this war against wrong, can it be looked upon a little thing. It is "the little foxes that spoil the grapes."

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