

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 59.

Jaffna, Thursday 10th of Aug. 1899.

No. 16

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

RECEIPIES FOR THE MORNING STAR.

	1899
Manippy	Messrs. Wm. Mather, S. P. Lawton, and S. T. Arnold
Batticaloa	Mr. J. Chellappa
Chilaw	Mr. J. C. Joseph
Jaffna Town	Mr. A. S. Arulampalam
Madulaisma	Messrs. Sivagnanam Angsh Mason, E. Vyramuthi Mason and K. Arunachalam
Namunakalai	Mr. S. Valappillai
Lenngala	Mr. W. Panampalam
Sandilippi	Dr. D. P. Alexander
Vanuarpoondi	Dr. Sivaprasakasam

OUR SUBSCRIBERS !!

Please remit all dues &c., at once.

THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP CO. LTD.

 The S.S. Lady Hawlock is appointed to sail from Kankesanturai for Colombo via Faumban on the evening of the following dates—

August 22nd, and Sept. 5th 1899

The Company's Steamer "Lady Gordon" is appointed to sail from Kankesanturai for Colombo via Pt. Pedro on noon of the following dates—

August 14th, and 25th, and Sept 8th 1899

W. MATHER & SON, Agents

NOTICE.

Messrs. William Mather and Son beg to inform the public that in addition to the large and varied business they are doing, they have commenced to do general Auctioneering and Commission Agency business at the spacious building lately occupied by the Jaffna Post Office.

Articles of every description can be entrusted to them, in the shape of household furniture, horses, carriages, and all personal effects including jewellery &c. They also undertake to negotiate sales of lands.

They have also to inform the public that well and ready made furniture of almost every description will be on view for sale at their premises from the 1st of July and that orders for any other articles not in stock will be promptly and satisfactorily executed. They have secured the services of a number of skilful carpenters.

For all further particulars, apply to

William Mather and Son.

THE PAIN SPECIFIC.

Guaranteed to cure Pains in the chest, back, upper and lower extremities, neck, groins and joints, neuralgia Pains, Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Paralysis, edema, Glandular swellings inflamed parts &c. Used externally per bottle Rs. 2 and Rs. 4 Packing As. 4

W. Rodner and Co. Surgeons Calcutta.

NOTICE.

The Wreckage, Anchors Stores &c of the Brig Moulmein will be put up for public competition at the Mullaithivoe Custom House and Beacon on the 4th August at 12 noon.

For particulars see notices put up at the different Custom Houses throughout the island.

C. S. Vaughan
for Receiver of Wrecks,

H. M. Customs
Mullaithivoe 12th July 1899

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LIMITED.

The 3rd annual General meeting of the above Corporation will be held at the Bank Hall Jaffna on Friday the 8th September 1899 commencing at 4 p.m.

S. T. Arnold
Secretary

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LIMITED.

Bankers and Commission Agents
The Company opens current accounts with sums of not less than Rs. 100.00 and interest allowed at 2 per cent per annum on minimum monthly balances of Rs. 500.00 and upwards. Fixed deposits received for 3, 6 and 12 months

and interest allowed at 3, 5 and 6 per cent per annum respectively.

Remittances both by Wire and Draft made to and from Colombo, Colombo Bankers-National Bank of India Ltd.

Cheques and foreign drafts and bills of exchange on the Colombo Banks cashed.

For sale at the Store Department

Grey shirtings, Muslins, Jecconettes, Chintz of different kinds, Umbrellas, Hosiery, Boots Shoes and harness Waterbury watches, Printing paper, Swans Fountain Pens &c. &c.

WILLIAM MATHER,

Managing Director.

ORDER NISL.

In the District Court of Jaffna.
Testamentary No. 995.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Nachchelippilly Kothurugamar Ramalingam of Elaly Deceased wife of Kothurugamar Ramalingam of Elaly Petitioner

Kothurugamar Ramalingam of Elaly and

1. Kachilar Artimungam and wife

2. Vaitupuly of Punnakkadavu Respondents This matter of the Petition of the above named petitioner Kothurugamar Ramalingam of Elaly praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above named deceased Nachchelippilly wife of Kothurugamar Ramalingam of Elaly coming on for disposal before C. Eardley Wilmett Esquire, District Judge, on the 5th day of July 1899 in the presence of Mr. S. F. G. Carpenter Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 3rd day of July 1899 having been read it is declared that the petitioner is the lawful husband of the said testator and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Testate issued to him before the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 10th day of August 1899 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 5th day of July 1899. C. E. WILMETT,
District Judge.

Ecclesiastical & General.

Weather. The days are hot with a cool damp wind towards evening. Rain is greatly needed. There have been no showers since May.

Missionary. Dr. Scott returns from Colombo by steamer Sunday evening. Mr. Holton is taking a bicycle trip to Trincomalee and Batticaloa, and hopes to be back this week. Rev. G. W. Ryde and Mrs. Ryde and infant are expected by steamer on the 14th inst. They are to be stationed at Chundiyal.

Women's Missionary Society. A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at Udayil on the 1st instant. About 150 women were present from all parts of the American Mission field. Papers were read and speeches made by several present, and it was voted that a Society be formed and a few rules drawn up, with the object of carrying on work in South India, if practicable. Miss S. R. Howland with her good knowledge of Tamil makes an excellent President. Dr. L. H. Currie is vice President and Mrs. Chellappillai, Secretary and Treasurer. We wish the Society all success. The time is ripe for the formation of such a society, and the carrying on of work outside of Jaffna. It will act as a stimulus also in the Christian work in the peninsula. The more that is attempted outside of Jaffna the more will be done within its borders.

There is no loss in sending to other countries to evangelize those who have never heard of Christ, for it will awaken interest, and result in increased activity here among our Christians.

Egyptian Exile. Toniba Pasha who was permitted to return to his native land after 17 years of exile, died in Egypt last month.

Axiusine Bible Society. A circular has been issued asking that pastors arrange for the preaching of sermons in behalf of this society on Sunday August 27th. We hope this request will be borne in mind.

Teachers! Teachers! The Director of Public Instruction has had some blank forms printed for the use of Inspectors when making surprise visits. Now the printing of forms costs something and the Department must make this scheme pay, so "surprise visits" are the order of the day. If any teacher is anxious to have the name of his school appear on one of these forms, all he has to do is to neglect to call the register at the proper time, or fail to have his Time Table hanging up in a conspicuous place, when the Inspector calls. It seems strange that any teacher should desire publicity of this kind, but that he desires it seems a fair inference when he persistently violates the rules of the Department.

Vidhans. These officers get no pay from the Government, yet they must live. Small wonder then if they resort to methods for earning a living which are not justifiable. Complaints are made in many places of their extortion from the people, a good deal of which is probably untrue. Still where there is so much smoke there must be some fire. Take a single instance. A man weary of life throws himself into a well and is drowned. One or two bruises are found on his body and to escape the charge

of foul play, money is paid to the Vidhan and others interested, who report the truth, "death by suicide." There should be no room however for this kind of work, and the Govt. ought to see to it that these officers are paid a living salary even if it means a reduction of force in other quarters. Justices fast becoming a scarce article in the island.

Hastings Memorial Girls' School. This school building at Saugarriggetty erected by the efforts of Samuel Hensman Esq. was opened on Saturday the 29th instant at 4 p.m. The ex-magistrate of Kaiti C. V. Athuravellupillai Esq. presided, and after the opening exercises called on Mr. Hensman to give a report of the origin and building of the school. Mr. Hensman had succeeded in collecting money in the Straits from those who had known Dr. and Mrs. Hastings, and at considerably labor and expense put up the building. Over Rs. 1200 had already been expended and there were still a few things to be done.

Rev. B. H. Rice made the Dedicatory Prayer and Mrs. R. C. Hastings declared the building open for the purposes for which it was erected. At the same time she unveiled the inscription over the door way, "Dr. and Mrs. Hastings Memorial School." The letters had been very carefully and neatly cut in a block of stone and then painted over with black paint.

Remarks were then made by the chairman, Proctor Arnold, Mr. Allen Abraham, Dr. Mills, Mr. John Knight and others, and the service brought to a close by the Benediction. The school room was decorated in the oriental style, and was crowded with people even to the verandahs. After the exercises were over, tea and cakes were served to those present. We congratulate Mr. Hensman on the completion of this work, and trust that the Girls school may flourish and prove a great blessing to all in that village.

The Jaffna Sessions. The Criminal Sessions at Jaffna will begin on the 14th inst. There are eight cases committed from the Police Court in Jaffna, two from Malaiyam, two from Chavagacheri and one from Kaiti. Two cases from Batticaloa have been transferred to the Jaffna Sessions and it is believed that one case from Mullaitivoe will be added to the roll of cases for the Sessions.

Venpadi Girls English School. We were pleased to hear that Miss Nallama Williams has been awarded the prize of Rs. 140 for distinction in the Calcutta Entrance Examination for the year 1899. She was the first in order of merit of all the girls who appeared for the Examination.

The Govt. Agent. Mr. Ivers left on circuit on the 5th inst. and he is expected to be away if the South of the Province for about a month.

Customs Department. Mr. Francis has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. Caralasingham as the shroff at the Customs at Jaffna, and Mr. Veerasingham of Navalay has been appointed to succeed Mr. Francis at Pt. Pedro. Mr. Broderup Collector at Pt. Pedro, proceeds to Gallo and Mr. Duetum of Jaffna succeeds Mr. Broderup at Jaffna.

Arrack rent. On the 23rd of this month arrack rent will be sold in Colombo.

District Court. The Jaffna District Court house will be turned over for the use of the Supreme Court from the 14th inst., and the District Court work will be postponed until the close of the Sessions. The District Judge expects to spend a few days at the Rest House in Elephant Pass during the Supreme Court sitting in Jaffna.

Miss Davidson. who arrived in Jaffna a fortnight ago to assume duties of her work as the assistant Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Division of Jaffna has returned to Colombo, not being satisfied with her future prospects.

Mr. L. B. Best. Many of those who knew Mr. Best when he was connected with Jaffna College will be glad to learn that he graduated with honor from Hamilton College, and is now successfully engaged in teaching. In the prize debate of graduation week, Mr. Best won the second prize on the question that "The present occupancy of the Philippines by the United States is justified." He spoke on the negative side of the question.

Obituary. Mr. John Caralasingham, shroff of the Jaffna Customs, died at his home on Saturday the 29th ultimo. He was one who was always obliging and helpful to those with whom he came in contact, and withal and efficient and trustworthy public officer. He was the son-in-law of the well known merchant, Mr. S. Manchipillai Rajakarier. The friends have our sympathy.

The Schoolmasters Bonus. "We fail to see why the whole bonus should go to the head teacher, leaving his colleagues quite out in the cold, and making them quite disheartened and discontented. It is in the power of Government to exercise a little more liberality in this direction by paying 15 per cent on the grant earned by the classes directly under the head teacher of a school and 10 per cent on the grant earned by the classes directly under his colleagues provided they are certificate.

Ceylon Observer. Mr. J. Ferguson, editor of the *Ceylon Observer* left on the 3rd instant for a three months hurried visit to England. On his return he expects to bring back to the island two daughters and a younger son.

Rev. W. Passmore. We have been favored with a visit from Mr. Passmore of Kultur who represent the interests of the Indian Christian Literature Society. Arrangements are being made to start a deput in town in place of the present Book Depot where the Bible Society publications will also have a place. Mr. Passmore returned to Colombo on the 8th inst.

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

The report of the Postmaster General for 1898 is not as interesting as usual. The total revenue for the year is given as Rs. 963,000., a nett excess of revenue over expenditure of about Rs. 30,000. During the year "Penny" postage has been introduced the penny being fixed at 6 cents. The Local rates have remained unchanged, and we have a 6 cents rate to England with a 5 cents rate to any place within the island. This should be reduced to 3 or 4 cents, and other rates correspondingly. There are 143 post offices in the island of which 11 are in the Jaffna peninsula. Looking at the statement of Receipts and Expenditures of these offices, we find, as was to be expected, Colombo far ahead of every other place. Kandy comes second, Galle third, Jaffna fourth, Newara Eliya fifth. In our peninsula the post offices at Chavagacheri, Kayts and Puttoo, are not paying offices i.e. the revenue falls short of the expenditure. Jaffna town leads off with an income of Rs. 19,240.97, Point Pedro comes second with Rs. 3615.69; the Kutchcheri stands third with Rs. 1963.65; and Batticotta fourth with a revenue of Rs. 1382.37. Of the 17 offices in the island where the receipts for the year were under Rs. 500, two are Chavagacheri and Puttoo.

In the Telegraph department, the introduction of the 25 cents telegram, has greatly increased the traffic on the lines. There was also an increase in the number of messages sent to India. Yet in spite of the great increase of messages the time of transmission has been reduced, thus showing substantial improvement in this department. The question of reducing the rates for cabal messages is under discussion.

Concerning the conveyance of mails by coaches the Postmaster General says:—"The various lines have on the whole worked satisfactorily. I quote from a previous report some remarks by my predecessor, which apply equally to the year under review:—The present system of repairing roads is a constant source of complaint from mail contractors, who assert that during the repairing season of the year metal is laid for a considerable distance and remains for longer or shorter periods of time without being rolled. Under such circumstances the strain of dragging a heavy coach with passengers over lengths of loose metal is excessive and most injurious to the animals, and it is unreasonable to expect contractors to use really good horses as long as such a system prevails."

Concerning Motor Cars he says:—"In my last report I noted that I had been commissioned by the Government to make inquiries, when on leave in 1898, as to the Motor Cars. As a result, a 'Leyland' steam car to be fed by liquid fuel having carrying capacity of one ton has been ordered as an experiment, and will, on arrival be utilized for the conveyance of mails to railway stations."

The weight of mails despatched from Ceylon to London is something astonishing. During 1898 no less than 10,833 lbs of Letters and Post Cards were sent from Colombo to London and over 34,000 lbs of other articles.

THE TRADE OF THE COLONY.

The report of the Principal Collector of Customs deals largely with statistics which will not be of special interest to many of our readers. Nevertheless every true patriot should be interested in the development of the resources of his country, and in the amount of trade this calls forth. We learn that excluding the total value of imports for 1898 was Rs. 87,525,034.97 and of exports Rs. 93,801,820.13. This is an increase over the previous year, and shows a good balance in favor of exports. The increase in imports has been in grain, spirits, sugar and kerosene oil, while the increase in exports is largely due to plumbago and copperas. Tea still continues to make advances in spite of the decrease in price. Over one hundred and twenty two million lbs of tea were exported in 1898, nearly one hundred millions of which went to the United Kingdom, and fifteen millions to Australia. Of the foreign countries, Russia took 2,431,577 lbs and the United States 1,576,095 lbs. It seems strange that the tea producing country of China should take 252,636 lbs, though most likely a good part of this was consumed by the English residents at the sea ports.

Taking now the value of the produce exported from our island, we have, of course, Tea heading the list to the amount of nearly Rs. 47,000,000. The various products of the cocoanut come next totalling nearly Rs. 15,000,000.

Of this one third is from cocoanut oil and another third from copperas. This favourable showing of the cocoanut quite justifies the very sanguine remarks of the Governor last Nov. as to the important part this industry was likely to play in the future. On the other hand coffee once the principal item of export from the island now plays a very insignificant part—amounting only to Rs 866,000. Cinnamon for which Ceylon was once famous now stands at Rs. 2,173,000, considerably better than coffee, but far below its former position in the list of exports. Plumbago is put down at nearly four and a half millions, and there is every indication that this industry is likely to make even greater advance in the future than it has in the past. On the whole the Report shows a very encouraging state of trade in our island.

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION

We take pleasure in giving the report of this firm for the year ending June 30th. The Corporation was commenced only about three years ago on a very small scale, and it has made rapid growth. We believe that it has been of great benefit to the Jaffna public. In the one item of cloth, it has reduced the price from 15 to 20 per cent, and conferred a boom also in introducing a greater variety. There are still some unsold shares which ought to be taken up by those who wish to be connected with a successful business firm. Much of the success of the past is due to the Managing Director who has been indefatigable in promoting the interests of this company. In giving the report we would add our congratulations and express the hope that the Corporation may have even a more prosperous year in the one it has just entered than the past. If it will keep out of speculation, we see no reason why it should not become in time one of the leading firms of the island.

The report that we are now presenting is for the 3rd year of our corporate existence, and we have no hesitation in saying that it has been a most prosperous period.

To summarize our Banking Business, the total amount received during the year, by way of current deposits, was Rs. 126,641.52; bills and notes were discounted to the amount of Rs. 180, 423.25; and we transmitted to our Colombo Bankers, for banking purposes, the sum of Rs. 162,412.44.

The Trading Department has given us much larger profits than Banking Business. We have opened an Agency at Batticaloa, and the services of a thoroughly competent person as our Agent have been secured from the 1st of April last. The amount of business that we have done there during the brief term of three months cannot but be a sure index of the large success that is in store for us at Batticaloa.

We are on the eve of starting an Agency at Trincomalee and an equally competent person has consented to be our Agent there. The Managing Director lately paid a visit to both these stations with a view to promote our business in the Eastern Province.

Mr. Taylor paid us his yearly visit from England on the 28th of June and he stayed at Jaffna for three days, during which arrangements have been made with him for increasing our cloth trade.

We note below the gross and net profits for the year under review, as also those for the two preceding years, from which the shareholders will see how steady our progress has been.

Year ended 30th June.—Gross Profits.—Net Profits

1897.—Rs. 4,021.22—Rs. 2,118.19

1898.—Rs. 11,229.45—Rs. 7,151.73

1899.—Rs. 17,809.47—Rs. 12,238.83

Our Net profit for the present year have nearly doubled those for the last year, and this fact speaks for itself, without the necessity of any comment on our part.

We recommend with great pleasure that a dividend of 15 per cent be paid to the shareholders, on fully paid up share.

To those who are in arrears, no dividend shall be paid in future; but this year we recommend that they be given 9 per cent on ordinary shares paid to the extent of Rs. 70 per share and on supplementary shares paid to the extent of Rs. 10 per share, and 6 per cent on ordinary shares paid to the extent of Rs. 40 per share. After the payment of the dividends, which will absorb a sum of Rs. 7672.73 there will be left a sum of Rs. 4566.10, which we recommend to be carried to the Reserve Fund.

We need hardly add that the larger the capital, the larger the business will be, and that our shareholders will serve their own interests, as well as those of the public, if they will help us in disposing of the shares that are still left in our hands.

DIRECTORS

A. Kamagalai, *Advocate*
S. A. Allegakoon
M. B. Swamplillai *Merchant*
Alex. Toussaint
V. Casippillai *Proctor S.C.*
T. C. Changappillai *Proctor S.C., J.P.*
S. T. Arnold, *Proctor*
T. S. Cooke, *Proctor*
Wm. Macleod, *Agent S.S. Co.*
S. Walpupilli *Landed Proprietor*
A. Sapapathy *Editorial Landed Proprietor*
S. Nagamathur *Landed Proprietor*
S. Venithamby
Dr. C. T. Mills

LOCAL & GENERAL.

S. S. UNION. A meeting of S. S. teachers and others interested in Sunday school work has been called for

Friday the 11th at Jaffna to listen to papers on best methods of work &c. We hope there will be a good attendance.

The Governor of Ceylon. H. E. Sir West Ridgeway, it is rumored, will return to the Island in November. He wishes to see the railway to the North pushed through.

Gold sovereigns. Sovereigns are to be made legal tender in India, and the mints are to be authorized to receive gold bullion for coinage.

Plumbago. Ten acres of plumbago land in the Southern Province were recently sold for Rs. 104,500 at the Galle Kachcheri, an enormous price. This is indicative of what this trade is likely to become. The colony is to be congratulated on the development of this industry.

Board of Education. A meeting of this Board was held Saturday last in the office of the Director of Public Instruction.

A STRANGE LEAFLET.

A leaflet is being distributed broadcast in the native town. This quotes certain texts in Sanskrit verse from an ancient treatise, called Brahama Janala, and gives explanatory notes in Marathi. The texts refer to certain sidereal influences which will have effect during the four months ending November 15th. All manner of calamities are foretold—a scanty monsoon, famine, disease, war and death of notabilities. The leaflet adds that, to appease these sidereal influences, it is contemplated to perform a sacrifice at the Thakurawar temple in Bonney, and all the "faithful" in Bonney and devout Hindus are invited to help, so that Heaven and the Planets may be merciful, shower rain, and destroy plague and all disease.—*Times of India*.

The same "prophecies" are affecting Ceylon and we learn from a banker that chettis and others are in consequence restricting their operations and consequently in some branches of trade they are temporarily very quiet. In this island the master is not confined to the Hindus. Writing from the Sabaragamuwa province the other day, a correspondent says:—"It having been freely circulated that the end of the world, or some such catastrophe, is about to take place in November next, the yellow robed priests have preyed on the credulous people, and pindas and processions are the order of the day. In every village bananaduwas are erected and numberless priests are invited and lavishly fed. Last Saturday night we witnessed a procession of considerable magnitude and splendour; thousands of lighted lamps illuminated the procession, which was headed by two Mudaliars."—*Cey O-sser*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Colombo, 25-7-99

Sir,

I understand that you published in your paper in Tamil on the 5th January 1899 that I was making efforts to establish an English school for low caste boys in Jaffna. This is not true. Our effort is to establish an English school in North Ceylon from which no boy will be excluded on account of his caste. There is not a single English school in North Ceylon open to boys of every caste.

Yours truly

Samuel G. Lee

Rev. S. Abraham and family left Kange-anur on the 8th inst. per "Lady Cleveland" to Colombo from whence they will start to the Straits on the 14th inst. At the instance of their de aratu from Nuvaville, the church members and others there presented him a farewell address and a small purse. Rev. T. P. Hunt the Pastor of the mother church presided over the farewell meeting. Remarks were made by Messrs E. A. Gillett, Fiscal Marshal, E. P. Hunt Surveyor, A. Elliot, E. Porter, S. Ponam, and V. A. Varianly the probable successor of Mr. Abraham.

In accordance with the instruction of the Managing Committee of the J.C.P. Association, the Secy, sent the following letter to Mr. Abraham before his departure from Jaffna.

Chetty Street

No. 316.

28th July 1899.

To the Rev. S. Abraham, Late Secy, J. C. P. A.

Sir, I herewith send you a copy of the minute recorded in the minute book of the J. C. P. A. Committee in appreciation of the valuable services rendered by you to the Association.

The Committee of the Jaffna Christian Precentor Association in accepting the resignation of Rev. S. Abraham as Secretary, wish to express their highest appreciation of his work as the chief founder and promoter of this association. The Christian public of Jaffna will ever be indebted to him for the valuable services he rendered to it by organizing this association and working for it ever since its formation in 1892.

May the Lord bless him in his new field of labor.

S. A. EDWARD.
Secretary, J. C. P. A.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Peace Conference. The Peace Conference has been closed. The arbitration proposals will probably be signed by all the nations that are represented.

United States. A serious outbreak of yellow fever has taken place in the Soldiers' Home at Hampton, Virginia.

South Africa. The crisis is still on and business is being greatly injured. In the meantime England is sending further re-inforcements.

India. Plague is on the increase in Poona and is likely to spread to other places. The monsoon projects are very poor and great alarm is felt in the Bombay Presidency lest there be another famine.