

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 59.

Jaffna, Thursday 2nd of Nov. 1899.

No. 22

WICKEDNESS EXALTS A NATION BUT SIN IS A REPROACH TO ANY PEOPLE.

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR.

Straits Settlements	Mr. A. Kandasamy '99	6.00
Batticotta	Mr. S. Heusman '98	1.25

OUR SUBSCRIBERS!!

Please remit all dues &c, at once.

THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP Co. Ltd.

The S. S. Lady Havelock is appointed to sail from Jaffna for Colombo via Pauman on the evening of the following date:—
Nov. 14th 1899.

The Company's Steamer "Lady Havelock" is appointed to sail from Jaffna for Colombo via Pt. Pedro on noon of the following date:—
Nov. 20th, 1899.

W. MATHER & SON, Agents

FOR SALE.

A large commodious house and premises situated in the 1st Cross street Pown, Jaffna, belonging to Mr. G. W. Toussaint is intended to be sold. For further particulars apply to the owner or to his agent Mr. Alex. Muttukrishna, Jaffna.

FOR SALE.

A pair of Gentleman's earrings set with brilliant mounted in gold.
Apply to WM. MATHER & SON, Jaffna.

WATCHES!

WATCHES!!

WATCHES!!!

Just received a large assortment. Price from Rs. 5.00 to Rs. 16.50.
To be had at the Store Department Jaffna Commercial Corporation Limited.

NOTICE

Messrs. William Mather and Son beg to intimate to the public that in addition to the large and varied business they are doing, they have commenced to do general Engineering 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. &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 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 Bankers cashed.

For sale at the Store Department
Grey shirtings, waistcoats, hantz of different kinds, Umbrellas, Hosiery, Boots, Shoes and Harness Waterbury watches, Printing paper, wans Fountain Pens &c. &c.

WILLIAM MATHER,
Managing Director.

NOTICE.

Just received at the Manepay Dispensary a limited supply of spectacles and folders in gold (10 carats), silver, aluminium, nickel, and nickel steel frames. Good quality, prices moderate.
T. B. Scott.

Sept. 12, 1899.
Manepay.

JAFFNA C. L. S. DEPOT.

Received a large supply of English Bibles and Portions including (Genesis, Exodus, Psalms and Proverbs) also a large supply of Stationary and School Books. Inspection invited.

W. T. GARRETT,
Depository.

NOTICE.

TO BE SOLD.

A second hand pneumatic tyre bicycle in very good order.

Apply to
S. KAILASAM,
Sandirupai,
Jaffna.

REQUEST.

It is humbly requested that those who promised to pay the Jaffna Native Evangelical Society for the house building at Valany at the Annual meeting held at Batticotta on the 1st day of June last, forward their subscriptions to Dr. D. P. Mann, Treasurer at their earliest convenience.

S. Eliathamby,
J. N. E. S. Secretary.

Local & General.

Weather.—We have had a fortnight of rainy, and cloudy weather. On Sunday the 22nd a storm set in from the west which lasted three days. The wind was very strong and there was a heavy rain fall. A dhoney loaded with wood for Negapatnam which had anchored off Pt. Calneise, broke loose from its moorings and was blown across to the Point Pedro shore. It was badly wrecked between Pt. Pedro and Valvettilalai though no lives were lost. So far the damage done to the paddy has been slight.

Rev. S. Abraham. A letter from Mr. Abraham until a few months ago pastor of Nunavil church, speaks of the safe arrival of himself and family at the Straits and of his entering upon his duties at Kuala Lumpur. There is quite a large Tamil congregation at the place to whom he ministers besides teaching daily in a mission English school.

Personal. Mr. C. Chelliah of Chavagacherri has been appointed to a Clerkship in the Jaffna Kachecherri.

Evidence of Christianity. A copy of this book by Rev. T. F. Hunt of Chavagacherri has reached us which we hope to review in a future issue. In the meantime we commend it most heartily to all as a book well worth reading.

Jaffna at the Straits. An examination under the Tamil Interpreters Scheme the first of its kind ever held in the Malay Peninsula, was recently held in Taijap and it is gratifying to see that of many candidates (Jaffnese & Indians) who presented themselves for the examination the following Jaffnese Messrs. C. V. Bonney (Tallipallai Interpreter, Matang Court), S. Chellappah, (Mallakam) Clerk to the Senior Magistrate, Taijap, and S. Kandasamy, Student Interpreter, Ipok Courts, came off successful in the first grade.

The Registrar General. Mr. P. Arunachalam remained in Jaffna from the 20th ultimo up to the 1st inst. and he was engaged all the days in examining the book-keepers of the Notaries and the Registrar of Marriages, Births and Deaths, and in interviewing them on subjects pertaining to their vocation. His special attention was given to Notaries from whose doings very serious matters turn out. He left Jaffna on the 1st inst. by steamer to Colombo. **Madhugal.** There was a contention among two sections of Catholics in the matter of burying two corpses one of them wanted the corpse to be first buried and the other wanted the privilege to be given to them by the priest. The

corpses remained unburied for a couple of days. On re presentation made to the police a dozen police with the Inspector Mr. Perkins went to the spot on the 28th and arranged matters, else the matter would have ended in a serious disturbance.

Kaits. The Magistrate Mr. Wouters is expected to arrive to resume his work at Kaits on the 4th inst. and Mr. Changargallai has been asked by the Govt. to continue to act until that date.

Missionaries. Miss Anna Horsley of the C. M. S. is expected in Colombo tomorrow. Edward Martin of the Wesleyan mission is due in Colombo about the 10th inst. Rev. and Mrs. Brown for the American mission left Naples on the 25th ult. and are due in Colombo on the 18th inst. Miss Helen I. Root and Dr. Annie Young who accompanied by Miss Chandler for the Madras mission, expects to leave Marseilles on the 5th inst. and should reach Colombo about three weeks later.

Christian Literature Society. This Society had opened its Depot in Mann Street at the place occupied by the Bible and Tract Societies Book Depot. It has an assortment of books school books, stationery &c. The Bible Society has also now in stock a good assortment of Bibles both in English and Tamil. They make a very attractive appearance and the Depot is well worth a visit. Christmas is only seven weeks off and now is your chance to get Bibles to be given as gifts. Very few realize what a good assortment there is in stock. Step in and look it over. You will be sure to buy something and be well repaid for your trouble.

Training Schools. The Government examination of the Training Schools will commence on the 16th inst. The girls will be examined at Udavil, and the boys at Tallipalai and Jaffna.

Registrar. We congratulate Mr. Henry Lawrence on his appointment as Registrar of births, marriages and deaths for the Christian population of Valleggam North. The place made vacant in the Udavil Boarding School by Mr. Lawrence's retirement will be filled by Mr. P. I. Chandra headmaster of the Udavil Girls Boarding School.

The Island Steamer. The Lady Gordon goes to Calcutta to be docked on the 18th inst. and in consequence there will not be quite the same regularity as when both steamers were running.

Motor Car. A motor car for the Colombo Post Office has been ordered from England and is now landed in Colombo. If it proves a success it may be followed by others.

New Postal Cards. New Postal cards for 12 cents and reply cards for 12 cents have been issued. Also a new six cent Letter Card for foreign use. It seems very strange that as much should be charged for a Post Card as to a letter sent to England and her colonies. To other countries where the postage remain at 15 cents it is of course a gain.

Blue Book. The receipt of the Ceylon Blue Book for 1898 is heretofore acknowledged with thanks.

GLEANINGS.

You reap what you sow—not something else, but that. An act of love makes the soul more loving. A deed of humbleness deepens humility. The tithing reaped is the very thing sown, multiplied a hundred-fold. You have sown the seed of life, you reap life everlasting.—F. W. Robertson

It is the little words you speak, the little thought you think, the little thing you do or leave undone, the little moments you waste or use wisely, the little temptations which you yield to or overcome, the little things of every day that are making or marring your future life.—Light on the Hidden Way.

It is an utterly low view of business which regards it as only a means of getting a living. A man's business is his part of the world's work, his share of the great activities which render society possible. He may like it or dislike it, but it is his work, and as such requires application, self-denial, discipline.—Sel.

TELEGRAPH LINES:—

The Construction of Telegraph lines in the North under the supervision of Mr. H. Thwaites who is at present in Jaffna will keep him fully occupied in our midst till March next, we believe. On his coming here he was engaged in fitting up the old O. B. C. building which now serves as our Post Office with telegraph connections. The Manepay line then underwent a course of reconstruction under his supervision, as the original construction was defective in many respects. This work was found to be completed on the 9th inst. The next work on which he is to be engaged is probably the line between Valvettilalai and Pt. Pedro where it is necessary to transfer the telegraph posts planted in the midst of palm groves to the seashore with a view to obviate the recurrence of the interruptions hitherto so frequent, in consequence of the fall of the palms caused by strong blowing. The estimate for the extension of the line from Manepay to Kays via Batticotta has been sanctioned and the work will probably be taken up by the beginning of next year. The Jaffna Kankasanturai line will, it is said, undergo reconstruction when the Railway is made. The Telegraph line following the railway route on iron poles. *Catholic Guardian*

[சங்கியை, ௨௨]

இலங்கைப் புகைக்கப்பற்
கொம்பனி (லீயிற்றேட்)



“வேடிக்கவலக்” புனைக்கப்பல் பின்வரும்தே
 திகிலில் யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலிருந்து பாம்பன்
 வழியாய் கொடும்புக்குப்போகவிலுக்கின்றது.
 1899 (ஸ்ரீ) நவம்பர் தினை மீ 14 உ

“லேடி கவலக்” புனைக்கப்பட்டபின் வருந்தேதிகளில் யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலிருந்து பருத்தித்துறை வழியாய் கொழும்புக்குப்போகவிருக்கின்றது. கார்த். ஸ். 2014.

W^m MATHER, & SON. Agents.

விளம்பரம்.

இதன் பிறகு கையாப்பமிடிகுப்பு வலக்கால், முன்பு
நீப்பதற்குப் பதார்த்தத்தோரம்புப் பாலிக்கப்படும்கு
விட்டேடி, பிரதீதரவுவிப்பனவுத்தொழில்நுட்பபிதிக
தற்பாடுபடுபெய்திருக்கின்றனர் மேலாக, ததிரா முதலி
யுடீரித்தபாடப்பட்டதும், குதிரைகள் வண்டுகளும்,
கனகனும், மேலேறி விலகாம்களும் விப்பனவு
ய்யப்பும், விப்பனவுக்குரியதாக்கை வைத்திருப்ப
பேரம் இவர்களுடையோபுபித்தாரும் குடியுளவு உயர்ந்
தலிக்குகு வித்தகடுபெய்தபாக்கள்.

மேலும், அனுமாரிசு, மேனாசு, கதிரா, சுட்டில், சவு
ச்சிறுதலிய மரச்சாமான்கள் மல்லான விலைக்கு வித்
தப்படும். கைவசியில்லாதசாமான்கள் இதற்கென
ஒழுங்குசெய்யப்பட்டிருக்கும் திருத்ததொழிலாளர்
க்கொண்டு கூடியஅளவுச்சீக்கிரத்திற்செய்தித்தகை
க்கப்படும்.

நிலங்கள், வீடுகள் விற்கவிரும்புவார் இவர்களிடமொப்புவித்தால் வலத்திலாவினும் வேறுவகையாகவா யினும் தகுந்தவிலைக்குவிற்பனாகொடுப்பார்கள்.

William Mather & Son,
Auctioneers & Commission, Agents.

காய்ச்சலுக்கு

சரசங்காரி என்னும் மருத்து சாப்பிட்டால் காய்ச்சல் முற்றுகளில் கீழ்க்கும் திறப்பிலுமாட்டாது. முதியவரோடாது. இரத்தத்தில் செங்கோட்டாது. வாட்டமேயில் மருத்துக்காலியிலுமாட்டும் அகப்படும். வேறுபுறங்களில் இம்மருத்து வீர்த்துநிச்சியில்லை. இம்மருத்தினுடைய எண்மை எல்லாருக்கும்தலை. ஒன்றாகையாலேயே காய்ச்சல் முற்றும் மாறும்.

FRESH SUPPLY.

புதியமருத்துகன் இப்போதவந்திருக்கண்ண, விஸ
மலிலும் சந்த மருத்தமாயிருத்தலால் எல்லாரும் வாட்
ட்டெலி மருத்துச்சாலங்குப் போய்க்கன். சகலவித
இச்சிவிலகமருத்தகன் கிருஷ்ணசியுடைய சித்திரங்க
ன்கிலேயுமான தமிய்மருத்துகன்களல்லாம துபப்படும.
1-11-99. Ward. & Davy.

உதயதாரைக.

கல்காடும் (வா) கார்த்திகை மீ உங் வ,
கார்த்திகைமாத எரிவேள்ளிக்காட்சி.

November Star Shower.

ஏற்குறைய நயம்பொரு இவ்விலுந் தில் வெள்ளி
 கன் ஆயபெருக்கடா எரிந்து கொண்டென்கொண்ட
 யானு கவனித்திருக்கலாம். யானத்திற் பிராகாரித்
 துநொன்முருத்திற் கடத்தென்கொண்ட நிலை இப்படி
 க் காணத்திருக்கலாம். எரிப்புகிறபேரின்மேலுமின்ன
 அறிபாறையுடன் எனக்கொண்டிருந்தான். காதி
 மையாத்துப்பயணத். பதன், கச்சிற், பூமி, செங்கல்
 யையாது, சளி, பூசலம், செங்குன் எனலும் மிகச்ச
 ன் குறுப்பிற் கறிந்தபெருமும் கவையா, கண்ணு
 அலதது தாறுநுட்குமுருகிற்சுற் நோற்றுகையு
 வெல்லதரு பருமையுள் ளிச்செனக்கொண்ட இருநட்
 திற்சுற் தந்தன் யானத்திலே பகலானகப்பட்டு பாதத
 திற் குரியின் மையமாகக் கொண்டு சென்றிருந்
 தில், மானத்திற் திறப்பும் மேறெழி தென்னக்க
 காணத்திருப்பினான். பூமி தன் கெருகுடத்தில் இ
 வற்றிநிலையாதுற் கச்சித்தின் கனியிற் கிழித்து
 த்கொன்றவருலேவெய் அவையாதுற் நோற்றுகையு
 பூமியின் கவச்சிவிலுந் சென்னுந் 40 அலதது
 50 ணைத் வீதச்செதிவுடன் அகச்சுன் பூமியின் பர
 மணையுடன் செல்லும்போது அனலுண்டாக, அவை
 சுன் பூமியின் மேற்புறப்பெருகருமையுமே எரித்து
 வாயுப்பும் பரமணுப்பின்வெள்ளிவிடுகின்ற. இதிலே
 கமச்சுற் காணப்படும்க் கெதிருஞ்சுற்நோற்றுகையு. அடி
 யுயரமுறமும் குறாச்சுற் கெதிருஞ்சுற் நிலக்கச்சுற்
 மருகுருதமொரித்தபோதுபூமியின்விலுதருமுன், தெ
 மச்சுற்சென்கொண்டியி யிடக்காலே அய்வகையான
 துச்சுற் அறியாமல் வீருந்து கிடக்கின்றன. இறுப்பு
 கச்சுற், பிரானவாயு, கவையா ஆயி பூமிக்குப் பூ
 கச்சுற் அறந்திருக்க பூமிக்கென்றே

இப்படியே ஒவ்வோரிலுள்ள சில ஏரிவெள்ளிகள் தோற்றுவித்தனவாயினும் குறித்த சில தினங்களில் தரே தருணத்தில் வட்டச்சங்கணக்கான வெள்ளிகள் ஏரி

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

இக்காட்சியைக் காணுந் தலாச்சியும் தமக்குமிடையே
டைக்குமெனவும் பத்திராபிமானிகள் ஆவலாயு
வதற்கும். அதுவும் நிச்சயமாய்க் கூறக்கூடிய க
யமன்று. புரியுமா? அல்லது 5 மணித்தியாலம்

தெற்கு விலகியது ஆகாங்கத்தின் கிழக்கே கடந்தது. மேற்கு செல்கின்றது. அந்தவேளத்தில் பூமிப் பிழை தங்கோளாந்தம் அங்குடத்திற் சென்றபுகிற்முடியே அந்த கோளாந்தத்திலேயுள்ள இவ்வெள்ளை காகம் சென்றது. 1866 ல் ஆண்டில் அப்போ ஸ்ரீராமபுரம் ஆபிரிக்காச் சென்றவர்களோடு, 1867 ல் ஆண்டில் மலியரிக்காசென்றவர்களுள் காயப்பட்டு வந்தது. அதுமே பூமியின் எந்தப்பகுதியாகும் காத்திருக்கும்படியாய் இருக்காதிருக்கவன், மனசைத்திரிசை எவ்வளவு விரைவாகக் குத்தித் தென்திருவிருத்தாச்சு. கிலர் துர்திய வசுக்குவதற்குமுன் சென்றது. துரித்திரையாணப்பட்டுப் பிறமுதலாம் தந்திரமுமாயாது தேனிலப்பட்டுப் பல்லாங்கொயிலிருந்து கிடைக்கின்ற அங்குமியின் கிடைக்கின்றது. 13 மீ 14 மீ திரிசைச் சென்றது அந்தக்காயப்புகிற்முடியாகவன் அப்பெருநா அல்லது அந் பின்னேயே விரைவாகப் புகுந்தாரது. அங்காங்கேயுள் பூதப்பக்கச்சென்றது பிராயசமயிருக்குமாய்வன் கிடைக்கின்றகாகம் அது பிராயசமாயிற்று. ஸ்ரீமதுணிவாயிற் காதின அந்தக்காயப்புகிற் தந்திரமுமாயிருக்கும். ஆனால் அந்தக்காய்சேல் மயபுத்தையுள் கிடைக்கின்றது முகிசைச் சென்றது மயபுத்தையுள் ஸ்ரீ காகமியை கமலகுத் தேருந் து 1866 ல் ஆண்டு காத்திரையாமாத்தம் 13 மீ திரிசைக் குத்திராக்கிய விசேரோயபுருமாயுமாயிலிப்புகிற்முத்திரைவதிகையாக்கியெய்ப்பாந்ததாய்க் காய்ந்து அண்ணன் பெருவெள்ளை காத்திருந்ததுகிடைக்கின்றது கண்காத்திருக்கும்மயபுத்தையுள் கிடைக்கின்றதுகிடைக்கின்றது

தேன் ஆபிரிக்க யுத்தம்.

War News.

[illegible]

அதிபதிகளாக நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டிருந்தது. இவ்விதமாக நாளாவந்தியாகியேயென்றும், இவ்வாறு 92 பித்திரி குழந்தைகளுமாக உடைபெற்றது. பேரவைப் பதவிகள், கொட்க, விசேஷம் குழியு பேரெழுபது மூன்று மட்டித், அவ்விசேஷமேயாக நத்தாநாட்டிற்கு குறைபட்டபட்டனத்தாநாட்டினுள்ளு பித்திரன் கொடுத்தான், மூலமயாராதிபி கேள் நெருங்கியபுல்லர்செல்லு மலகைகளுமல்லர்செல்லுக்குத்தவறுமயாராதிபித்தாறு பகத்தாறுபட்டபட்டினுள்ளு கேரேநாட்டினுள்ளு பகத்தாறுபட்டபட்டினுள்ளு, கடைபிட்டுபேரவைகளைபுறங்கட்டினார். அவர்களைச்செல்லுத்தெடுத்தால்விசேஷமன் உடனெட்டபேரவை, வெள்ளைக்கொப்பாமைக்கொட்டி கொட்டார், மூப்பர் பேரெழுபது மாதனா டென்னார் வலையுப் பூங்குமம் வேறென்று கொடுத்தியாயினார், பித்திரேழுபதுமன்னும வேறேழுபதுமன்னுத்தாறு கையப்பட்டார். வெள்ளைக்கொட்டாரெடுத்தால் மரித்தாதிபித்தாறு, பேரவைபகத்தாறுபுத்தெடுத்தி டென்னார் உத்தியோகத்தாடுமேறார் விதையாக்கப்பட்டார்.

அதத்தினத்திலேயேபோவார்களின்முதற்சேனாபதியென்றுபெருஞ்சேனையொருங்கு இரண்டாம்நூறாய்க் கிணைக்கோபட்டினத்தை வளைய அங்கிருந்து அங்கிலேயச்சேனாபதி யூன் தமத்சேனைக்கு மேலாக

Tellippalai October 16, 1899.

SUPPLY BILL FOR 1900.

In connection with the Supply Bill for 1900 the following items under Public Works are asked for the Northern Province. For Civil Hospital at Pt. Pedro Rs. 55,000 besides Rs. 5,000 additional for purchase of land, or Rs. 60,000 altogether. The whole amount is not asked for for 1900 but it is likely that even this large amount will be sufficient for completing the work. This provides for building four wards with ten beds in each, two for men and two for women, operating room, observation wards, mortuary, and quarters for the doctor and native attendants, besides the necessary out-buildings.

We fail to see why the present Civil Hospital, a mile or two inland from Pt. Pedro, does not meet all the requirements of that section of the peninsula. It is claimed that this is too far away from the town and does not meet the need and moreover that an infectious disease hospital is a want which can be filled by passing over the present institution for this purpose. It is no doubt true that the present site would be far enough away from the crowded portion of Pt. Pedro to make it a favorable place for an infectious disease hospital, but why not build a less expensive one somewhere else for this purpose and let this hospital remain as it is, enlarged and improved if need be. The Friend-in-Need Hospital may soon come under the government and one such institution would be enough for the peninsula especially when there are two large mission hospitals at central locations, which are well equipped and well looked after by qualified Doctors.

Another very heavy item is for building a road from Paranthan to Mullativoe. This road will be over 30 miles long and it is estimated will cost at least Rs. 3,000 per mile. This will be a great convenience when the railway is finished, and is a necessity we presume for the development of this section of the country.

Two other road items are Rs. 45,000 for a coast road from Mantai to Illuppaikadavai, and Rs. 35,000 from Mannar to Pesalai. Only a small part of these sums will be required in 1900.

Several other items are given, all for smaller amounts. For the General Cemetery at Mullativoe Rs. 5,500 and for cooly lines Rs. 8,000 are asked.

Comparing the Northern with other Provinces it would seem that its demands were not so very excessive. Every rupee spent in the opening of necessary roads, is so much gain in opening up the country and developing its resources.

A NEW CEYLON NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

(Contributed.)

A call for the formation of a new National Association has been sent out. That call raises two or three questions: first, what is the immediate object of the proposed Association? It is not enough to speak in general,—about the beauty, value and need of a national spirit, the brotherhood of man to be gained by binding together the three main creeds and nationalities of this land into one people of one spirit as of one name. Men will not go far, in these days, for mere sentiment, especially for one that does not yet exist for them save in dreams. If the new Association aims at bettering education,—primary secondary, technical and sanitary; if it stands for a public sentiment for the enforcing of present laws or the framing of new ones; if it is pledged to aid all efforts to put down the minor lawlessness and petty thieving and cheating so common in the land, and the bringing of the wrong-doers to punishment, even at the risk of some unpopularity among the ignorant and vicious,—then the Association will merit and win the good will and aid of all right-minded people and its opinions will be respected by the Government.

Another question is about the membership of the proposed Association: is it to be limited by caste or creed, by property or educational lines? Or is it to be open and free for membership to any one living in Ceylon and joining in its aims. A third question, arising out of the other two is, how is its organization to be formed? how are its officers and committees to be chosen? By a self chosen caucus; or by local meetings open to all the people who choose to come, and called together to elect delegates to such a caucus or convention? And, further, along what lines is the Association going to work in order to do the best work among the common people for the good of the whole?

There is no doubt that there is a good chance for a wisely chosen and directed Association to do a great work among and for the people, along the above or similar lines. But, of necessity, very much must depend upon the freedom and breadth of its aims. Partisanship, local pride, race and religious aims and, above all, personal ends sought by those who have the shaping of its policy in charge, will be most fatal to its real usefulness and it will soon go the way of all that is useless. Rightly planned and directed it might well become representative of all classes in all parts of the Colony and grow to be a most useful means of bringing the Government and the governed into the heartiest friendship and fellowship in working out the best things for the island.

THE 13TH OF NOVEMBER.

There seems to be a very general feeling in the country, and not only in India, but in other countries as well, that something unusual will occur about the 13th inst.

Here in Jaffna there are various rumours. Some say we are to have disasters by war, famine and pestilence the world over; others claim that Jaffna alone is to be submerged either by a flood or by disturbances in the earth causing the land to sink; and still others think that a comet will strike the earth and destroy it. It is undoubtedly true that scientific men are looking forward with interest to the 13th and 14th of this month as it is claimed a brilliant meteoric shower is expected about that time. But it is said that this special shower comes once in about 33 years. So we fail to see why this should arouse a feeling of fear. On the other hand the planets during November will be all, with the exception of Neptune and Uranus, near the sun, and those who believe in planetary influence point to this as a very bad sign. We quote from one of American papers as follows:—

"Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn will all be far south, and so near the sun that in the middle of the month all will be hidden in the morning or evening twilight, except that Saturn may then possibly be seen for a few minutes after sunset, low down in the southwest. But the sky will be practically planetless all night; nor will the case be much better for a month or two before and after."

Such a crowding of the planets around the sun is very rare. It would require a tedious calculation to determine just when it happened last, and when it will occur again. Probably it does not occur more than once in a century, if indeed so often.

It may be worth while, in view of certain semi-superstitions ideas which are current, to add that this one-sided massing of the planets is of no special importance or significance. It will produce no effect upon the earth perceptible by any ordinary observation, nor exert upon human affairs the slightest influence, either harmful or beneficial."

From this it will be seen that there is not the slightest ground for any fear. That this has been a year of terrible disasters is granted. The terrible tornado in Puerto Rico and adjacent islands causing great loss to life and property; the nearer disaster that took place at Darjeeling which was so destructive to life and property; the awful famine in Russia the horrors of which we have all read; and the wars in the Philippines and in South Africa,—all make this a memorable year. What the Divine Ruler of the universe has in store for us during these closing months of the year no man knows. It is enough for us that we are in His hands and that His loving care will never fail us. Past disasters are enough to lay to the charge of the planets, if something must be attributed to their baneful influences. Let us look forward with hope and not with fear to the closing weeks of the year. The Lord reigneth and naught of evil will come, except as permitted by Him for the good of His children.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

Exactly when the twentieth century will actually begin has been discussed by so many people that naturally every periodical is inundated with letters on the now popular and throbbing question. Hundreds of persons contend that the twentieth century will begin with Jan. 1st, 1900 while other hundreds contend with equal positiveness that the correct date is Jan. 1st, 1901. The 1900 contingent argue that, of course, the new century begins with its numeral date, and go on to figure out very deftly that with the last day of the year 1899 the hundred years will have run its course. They argue that if the first year ended with December 31st of that year, the nineteenth hundredth year must end with Dec. 31st 1899, and that the first day of January 1900 is therefore the first day of the new century. And curiously enough, this latter figure is correct but only in a numeral sense. These statisticians overlook one very important fact, however; that it requires one hundred years to make a century, and it calls for no expert mathematician to figure it out that the full hundred years of the

nineteenth century will not have run their course until twelve o'clock midnight of the thirty-first of December 1900.

Numerically we enter the twentieth century with Jan. 1st 1900. But, nevertheless, we must complete that entire year of 1900, and go through its three hundred and sixty five days, before the actual nineteenth hundred years shall have run their course. The entire hundredth year of a century must have passed before the century is complete. If we choose to celebrate the coming of the new century intelligently and in accord with actual figures, there is no question that we must wait until there shall have been an actual one hundred years to the nineteenth century. And that will not be until the midnight hour of December 31, 1900.

American paper.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Pastors of the Protestant Churches,
Jaffna.

Dear Brethren,

The Week beginning with the second Sunday in November is a special one with the Young Men's Christian Associations of the whole world.

During this week united prayer on behalf of our Associations to seek the Master's benediction on the work already accomplished, to place within His safe and faithful keeping all that may be undertaken in His name and for His glory in the future, and especially to intercede with Him for the young men who have been brought by His precious blood, will be offered at our Y. M. C. A. centres and in all churches.

So, we write this to request you to put this matter before your congregation and ask them to kindly join us in united prayer, and that on Sunday the 12th November you will kindly deliver a sermon on behalf of the Young Men's Christian Associations.

The Topic proposed by our International committee is as follows:—

"Our Service" Rev. xxii. 3, 4.

God has need of pure consecrated young men, active in His service (Psalm 110). Obligation (Matt. 20: 6-8, 21: 8), Enquiries (1 Kings 10: 8), Joy (Is. 65: 14), Responsibility (Mark 13: 34), Glory (John 12: 26; 15: 15) of this service. The Mission of the Y.M. C. A. is to lead young men to Christ.

We remain, Dear Brethren,
Yours in His service,
25th Oct. '99. N.C. Union
W.E. Hutchcock, W.S. Vyrnwyllin,
Y.M.C.A. Jaffna. President, Secretary.

Topics Proposed for the Week of Prayer for young men.
Sunday 12th Nov. "Our Service."

Monday 13th "The defects of our Service" (Psa. 123: 2; 1 John 1: 9).

Tuesday 14th "A choice to make," (1 Thess. 1: 5; Jos. 24: 15, 22; Matt. 6: 24).

Wednesday 15th "Service in the Association" (Mk. 10: 43, 44; Luke 22: 27; Eph. 6: 7; Phil. 2: 7).

Thursday 16th "Co-defenders of service" 1 Sam. 3: 10; Ps. 5: 4; Is. 60: 4; 1 Kings 10: 8; Ps. 27: 8).

Friday 17th "Grace for service" (Acts 2: 18, 21).

Saturday 18th "Thanksgiving" Ps. 134: 1, Is. 6: 3; Ps. 34: 1; 50: 14; 103: 1).

Sir, Will you or any of the readers of your journal inform me through your "Star" whether Jaffna Tamil Christians in the Straits Settlements and Native States, other than settlers, could, without prejudice, join the Jaffna Native Provident Association and become members of that institution.

I am, etc.
16th October, 99. CHARLES T. DANIEL.

FOREIGN NEWS.

AFRICA. War exists between Great Britain and the Transvaal in spite of the efforts made to avoid it. Whatever may be said about the real cause of the war it must be conceded that the Boers were the first to commence hostilities. A provision train was captured. British residents have been again and again molested and insulted. On the 20th the Boers attacked the British camp at Glencoe, but were repulsed. The British then retreated leaving the town in the hands of the enemy. It was said that Gen. Symons the English commander was mortally wounded but later telegrams report him as recovering. The account of the losses sustained does not seem to be authentic at least on the Boer side. In fact the telegrams are so contradictory that it is hard to know what to believe. There is no question that there have been heavy losses on both sides, and if the war continues it is feared that there will be great loss of lives. In the mean time the House of Commons has adopted a war vote of ten millions, by 400 against 35 votes. There is very little opposition to the war in Great Britain and all her colonies are loyally supporting her.

LATER. A company of British dragoons was captured though 30 succeeded in making their escape. The rest are prisoners. There has been severe fighting at Kimberly and Ladysmith. In both cases the Boers were repulsed but the loss was heavy on both sides. Two regiments (or companies?) pursuing the Boers have not returned or been heard from. Gen. Synnors has died and been buried at Dundee.

AFRICA. The yacht races between the Shamrock the English boat, and the Columbia the American, were won by the latter, and the cup still remains in America where it first went about 30 years ago.

INDIA. The Hon. Sir H. Stafford Northcote has been appointed Governor of the Bombay to succeed Lord Sandhurst when his time of service expires.

Printed at the Press of Strong and Ashbury Montgipay
Published by A. C. Mission and Thamiyali Strong Cooke