

THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 62.

Jaffna, Thursday 20th of Nov. 1902.

No 24

Righteousness Exalteth a Nation but Sin is a Reproach to any People.

RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR.

Manipay	Mr. Wm Mather	2.50
Jaffna Town	Messrs. Bryant, S. Pedropilly	2.75
Pasalai	Dr. N. Joshua	2.00
Batticoia	Mr. J. V. Chelliah & Co.	1.25
Straits Settlements	Mr. P. Jesuthasan	3.75
Galle	Mr. A. Wytielingampilly	5.00
Colombo	Mr. J. E. Venayagam	2.00
India	Dr. A. C. Ervats	4.00

WANTED.

A Manager for the Cloth store at Pt. Point Pedro. Security required. Apply immediately to Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd. Jaffna.

NOTICE.

Vembadi Wesleyan Training School will re-open on Thursday December 3rd 1902. Candidates for admission should present themselves at 10 a.m. E. M. WEAVER, Manager.

FOR SALE !!

A two seated American carriage in good order. For terms apply to Dr. T. B. Scott, Manipay.

THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED.

Lady Havelock and Lady Gordon are appointed to sail from Mandaitoe for Colombo on the undermentioned dates:—

Via Paumben.			
Lady Havelock	26th Nov	1902.	
" "	10th Dec.	"	
" "	24th "	"	
Via Point Pedro.			
Lady Aska	1st Dec.	"	
" "	15th "	"	

W. MATHER & SON, Agents

WHERE To See and WHERE To Buy The Best Articles?

You will see the HIGH GRADE GOODS at ALEXANDER BROS. & CO. "FLEET"

A first class Sample Bicycle first of the kind to Jaffna, just received Price Rs. 300 Cash.

Alexander Brothers & Co.

Importers of British & Foreign Goods, THE JUNCTION, JAFFNA.

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LIMITED. Remittances can be made

Between, Jaffna, Batticaloa, and Colombo Both by wire and Draft To and From

Colombo and Jaffna.

Commission on wire transfer above Rs. 500.00	1%
on wire transfer under " 500.00	2%
on draft on sums above " 500.00	3%
undraft on sums under " 500.00	4%

From Jaffna to Batticaloa.

Commission on wire transfer

Commission on Draft

From Batticaloa to Jaffna.

Commission on wire transfer

Commission on Draft

To and from

Colombo & Batticaloa

Commission on wire transfer

Commission on Draft and cashing Colombo

cheques 3% on sums above Rs. 250.00

1% on sums under Rs. 250.00

From Jaffna to Madras, Calcutta & Rangoon

Commission on Draft 1% Madras & Calcutta 2% Rangoon 3%

Colombo Bankers. The National Bank of India Ltd. Madras

The National Bank of India Ltd. Calcutta

The National Bank of India Ltd. Rangoon

The Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd. Batticaloa

The Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd. Jaffna

WILLIAM MATHER, Managing Director.

WANTED.

Smart Tamil Bungalow—servant-cooking unnecessary—must have good characters. Wages Rs 20.

Apply Government Agent, Jaffna.

WANTED.

A Christian trained teacher (Wesleyan preferred) for the "Methodist English school" Kuala Lumpur. Good testimonials required. Salary \$50.00 per month. After a probation of six months will be appointed as Head master with an increase of salary. For further particulars apply to Rev. S. Abraham Tamil Pastor, K. Lumpur, or to Rev. Wm. E. Horley, Kuala Lumpur Selangor, F.M.S. Missionary. Nov. 4th 1902

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna. Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1304. In the Matter of the Estate of the late Mathavar Mailvakam alias M. M. Pillai of Chulipuram Deceased. Valliammai widow of M. M. Pillai of Chulipuram Petitioner

1. Malavarayar Chinniah and wife
2. Pundarikottai of Chulipuram and
3. Sittiammarachchippillai widow of Arumugam of Do.

This matter of the Petition of Valliammai widow of M. M. Pillai of Chulipuram praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above named deceased Mathavar Mailvakam alias M. M. Pillai coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire District Judge, on the 13th day of November 1902 in the presence of Mr. Tambiah S. Cooke, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 7th day of November 1902 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the widow of the said intestate and 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 19th day of December 1902 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this day of Nov. 1902. } W. R. B. SANDERS, District Judge

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1301

In the matter of the Estate of the late Solomon Murgesar Chulasagarampillai of Navaly in Jaffna late of Luluia. Deceased Margaret Alankaram, widow of Solomon Murgesar Chulasagarampillai of Navaly Petitioner

1. Chulasagarampillai Tambirajah Hastings and

2. Chulasagarampillai Navaratnam Alexander both of Navaly, of whom the 2nd is now at Tillecutti, Luluia. Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire District Judge on the 22nd day of October 1902 in the presence of Mr. S. T. Arnold Proctor on the part of the above named Petitioner, and the affidavit of the said Petitioner dated the 11th day of September, 1902 and the order of the Hon'ble the Supreme Court, dated the 3rd day of October 1902, transferring this matter from the District Court of Kandiy to this Court, having been read: It is ordered that Letters of administration to the estate of the late Solomon Murgesar Chulasagarampillai, deceased, be issued to the said Petitioner as the widow of the said deceased unless the above named Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 24th day of November show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Jaffna 22nd Oct. 1902 } Sd. W R B Sanders District Judge

Local and General.

Weather. We have had very little rain the past fortnight, but sufficient has fallen for the paddy plants to thrive upon. The fields are beautifully green and the prospects for a good harvest are bright.

Theological Class. A class has been started at Batticoia in connection with the College, and we hope other young men will be found willing to give themselves to the important work of the Christian Ministry.

Chapside store. The Catholic Guardian is responsible for the statement that the firm of Wm. Mather and Son is soon to start a shop in Jaffna under this name.

District Court. Two witnesses who had perjured themselves were punished by flogging a few days ago. Perjury is so common in Jaffna that severe measures are necessary for its suppression. The action of the Judge has been applauded by some and condemned by others. We believe it will have a very salutary effect in checking this serious evil.

Personal. We learn with pleasure that Mr. Christian, a son of Mr. S. Pedrupulle Merplant, Jaffna, and brother-in-law of Dr. A. C. Ervats M.B.C.M. has received appointment as Clerk and Draughtsman in the Supt. of Survey Office Jaffna, vice Mr. Perera transferred to the Surveyor-General's Office Colombo. We wish the young man all success in his new sphere of work.

Jaffna to the fore. Mr. J. R. Thattaisingam, the Ghichist scholar now in England, has been appointed to Kurunegala as District Engineer. He is expected out soon.

St. Patrick's College. Mr. S. M. Burrows was awarded a hearty welcome on his visit to this institution. An address was read on behalf of the Master and boys, and the Director responded in his usual happy strain.

Colombo Training College. The first Principal of the new Training College, Mr. Evans B. Sc. has arrived in Colombo, and will soon assume duties. This College will meet a long felt want.

Decennial Conference. Rev. G. G. Brown and Rev. E. M. Weaver have made a week for the Decennial Conference to be held in Madras from the 11th to the 18th prox.

St. John's College. The annual prize giving was held on Tuesday the 11th inst at Chundien. A large number were present, and the exercises passed off pleasantly. Sir, Wm. Twynam K. C. M. G. presided. The boys acted two or three scenes of "Merchant of Venice" in an admirable manner. The Principal's report was very encouraging and showed that this old institution was holding its own, and turning out excellent results. The chairman called on two or three to speak. Mr. David Tambiah, retired Surveyor, spoke of the good work being done; Rev. G. Handy M.A. the Headmaster, thanked the Chairman for presiding and the Director for distributing the prizes; Mr. W. T. Garrett in an eloquent speech gave the boys some good advice, and Mr. Burrows' remarks on higher education are given in part elsewhere. He urged the boys not to make excuses their only aim in study. Aim to be true, mainly, generous—in other words seek development of character.

A number of boys received prizes, and the exercises were brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

The Y. M. C. A. The annual Week of Prayer which was observed all over the world in connection with Y. M. C. A. was observed in Jaffna also.

The Local Currency Problem. H. E. the Governor has appointed a commission to enquire and report on the existing scarcity of silver in the Colony.

"The Art of Teaching." is the title of a hand book recently issued by the Public Instruction Department. This book is highly recommended for teachers in Ceylon as it touches on subjects required in the Ceylon Code.

Ceylon in the World's Fair. The Government of Ceylon, it is reported, has set aside about Rs. 52,000 for its representation at the World's Fair of 1904.

Dr. David Rockwood. the eldest son of the Hon. Dr. Rockwood, has, we are glad to learn, got through all his examinations and is a fully qualified M. R. C. S. London.

Mr. H. M. Fernando. Advocate, Colombo, arrived at Jaffna by steamer, on the 16th inst, and he will prosecute for the crown, the case against the Meerwalli rioters he being specially retained for that purpose which will come for trial on the 10th inst. His brother-in-law, a son of the late Mr. C. De Soysa accompanied him on a trip to Jaffna.

S. M. Aska. The S.S. Gordon having gone to Bombay to be docked, the company has chartered this steamer to take the place of the former.

Irrigation Company. Mr. William Brown who is in charge of the tank work in the Northern Province has returned after an absence of leave and arrived at Jaffna with Mrs. Brown on the 15th inst, and proceeded to the station at Karachi on the 18th inst.

Mr. P. Tampoe who was in Jaffna for some time returned with Mrs. Tampoe and family to Colombo, on the 13th inst by steamer, much benefited by the change.

The 34th Annual meeting of the Jaffna C. M. S. District Church Council was held at Nallore on Monday last. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a fair attendance. The Rev. W. J. Hanan presided and ably conducted the meeting. Mrs. Hanan presided at the harmonium. The Rev. C. T. Williams read a portion of Scripture and Mr. Moses Mutiah offered prayer. The Secretary, Mr. Monro, read an interesting report from which we gather that during the past year 19 adults and 48 children were added to the Church. The Treasurer's financial statement showed that the Tamil Churches have contributed Rs. 3691 32. The C. M. S. grant, the Tamil churches at Jaffna receive at present is only about Rs. 150 a year, which is only Rs. 12 a month. But on the other hand it is to be noted that a far larger amount is contributed by Mission Agents.

The Chairman called upon the following gentlemen to speak on the various Resolutions, viz. Revd. G. Champion, G. Daniel, Messrs. D. A. Tambiah, G. Phillips, S.H. Olangasagaram and D. Abraham. Mr. Tambiah of Palacin, an able speaker, contrasted the contrasted state of the Swites and Buddhists support their Gurus with that of the Tamil Christians at Jaffna and stirred up the Christians to a sense of their duty and responsibility. At the close the Chairman Mr. Hanan made some kind and appropriate remarks. The proceedings ended with the national Anthem, the occasion being the celebration of the Kings Birthday. Car.

[சங்கியை, 24]

வித்தியாசத்திர்.—The D. P. I.—ஒரு மகாமாயி
பெயரில் தந்திரி தவிர வித்தியாசிலையாக கவனித்து
பயிற்சியைச் செய்து கொள்வது ஒருவருக்குமே திருந்த வித்தி
காந்திரி, உடையேற்குமாறான ஏனெனலாகக் கட்டாம
லாகி, அப்பெயரில் கட்டிவெற்துக் கொண்டோரார் ஒருவராக
கூடுப்பரியானமாயினார். இவர வித்தியாசாதாரணத்
தெய்வத்தெய்வம் ஒன்றைப்பெறும் மாந்திரியும், இந்த மூ
ருகளுடையதெய்வம் இல்லாமல் வித்தியாசத்திர் தேர்ந்
தெய்வம் பவ மாரதவிலைக் கட்டப்பெறும்படியினதும், அது
வெற்தும் பூதனையாகக் குழங்குமூலம் பின்பெறும் ரெவா
து மாந்திரியாகத் தானும். உத்தியோக ஆய்வார்க்கு
யாவரும் விரிவுபடி கிடைப்பே. ஆயினும் அவர்க்கு
வித்தியாசத்திர் உத்தியோகத்தெய்வம் கண்ணெப்பெறாது. அறி
வுமே யுத்தியோகமாந்திரியத்தினும் உத்தியோகத்தெய்வார்

சீதாரிக்கு நல்ல தண்ணீர்.—Water supply to

கழுந்தறைக்கச்சேரித் துலிபாவிதராயிருந்த மெஸ
புனினின் மட்டக்கழப்புக் கச்சேரித்துலிபாவிதராக
ம, அவ்விடத்திலிருந்த மெஸ. முந்தையா குருகா
யினுதிந்தகோட்டுத் துலிபாவிதராகவும், அவ்விடத்
திலிருந்த மெஸ. பிந்தர் சலபக் கச்சேரித்துலிபாவி
தராகவும் நியமிக்கப்பட்டனர்.

இங்ஙனம், தீர் அங்கத்தவன், C. T. D.,
Chundieyil, 15 November 2002.

HIGHER EDUCATION.

Mr. Burrows at the annual Prize giving in St. John's college, Chundichey, referred to higher education in Jaffna as being behind other parts of the island in English. He thought it was owing to the isolation of our peninsula, our distance from Colombo and our nearness to India. When the railway was completed Jaffna would be in touch with the metropolis and then the conditions being different, there would be no need of standing with India educationally. We should aspire to higher ideals. We should adopt as high a standard as prevailed in other parts of the island. Higher education should not be cheapened, it should be only for the few who could afford to get it. He favored the London examinations, and hoped to see all the institutions in Jaffna adopting them.

We agree with the Director in thinking that the English taught in the peninsula needs to be improved, but we should like to point out that the Department is partly to blame for such a state of things. For the past few years English schools have multiplied to an alarming extent. Instead of having a few really good English schools we have now a large number, many of which are poorly housed and insufficiently manned with qualified instructors. Every year sees some new English school registered. If the Jaffnese could have their own way there would be an English school in every large village. And every Primary school aspires to be a Middle school. The teacher thinks it a disgrace not to have a Vth standard. It is a reflection upon his ability to teach the higher subjects. What is the result? The lower standards are put in charge of poorly qualified teachers, and the holder of an English certificate from the Ceylon government struggles along with boys in the Vth and VIth standards who have had a poor foundation and are unable to take up successfully the higher subjects. We believe there is room in Jaffna for but two or three Colleges, and for not more than half the number of English schools that now exist.

The Director says the Indian Universities are to be condemned and that Jaffna should take up the London examinations. It seems strange that a Director of a small island like Ceylon, though the first of the crown colonies, should find nothing to praise in the universities of the vast empire of India. There is undoubtedly much to be said against the easy examination of the Calcutta Entrance, but the report of the Universities Commission if adopted by the Govt. will introduce some drastic changes for the better. The Indian examinations are adapted to students whose language is a vernacular: the London to those whose language is English. If the vernaculars are to be utterly condemned and thrown aside, if the Tamil race is to be de-nationalized, then by all means let us take up London and Cambridge. But we doubt the wisdom of such a policy. Dr. Hastings the first principal of Jaffna College, objected to affiliation with our Indian Universities, but it was partly on religious grounds, and partly because the system in his opinion tended to cramming. While he favored the Cambridge Locals because of the religious instruction required, he thought they were unsuited to Ceylon. There is no doubt that the Indian exams lend themselves to cramming but so do the London. Eliminate as much as possible this pernicious system of cram, and we would favor the system of examinations which would be best adapted to the people of Ceylon.

It would seem however that the Department of Public Instruction has about decided the future of higher education in the colony, and it remains for educationalists in the North to make the best of the situation. We trust that in this very important matter-wise counsels will prevail, and that nothing will be done hastily and without the fullest investigation. We in the North have a right to be heard for we stand for the Tamil race of the island.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Mr. S. M. Burrows the Director of Public Instruction (now Acting Government Agent of the North Western Province) spent ten days only in Jaffna instead of the month he had intended to do. He had agreed to deliver one or two lectures while here and hoped to visit all the English schools of the peninsula as well as many of the vernacular. Three days were given in visiting schools in the Pallai and Chavagacherri fields and the rest of his available time spent in inspecting the Training schools of the peninsula

and the Colleges of Jaffna town. We regret that he did not have time to see the Colleges and large English schools outside of the town, but hope for better luck in the next visit of the D.P.I.

We congratulate Mr. Burrows on his promotion, while we think the Government never made a more serious blunder than to remove one who in many ways had shown himself such a wise and capable officer of the Educational Department. Promotion might have been given in other ways. As one of our contemporaries has suggested the Director might have been made a member of the Legislative Council. No department of Government is more important than the department of Public Instruction and we hope the time will soon come when the position of D. P. I. will be a first class appointment. Mr. Burrows has been a very hard working officer and one who has taken genuine interest in the cause of education and we sincerely regret his severance from this department. We fear there is no chance of his ever returning to take up the work that he has suddenly been called to lay down. Mr. Harward Principal of Royal College has been appointed Acting Director. He is one familiar with the duties of the Educational Department, having more than once acted in this capacity before and the cause of education is in safe hands.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency's speech at the opening of the Legislative Council, is a weighty document of 24 pages, containing much of interest to the careful reader. He reports the actual revenue for 1901 as Rs 888,828 less than for the previous year. This would seem to indicate that the height of prosperity was reached in 1900. Again, the expenditure exceeded that of any previous year, which is not necessarily a bad thing. Speaking of our present financial position His Excellency says:—

The ordinance which was passed by this Council last year, modifying the Currency Ordinance of 1884 and making the sovereign legal tender in Ceylon, has led to a large importation of gold into the Colony in place of silver, the banks finding it cheaper and more convenient to import the less bulky metal. The result has been to create a scarcity of rupees, the continuance of which might seriously hamper trade. I have appointed a Commission, chiefly composed of leading Bankers and Merchants, under the Presidency of the Attorney-General, to consider the most convenient means of remedying this.

Of the Northern Railway the Governor says:—The estimated cost of the Northern Railway is Rs. 11,029,375; the expenditure at the end of September last was approximately Rs. 5,992,000.

The rails are laid at the southern end as far as Galgamuwa, 40½ miles from Kurunegala, and at the northern end 45 miles from Kankesanurai. Permanent way and bridge material has been received in the Colony for 150 miles.

The first section, Kankesanurai to Chavakachcheri, 21 miles, was opened for public traffic by me on the 11th March last, and the section Chavakachcheri to Pallai, 14 miles was opened on the 15th September. It is expected that the line from Kurunegala to Anuradhapura will be ready for opening early in 1904, and the whole of the Railway in the second half of that year.

Irrigation works have been pushed and considerable progress has been made. The Giant's Tank is about finished, and "from it over fifty minor tanks have been supplied and about 13,000 acres of land irrigated."

The Governor has much to say about the products of the island. It was on the whole a prosperous year for crops. Here is what he says:—

Of new products, Para rubber is the most prominent and has now taken its place as a recognized cultivation in Ceylon, with every prospect of becoming a large and profitable industry. The market price during the past year has been good, and it may be hoped that Ceylon rubber will continue to be known on the home market as representing high quality. The trees introduced into Ceylon in 1876 by the Department and grown at the Henaragoda Branch garden are most vigorous, and have this year again produced a large crop of seed, some 250,000 of which have been distributed through the Island for planting.

New areas of tobacco have been planted up both in the Northern Province and in the Dumbura Valley. In the latter district a promising industry, conducted by Tamilis, growing up, and a distinct improvement in the quality of the cured leaf is to be recorded. Improved methods of cultivation and curing have been experimented on by private enterprise in the Northern Province and the results of these experiments will be of use when the market value of the cured leaf is known.

Gambier has been planted out in various up-country estates, and in suitable climates will prove a useful additional cultivation to tea.

Cacao has been throughout the Island producing very good crops, and where the rules for the extermination of the canker, as published by the Department, have been carried out, the freedom from this dangerous fungus is most encouraging. The amount of crop harvested for the half-year is larger than any previous year.

Pepper has been doing well, but care should be taken that a disease of this plant, which is causing much loss in South India, if noticed should be at once brought to the notice of the Department, so that prompt measures may be taken for its suppression.

We have not space for more in this issue, but hope to give other extracts of interest in future issues. The Governor's term of office expires in about a year, and it has proved to be one of the most prosperous reigns the Island has ever enjoyed.

NOTES.

PRATAP CHANDRA MOZUMDAR who has been the leader of the Brama Samaj, withdraws from the leadership and retires to the Himalaya mountains to spend the remainder of his days. In a remarkable paper to the public he presents fifteen reasons for doing so.

DR. FENTON'S MISSION TO JAPAN. Rev. Dr. George F. Fenton who went to India on a special mission a few years ago, has been sent out to Japan by American friends, deeply interested in the religious work there. He is going especially to help the Missionaries in prosecuting the work of the "Twentieth Century Movement."

MR. WANAMAKERS GENEROSITY. The Hon'ble John Wanamaker, ex-President of the General of the United States who visited India last cold season and who presented the Y. M. C. A. building to Madras has given 1 lakh to the education work of the Allahabad station of the American Presbyterian Mission, and promised further assistance as the work develops.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, the Secretary of the colonies expects to visit the dominion over the race' on one of His Majesty's ship. His first visit will be to South Africa.

THE WORLD'S STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION now embraces within the eleven National and International, movements of which it is composed, 1649 Associations with an aggregate membership of over 82,000.

SPIRITUALITY IN MISSION WORK. There are five great spiritual needs: [1.] One is a close fellowship with God in the Christian life. [2.] Another is the quest for spiritual activity, especially in personal dealing with individuals for the purpose of communicating spiritual gifts. [3.] A clear strong sense of divine mission. [4.] A faith in the Gospel and in the power of life that is in the Gospel [5.] There is a need of love and tenderness.

PEOPLE WHO RARELY EAT MEAT. In India, China, Japan and adjacent countries about 500,000 people who rarely eat meat, yet they are strong, active and long-lived. Darwin is the authority for the statement that the Andean natives perform twice the work of ordinary laborers and subsist almost entirely on a diet of bananas.

THE ROMANIAN JEWS. The United States Government has appealed to the Governments of Europe which were parties to the League of Nations to forbid the emigrating Jews in Roumania who number about 400,000.

THE BARROWS HASKELL LECTURE. It is one of the firmest opinions in his mind, one which he deeply convicts, one of his most cherished beliefs that our chief failures in life is to forward the welfare of the human race and to uphold the brotherhood of man.

SINGAPORE MARRIAGE CRISIS. When two Negrilles, a people of the Philippine Islands are united the white tribe is assembled, and the affianced pair climb two trees growing near to each other. The elders then bend the branches until the heads of the couple meet. When the heads have thus come into contact the marriage is legally accomplished and great rejoicings take place, a fantastic dance completing the ceremony.

CATCHING FISH WITH MIRRORS. In France a novel method of catching fish is being tested by anglers. A tiny mirror is attached to the line near the baited hook.

[Continued from page 1.]

REV. E. M. WEAVER, of the Wesleyan Mission Jaffna proceeds to Madras on the 20th inst. to attend the decennial conference of the Wesleyan Mission, to be held there in December next, as representative of the North Ceylon Wesleyan Mission. He will be back in Jaffna about Christmas time.

SALT RENT. Owing to some representation made to the Government as regards the tender made by Mr. Pitchay an influential Moorisher at Jaffna of the coming year's salt monopoly the Government accepted his tender in preference to the highest offer of Mena Ravana Mana Ana Channugam chetty who is himself a big chetty trader. We trust that the feeling between the rival traders consequent on the change of hands will not make to the disadvantage of the public.

KEROSENE OIL. During the last two weeks kerosene oil went up in price so much that a bottle of oil was sold on the 14th inst. at 40 cents a bottle in the town. The supply of the oil was scanty and all the required oil could not be purchased. On the 16th inst. there was a large consignment of oil to the branch firm of Delmege Forsyth Jaffna, and the price went down to 14 cents a bottle. The scarcity of oil would not have been as great as it was if the company had in stock a good supply. The trader at Jaffna who formerly dealt in kerosene oil, gave up the trade being unable to compete with the company and the public had to look for its supply to the company alone. It is therefore highly desirable that another company should also do business on a large scale in this line and we are sure that its profits will be great.

THE GOVT. AGENT Mr. R. W. IVERS C. M. G. Govt. Agent Jaffna arrived by land at Jaffna on the 14th inst. and he was received at the railway station by several of his officers and friends, and we heartily welcome him back to our Province and wish him longer stay amongst us as our Govt. Agent.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY His Excellency the Governor while making reference to the Jaffna railway expressed the hope that the whole line will be opened for traffic by the latter part of 1904.

THE JAFFNA TRADERS. All the Moor shop keepers at Jaffna have gone to Colombo to take a supply of goods for the coming Christmas season, and the tobacco traders have also gone to Colombo to look into the final account of the cigar trade at Colombo for the current year.

GENERAL HEALTH. The General state of health at Jaffna is very satisfactory. Measles and diarrhoea prevail largely among children at this time.