

# THE MORNING STAR.

Vol. 63.

Jaffna, Thursday 5th of Feb. 1903.

No. 3.

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

## Special Notice.

Our subscribers are earnestly requested to settle their arrears without any further delay.

## RECEIPTS FOR THE MORNING STAR.

India	Mr. James Hensman, B.A.	6.00
Kalmar	Rev. G. Leese	2.00
Chandilippar	D. P. Alexander	1.25

## THE CEYLON STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED.

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

Via Point Pedro.  
Lady Gordon 9th February 1903  
" 23rd " "

Via Paunben.  
Lady Havelock 18th February, 1903  
" 4th March "

## W. MATHER & SON, Agents

## 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  
on wire transfer under Rs. 500.00  
on draft on sums above Rs. 500.00  
on draft on sums under Rs. 500.00

## From Jaffna to Batticaloa.

Commission on wire transfer

Commission on Draft

To and from

## Colombo & Batticaloa.

Commission on wire transfer

Commission on Draft

To and from

## Colombo & Rangoon.

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To and from

## Colombo & Madras Calcutta & Rangoon.

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To and from

## Colombo & Jaffna.

Commission on wire transfer

Commission on Draft and cashing Colombo

cheques  $\frac{1}{2} \%$  on sums above Rs. 250.00

1/2% on sums under Rs. 250.00

From Jaffna to Madras Calcutta & Rangoon

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To and from

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## Foreign News.

The Venezuela trouble is still unsettled. Our readers will remember that at the outset the matter was referred to President Roosevelt for adjustment. On his declining to arbitrate President Castro signified his willingness to submit the matter to the Hague Tribunal. This was likely to delay settlement for too long a time and so finally the U. S. minister at Venezuela offered his services in settling the troubles that had arisen. But his suggestion that the several European powers concerned be treated alike met with so little favor, Germany and England insisting that their claims should be first met, that practically the whole question remains as at the beginning. We believe however that some agreement satisfactory to all parties will soon be proposed and accepted.

Mr Chamberlain is making a very successful tour in South Africa. While travelling about the country he made several speeches which reflect great credit on his good sense and willingness to help the conquered. In no instance has he yielded anything that was unnecessary while everywhere he has assured his hearers that England would not be indifferent to their grievances, nor would unduly tax them for the expenses of the War. In fact the conciliatory spirit that he has shown will go far towards disarming the people of any prejudices that they may have formed, and tend to heal the wounds that have been made by the conflict. In the words of *The Spectator*, "Mr. Chamberlain took his stand firmly on the terms of peace, while showing a readiness to meet any complaint in a conciliatory spirit. That attitude, we are convinced, is the only way to inspire confidence and respect in the Boers."

The Delhi Durbar seems to have made a great sensation in India especially among Englishmen. The grandeur displayed was something astonishing though this was not the only feature. The evident loyalty to the crown so freely and gladly expressed was as surprising as it was unexpected. India has no desire to change governments, though it would undoubtedly be more than a share in the control of affairs than it now possesses. A more fitting time than the present for trying the experiment of self government within English constitutional limits of course, is hardly like to occur again soon. The King-Emperor would secure the lasting gratitude of his subjects in this vast Empire, by making some concessions by which the people would find themselves more directly represented in their own government.

## Bible Society Centenary.

## How are we going to Celebrate?

The question which serves as title demands all the earnest and attentive consideration that can be given it. If the Society's achievements in the past hundred years are noteworthy, their celebration must be noteworthy to correspond. Has God owned and blessed the original conception beyond expectation, as the founders of the Bible Society would be the first to confess? Then there must be, on the part of those who have entered into their labours, no lack of readiness in spirit and in act to commemorate God's gracious dealings with His servants.

How are we going to celebrate? By putting on record the story of the first one hundred years of the Society which honours the great general, those who described a list of the battles which fought and won. So in celebrating a hundred years of Bible work, there must be a history of its efforts, its ventures, and its successes. Like old, old, those of to-day have a tale to tell to them who come after—a tale of obstacles overcome, of encouragement granted, a story of vicissitude, difficulty, and deliverance.

Two avenues of experience carry the mind back into the past. The development of the Society's operations forms one part of the story; the genesis of the versions which it has helped to bring into being provides the materials for the other. Both these historical undertakings are in hand. As part of them there will be published a History of the Society, by Mr. William Cawley, and a History of Versions, under the superintendence of Dr. R. John Sharp.

The one book will describe how, little by little, the fabric of the great enterprise of to-day has been built up, and the other will illustrate the triumphs which the Spirit of God has enabled the translator to win, as he grappled with languages unworthy of the truths of which they were to be the vehicle, poor in thought, difficult in structure, faulty in diction. The perusal of these volumes will make thinking not only bearable, but intelligent.

How are we going to celebrate? By striving to educate the Christian public in the literary affairs. A slight knowledge of the Auxiliary Societies shows the narrowness of the circle of real friends. It reveals how widespread is the misconception of the Society's aims, principles, and achievements; how poor is the appreciation of its services as the handmaid of all missionary agencies. Some regard it as a mere commercial enterprise. Others distrust its policy of a worldwide distribution of the Books. Others affect to dislike its Catholic basis. The attention which the Centenary will focus on its affairs supplies a unique opportunity for removing misunderstanding and dissipating ignorance.

During the year 1903-4, will be issued monthly pamphlets, whose distribution, of judicious purpose and with high moral standard, will educate many in the details of a work which has been characterized by the Bishop of Worcester as "both sagacious and generous." These pamphlets are being written by experts, who will tell the story of the Bible in different countries, and of the Society's work under varied circumstances. Thus,

"The Bible in Uganda" will come from the pen of a missionary who has had long personal experience of the wild place of the hills and the Bible Society in establishing Christianity in Central Africa; and "The Urumi of Eastern Women and how we enter them" will illustrate how the Society, by its simple, patient tactics of sending out "the sower" at the same time as it provides "the seed" gives important help to almost every Foreign Mission. To circulate these books widely, wisely, and well must be an essential part of the Celebration.

How are we going to celebrate? By Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving. The day which completes the hundred years, March 7th, 1904, will naturally be marked by special gatherings for commemoration and praise. All who rejoice to realize that the Versions of Scripture which existed in 1804, have been multiplied tenfold, all who delight to look beyond these barriers now overthrown which once hindered the free circulation of the Word of the Lord, will unite in singing "Non nobis, non propter nos, sed propter nos misericordia tua, Domine, nos liberasti." It is hoped that everywhere, Sunday, March 6, 1904, will be observed as BIBLE SUNDAY.

Thanksgiving is immediately followed by Thanksgiving.

The gift of the hand must accompany the praise of the lips, as evidence of the praise of the heart. The song of the Lord is the accompaniment to the sacrifice of the Lord. What cost nothing may not be offered to God. Centenary Thankofferings will accompany Centenary Thanksgiving, as a sign that gratitude for the past inspires sacrifice for the future. A Centenary Fund is therefore to be opened, and the aim is to collect at least 250,000 guineas. By means of this Fund additional Colporteurs and Bible-women will be employed; new Versions will be undertaken; old Versions will be completed and revised; further provision, in many languages, will be made for the Bible. For the interest, refresh the young people in the study of God's Word and its diffusion in the world, will have a prominent place, and generally the work of Bible production and circulation will be promoted in all possible ways. This quarter of a million pounds, though in itself a large sum, is not too much to expect when it is remembered that the Bible Society has a claim upon all the Christia people, analogous to the place which the Book itself occupies in Christian faith and practice. This sum of money will be raised if all who love the Bible do their part in the rich according to their wealth, the poor out of the riches of their poverty.

## THE TAMIL SEAT IN COUNCIL.

In response to a communication by Messrs. J. P. Cooke, Head master, Batticaloa English School, V. Muttiahpillai, Maniagar, Islands, A. Maitland Watson, Landed proprietor, A. Sivashanampillai, Natale, Public, A. V. Alupillai, Surveyor, K. Modr. A. C. Curis, Physician, Panay Hospital, T. P. Hudson M.A., Professor, Jaffna College, J. V. Chelliah B.A., Professor, Jaffna College, and J. I. Modr. Kanapathipillai, Registrar of Births and Deaths, a large number of influential residents from all parts of the peninsula gathered together in the Batticaloa English High School Hall on the 24th January at 2 P.M.

At the motion of Mr. Joel Fitch, Medical Evangelist, and seconded by Mr. S. Thamper, Head master of the Araly English school, A. Valupillai Esq. (a brother of the late well known Maniagar A. I. Iraguana Modr.) was voted to the Chair. A. V. Tillanathai Esq. Commission Agent was elected Secretary.

Then the chairman in a short but lucid speech explained to the audience the purport of the meeting and spoke from his own knowledge and experience about the simple means, the various qualities of head and heart which Dr. V. Saravananmudi M.D., possessed and which entitled him to be a worthy representative of the Tamil community in the Council.

Then came the principal resolution of the meeting, expressing the opinion of this meeting, Dr. V. Saravananmudi M.D., as a fit and proper person to represent the Tamils in the Legislative Council of the Island of Ceylon and that signature be obtained from the people and a memorial sent to His Excellency the Governor to nominate him to the council seat which is to fall vacant in March next."

The resolution was moved by Dr. K. M. A. C. Curis of the Manepay Hospital. Among other things, he spoke of the social position of Dr. Saravananmudi who, he said, came from one of the most influential Vellai families of Jaffna. He again referred to the ample means possessed by him which consisted not only of his own earnings, but also of large paternal property. As to his intellectual qualifications, he said that every one knew that he was one of a few who have attained the highest professional distinctions and was one characterized by public spirit, devotion to his duty and intelligent understanding of the needs of the people. The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. V. Chelliah B.A., who at the outset refuted two wrong notions prevalent among a certain section of the community in regard to the nomination of a candidate for the council. He said that it was wrong to suppose that the Governor could not be expected to pay regard to the wishes of the people as His Excellency himself had recently said, that he would be guided by the wishes of the community in the selection of a representative for the council. Secondly, it was absurd to suppose that the representative should necessarily be a resident of Jaffna. There were men of ability who, for professional and other purposes, were residing in Colombo but, whose interests and sympathy were wholly centered in Jaffna. Instead of there being any objection to such gentlemen, preference should be given to them as they would naturally have the advantages to be derived by a life in the metropolis. As to the qualifications of Dr. Saravananmudi, he said that it was well known that he had ample property and a large and lucrative practice in Colombo. Further, he

had always moved in the best circles in Colombo and had been looked upon as one of the leaders of the said community. As to his intellectual qualification he had obtained in Great Britain, the highest medical degree of a University. Further, he was known to be a man of sound judgment, breadth of thought, high principles and public spirit, and his long residence in Colombo and his association with eminent men there and in Great Britain had developed these qualities to a great extent. One more quality—an indispensable one—that Dr. Saravananmudi possessed in an eminent degree. He was one who was sure to be in thorough sympathy with the aspirations and needs of the Tamil community of all classes.

Then the resolution was also supported by Mr. Joel Fitch who explained and endorsed in Tamil the various arguments put forth by the previous speaker. He said that it was a great pity that the Doctor's name had not been put forward before those of several other candidates, as many who had given their signatures to those would have gladly preferred to support the worthy Doctor. The resolution was put to the vote and was carried unanimously. A resolution was passed to the effect that the committee was then appointed to draw a memorial to His Excellency the Governor praying for the appointment of Dr. V. Saravananmudi. After a vote of thanks to the chair, proposed by Mr. A. Bacchus Post-master and seconded by Mr. A. Sithamparanathpillai Notary Public, the meeting came to a close.

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## Progress of Christianity in India.

On Christmas day and on New Year's day several persons were baptized both in the Kanarese London Mission and in the Wesleyan Mission Chapels at Bangalore. Those in the L. M. S. were some villagers; in the latter, people of Bangalore.

"Christian Patriot"

The Indian Christian Messenger notices the case of conversion of Mr. D. N. Chatterji, grandson of the late Mr. Chander Nath Chatterji, one of the wealthiest and most influential families in Bhawanipur. Mr. Chatterji's conversion took place during and was due to the effect of the Dussehra Meeting at Lucknow.

"Christian Patriot"

It is worthy of note that no book is better studied in India now than the Indian population of all parties than the Word of God.

"Christian Patriot"

## Progress of Christianity in Japan.

Mr. Mott says that within the past few months the thousand students in Japan have become Christians. There are now one hundred and thirty societies associated with the World's Student Federation.

"Christian Patriot"

## African Christian News.

When King Khamu of Bechuanaland was summoned by the Cape Town High Commissioner, he said to the native Christians in an address which he delivered to them: "I am going down to Cape Town because the High Commissioner has sent for me. I do not know what he wants, but I obey his summons. So you must obey the words of our Master Jesus Christ. Even when we do not know what His purpose is we must go in faith at His command. No better sermon can be preached than this to obey Christ."

"Christian Patriot."

## NOTES.

—THE QUEEN'S DINNER. At the Queen's Christmas Dinner to widows and children of soldiers who fell during the war in South Africa, there were present 1460 guests—629 widows and 836 children.

—THE FISH THEORY. Dr. Hutchinson, the great researcher into the cause of Leprosy, who is now in Ceylon, is of opinion that Leprosy is due to the eating of salted fish or badly cured fish.

—Mr. KRUZER is homesick, and has asked Mr. Chamberlain for permission to return to the Transvaal.

A patient statistician has found that out of 100 persons ten only have the two legs the same length. In at least fifty cases the left leg is smaller than the right.

—AN EGRAVER'S FEAT. An engraver of Odessa has engraved the entire Russian National Hymn upon a grain of corn, and recently he presented the curiosity to the Czar. His Majesty has forwarded to him through the Civil Governor of Odessa a gold watch and chain, with his thanks for carrying out such a laborious undertaking.

—AMERICAN CENTENARIES. Mr. Simon, addressing the Hundred Year Club in New York, cited figures furnished by the United States Census Bureau recording 3435 centenarians, including 85 of upwards of 130.

—TO TURTLE EGGS. An egg plunged in water fails to rise with more buoyancy according to its age, owing to enlargement of the empty space at the thick end by evaporation of water from the white. Hence the egg takes a different position in the water. Fresh eggs remain horizontal, an egg three to five days old makes an angle of 45° with the horizon, one 8 days gives an angle over 45° and at the end of 14 days the angle is 60°. An egg 3 weeks old lies at 70°. One month remains vertical.

## THE TAMIL SEAT AND PUBLIC OPINION IN JAFFNA.

It is an indisputable fact that there is nothing like public opinion in Jaffna as far as legislation concerning the Tamil is concerned. An individual expresses a desire and his kinsmen form a clique and public opinion is the outcome. Take the case of public meetings. Do they indicate public opinion? Are they held on a constitutional basis, unknown to civilized countries? A meeting is held and immediately conflicting reports are sent to the newspapers. What is the value of a public meeting? Is it a public meeting? Jaffna at present? Self-interest controls the mind of the people from the manner they act, has not often respected their wishes. But if the Tamils want their wishes respected, they should submit the name of only one person to the Governor. But instead, meetings are held in different localities to extol and carry forward several names, each locality presenting its favorite.

Personal likes or dislikes should disappear in order to gain the approbation of the Governor. There is no unity among the Tamils. Every man sees his own, and the whom we shall act like European communities in the matter of election.

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