

THE MORNING STAR.

VOL. 63.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, 26TH NOV. 1903.

NO. 24.

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

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ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary Jurisdiction

In the matter of the Estate of the late Chinnappillai wife of Thalayasingam Suppiah of Chavakkachcheri.

Decedent, Thalayasingam Suppiah of Chavakkachcheri Petitioner.

Decedent, Arunamalai Marumithai of Chavakkachcheri Petitioner.

Decedent, Thalayasingam Suppiah of Chavakkachcheri Petitioner.

Decedent, Thalayasingam Suppiah of Chavakkachcheri Petitioner.

husband of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 21st day of December 1903 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 10th day of Nov. 1903 | W. R. B. SANDERS.

District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary Jurisdiction

No. 1434

In the matter of the Estate of the late Esther wife of Augustimillai Saverumuttu of Jaffna Town.

Decedent, Bastampillai Manuelpillai of Jaffna Petitioner.

1. Augustimillai Saverumuttu of Jaffna Town

2. Sivete T. Lawrencepillai and his

2. wife Elizabeth of Do

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of Bastampillai Manuelpillai of Jaffna praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Esther wife of Augustimillai Saverumuttu coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire District Judge, on the 17th day of November 1903 in the presence of Mr. Tambiah S. Cooke, Practor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 11th day of November 1903 having been read it is declared that the Petitioner is the brother and next of kin of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 17th day of December 1903 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 29th day of Sept. 1903 | W. R. B. SANDERS.

District Judge.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Weather. Another cyclone in the Bay of Bengal and a heavy down-pour in Jaffna on the 18th and 19th. More rain is needed, however, in certain localities. The rainfall for November bids fair to be below the average.

The Steamer with Suits has arrived from India and the cargo is unloaded and landed at the Jaffna jetty.

Mr. E. Wilmet who was once District Judge at Jaffna was married in England, and with Mrs. Wilmet left for Ceylon on the 3rd Oct. by "SS. Victoria."

Y. M. C. A. Jaffna. The association has rented the house opposite the present building for a term of three years. The present building will be quit by the first of January next.

Special Service. On Sunday the 29th inst. there will be special services both morning and evening in St. Peter's Wesleyan Church, Pettah, conducted either by Rev. Jas. Lyall or one of the members of the Deputation of the Bible Society.

Quarantine Restriction. In reply to the memorandum of the Jaffna people, a letter was received by Mr. Karangappa, Advocate, who forwarded the memorial to the Governor, who ordered the removal of the restrictions and Kaita and Kangesanthurai have been made special ports of call for landing passengers from India, from 1st Jan. 1904.

Crim. The lengthy trial of Valupillai of Vavona came to a termination on the 19th inst. The charge against him was that he was printing and publishing a pamphlet called "Eralesaya Noori" which it is alleged is an indecent and immoral work. The accused was found guilty and the passing of sentence was deferred till the 25th inst.

Commercial Corporation. Mr. Wm. Mather the Managing Director went to Colombo to meet Mr. Tetley of the Manchester Firm which supplies goods to the company and they both came to Jaffna. S.S. Lady Havelock. They landed at Batticaloa to inspect the branch of the company there. Mr. Tetley has much interest in the company as he owns several shares. Miss Tetley accompanied her father to Jaffna.

The two New Mudaliars. Grand receptions were given to the two Mudaliars, Nagalingam and Venayagam on their return from Colombo invested with their new rank. At Jaffna several of their friends waited for them on the Jaffna Jetty and escorted them to a house specially arranged for the occasion, where there was an "At Home." A grand reception awaited them at Pt. Pedro. A large procession met them a great way off from their residences and they were led in procession, under pandals erected all along the route.

Health. Fever is very prevalent. In Naval, Sanganay and Sangarethi it seems to be of a very virulent type. Numbers have succumbed, but it is noticeable that those taking Western treatment nearly all recover. Cannot the Government distribute quinine free to the poor people through the Dispensary at Vaddukkodai and Maneipay Hospital; or else supply the headmen with this drug for distribution.

There is a great deal of truth in the statement that the fever is largely due to lack of proper sanitary measures. The badly maligned mosquitoes would cease to be talked about if our peninsula was kept clean and properly drained.

Mr. S. G. McIntyre. On the 3rd inst. the railway station at Kankesanthurai was crowded with the friends of this gentleman to bid him good bye. Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre were brought in procession headed by a native band of 12 men from their home to the station. Here an address was read by Mr. J. Smith, Loco-Forerunner expressing the deep regret which all felt at losing so genial, warm hearted and efficient a man as he who had served them over six years. Mr. McIntyre has been most active in Christian work, and the present flourishing condition of the work there is entirely due to his initiative. Mr. McIntyre goes for a well deserved promotion to Chitow, on which we most heartily congratulate him.

Bible Society. The annual meeting of the Jaffna Auxiliary Bible Society will be held in St. Peter's Church Jaffna, on Monday the 30th Inst. commencing at 6 P.M. One or both members of the Deputation from England will

be present and address the meeting. As this is a special meeting it is hoped that there will be a large attendance.

Rev. James Lyall, the evangelist, is also expected by the steamer Saturday night, to hold a series of evangelistic meetings in connection with the three Protestant missions. He will also make an address at the Bible Society meeting on Monday. Sir Wm. Twynam, K.C.M.G. will occupy the chair. It would be a good thing if a large part of the Centenary contribution could be paid in before that date.

Railway Progress is rather slow now for there are only 130 miles at work in the jungle and fever is thinning them out every day. Rails are laid 62 miles from Jaffna station—within 3 miles of Mankulam—so that about 60 miles yet remain to be done to link the line with Ahuradapura. Many are not aware that the Governor recently came on the railway to within 2 miles of Ahuradapura, completing the journey in a carriage. Ballasting on this end is complete 16 miles below Elephant Pass, but there is no prospect of a through railway journey before July 1st 1905 at earliest.

The Christian Review. We have read with a great deal of interest this (for Jaffna) unique production and we have been gratified and pleased to find to how much good taste and judgment the editorial work has been done. Vol. I. No. I is a compact book of 72 pages with five leading articles by the editor and Prof. S. Sathanathan, the balance of the number being devoted to editorial comments and reviews of current religious literature. This is a magazine well worth the patronage of every Christian worker and abundantly suggestive to every one who reads English, whether Hindu or Christian. The price of Rs. 3.00 per year is very moderate for the amount of matter provided. It has we are sure required no little courage on the part of Mr. Twynam to launch such a magazine in Jaffna and we bespeak for him the earnest support of every one of our Christians.

S. S. Jaffna. We regret to learn that this steamer had a good deal of trouble of one kind and another lately. About 6 weeks ago she put into Rangoon having a bad deal of general wear in her hold to stop the leak. A week later she was leaving Trincomalee with a heavy sea and put back into Trincomalee with the sea of water in her hold, and had altogether a narrow escape from sinking. She was put on the slip at Trincomalee for repairs. She's constructed of wood bolted into place but in a heavy sea the bolts work around in the wood and break away allowing big leaks to start. The boat seems to have been constructed throughout in a most unsatisfactory manner and we are sincerely sorry that this trouble has happened to a most worthy enterprise.

English Certificate Examination. Of the 241 candidates who applied for admission to this examination over 30 were absent and only 39 passed. Of these only obtained a second class certificate by passing all subjects within 21 having passed F. A. or Cambridge Senior Local, were examined in reading, school management and teaching and passed. There were 17 who passed in the 3rd class.

Those from the Northern Province, are N. Gunaratnam W. Chithamparapillai and V. Subramaniam in the 3rd class and T. Rajakary and A. Ponniah in the second class, both of these being Calcutta F. A.'s and gold boys" of Jaffna College.

The largest number of failures was in school management. The above results are far from satisfactory and only prove that most of the teaching in the island is very faulty.

H. E. the Governor. His Excellency and family left our Island on the 18th inst. by S. S. "Staffordshire." A series of farewell functions took up most of his time the closing fortnight of his stay. On the evening of the embarkation, there was a brilliant display of fire works, a final salute was fired and the enthusiastic and cheering crowds at the jetty joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne." As reported by the "Observer" it was truly a memorable scene, and one as yet unequalled nor likely to be eclipsed in the annals of the history of loyal Ceylon."

The Jaffna representative, Advocate C. Tirumakkarsu was present at all the farewell festivities and expressed to His Excellency the gratitude of the people of Jaffna for giving them the Northern railway.

Our new Governor Sir Henry Blaikie has had his farewells at Hongkong, and is expected in Ceylon early next month.

In the meantime His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Mr. E. F. Imthurn, C. B., G. M. G., will hold the reins of Government.

Later. Just as we go to press word comes that the ship has returned to Colombo unable to proceed on her voyage.

SWIFTEST CONVEYANCE IN THE WORLD.

The development of the electric railway has reached such a point that a car recently travelled in Germany at the remarkable rate of 117 miles an hour. This means its speed was nearly twice that ever attained by the fastest steam railroad train in the world. The trip was made on one of the government railroads of Prussia, which has been built purposely for tests of this kind. It is between the cities of Berlin and the town of Zossen, and is about sixteen miles in length. Over a year ago, experiments were conducted when a car was driven from one end to the other at the rate of about 100 miles an hour, but it was found that the rails were too heavy enough to repeat this rate of speed safely, and the track was rebuilt with rails weighing 100 pounds to the yard, and laid in a bed of cement. The car would travel nearly 100 tons, this weight being necessary to keep it from leaving the track while running at full speed. The electric motors are the most powerful ever built for such a purpose, aggregating nearly 1,000 horse power. The experiments are being made at the request of the German Government. Other countries will surely adopt the same system if this report is verified, for there is everywhere the same demand for the highest rate of speed in travel, even though it may involve increased danger to life and limb. The swiftest possible long ago foresaw that this would be the tendency of the human race in modern times.

"The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall seem like torches, they shall run like lightning" (Nahum 2: 4).

THE MORNING STAR.

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ABUSE OF SIVITES.

Advance sheets of the annual report of the Jaffna Auxiliary Bible Society, which are before us, emphasize anew one point which has long needed the careful attention of our Christians, especially of those who from time to time are called upon to make public addresses. We refer to the all too common practice of descending into abuse of Sivites in its various forms when addressing audiences largely or in part composed of Sivites. Two quotations from the Report will make quite clear what we have reference to. In reporting on the Union Bible Meetings one chairman has this to say:

"I heard that the leading and influential men have now left off attending these meetings as some of the speakers at the previous meetings spoke contemptuously of Hinduism. I made it a point to visit them and invite them. A leading Sivite when invited, said: 'We esteem the Bible. It is a book of wisdom. We regard, respect and fear the Christians who live in the spirit of the Bible. If such men should preach, it is worth while to hear them. But your speakers now-a-days know nothing more than some Bible verses, and when they run short of this stock they begin to despise our religion.'

Another chairman reports thus:

"The three speakers were present and about 300 people. The second speaker by his eloquent and sympathetic appeal so gained the attention of the hearers that you could hear a pin drop. The third speaker, spoke at length but it was very disappointing when he began to talk in an irritating way about the Hindu religion. This created an uneasy feeling among the audience, who began to disturb the speaker by noise, and some people outside threw stones and hurt a man and a boy. The Hindus said they were much offended and considered such addresses malignant and instead of convincing caused irritation."

We are quite certain that there can be no more senseless or indefensible way of attempting to preach Christ than that of trying to make Him shine on a background of abuse. Christ can never be attractive when presented in such a manner—Christ and those who preach Him thus are identified as one by those who listen, and the very natural conclusion follows that the spirit of Christ and the spirit of abuse are synonymous.

There are two common avenues by which men are reached with the Gospel—the intellect, and the emotions—the head and the heart; through one of these channels men see Christ, but abuse closes both. However just the abuse may be, men have prejudices, they have been brought up for fifteen, thirty, fifty years to think that certain things are true; their fathers for untold generations before thought so, and naturally their minds have received a certain cast that has a tremendous hold on them and is not to be lightly thrown aside, least of all by abuse. The influence of hereditary thought is the most powerful opposition that anything new, religious, social, scientific, or political has to face, it must needs to deal with carefully, thoughtfully, sympathetically, kindly, patiently, and he who so far forgets himself as to needlessly offend, and cast insults in the face of that which ought to be respected at least for its great age as well as for the fact that it is the faith of more than two hundred millions of human beings, has demonstrated at once, his lack of good common sense and his incapacity to be entrusted with the high privilege of presenting Christ in any public form.

We are of those who believe that the simple, earnest, preaching of Christ, relying on the spirit of the living God to carry the message home to the hearts and consciences of men, is far more effective than any results that may be achieved through forcing a comparison between that which the preacher is presenting and that which the hearer believes; such methods only create difficulties where they remove one, even assuming that no actual abuse is indulged in.

Jesus believed that there was resident within Him a power such, that if He were lifted up before men, He would draw them toward Himself; this is the Gospel committed to our charge—to preach Christ—and the more absolutely we give ourselves to this our business, the more certainly shall we be in the path of God's blessing. Jesus asks us only to have the same faith in Him that He had in Himself. His own divine self-sufficiency for every need of men. When once this

great fact takes hold of our preachers and speakers, abuse of any sort will have no place in their addresses. We hope that the Bible Society will insist on its speakers refraining from abuse and permanently disqualify any man guilty of this offence from further service as a speaker. The propagation of the Gospel is attended by inevitable difficulties of its own without needlessly creating any.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency in opening the session of the Legislative Council, for 1903, referred to the year 1902 as being a very prosperous one and thought the current year would show even a higher degree of prosperity than the past. The actual revenue in 1902 was Rs. 27,198,056, and the expenditure Rs. 26,341,878, and these figures are likely to be exceeded in 1903. The trade of the Colony is in a flourishing state, the returns for the first seven months of the current year being considerably in advance of the returns for the corresponding period in 1902.

Concerning railway extension His Excellency has much to say, but we have already referred to this in a previous issue. Of Irrigation he reports favorably. The Karachchi scheme is making commendable progress; one or two works are completed; and new schemes have been started.

EDUCATION

says His Excellency "has received more than its usual share of public attention. This has been due to the appointment of a Committee to report on the question of an Educational Cess, in connection with the Committee on the Incidence of Taxation, and to the attention drawn to Ceylon education in the English House of Commons."

Meanwhile the development of the existing system has not been interfered with. Nine new Government vernacular schools have been opened. Most of these are in remote districts, two being in Mannar, where there were formerly no Government schools. Five vernacular schools in important villages have been converted into Anglo-vernacular schools. Thirty grant-in-aid schools have been registered during the year, of which five are English schools.

The opening of the new Government Training College for teachers is a most important step, and there is every indication that its work is of a kind which will be really beneficial to English education in the Colony. A proposal has been sanctioned for extending this work next year by the appointment of an assistant to the Principal.

LEGISLATION.

A number of ordinances have been passed. One, called the Printing Press Regulation, requires all printing presses in the Island to be registered, and rules that all printed books and papers should have the name of the printers and publishers and place of publication. This His Excellency thinks will check "the publication and distribution of scurrilous and offensive literature."

SUPPLY BILL OF 1904.

We have space only to record the votes for the Northern Province. Under New Works and Buildings the sum of Rs. 10,000 has been set apart for medical officer's quarters, Mannar, Rs. 4,500 for a Dispensary at Nedunkudru and Rs. 1,500 for the Dispensary at Chavagachcheri. The vote of Rs. 2,000 for a Powder magazine at Pallai we do not understand. A re-vote of Rs. 12,000 is recorded for new wards in Patoli Hospital. Large sums of money are voted for Roads, the largest i.e. for Rs. 21,100 to the Parantan, Malliata road connecting with the Northern railway. The repair of Elephant Pass Bridge is put down for Rs. 15,000. A large sum Rs. 40,000 is given for water supply for Jaffna. We understand that the experiments made have been so successful that a sufficient water supply for Jaffna town is now certain. The next step, logically, is a Local Board for the Town, and we presume this will soon be started.

JEWELS.

The report of Mr. Ramanathan C. M. G., K. C. Solicitor-General is too full of statistical tables to be of interest to the ordinary reader. We gather that crime has not decreased in 1902. Persons tried for murder and attempt to murder were 129, which is considerably in excess of the average for the ten preceding years. The Southern Circuit leads in the number of murders, and the Northern Circuit comes last which only goes to prove that the Sinhalese people are more prone to this crime than the Tamils. Over 600 persons were tried for house breaking and robbery. Herz also the Northern Circuit compares favorably with other circuits. In rioting the Northern and Eastern Provinces lead. To quote from the report of the Acting Crown Counsel for the Northern Circuit.

"The inhabitants of Northern and Eastern Provinces of the Island are given to rioting to a far greater extent than those of the Southern. Last year there were four cases of riot, and fifty-six persons were indicted for that offence in the first two Provinces; whereas there were no cases of the kind in the Southern Circuit. It is said that these riots in the North are due to the sudden revival of caste prejudices and caste distinctions.

Certainly nine-tenths of the cases that have passed through my hands were due to people of some caste venturing to exercise some privilege, which in the caste system is possessed only by persons of a higher caste, such as the wearing of jewellery, the beating of tom-toms in processions, the use of umbrellas, and so on."

When we compare races with reference to crime we find that the Tamils are more law-abiding than the Sinhalese. For example the numbers sent to jail were as follows:

Sinhalese	4,790
Tamils	1,299
Moors	343
Burghers	37
Europeans	47
Others	90

The forty-seven Europeans were all non-residents. Of the total only a very few were women—less than a hundred. On the whole we doubt not that Ceylon compares favorably with respect to crime, with other countries. Justice and firmness on the part of the government are the essentials for securing a peace-loving and law-abiding community.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CHRISTIAN AND CASTE.

To The Editors Morning Star.

Sir,

It is a matter for regret that the Christian community in Jaffna should have given occasion for a discussion on the above subject. If Christianity means the religion as taught by Christ, then the observance of caste is an anomaly. It is entirely opposed to its spirit. The linking of Christianity and caste is analogous to that of light and darkness, good and evil. A true follower of Christ abhors caste distinctions as a great sin.

But is this the question that should most engage the minds of the thinking even in the Christian community at present? What is the state of Christianity in Jaffna? How do its votaries profess it? What is its status? Is it a power for good in this land? These are some of the questions that suggest themselves on reading the contribution of "A Voice" in the last "Star." Though every one cannot agree with him in his proposed method of action, yet all right minded persons must be at one with him in his condemnation of caste observance by Christians.

The Christian community was not numerically strong some 25 or 30 years ago. But it was a power then. The non-Christians respected them, feared them, and were even jealous of them: their leading men saw their powerful influence and they tried to emulate them. They started schools, established a college, brought into existence associations and societies similar to Christian institutions, purified their temples of objectionable performance, and did many other things very much to their credit. They are yet going on. The latest is the Y.M.C.A.

But how is it on the other side? They did run well, some one has probably done well in them in their course. The men of the present generation have, to a great extent, lost the commanding influence their fathers and grandfathers had over the non-Christians. The reason probably, is that the Christian community have become more worldly and conform more to the ways of their neighbours, the Hindus than to the precepts laid down by their Lord. The defects most noticeable in them are (1) lack of genuine piety, (2) disunion in family circles (3) disobedience of children to their parents and those in authority over them (4) vanity in dress and jewels among women (5) drunkenness in well-to-do families (6) litigation (7) want of truthfulness and so on. It is, therefore, evident that there is something wrong.

Our attempt must be, at first, to aim at an amelioration of the existing state of things. We must go step by step towards it. What we most need in these days is revival in our Churches. They must rise from their lethargy. Work among children is urgent. They are not generally cared for spiritually except in Sunday schools. The majority of Christian children do not compare well with the Hindu children. Most of the Pastors are not as they ought to be, "they must not look behind when holding the plow" they must be converted men. When you bring about a change in these lives under the blessing of God, then "A Voice" will find that no concerted and systematic action will be necessary to bring about the end is something wrong.

But if you attempt to meddle with caste in the present regenerate state of society, you will make the low caste man impudent, insolent and repulsive and the caste man discredited, indifferent and independent of control.

Jaffna, 23 Nov. 1903.

Another Voice.

A SPECIAL MISSION IN JAFFNA—SOME SUGGESTIONS.

Sir,

Many of our Christians do not know that an evangelist is now in Ceylon whom the Lord has been wonderfully using for the spiritual regeneration and awakening of thousands of souls in Australia and New Zealand and of many even in Ceylon. Mr. Lyall is expected to arrive in Jaffna by the steamer of the 20th. Now that the Lord has been pleased to send him here should we not thank Him for it and at the same time feel that we are a serious responsibility, prayerfully do our very best for the spiritual regeneration and sanctification of individual souls and families? Is such a result impossible? Old and recent history again and again proved the possibility of such a thing. But much depends on the sincerity and devotion with which we set to work. First, let us Christians (missionaries, pastors, and all other workers in the field) see if our hearts are perfectly right before God, if not, let us first put ourselves right and then begin to work for the blessing of others.

What is wanted is no superficial excitement, a huddling permanent revival, an abundant out pouring of the Spirit upon all missionaries, ministers, Christian workers and blessing as is promised in Joel 2: 28, 29 and in Malachi 3: 10; what an amount of good work by way of preparation like an active and earnest interest in the work and hold special prayer meetings to honor God for females? May I in conclusion, request the readers of this letter to be good enough to read Ex. 33: 21 and Haggai 1: 12. I remain Sir, yours truly,

A Native Christian.