

MORNING STAR.

VOL. 64.

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, 26TH MAY, 1904.

NO. 11.

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

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Police Court. Mr. Dutton has assumed charge in this Court. He is very agreeable to all and is doing good work.

Point Pedro. The Annual Home missionary meeting of the Wesleyan mission church is fixed to be held on the 30th inst. in this church.

Isaac Tambyah. Advocate, has been licensed by the Bishop to preach in all Anglican churches in Jaffna, and he is now conducting services in Christ Church Jaffna.

Jaffna Customs. There is not much work being done during this season at the customs. Kaits and Kanakasaurai have taken a very large share of the work of the Jaffna customs.

Registration Meetings. The meetings for this month are held by the Wesleyan mission at Kottidai in Vannarpannai for three days commencing from the 23rd inst.

Registration of dogs. From the 1st day of July next, the "Dog Ordinance" will be brought into force in the Town of Jaffna and all dogs will have to be licensed, or their owners prosecuted. It will cost 50 cents a year to keep a dog.

Calcutta Results. Central College has passed 12 out of 17 of the F. A. candidates presented for Examination this year. Jaffna College passed 3 F. A. out of 12 and 2 B. A. out of 2. The entrance results are apparently very bad. Those of some colleges which we have just heard of are a fair sample.

The Teak Planks seized at Kankesanurai about 6 months ago were put up at auction on the 18th inst. but it was then appeared that there was a combination among the bidders to keep the price down and consequently the sale was declared off. About 2 weeks hence the planks will be offered again.

The Toll at Kankesanurai has, we are glad to learn, been reduced from 50 cts per trip to 60 cts per day. As we noted in our last issue this is the concession which the Chetties demanded. Several Chetties decline to send their cargo to Kankesanurai as long as there is any toll, but most of the Chetties have accepted the situation and are sending their vessels to Kankesanurai as usual.

Empire Day. The 24th day of this month was observed as a festive day by all the school children under the management of the Wesleyan Mission at Jaffna. The children in large numbers were invited to the mission house by Mrs. Timmer and they were given small presents and light refreshments. The day was spent by them in a variety of amusements ending in a cricket match in the afternoon.

Jaffna District Court. Mr. Freeman, District Judge, is instituting some badly needed reforms and is showing a disposition to enforce the law as he finds it in a way worthy of all praise. He has made lists of the so-called "trouble" or out of door prosecutors to regulate their proceedings. He has ordered that all suits should be brought without a reason, and if attending must not sue. He has prohibited the use of hotel in Court and ordered the prosecution of all who keep dogs which molest cycles. This is the sort of thing Jaffna needs.

The Lady Havelock arrived Hanbantota on Friday the 19th inst. and the steamer was accompanied by a heavy swell. She put out two anchors and tried to discharge cargo but did not succeed that day. Just at night fall one of the anchor chains snapped. The following day Capt. Whitley discovered the cargo destined for that port and tried to recover the lost anchor and 30 fathoms of cable but he failed. The cargo was lost. This was the real cause of the delay of one day about which many wild stories have been afloat.

The Committee appointed to arrange for a convention of the American Mission churches at Tellippalai for the deepening of the spiritual life, have finally decided to hold the convention on July 19th, 20th and 21st. Prayer meetings will be held on the 19th inst. at 7.30 a.m. at the palace at 6.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. and evangelistic meetings in the evening in villages around Tellippalai. Full details will be published later. In the meantime we commend this convention to the earnest prayers of every one of our Christians, for without the Spirit of God operating and ruling the convention nothing can be accomplished. Plan to be present yourself and persuade others to come.

The Annual Meeting of the Jaffna College Board of Directors was held at Vaddukkoddi on the 14th inst. Sir Wm. Teyyan in the chair. The treasurer reported an addition of Rs. 300 to the debt, making it stand at Rs. 1900. To meet this it was decided to raise the contribution fees of the B. A. students from Rs. 12 to Rs. 14 and F. A. students from Rs. 12 to Rs. 13 and the board of all students from Rs. 16 to Rs. 18.

A committee of six of the Board of Directors was appointed to confer with the Wesleyan Mission regarding a Union College. Mr. A. Chittaranjan was elected to replace Mr. C. W. Catherallpillai, deceased, and other minutiae of business were transacted.

The organization of the Council of the Congregational Church of Ceylon and election of officers was effected at Tellippalai on the 20th inst. Hereby the only union existing between the American Mission churches has found its expression in the Ecclesiastical Body which had almost no rules and whose influence could not be counted on at critical times. Furthermore, there has been a growing feeling that the polity represented by the American Mission churches required, as it deserved, a more expressive designation than simply the churches of the American Mission. These needs have been met in the organization just effected which represents carefully thought out plans for meeting the requirements of the churches. The rules by which this new organization is governed were adopted by the individual churches last year.

Rev. R. C. and Mrs. Hastings sailed yesterday from Kankesanurai after a continuous service of eleven years since their last furlough. On the 24th inst. a farewell meeting was held at Vaddukkoddi in which the mothers and pastors of the five churches in Mr. Hastings' district were lavishly represented. The meeting was held in the gymnasium and Mr. J. P. Cooke read the address to which Mr. Hastings feelingly replied. It was proposed to complete the Hastings scholar-ship and Rs. 75 were pledged at once. Rs. 4000 still needed. At 3.30 in the afternoon the college professors and students read an address

to Mr. and Mrs. Hastings in their house. We bid them God speed on their journey, a happy reunion with their friends in the homeland and a speedy return to their work in Jaffna. Mr. Hastings has been in Jaffna 26 years and Mrs. Hastings 21 years. Just before sailing Mrs. Timmer gave a picnic-dinner at Kankesanurai at which nearly every Missionary in Jaffna was present. An exceedingly enjoyable three hours was spent before Mr. and Mrs. Hastings embarked at 10 p.m.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary [No. 1510

Jurisdiction

In the matter of the Estate of the late Rebecca Sinnamma, wife of Vairammattu Kanagaretnam of Jaffna Town. Deceased.

Vairammattu Kanagaretnam of Navaly. Petitioner.

vs

1. Anamma, daughter of Anthioappillai of Jaffna Town and
2. Soemanpillai Tampippillai of Jaffna Town now at
Remondets.

This matter coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman, Esquire, District Judge on the 2nd day of May, 1904, in the presence of Mr. S. T. Arnold, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 2nd day of May, 1904, that letters of Administration to the estate of the late Rebecca Sinnamma, wife of the Petitioner be issued to the Petitioner as husband of the intestate, unless the respondents or any other persons shall on or before the 6th day of June, 1904, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 2nd day of
May, 1904

H. R. FREEMAN
District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary [No. 1511

Jurisdiction

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Tillainayakam wife of Kantappur Suppiramaniam of Vaddukkoddi West. Deceased.

1. Annammam Suppiramaniam of Vaddukkoddi West
2. Annappathi of Vaddukkoddi West
3. Vairalingam Ponnampalam and wife
4. Thiayalayagam of do Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Kantappur Suppiramaniam of Vaddukkoddi West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased Tillainayakam wife of Kantappur Suppiramaniam coming on for disposal before H. R. Freeman Esquire District Judge, on the 3rd day of May 1904 in the presence of Mr. Tambiah S. Cooke Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 2nd day of April 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the 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 Respondents or any other persons shall on or before the 10th day of June 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 3rd day of
May 1904

H. R. FREEMAN
District Judge.

ORDER NISI.

In the District Court of Jaffna.

Testamentary [No. 1509

Jurisdiction

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Annapurani, daughter of Kasinathar Mutukumar of Maneyap. Deceased.

Tillimuttu widow of Kasinathar Mutukumar of Maneyap. Petitioner.

vs

1. Thankammah wife of Mungesa Mudir, Thampipillai and
2. Simantammam wife of Sivakoluntu Thampilai, both of Maneyap Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Tillimuttu widow of Kasinathar Mutukumar of Maneyap, the above-named Petitioner, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased Annapurani daughter of Kasinathar Mutukumar coming on for disposal before T. B. Russell Esquire District Judge, on the 28th day of April 1904 in the presence of Mr. S. P. Lawton Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner 18th day of April 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful mother of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 14th day of June, 1904, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 17th
day of May, 1904.

H. R. Freeman,
District Judge.

NOTICES.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

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S.S. Lady Havelock 7th June 1904
Via Point Pedro.
S. S. Lady Gordon 30th May 1904
13th June

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SELF SUPPORT ILLUSTRATED.

On Tuesday May 17th, the Navaly church was dedicated, marking thereby a distinct epoch in Mission work in Jaffna. To understand the significance of this event, a brief review of the history of the church is essential.

In 1858 Mr. Cotton Mathier (father of William Mathier, Esq.) purchased the present site and erected on it a cadjan shed in which services were held for about a year and a half. On November 15th 1860, twenty-seven members of the Manepay Church organized the present Navaly Church, and after an interval of eight months during which the Rev. E. P. Hastings acted as pastor, they called the Rev. Francis Asbury as their first regular pastor. In 1864, having outgrown their cadjan building a stone structure was begun capable of seating 200. It is this structure which has just been replaced by the fine building which seats 800 easily.

For several years the church has found its quarters too small, but it was not until 1900 that it was finally decided to build the present structure, the corner stone of which was laid April 25th 1901. The original estimate of cost was Rs 3000, but now that the building is complete, Rs 11,000 has been expended, not one cent of which has been given directly or indirectly by the American Mission, nor by any non-Christian—every cent with the exception of Rs 235—has been contributed by the members of the church.

In planning to raise the money, needed the whole congregation agreed to contribute each the equivalent of one month's income and to this there was added the freewill offerings of all who chose to give. No special effort was made to obtain subscriptions outside the church members; the determination of the church from first to last has been to stand on its own legs, and bear its own burdens.

When we attended the dedication services we expected to hear fervent appeals for help to clear off a large debt, supported by a list of names of those who had already contributed, but we were grievously disappointed. Not a word was said about a debt, no names of contributors were read, and no appeal was made. To direct inquiries as to the state of their finances we received reluctant replies and only after some persuasion were we permitted to see the subscription lists and learn what each had given. Here was a rare modesty indeed, for we found a list of contributions of which no church could possibly have been ashamed, liberality embracing every member which was a revelation of what consecrated, single-hearted Christianity can do. The Navaly church stands to-day not because of the contributions of a few, but because "all the people gave willingly to the Lord." There is a wealth of potential power in the church in Jaffna, if energized by the living God, that few have dreamed of—the reason why Navaly Church has been able to erect its building unaided, is not because it is a rich church for it is not, nor because it was able to raise money by cleverly devised business schemes, but solely because the church has devoted itself without stint to that chiefest of all work, the salvation of souls. When an individual or company of individuals make God's work first, He is not slow in making them feel in their own lives and experiences the truth of the promise that "all things shall be added unto them." There is not the slightest reason why every church in Jaffna should not duplicate the experience of Navaly church, and why the money problem should not find easy solution; "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

The trouble with most of our churches is that they are more concerned about the money problem than about God's Kingdom, they put the question of raising money to meet current expenses first and the Kingdom of God last. There is no surer way to get hold of the pocket-book than to get hold of the heart—the man who is heart and soul for God will not hold back his money.

The distinguishing feature of the work of Navaly church has been evangelism; the holding of regular services in the villages conducted by their own members and persistent attempts to

carry the gospel to those by whom they are surrounded. The reflex result of this work for God has been quickened personal spiritual life among the members and a drawing together of hearts that has made all the members see eye to eye and quarrels impossible. Another thing: when events similar to this dedication or of far less importance occur, we invariably receive long accounts written in such a style that they cannot be published without extensive revision; but we have received no such account nor even a hint that this occurrence was worthy of notice; they have no desire to parade their achievements and have shown throughout a modesty worthy of all praise, which it gives us genuine pleasure to commend.

SOUTH POLAR EXPEDITION.

The British Antarctic exploration expedition in the steamer "Discovery" has reached Lyttleton, New Zealand. The Discovery had been in the ice near Mount Erebus ever since December 1901. From there Captain Scott, with twotwo men started for the South Pole by sledge along the coast of Victoria Land and reached 82 deg and 17' min South latitude which is the highest latitude yet reached in Antarctic regions. In October last two ships started south to release the "Discovery" from the ice which was accomplished on February 14th by blasting a channel through the ice pack with dynamite. All members of the expedition are well and have not suffered severely, although the cold has been at times 60 deg below zero. Victoria Land is a vast continental plateau 9,000 ft. above sea level and contains many great glaciers.

THE FRENCH ORDERS.

Premier Combe's program for the secularization of education in France has been carried through the French Parliament without serious modification. It prohibits the religious orders from engaging in teaching of any grade or kind in France. Ten years is allowed for the complete change from religions to secular schools. The religious schools are allowed to continue in the Colonies, although they may be closed by executive order at any time. The property of the teaching orders will be taken in charge by Government commissioners. On March 18th the Pope in receiving the congratulations of the Cardinals on the occasion of the celebration of his name day, took opportunity to denounce the action of the French Government. He said in part: "The result will be that we shall have an immense number of children brought up against the wish of their parents without faith and without Christian morality to the inevitable loss of souls, and we shall have once more the pathetic and distressing sight of thousands of the religious wandering in affliction throughout France or becoming exiles in foreign lands."

Two or three things strike us about the situation to which we have several times given prominence because it represents a fight for liberty and freedom from the oppressive yoke which the Catholic church always binds on its adherents. In the first place it is the children educated in these very schools now being suppressed who, grown to manhood, are rising up to put down a system of education which they know thoroughly because brought up under it.

And second the assumption that secular education is godless. The best and most scientific education in the world today is secular education, and we look forward to the time when here in Ceylon the Government shall have fully taken over the work of education. Missionary bodies at best are doing only pioneer work, which ought as the Colony grows to be replaced by something more advanced, and which the Government alone is in a position to give. But this is precisely the point which the Catholic church has never conceded—to them education without a priest, or a nun is of the devil.

And third the statement that the religious of both sexes will become "indolgent." In France simply means that the "brothers" and "sisters" would sooner beg than do an honest day's work for their living, surely a pitiable and pathetic confession for the head the Catholic church to make. We were aware that Hinduism and Catholicism touch at so many points that it is often difficult to tell the one from the other, but we were not prepared for this calm acceptance of the position of the Hindu sanjayas.

CHRISTIANITY'S LEAVENS.

A remarkable article appeared in *Unity and the Minister* in its issue, dated 3rd April, entitled "The meaning of the Cross of Christ." There is at times a vagueness, not to say looseness, of expression which is a little tantalizing to one who is accustomed to clear theological definition, but the drift and teaching of the article are distinctively Christian. We should be glad if we could believe that all the members of the Brahmo Samaj could go as far as the writer in their acquiescence in Christian teaching.

What for instance could be more Christian in time than the following:—

"Christ was a born Mediator between God and man. As the Son of God he was at one with God, and as the Son of man or the representative of humanity, he was perfectly at one with humanity, and thus none but Jesus can claim the unique position or being at one both with Divinity and humanity, and therefore he is fully entitled to be the atonement between God and man. The Mediator between Divinity and humanity."

And again:—
"On the Cross we see hanging the figure of the glorious sufferer whose Sovereignty extends from one end of humanity to another. The secret of the influence of the Cross as well as its peculiar meanings in the atoning death of the son of God."

Such an article kindles in our minds the hope that some day the better spirits in the Brahmo Samaj will see the wisdom of publicly identifying themselves with the Church of Christ. It is evident that the Samaj is passing through a critical period and there seems to be a tendency towards disruption. The elements which go to form it are so various and so irreconcilable that there seems little probability of its maintaining much longer even the semblance of unity. Some of its members openly avow their desire for readmission into Hinduism, and it is possible that, with the break-down of caste, so evident on every side, their wish may some day be fulfilled. The only home which the better and purer leaders of the movement can ultimately find, we believe, to be found in Christianity. That, at least, is the only logical conclusion at which one can arrive after reading such an article as the one referred to. I. M. Tines.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Rev. C. C. Handy, the much respected Headmaster of St. John's College is now in Triping. After staying for some time with his brother Dr. Handy in Singapore, he began his Native States. He came across a number of his old students who are scattered in these States and who were delighted to see their old Head Master. Last night at the request of the Ceylon Association, he gave a very interesting address at its monthly meeting.

This morning he preached in the S. P. G. Church and administered the Lord's Supper at the request of the resident S. P. G. clergyman. His text was "Believe in the Lord and again say 'Hallelujah.'" A very large number attended the service and were greatly benefited. Taping 1st May 1904.

Notes.

—The Christian Endeavour Society now comprises 64,380 societies, of which 44,360 are in the United States, and 8,800 in Great Britain, and 4,017 in Canada.

—There are now laboring on the Congo mission field 209 missionaries representing seven societies. They work among a population of 2,000,000 speaking 60 languages. The native Christians number 6,000.

—Opportunities for Christian missionary work in Persia are multiplying. The Church Missionary Society has issued a call for more missionaries for that field. It has stations in Isfahan, Yazd, Kerman, and Sheraz.

—The Sunday School pilgrims on the way of Jerusalem stopped off at Athens, and heard a sermon by Dr. John Fife, on Mark's Hill, on Sunday March 27. It is welcome news that all the members of the party were in good health.

—The agitation the night of the French Orders in France has driven many monks and nuns into other countries. Over six thousand have settled in England. New convents to the number of forty-seven have been founded in that country.

—An International Conference of the Salvation Army is to be held in London in June. Army officers from all parts of the world in which the Salvationists are working, will attend. A large hall is to be erected specially to accommodate the meetings.

—The murder of Rev. B. W. Labaree in Persia has been identified, but not arrested. He is in hiding near Mr. Ararat. He is said to be a confirmed case of insanity, other matters to his charge. The Persian Government is acting vigorously in the matter of his arrest, and is strictly enforcing all laws protecting Christians.

—The project for mining the Bay of Bracy and the Mediterranean by a canal has been revived, and it seems probable that it may be taken in hand. It is said the cost would not exceed £40,000,000. The advantage to France would be very great as the canal would pass on by through her own land.

—The Total Abstinence movement in Germany is making solid progress. In a comparatively brief period, 371 books, by 413 different authors, have been published advocating total abstinence. Several influential journals and magazines have also espoused the cause. Temperance societies of various kinds have been organized throughout the Empire, and are enrolling members.

—The acceptance of exhibits for St. Louis has been definitely stopped. Applications to send them continue to arrive, but nothing has been accepted for some weeks now. Mr. C. D. Diebig has received an order from Mr. S. B. for 1,600 Jaffna fans. Four hundred of these are going by the "Maui" to Toronto, and 500 more are expected in Colombo next week. They are of all sizes and sizes and most exquisitely worked. They are strong and durable, and are very artistic.

—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the London *Express* cables the story, that after the Russian disaster at Port Arthur, "Viceroy Alexieff summoned his officers after gross examining them as to the conduct Alexieff, drawn a revolver and shot the young officer dead in taken a party of officers ashore in his torpedo boat instead of remaining on guard."