

# The Hindu Organ

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## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1901

### The Administration Report Of the P. C. M. C. For the Year 1900.

The Administration Report of Dr. Perry for the past year is a most interesting document dealing as it does fully with the administrative and medico-surgical work of the Department over which he presides. To the main report are appended the reports submitted by the several Colonial Surgeons. We quote as follows from the Northern Province Report:—

This Province is under the supervision of Colonial Surgeon H. A. Moraes, L. R. C. P. and L. R. C. S., whose report is subjoined:—

In submitting my report of the Northern Province for the year 1900, I have the honour to state that I took charge of the Province from Mr. Santiago, who had been acting since the death of Dr. Thornhill.

#### Population, Births, and Deaths, &c.

The estimated population of the three districts of this Province for the year is 347,043. The number of births registered was 13,463, and deaths 8,866. The birth-rate per 1,000 was 38.80, and the death-rate 26.12.

The following table furnished by the Provincial Registrar gives the particulars for each of the three districts:—

	Jaffna.	Mannar.	Mullaivivu.
Population ...	1900...307,016...25,396 ... 14,631	1899...302,552...25,094 ... 15,521	
Births ...	1900...11,723...1,059 ... 686	1899...10,296...968 ... 519	

	Jaffna.	Mannar.	Mullaivivu.
Deaths ...	1900...7,259...1,031 ... 576	1899...12,438...1,185 ... 681	
Birth-rate ...	1900...38.18...41.6 ... 46.89	1899...34.03...38.5 ... 35.74	
Death-rate ...	1900...23.64...40.5 ... 39.37	1899...41.11...47.2 ... 46.89	

The above table shows that the population has increased by 4,876 over that of the year 1899. Each district shows an increase: thus, Jaffna District 4,464 Mannar District 302, and Mullaivivu District 110. In each of the districts, except Mullaivivu, each quarter of the year shows an increase, in the Mullaivivu District the second quarter of the year shows a slight decrease.

The number of births also exceeded that of the previous year by 1,513. In the Jaffna District it was exceeded by 1,427, Mannar District by 91, and Mullaivivu District by 167. In the Jaffna District the second and fourth quarters show the largest number of births, in the Mannar District the first quarter, and in the Mullaivivu District the third and fourth quarters.

The number of deaths registered shows a marked decrease, being 8,866 against 14,304, or less by 5,438. The Jaffna District shows the largest decrease, viz., 5,179, Mannar District 114, and Mullaivivu District 105. This large decrease in the mortality is no doubt owing to the yearly epidemic of fever having been of a comparatively mild type.

The birth-rate per 1,000 in the Jaffna District shows an increase of 4.15, and the death-rate a decrease of 17.47; in the Mannar District the birth-rate shows an increase of 3.1, and the death-rate a decrease of 6.7; and in the Mullaivivu District the birth-rate an increase of 11.05, and the death-rate a decrease of 7.52.

#### Prevailing Diseases.

The diseases most prevalent were malarial fevers and their sequelae, diseases of the digestive system, skin, respiratory system, parangi, rheumatic affections, and venereal diseases.

**Malarial Diseases.**—The principal of these is fever. It prevailed more or less throughout the year in the whole Province, but to a much less extent than the previous year. The exact number of cases which occurred in all the villages cannot be given, but the returns of the several hospitals and dispensaries show that 39,845 cases were treated, which works out about 114 per 1,000 of the estimated population. It was generally of the intermittent type, chiefly quotidian, though cases of the remittent type also occurred.

It is most prevalent during the north-east monsoon, attaining its height during the months of December, January, February, and March.

**Dysentery and Diarrhoea** were reported from all the stations, but these diseases did not prevail to the same extent as in the previous year.

**Ulcers and other Skin Diseases** were also prevalent. Pallai contributed the largest number of ulcer cases.

**Scabies** also prevailed to a great extent, especially at Jaffna and Point Pedro.

**Respiratory Diseases** occurred in many stations. Pneumonic was the chief of these diseases, and is reported from twenty-six stations.

**Venereal Diseases.**—Vallavettiturai heads the list with 271, an increase of 66 over the previous year.

**Parangi.**—This disease still prevails to a great extent, especially in the Wannai, of which it is the source. Cases were reported from twenty-two stations, the largest number, viz., 347, being from Vavuniya, which is probably the centre of the Wannai district.

The disease appears to be increasing, as the total number of cases treated at all the hospitals and dispensaries in the Province for the year 1900 is hospitals 309 and dispensaries 1,911, making a total of 2,220, which is an increase of 553 over the previous year.

It will be seen from the figures given below for the five years 1896 to 1900, that the disease increased in 1897 and 1898, decreased in 1899, and increased again in 1900. The figures are as follows:—

	Hospitals.	Dispensaries.	Total.
1896 ...	349	831	1,180
1897 ...	468	979	1,447

	Hospitals.	Dispensaries.	Total.
1898 ...	458	1,411	1,869
1899 ...	261	1,406	1,667
1900 ...	309	1,911	2,220

The several medical officers attribute the prevalence of the disease to bad food, bad water and insanitary habits of the people.

**Leprosy** does not seem to be prevalent in this Province. At Point Pedro hospital 7 cases were treated and 3 at Kankasanturai dispensary. The medical officer of Point Pedro writes: "Like parangi this disease is not peculiar to this district. It is found mostly among the maritime population, who go to Batticaloa for trading purposes."

**Anchylostomiasis** is not prevalent in this Province, Vallavettiturai being the only place where it appears to be found to any extent, as many as 55 cases being reported from there. Point Pedro and Jaffna dispensaries reported 6 each, Marichukaddy 2, and Vavuniya and Kankasanturai 1 each.

**Ophthalmia** was reported from 25 stations. No cases were reported from 11 stations.

**Epidemic Diseases.**—The province was entirely free from cholera and smallpox. A few cases of cholera occurred at Paumben among the coolies coming from India for the Giant's tank works, but owing to strict quarantine and precautions taken the disease was not introduced into the province.

A few cases of chickenpox were reported from Kankasanturai, Mullaivivu, and Delft.

**Relative Mortality in the different Seasons.**—There are practically two seasons in the Northern Province, the wet and the dry. The wet season commences with the setting in of the north-east monsoon in October and continues till December, after which the nights become dewy and the days begin to get warm. The dry season begins at the setting in of the south-west monsoon in May and lasts till October, though there are a few occasional showers of rain during this period. The dry season is the healthiest and the wet the unhealthiest.

The first quarter is the unhealthiest period of the year, and consequently the mortality is highest then. The second quarter comes next, but the decrease is very marked. It begins to rise in the fourth quarter. Of the total number of deaths registered in the Province, viz., 8,866, there were 2,955 in the first quarter, 2,128 in the second, 1,868 in the third, and 1,945 in the fourth quarter. The Jaffna District contributed the largest number, viz., 2,445 in the first quarter, 1,740 in the second, 1,507 in the third, and 1,567 in the fourth quarter. The Mannar District 312 in the first quarter, 238 in the second, 233 in the third, and 248 in the fourth quarter; while in the Mullaivivu District there were 168 in the first quarter, 150 in the second, 128 in the third, and 130 in the fourth quarter. Though the largest number of deaths occurred in the Jaffna District, the rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is less than the other Provinces, viz., Jaffna 23.64, Mullaivivu 38.36 and Mannar 45.96.

#### Meteorological Conditions and other Causes affecting the Public Health.

The climate of the Northern Province is generally hot and dry. The monsoon rains reduce the temperature to some extent, but the public health suffers at this season, owing chiefly to the outbreak of fever. This is the only disease which can be said to be at all influenced by the seasons. Though it prevails more or less throughout the year, it is most prevalent and frequently assumes an epidemic form during the latter part of the north-east monsoon, when there is a heavy fall of dew at nights. Chest affections, especially pneumonia, and rheumatic affections also prevail at this time and in some districts bowel complaints. The climate of the town of Jaffna and Point Pedro is said to be well suited for consumptive cases and it exerts a beneficial effect on those who come here with phthisis in its incipient stage, but has no effect when the disease is far advanced.

#### General Sanitary Condition of the Province.

The only town in the Province in which some system of sanitation is carried on is Jaffna, and even here the system is open to vast improvement. Such a large, thriving, and populous town as this—the chief town of the Province—is without a Municipality, or even a Local Board while small towns in other parts of the Island can boast of Local Boards. At Jaffna there is a



body called the Board of Health or Sanitary Board. There were only two meetings of this Board held during the year, one was to consider the question of the destruction of rats, and the other the advisability of establishing a Municipality.

The water supply of Jaffna is very unsatisfactory. The chief and only source is wells. Most of these are seldom cleaned. With the exception of a very few, the water of which is fairly good, the others are hard, brackish, and undrinkable.

#### Vaccination.

Vaccination was carried on throughout the year. The number of vaccinators employed was eight, but one of them who was engaged in calf vaccination resigned in September. The work of the vaccinators was frequently inspected by the Inspector of Vaccination and found to be satisfactory. Vaccination was also carried on by the several medical officers and apothecaries at their respective stations.

During the year 15,196 subjects were vaccinated, which shows an increase of 820 over the previous year. Of this number, 10,162 were vaccinated by the vaccinators and 5,034 by the medical officers and apothecaries. Of the number vaccinated by the vaccinators, 8,385 were successful, 1,206 unsuccessful, and 571 unknown; and of the number vaccinated by the medical officers and apothecaries, 4,208 were successful, 679 unsuccessful, and 147 unknown.

The preparation of calf lymph at the depot was carried on throughout the year with satisfactory results.

#### Other Observations.

**Jail.**—The Jaffna jail is the only one in this Province. There is accommodation for 217 prisoners. The hospital consists of two wards, with six beds in each. There is no separate hospital accommodation for females.

The total number of admissions into the jail was 610, of which 263 were local convictions, 144 were sent from other prisons, and 203 were remand prisoners. Of the local convictions, 36 were road defaulters.

There were 74 admissions into the hospital, against 85 the previous year. Twenty of these admissions were for dysentery, 14 for diarrhoea and 7 for simple conjunctivitis. The dysentery was of a mild type, and the diarrhoea occurred among habitual opium eaters as a result of the sudden discontinuance of the drug.

There were no deaths in the jail hospital.

The general health and sanitary condition of the jail was very satisfactory.

**Plague Precautions.**—I have not much to say on this subject. The precautions which were taken in 1899 under the regulations of 12th January of that year were rigorously adhered to.

There was only one prosecution under the Plague Ordinance, and this was at Kayts. No Indians, whether passengers or crew, are allowed to land.

The total number of vessels inspected at this port was 650, against 627 the previous year. Of this number, 407 were from India, which is less by 82 than the previous year. Of this number, 302 were quarantined.

**Hospitals and Dispensaries.**—There were 2,366 admissions into the hospitals of the Province. The daily average was 109.85, ranging from 1.19 at Pesalai to 22.84 at Mullaitivu. The average residence was 10.99, the average in the different hospitals being from 1 to 12. Point Pedro hospital was overcrowded all through the year, except three days, and Vavuniya hospital on twenty-four days. The total number of deaths was 82, ranging from 8.10 at Pesalai to 1.23 per cent. at Mullaitivu.

At the dispensaries in charge of apothecaries 59,467 received treatment, and at those attached to hospitals 20,544 persons, making a total of 80,011, who altogether paid 127,869 visits.

### LOCAL & GENERAL

**The Northern Railway.**—Last week a ballast train was run between Kangesanturrai and Navatkuly. The train crossed the Upar.

—We understand that there was a squabble between two sections of coolies who were en-

gaged in unloading railway materials from the "Den of Seaton" at Kangesanturrai.

—Mr. Sivakolundu who was acting as District Engineer's Clerk at Mannar has returned to Pallai where he is District Engineer's Clerk.

—Mr. J. W. Robertson, Superintendent of Surveys, Northern and North-Central Provinces, stationed at Jaffna was on a visit to Anuradhapura, last week.

—Mr. C. Spelwinde, Surveyor, is now on duty in the Mullaitivu District.

**The Technical College.**—A good number of Jaffna young men who passed the examination for admission into the Technical College held lately, have proceeded to Colombo to join the College.

**Paddy plants.**—The paddy plants in several parts of the Peninsula are dying owing to want of rain.

**A Hindu Religious Society.**—We are glad to find that a Hindu Religious Society has been formed at Slave Island. It is a sign of the times that Hindu revivals are taking place everywhere.

**THE DEAF HEAR.**—No. 463 of *The Illustrated World* of 626, Chiswick High Road, London, W. England, contains a description of a Remarkable Cure for Deafness and Head Noises which may be carried out at the patient's home, and which is said to be a certain cure. This number will be sent free to any deaf person sending their address to the Editor.

#### THE JAFFNA AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The desirability of having an association for Jaffna to promote the agricultural condition of the Province has long been engaging the attention of the Government Agent Mr. R. W. Ievers, and he has very often talked over the subject with many of the leading gentlemen of the place. The idea having been considered a most welcome one, a preliminary meeting of a few leading gentlemen of the Town was convened at the upstairs hall of the Kachcherri on the 26th September last, and the question was fully discussed. After mature deliberation, it was decided to convene a general meeting of the leading gentlemen of the Peninsula, consisting chiefly of farmers and landlords—and lay the matter before them.

Notices were accordingly issued and an influential and representative meeting was held at the Kachcherri hall at 4 p. m. on Thursday the 3rd October, 1901. Among those present were, Messrs R. W. Ievers (in the chair), John Rudd, A. Kanagasabai, A. Mailvaganam, T. C. Changarappillai, A. Sapapathy, M. Tambapillai Mudr., I. Tillaiuather, V. Muttiahpillai, S. Vayitilingam, S. Duraisamy, R. R. B. Kumarakulasingham, V. Sivasthamparam, V. Saravanamuttu Mudr., T. M. Tampoo, B. Santiagupillai, S. Tambyahpillai, C. M. Sinnyah, M. Candiah, S. Asaipillai, S. K. Lawton, S. Mailvaganam, T. Nagalingam, J. H. Vanniasinghe, Chit: Kailasapillai, and S. Sabaratnem.

A Telegram from Mr. M. Subramanier (Puloly Tamby) regretting his inability to attend the meeting and expressing his sympathy with the undertaking was laid on the table.

The Chairman in a few words explained the desirability of forming an association which would have in view the agricultural interest of the Province and which, as a co-operative body could do much to better the existing conditions of agriculture. The opening of the Northern Railway and the anticipated Irrigation works of Karachchi would offer ample scope to enlarge the agricultural enterprise of the Province, and the time, he said, is therefore very opportune to form an association of the kind contemplated. He referred to the necessity of introducing some suitable fodder plants, a labour saving apparatus for drawing water from our wells, a new method of curing tobacco to render it suitable for European markets, &c., and said that these and several other similar subjects could engage with advantage the attention of the Association. The Association, he said, can have an agricultural library of reference and instructions, and can also communicate with and get information from similar bodies both in and out of the Island, and any such information of practical value can be adopted and promulgated.

He impressed, however, in the minds of those present that this not to be considered as an undertaking in any way connected with Government, although he would be glad himself to render any assistance he could in his capacity as a private gentleman.

The remarks were interpreted by his Mudaliyar Mr. Kailasapillai.

The following resolutions were then passed:—

#### Resolution I.

Proposed by Mr. T. M. Tampoo, seconded by Mr. C. M. Sinnyah and carried unanimously.

"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desira-

able to organize an association to promote the agricultural condition of the Province."

#### Resolution II.

The name by which the association is to be known was discussed and it was resolved unanimously that the name of the Association should be.

"The Jaffna Agricultural Association" in English and "Yalpana kamachankam" in Tamil.

#### Resolution III.

Proposed by Mr. A. Kanagasabai, seconded by Mr. Lawton and carried unanimously.

"That Sir William Twynam, K. C. M. G., be requested to become the President of the Association and that Mr. John Rudd be appointed Vice-President."

#### Resolution IV.

On the suggestion of the Chairman the desirability of having a native gentleman as an additional Vice President was discussed, and it was resolved on the motion of Mr. S. Tambyahpillai seconded by Mr. B. Santiagupillai that Mr. A. Kanagasabai be appointed additional Vice-President.

#### Resolution V.

Resolved on the motion of Mr. A. Mailvaganam, seconded by Mr. S. Asaipillai that Mr. S. Sabaratnem be appointed Secretary, and Mr. C. M. Sinnyah Treasurer of the Association.

#### Resolution VI.

Resolved on the motion of Mr. T. Changarappillai seconded by Mr. J. H. Vanniasinghe that the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number, be appointed a committee—seven to form a quorum.

#### The Office bearers.

Mr. A. Mailvaganam  
" A. Sapapathy  
" T. C. Changarappillai  
" V. Casipillai  
" B. Santiagupillai  
" J. H. Vanniasinghe  
" S. Tambyahpillai  
" M. Candiah  
" S. K. Lawton  
" S. Asaipillai  
" A. Oathiravelu  
" S. Sangarappillai  
" S. Vissuvappah  
" T. Nagalingam  
" V. Velanther  
" M. Subramanier  
" Chit: Kailasapillai  
" J. J. Patterson and  
" J. Philips

#### Resolution VII.

Resolved on the motion of Mr. Tampoo, seconded by Mr. T. Nagalingam that the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to frame rules for the guidance of the Association.

#### Mr. J. Rudd

" A. Sapapathy  
" V. Casipillai  
" S. Tambyah Pillai  
" the Office Bearers

#### Resolution VIII.

Resolved on motion of Mr. A. Sapapathy seconded by Mr. M. Candiah and supported by Mr. B. Santiagupillai that the thanks of the meeting be accorded to Mr. R. W. Ievers, G. A., N. P. for the interest he took in the formation of this Association and for allowing the use of the hall for holding this meeting and the future meetings of the Association.

Jaffna  
7th Oct. 1901

S. Sabaratnem.

Hon: Secretary,

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### NEERVALY AFFAIRS.

To

The Editor, "Hindu Organ", Jaffna.

Sir,

With reference to your footnote to my letter appearing in your issue of the 25th Instant, I wish to state that the site of ground in which the R. C. Church is being built at Neervali is about 30 yards distant from the Temple of Goddess Kali, and about a furlong from the Temple of God Pillaiar. Whether it is near to, or far from, the Hindu temples, it matters little, inasmuch as the result is one and the same. If the Missionaries want to build a Church, they will do so by hook or crook, and they are entitled to do so, for under the British rule, they have the same rights and privileges as we have. But my point is that Hindus should not patronize them. What man among the Hindus patronized the early Churches in Jaffna? While the Missionaries are too influential to require any help from the Hindus, why should any Hindu gentleman take upon himself the unnecessary and un-called for burden of patronising them? Why not let time work its own course? Will the Missionaries be grateful for any help rendered by the Hindus?



Speaking of the 'Laird' of Copay, I know fully well that he is a Hindu of Hindus, a Vedantist of Vedantists, and I firmly believe that he has in this instance only acted on the doctrine of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa that all religions are true. But how many of us in the villages are enlightened enough to grasp and realise the truth of the noble exposition of the Deva? In a country where all or most of the people are Vedantists or are enlightened, any foreign religion can be safely introduced without the least fear of any dissension taking place among the people for they will be absolutely tolerant—liberated as they are from all prejudices and predilections. But in introducing it into an unenlightened country where man and woman are imbued with passion, prejudice, and fanaticism from top to bottom, you will indeed meet with opposition stern and strong, from the inhabitants, and if perchance both the sides are equally fanatic, the result will be constant quarrels often ending in bloodshed. This is a general statement applicable to all religious parties in the world. No proof is necessary to support it. History is full of instances of religious disputes and quarrels. They are of daily occurrence in India between rival religious factions, and even in Ceylon. I am prepared to mention a thousand of them which have occurred from time to time.

You speak of Americans giving lands to the Swamys of Bengal. Can you favourably compare our villagers, yea the whole Ceylonese, with the Americans—perhaps the most enlightened nation of the present day? They have become so much enlightened, that they are welcoming stranger and more philosophical religions than their own into their land. The keen intellects of America, having discovered the truths lying imbedded in Hinduism have donated a large tract of land perhaps double the size of Copay or Neervaly to the Swamys of Bengal. There is no parallel between our villages, and the enlightened American townships. We have not become unsatisfied with our religion, as the Americans are.

Yours truly  
Pro Bono Publico.

(The Kings of Travancore, Cochin, &c., welcomed Christians to their shores long before Europeans established their sovereignty in India. The Hindu religion is a tolerant religion, and Hindus must be tolerant. The Laird of Copay has only done a generous act. If the kindness shown by him is abused, of which we know nothing, it is not he that is to blame. We have given publicity to the letters of *Pro Bono Publico* as we do not wish to suppress the opinions of those who do not agree with the Laird of Copay. The correspondence must now cease. Ed: H. O.)

#### A PRESENTATION.

The Editor,  
Hindu Organ,  
Jaffna.

Mr. K. Subramaniam, a clerk in the C. G. R. Accountant's Office, Colombo, was the recipient of a purse from his brother clerks, on his return to Colombo after marriage. The present was given over at Mr. Subramaniam's residence at Wolfendhal St. on Friday the 4th instant. Most of the clerks of the Accountant's Office, including Mr. D. Pieterz the Veteran Chief Clerk, were present on the occasion. Mr. E. J. Delle, Chief Clerk, Ticket Office, in his usual easy style spoke at great length of the high character, intelligence, and amiable qualities of Mr. Subramaniam and then handed over the purse amidst loud cheers. Mr. Vincent de Silva and Mr. V. Kanagasabai, Chief Statistical Clerk, too spoke on the occasion, dwelling mainly on the high opinion which Mr. Subramaniam has earned for himself from his superiors and brother clerks within the short period of his service in the Dept. Mr. Subramaniam replied in suitable terms and the party broke off at about 7. P. M. after refreshment.

#### A JAFFNESE

(Mr. K. Subramaniam comes of a respectable family at Mattuvil. He is the younger son of the well-known Karthigasa Udaier of Mattuvil, and a brother-in-law of the popular Store-keeper Mr. C. M. Sinniah. We wish him every success in his wedded life. Ed: H. O.)

#### NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA  
ORDER NISI

Testamentary } No. 1188  
Jurisdiction }

In the Matter of the Estate of the late

Kanapathipillai Tampaiya of Moolay  
Decensed

Tampaiya Ramaasamy of Moolay  
Petitioner.

Vs

Ponnachechi widow of Tampaiya of Moolay  
Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Tampaiya Ramaasamy of Moolay praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Kanapathipillai Tampaiya of Moolay coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire, District Judge, on the 19th day of September 1901 in the presence of Mr. A. Velupillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner, and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 17th day of September 1901 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is one of the heirs 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 30th day of October 1901 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 19th day of September 1901

Sigd/ W. R. B. SANDERS  
District Judge.

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