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The Manager,  
Hindu Organ,  
Jaffna.

4-9-1901.

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District Engineer, P. W. D.  
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Public Works Department,  
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## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1901

### The Governor's Address.

His Excellency the Governor's Address on the opening of the Legislative Council

this year is fuller and more exhaustive than was the case with similar addresses in past years. This being the last Session of Council presided over by His Excellency, the Address was looked forward to with more than ordinary interest. As far as Jaffna is concerned, the greatest work undertaken by His Excellency is the construction of the Northern Railway, a portion of which, it is hoped, will be completed before His Excellency relinquishes the reins of Government. On the progress of Railway extension, we cannot do better than quote His Excellency's own words:—

The Railways under construction are the Northern, the Kelani Valley, and that from Nannu-oya to Nuwara Eliya and onwards to the Hill Districts of Uda Pussellawa.

The cost of these Railways is estimated at Rs. 11,029,376, Rs. 4,034,780, and Rs. 1,301,351, respectively. On the Northern Railway, which like the Uda Pussellawa Railway is under the charge of Mr. Oliver, the expenditure at the end of July amounted to Rs. 3,000,000. At both ends substantial progress has been made. On the first forty miles at the southern end the works are in hand, including nearly all the bridges and culverts on the first twenty miles. The rails are laid for ten miles, and there is a large quantity of bridge, permanent way, and other material on the ground.

On forty miles of the northern end from Kankasanturai the work is well forward: the rails are laid for twenty miles, nearly to Chavakacheri. At Anuradhapura also, on five miles on either side work is begun. Labour has been fairly plentiful.

Work on the Uda Pussellawa Railway is in progress on the Crown lands through which the line runs, and the acquisition of the private lands required is now proceeding.

On the Kelani Valley Railway (48½ miles) land has been acquired up to 45½ miles, and the earth-work has been completed up to 31 miles, and is being vigorously carried on between 31 and 43 miles. Of the major bridges, the masonry of three spans of 60 feet has been completed, and the masonry of three spans of 100 feet and of two spans of 60 feet is in progress.

On the important subject of education His Excellency delivered himself as follows:—

Education continues to make steady progress. Six new Government vernacular schools for boys and three for girls have been opened during the year, while four large vernacular schools have been converted into English schools on a vernacular basis. Forty-three new grant-in-aid schools have been registered, including a school—the first of its kind in Ceylon—for Hindustani-speaking children. The attendance at Government schools shows a marked increase, in consequence of the new rules framed in conformity with the Director's suggestions at the Conference of Government Agents in 1900, and the hearty co-operation of the Revenue Officers in their working.

A scheme has been approved for the introduction of drawing into all our schools, and classes have already commenced in the new Drawing School. A long-felt want has thus been supplied, though it will necessarily be some years before the scheme is in full operation. The School of Agriculture has been closed, and in its stead a scheme has been started for the extension of school gardens, whereby it is hoped eventually to improve the supply and increase the variety of vegetables and fruits throughout the Island, and to teach just so much practical horticulture and elementary botany to the boys as will really be of use to them in their home life. The progress of this effort will be watched with interest.

The question of Training Schools for English teachers, to which I attach great importance, has been under consideration, and the Director of Public Instruction was instructed to prepare a scheme, but unfortunately he has not been able to submit it in time to permit of provision being made in the Estimates of 1902. It must therefore stand over, to my great regret. The Inspector of Schools, Western Province (Mr. A. van Cuylenburg), was sent over to India early in the year in order to study the Madras Educational System in comparison with our own.

His report will be laid before you. It affords valuable information regarding the working of the Educational Department in Madras, especially from the financial point of view, which may be useful to you when the inevitable review and re-organization of our own system is undertaken, for the increasing expenditure under the head of Education becomes year by year a subject of great concern and anxiety to the Government. The expenditure for 1901 increased to Rs. 923,277 from Rs. 820,133 in 1900, the average annual increase being about Rs. 42,600. For 1902 the proposed provision is Rs. 949,518, and with the usual supplementary expenditure will probably not fall short of Rs. 1,000,000. In other words, your expenditure on Education has almost doubled in ten years, and this in addition to the large expenditure of the different societies, who co-operate so generously with the Government in this important branch of the Administration. What then is to be done? The Secretary of State has more than once warned me that there must be a limit to our expenditure, but Education, on which the welfare and proclivities of future generations so much depend, cannot be allowed even to stand still. It must advance, but how is the money to be found? As I pointed out last year, the solution of this problem is to be found in inducing, or if necessary obliging, Municipalities, Local Boards, and Village Communities to contribute to the cause of Education within their limits by levying a rate or cess for that purpose. The time has come when the people of this Colony can afford to help themselves, and should cease to look to Government for the supply of every want, however parochial or sometimes even domestic. This principle is generally approved by my advisers and officers, but the question—a very difficult question—is, how to apply it to localities where there are no Municipalities or Local Boards? I appointed a small Committee, consisting of Messrs. Ellis, Ievers, and Wace, to consider this subject, and as soon as their report has been received and considered you will be invited to legislate.

## LOCAL & GENERAL

Our Government Agent—We congratulate Mr. R. W. Ievers on his promotion as Colonial Secretary of the Island, albeit temporarily. Mr. Ievers' long experience at the Secretariat both as Second Assistant and Principal Assistant Colonial Secretary renders him pre-eminently fit for the office he has been now called upon to fill. No Civil Servant in Ceylon is more acquainted with the administrative and public affairs of the Colony than Mr. Ievers, who in addition to possessing a thorough knowledge of the Secretariat work, has been Clerk to the Legislative and Executive Councils and Government Agent both in Singhalese and Tamil districts. Besides being one of the ablest Civil Servants, he is possessed of an eminently conciliatory disposition, and no better choice could have been made locally for the acting Colonial Secretaryship. Another circumstance over which we have to be jubilant is, that this is the first occasion on which the head of the Northern Province has been, while holding the Agency of the North, called upon to fill such a high office. Mr. Ievers' appointment adds importance to Jaffna, and is sure to remind the people of the South that Jaffna, though separated by the vast wilds of the Wannai, is an integral portion of the Island, a fact which is often lost sight of on account of the distance of Jaffna from the Metropolis. Even before the Railway has come to the working stage, Jaffna has come to be acknowledged as a part and parcel of the Island, and certainly there is so much in store for Jaffna when the railway becomes a *fait accompli*.

Mr. Ievers' Locum Tenens—We understand that Mr. G. S. Saxton who has just arrived in the Island from leave will act for Mr. Ievers as Government Agent of the Northern Province while the latter acts as Colonial Secretary. Mr. Ievers' term of office as Colonial Secretary will last till the arrival of Mr. im Thurn in December next.

A Retiring Professor—Mr. E. Kingsbury Appukkuddy, Professor of Mathematics, Jaffna College, is retiring from the scene of his activities for the last twenty six years. After a meritorious work of more than a quarter of a century, Mr. Kingsbury richly deserves a leisure.

The Jaffna Y. M. C. A.—The third anniversary of this body was held in the Jaffna Central College Hall on the 28th Instant.



**A New Dispensary**—The Wesleyan Mission has opened a Dispensary at Puttoor under the name of "Jevon's Dispensary". The opening ceremony took place on the 26th Instant, Mr. T. M. Tampoo presiding. We believe that the Government has already provided Puttoor with a dispensary. Would it not have been better, therefore, if the Missionaries had located the dispensary in a village or parish to which Government has not extended its medical relief? Any way, we wish success to the movement, and hope that it will prove the means of relieving the distress of the inhabitants of Puttoor and the neighbouring villages.

**A Marriage**—Mr. C. Muttucumar, the Head Clerk of the Maanar Kachherri, and son of Mr. C. Coomariah Mudaliyar was married on the 18th Instant at Navaly to the daughter of Mr. Swaminathar Ramalingam. We wish the married couple health, wealth, long life, and prosperity.

**Mr. C. Hardley-Wilmot**—This gentleman who arrived from England on the 20th Instant has been appointed District Judge, Commissioner of Requests, and Police Magistrate of Kalutara.

**Our Late Governor**—Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, G. C. M. G., G. C. I. E., landed at Colombo on his way to Tasmania where he goes as Governor. Sir Arthur Havelock lately retired from the Governorship of Madras.

**Mr. F. Dornhorst**—Mr. Dornhorst has resumed his practice at the bar.

**Sir Alexander Swettanham**—Sir Alexander Swettanham well-known in Jaffna, where he was Assistant Government Agent and Police Magistrate successively, and whose last appointment in Ceylon was that of Auditor-General, landed at Colombo on his way to British Guiana of which Colony he has been appointed Governor. Sir Alexander has been Acting Governor of the Straits Settlements for more than a year, and is succeeded in that post by his brother Sir Frank Swettanham, who gets it permanently.

**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.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A CONTRADICTION.

To  
The Editor,  
The Hindu Organ.

Sir,  
In the columns of your valuable journal "The Organ" published on the 25th September last, "A Jaffnee" from Perak writing about "Taiping" asserts that Taiping is "the Premier State of the Federation". The head quarters of the Resident General of the three federated Malay States, the General Manager, F. M. S. Railways and the Directors of P. W. Departments being K. Lumpur, I appeal to the better judgment of that "A Jaffnee" to say whether Taiping or K. Lumpur, is "the Premier State of the Federation." From a financial point of view also the flourishing state of Selangor, the capital of which is Kwala Lumpur, stands prominent.

A Jaffna Tamil.

Kwala Lumpur  
16th October 1901.

(Which is the official capital of the Federated Malay States? Ed: H. O.)

KWALA LUMPUR.

Mr. K. Elyatamby of Karadive, Guard S. G. Railway, is going to Jaffna on a leave of 6 months with effect from the 20th September last to see his parents and friends in Ceylon and chiefly with the object of turning out a Benedict which we hope he will achieve, and we have to congratulate him on the event in prospect. We can safely say of him that he was very useful both to the Department he served in, and to the community of Jaffna Tamils here. Although he deserves much more to be said of him, we refrain from doing so as we do not like to blow our own trumpets.

For some time back a gentleman from Perak frequently writes to our Jaffna news papers "The Organ" and "The Star" praising too much the State in which he has taken service and his own relations and friends. Though the gentleman might not have intentionally exaggerated matters, it appears to us that he has a little overshot the mark. While his pluck and enterprise are to be appreciated, his judgment requires to be put aright a little. It is to be hoped that with growing experience, he will suit his judgment to the pluck and industry which so much distinguish him.

A Jaffna Tamil.

(No good purpose is served by strong language, and therefore certain expressions have been softened down. We wish that all our countrymen in the Straits should live in peace and accord. They should not make much of trivialities. Ed: H. O.)

SELECTIONS.

THE JAFFNA ROAD COMMITTEE.

Continuing our (*Guardian's*) strictures on the Jaffna Road Committee, we purpose, in this article, to ask them a question or two, as they are a public body, amenable to the public, for their public acts. The first question is, "Have they never acted *ultra vires*? Have they always acted strictly in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No 10 of 1861, to which they owe their being and whatever authority they have exercised?"

Well, Section 20 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1861 runs thus:—

"Every Provincial Committee shall on or before the first day of April in every year, transmit to the Government accounts audited by two of its members, showing the amount of labour and money performed and paid on account of each district and division in the Province during the preceding year and the several works for which the same shall have been applied and there shall be appended to such accounts copies of the certificates referred to in the 37th section and such accounts, with the copies aforesaid, shall be laid before the Legislative Council at its next session."

Now, it has got abroad, and there is no denying the fact, that a Kacheherri clerk did, for some length of time, audit the accounts of the Jaffna Road Committee and that he was paid for so doing. The Ordinance declares, expressly enough, that the auditing should be done by two of the members of the Committee, and there is evidently no authorised provision for paying a private auditor. The whole business as to auditing, if the current report is correct, seems to be irregular and objectionable and such as to form the subject of a motion in Council. If no two members could be found on the Committee willing to audit the accounts, the obvious course would be, not to get an outsider to audit and to pay him out funds intended for other purposes, but to form a new Committee with members more alive to their duties and responsibilities.

The second question we have to ask is "Has the Jaffna Road Committee power to grant pensions? Road Committees, as we said in a previous article, are still in the class of what are called "provisional" as opposed to "fixed" establishments. Whence then did the Jaffna Committee alone, of all the Road Committees in the Island, derive their authority to grant, and their funds to pay, pensions? We know not. But the fact is as plain and prominent as a pickstaff that the Jaffna Road Committee have granted and paid pensions. Granting and paying pensions to officers, who have borne the burden and the heat of the day, is a very praiseworthy act in itself, to which we certainly do not object. But what we are puzzled to know is how an establishment, the servants of which, according to its constitution and working, are not entitled to pension, found its way to making them so entitled, without driving a coach and four through any of the laws and regulations by which it is governed. If such a way—certainly a very ingenious one—has been found, it should be forthwith proclaimed from the housetops, for adoption by other Road Committees for the benefit of their employees.

Two officers of the Jaffna Road Committee have already been pensioned off; and as they are now drawing their pensions, it would be interesting and instructive to know if the amounts paid as pensions are entered in the books of the Committee as pensions and brought to account *as such* in the financial statement annually submitted to the Legislative Council.

We have now before us the Reports on the Working of the Thoroughfares Ordinance during the year 1900; and we suppose they give, in substance and perhaps in full, the accounts required by section 20 of Ordinance No. 10 of 1861. We run through these reports from beginning to end; and we find there are as many as twenty-one in all—viz—three by Mr. Ellis and his Assistants, Messrs Hopkins and Fox for

the Western Province, three by Mr. Wace and his Assistants, Messrs Alexander and Short for the Central Province, three by Mr. Ievers and his Assistants, Messrs Constantine and Murty for the Northern Province, three by Messrs Fowler and his Assistants, Messrs Davidson and Horsburgh, for the Southern Province, two by Mr. Murray and his Assistant Mr. Lushington for the Eastern Province, three by Mr. Fisher and his Assistants, Messrs Brodhurst and Fraser for the North Western Province, one by Mr. Booth for the North-Central Province, one by Mr. Vigers for the Province of Uva, and two by Mr. Byrde and his assistant Mr. Hill for the Province of Sabaragamuwa.

Thus there are nine Provincial and twenty-one District Road Committees. One thing which strikes us in perusing these reports is the absence, in all of them, of any mention of, or reference to, any pension being paid to any individual. Even where a deserving case for pension is mentioned, no question of pension is raised. Thus Mr. Fox, as Chairman of the Kalutara District Road Committee, writes:—"Mr. D. A. N. Gunawardena (Minor Roads Superintendent) was compelled to relinquish office on account of old age" and the fact is referred to, simply to explain that the interruption thereby caused in the superintendence of Minor Roads so interfered with the work that the money voted for the year was not fully utilized. There is no evidence to be culled from any of the Reports that any Road Committee in any Province have granted any pension to any officer who had been in their service. But it is known, as a matter of fact, that in the year of grace 1900, the Head Clerk of the Jaffna Road Committee, was granted a pension of Rs. 369 per annum; and knowing this and now failing to find any reference to this extraordinary item of expenditure in the official reports and accounts published, of the Jaffna Road Committee, one is tempted to ask, "has this item been duly brought to the notice of the Governor in Council; and, if not, how has it been accounted for?"

Far be it from us to oppose pensions to deserving persons employed by Road Committees; but what we desire to urge is that what now seems to be an exception should be made the rule. Taking this view, we have great pleasure in endorsing the following which we cull from a recent issue of the *Ceylon Observer*.

The word "Pensions," reminds us, of what seems to us a grave piece of injustice, too long persisted in by the local Government, and no appearance of inconsistency will prevent our pointing it out in this place. We refer to the long-delayed sanction of pensions to a hard-worked and deserving body of public servants, in the Minor Roads Department of each Kacheherri. To our knowledge, this has been the subject of Memorials for many years and successive Government Agents—Mr. Ellis loudest of all—have given full approval to the prayer, the justice of which has never been denied by the Executive. Why then this delay? Is the "Auditor-General" backing out of his approval as Government Agent? If Municipal offices, which date back to 1867, have had pensions attached to them, how much stronger are the claims of public servants appointed under the Road Ordinance of 1861? Be it noted in conclusion, that such pensions would be no burden on the General Revenue; for, just as Municipal funds provide Municipal pensions, so can the Minor Roads' receipts afford provision, for the required pensions to Road Officers. We trust Sir West Ridgeway is not to leave the Colony without doing justice to this hard-working body of men. If his Excellency does not find Mr. Ellis very cordial in his approval, let the Auditor-General be confronted with several endorsements and letters during the past four years which, we think, will be found to have given even greater satisfaction to the petitioners than anything written by Sir F. R. Saunders or Mr. A. R. Dawson! A very interesting little discussion could be got up on the subject in the Legislative Council. —J. C. Guardian.

(It is we that first gave publicity to the fact that the work of auditing which was once done *gratis* by the members of the Jaffna Committee is being now done by a Clerk in the Kacheherri for a remuneration. At the time we took exception to the procedure, it did not strike us that the Committee was acting *ultra vires* in appointing the Clerk to audit the accounts. Our objection was only directed to the extra expenditure incurred by the Committee. Now that our contemporary has pointed out in unmistakable terms that the Committee is acting *ultra vires* in appointing and paying the Clerk, its action stands doubly condemned. If the Committee is also acting *ultra vires* in granting pensions to retiring officers, the matter looks rather serious. Ed: H. O.)

CHINA AND THE MISSIONARIES  
BY MONCURE D. CONWAY.

(Condensed from the *Open Court*)  
(Continued from our last issue.)

The efforts of Confucius and the Confucians to eradicate these tares and inspire the masses with rational ideas and ethical principles have had some success in the past, and until the fools rushed in where angels might well fear to tread. These missionaries, counting up their "converts" have never been able to see that the mass of those who distrusted them and detested them are their completest "converts." All Chinese people read, and they read in all their dialects the Bible, and while finding the morality of little interest,



as inferior to that of their own scriptures, receive with eager credulity the fresh importation of marvels guaranteed by the learned Western nations. Sorcery, witchcraft, miraculous cures, the evil eye, diabolical possessions, preternatural plagues, ghosts,—such notions, diffused and confirmed by the Bible, are taken seriously in China on the authority of the wonderfully learned Christian nations which send the book as the Word of their God.

But how profoundly more intelligent races may be influenced by scriptural and Christian propagandism has been especially shewn in the history of China. The leader of the great Tai-ping revolution Hung Sentsuen was a sort of spiritualist in his remote village, until he met an American missionary Rev. I. J. Roberts, who gave him five tracts. Sentsuen became a "convert,"—with a vengeance! He set up a theocratic kingdom of Heaven, with himself for king, decreed a new Trinity,—God, Christ, and himself, appointing his son Junior Lord. He had visions,—was caught up into heaven like Paul. He made war on Buddhists and Confucians, captured Nanking and other cities, treating the people with severity, and gave textual reasons therefor; that they were "idolators" and that it was his messianic duty to exterminate them, as idolatrous people were exterminated by Jehovah. He quoted from the Old Testament a justification for every atrocity.

This "convert" of our missionary Roberts bore the title Tien-Wang (King of Heaven), but it was England that raised his movement to such formidable dimensions. Against all the outcries and entreaties of the Chinese, England determined to force Indian opium upon them and to that end slew thousands, burnt villages, and exacted an indemnity of 27,000,000 dollars. The British agent in this opium war was the saintly soul who wrote the favorite hymn beginning—  
"In the cross of Christ I glory  
Towering o'er the wrecks of time."

The maddened people of the province of Canton rose against their government for its feebleness and its treaty with wrong, and the "convert's" converts made common cause with them. England came to the assistance of China, and the Christian rebellion was finally put down by Christians in 1867. The Chinese Messianic army was largely crushed by Gordon who afterwards fell before a Soudan Messiah, and who was a kindred soul to both.

The powerful hypnotist to whom Dr. Ament traces the Boxer movement is a 'revertant' Sentsuen; his head is similarly a mixture of Biblical and ancient Chinese superstitions; and his followers are Christian perverts from the peace principles of Lao Tzu and Confucius. Their recent outbreak is the result of outrages similar to those of sixty years ago. In both cases there are indications of popular panic, but the Boxer excitement especially presents signs of terror.

Dr. Ament, who has been for many years head of the American missions in China, having given an account of his lootings and extortion of indemnities and fines from many towns, all from persons unconnected with the Boxers, in redress for the slain "converts" and for the Church, and having received a storm of indignation from his countymen here instead of the evidently expected applause for his shrewdness and his clamour for Chinese blood, is unwilling to be a seapegoat. On April 1, Dr. Ament cabled to the American Board: "Nothing has been done except after consultation with colleagues and the full approval of the United States Minister. I will secure a certificate from Mr. Conger to that effect."

We thus find, on the confession of Dr. Ament, an assemblage of missionaries, under necessity of covering the losses of their converts from either Christian or Confucian pockets constituting themselves into a foraging band and proceeding over trampled treaties to spoil helpless villagers under the American flag, given them by the United States Minister commissioned to maintain those treaties. And they also compel these helpless Confucians to add to Dr. Ament's estimates for the converts a goodly sum for the Church.

How are the American missionaries fulfilling the contract made for them by the United States in 1858, confirmed in 1868?

Dr. Ament is their chosen leader and spokesman. He is supported by his colleagues in China and by the Board of Foreign Missions in America. We have his testimony that the Chinese are naturally tolerant. Lao Tzu, founder of Taoism, Confucius, Buddha, stand together in their temples; they have welcomed Mohamedans and Nestorians. Dr. Ament demands a further law that will place Christianity on an equal footing with Buddhism and Mohamedanism. But these religions needed no legislation for their welcome: why does Christianity need it? Is legal or armed force needed to peaceably teach the Golden Rule, according to our contract, among Confucians and Buddhists whose religion was based on it before Christianity existed? What is it that has excited the hostility of an admittedly tolerant people ("naturally liberal with their means" and "grateful," adds Dr. Ament) against Christianity, and especially it would appear against its American representatives? A few sentences from Dr. Ament may cast light on the anomaly:

"Christianity is essentially a militant religion, and in course of time will create more or less disturbance in neevangelised countries. We would not give much for Christianity if it did not do so."

'Opposition is sometimes the greatest praise which can be given to the work we are endeavouring to do. We are thankful that Christianity is not a negative force in the community, but is a positive lever which is lifting society to better things.'

'Experience in China proves that seeming weakness in dealing with the Chinese only increases their spirit of distrust and their desire to continue in crime. Excessive kindness they will

attribute to fear; the spirit of altruism is entirely alien to their natures.'

Those of us who have known Chinese gentlemen will not after this be surprised at learning incidentally from Dr. Ament that socially he and his colleagues are below par, that he has vainly attempted to make friends with young men of his own races, that the missionaries are not liked in the legations nor by the literary men who visit China. It is shocking to think that a man so ignorant of the Chinese character as well as of the simplest principles of religious science should be a public teacher in China.

In the hands of these inferior men with their gunpowder gospel, their ignorance and holier-than-thou obtrusiveness, Christianity has abroad all the ethical refinements and softening of dogma familiar in churches at home. Indeed it is said by some that the mission field is the dumping ground for preachers that can find no listeners at home. Their "militant Christianity," illustrated by stories of massacre in "God's World," and by the gospel of salvation by blood, illustrated still more by remembrance of the Chinese blood shed by Christians in the opium and other wars, means now to China a crusade of extermination and dismemberment. The defiant pulpit cries—"Jesus shall reign!" "The whole world must bow!" "The cross shall triumph!"—may be cant at home but abroad they are war-cries, defiant, always threatening to turn into cannon balls.

M. MOURRE D. CONWAY.

(Mourre D. Conway is a descendant of the Washington family, a Virginian by birth and a minister by education.)

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