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Jaffna.

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The Manager,
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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1901

The Jaffna Agricultural Association.

Mr. R. W. Ievers suggested in his Administration Report for 1900 the desirability of forming an association for the promotion of agriculture. By way of giving practical effect to the suggestion an informal meeting of the Government Agent and some leading gentlemen of the District was held at the Kachcherri a few weeks ago, when it was decided to convene a meeting of all the leading residents interested in agriculture in the North. At the general meeting it was decided to start an association under the name of "the Jaffna Agricultural Association", and a managing committee was formed to carry out the object of the association, which, as stated above, is the promotion of agriculture and horticulture in all their branches. A sub-committee was also appointed to frame rules for the guidance of the members, which have been already framed and placed before, and approved by, the general committee. The Association has been thus started, and experimenting operations have been commenced by some of the members though on a small scale. Seeds of various grasses and bushes growing in Aus-

tralia have been procured and distributed among the members for trial in Jaffna soil. Most of the seeds have been procured through the interest of Mr. Rudd who is well-informed on matters relating to agriculture and who, as our readers are aware, is one of the vice-presidents of the Association.

The composition of the Association leaves nothing to be desired. Sir William Twynam who takes a deep interest in the affairs of the North and who is himself a planter and manager of cocoanut estates is the President, Mr. J. Rudd and Mr. A. Kanagasabai are Vice-Presidents, Mr. S. Sabaratnam, the second Interpreter of the Jaffna Kachcherri, and Mr. C. M. Sinnyah, the Store-keeper, are Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Among the members are such well-known Jaffnese gentlemen as Mr. T. M. Tampoo, Mr. Mailvaganam, Mr. Coomarasooriar, Mr. Casipillai, Mr. Asaipillai and others who are owners of extensive landed property and greatly interested in agriculture. The Government Agent has no official connection with the movement, but in his private capacity has done all in his power to ensure its success.

Experimenting on new products is certainly most desirable, but what is more important to Jaffna is the introduction of better methods of cultivating paddy and tobacco than those now in vogue. Some of the implements of husbandry now in use may also be replaced by better shaped or better made ones. Tobacco and paddy are the staple products of the country. The association must therefore first aim at bringing about some reform in their cultivation and cure. If means are found for the reduction of the cost of cultivating paddy, the Association shall have conferred a lasting boon on Jaffna. At the meeting of the committee held on the 5th Instant, Mr. Rudd thought that the harrow can be used with greater advantage for burying the seeds (sowing paddy for example) than the plough. The arrows of the harrow dig out the weeds more effectively than the plough, and besides re-ploughing does not become necessary in the case of the harrow. If the soil is once turned by the harrow after the seeds are sown, it is quite enough. We have always found Mr. Rudd's suggestions to be weighty and they deserve a trial.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Weather—We have got into the wet weather. For the past fortnight there has been rain at intervals. On two days it rained incessantly. All the paddy fields in the Peninsula are flooded. There are signs of more rain.

The Northern Railway—"Clan Mac Arthur" which arrived at Colombo last week has brought a large consignment of Railway materials.

Our Government Agent—Mr. R. W. Ievers having been appointed Colonial Secretary temporarily, Mr. G. S. Saxton has been appointed Government Agent as announced in our last issue. He will assume duties on Monday next.

The Maniagar of Jaffna—Mr. Tambapillai Mudaliyar has started for Colombo to be present at the King's Birth-day festivities when he will be invested with the rank of Mudaliyar of the Governor's Gate.

A New Advocate—Mr. Advocate A. Armstrong who was practising at Colombo for some time has come to Jaffna to practise his profession here.

The Jaffna Port—Steamers destined for the North now call at the port of Jaffna, owing to the setting in of the North-East Monsoon, Kangesanturrai being unfavourable as a port of call during this monsoon.

A New Dispensary—A few industrious and philanthropic youngmen of Chavakachcherri, have opened a Dispensary there under the name and style of "N. Muttukumaru & Co's Medical

Hall". Mr. Muttukumaru is an amiable young gentleman and is a promising medical practitioner. We hope the Dispensary will rise to importance under his management.

—Mr. V. Canagasabai of Manipay, chief clerk in the Statistical Department of the Accountant's Office, C. G. R., has come down to Jaffna on a month's holiday.

Death by drowning—Two young Palla men of Kockuvil who went to swim in a well to-day were both drowned. One went to swim first and the other finding that he did not come up jumped into the water to rescue him. But after a while the corpses of both were found to float on the surface of the water one holding the other fast. It appears that the one who sunk got hold of the man that went to save him and so both were drowned.

Marriage in High Life—The marriage of Miss Rasamma Canthar, the youngest daughter of Mr. Swaminathar Canthar of Nellore with Mr. N. Canagasabai of Nellore took place on the 30th October last at the residence of Mr. M. Sapapathy, the well-known Interpreter Mudaliyar of the Minor Courts of Jaffna and Mallakam. The bride is a sister of Mr. C. Sundaram the popular landing waiter at the Colombo Customs and sister-in-law of Mr. Sapapathy. The wedding was a private one and no invitations were issued. But the friends of the parties who are so many having come to know of the wedding attended and expressed their congratulations.

The Marriage of a Proctor—The marriage of Miss Lizzie Josephine Arasaratnam, the youngest daughter of the late Mr. Rogers Arasaratnam, Secretary of the District Court of Mannar, with Mr. P. S. J. Chrysostom, Proctor, was solemnized on the morning of the 31st Ultimo at St. Marys' Cathedral, the Right Rev. Dr. Joule Bishop officiating, assisted by the Vicar-General and the Rev. Father Delpect. High mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father John Aloysius, a Tamil Priest who was assisted by two other priests. All other priests stationed at Jaffna also graced the occasion with their presence. The Bishop in a short address dwelt at length on the merits and high character of the young and popular Proctor, which we endorse. The ceremony of Mass was very interesting to many of the Hindu gentlemen from the Bar, the Courts, and the Kachcherri, who mustered strong in the Church to honour the occasion, as it was the first time they ever witnessed that ceremony. The elite of the Jaffna Society attended the wedding, prominent among whom were Mr. Tampoo, Mr. Mailvaganam, Mr. Kanagasabai and others too numerous to mention. From the Church they went in a procession along with the bride and bridegroom to the bride's residence where the customary hospitalities were displayed. Mr. Chrysostom's wedding was one of the most largely attended in the North. We wish him and Mrs. Chrysostom health, wealth, and long life.

Dr. Sinnatamby—This gentleman who has been acting with great acceptance as second Physician to the General Hospital and Public Analyst has been confirmed in his post. We congratulate Dr. Sinnatamby on his promotion.

A New Publication—The Y. M. C. A. of Jaffna is starting a paper under the name of the "Young men of Jaffna."

Arrivals—Mr. C. Murugesar from Dickoya, Mr. V. Page Kanagasabai from Colombo, and Mr. Appiah from Diagawa are on a visit to Jaffna.

Personal—Mr. A. Chiuniab, a well-known Contractor in the Straits Settlements, has returned from the Straits and is now in the midst of his friends and relations at Chulipuram. He is a nephew of the late Mr. Kanagaretta Mudaliyar of Chulipuram and a cousin of Mr. Chellappah, Manager of the Victoria College, Chulipuram. He is, we hear, very much interested in the Victoria College, and intends to spend a portion of his wealth in completing the building.

—With reference to a paragraph that appeared in a recent issue of our paper re "The Victoria Reading Room" established by the Jaffnese in Taiping, we are asked to state that it has been ultimately decided to call it by the name of "Ceylon Association" and not by the name of "Victoria Reading Room".

The Vivekananda Vidyasalai—The Tamil school started at Vannarponnai West by Mr. K. Velupillai, the enterprising proprietor of the Vivekananda press, is in a very flourishing condition. Although the existence of the school

dates only from October last, there are more than eighty boys and girls on the roll. The teaching is on Hindu lines. Mr. Velupillai's school has supplied a long-telt want in that part of Vannarponnai, and the thanks of the Hindu community are due to him. In addition to religion, pure Tamil is being taught to all grades of boys and girls, and parents who value the purity of the language will note the superior advantages afforded by Mr. Velupillai's school.

Advocates' Examination—Mr. M. T. Canagasabai, Mr. V. Sangarappillai, Mr. S. Navaratna Rajah, Mr. S. D. Tampoo, and Mr. W. Duraisamy have passed the Advocates' Final Examination. It is a matter for congratulation that all the successful gentlemen are Tamils, of whom four are Jaffnes; All of them belong to well-known families and have a bright future before them.

Advocates' Intermediate Examination—Mr. W. H. Perera, Mr. Sandrasegara, and Mr. Hambihapathy have passed the Advocates' Intermediate Examination.

A New Mudaliyar—Among the recipients of Birth Day honors in Ceylon is Mr. C. Ponniah, Government Store-keeper, Batticaloa, who will be invested with the rank of Mudaliyar on the 9th instant. He belongs to a highly respectable family in Vadamarachy in Jaffna and is married to a daughter of the late Dr. Covington.

The British Sovereign—The British Sovereign is to be legal tender in Ceylon at the rate of Rs. 15 a Sovereign.

Dr. C. S. Ratnam—This gentleman who proceeded to Europe about six months ago to obtain British medical qualifications has creditably passed several examinations at Edinburgh.

Notice to Correspondents—R. B. M. crowded out, will appear in our next.

THE DEAF HEAR.—No. 463 of *The Illustrated World* of 626, Oniswick 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.

NOTES AND NEWS FROM THE STRAITS.

Sir Frank Swettenham, K. C. M. G., has been appointed Governor of the Straits Settlements and High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States. The Newspapers and the public have expressed their entire satisfaction with the appointment. The Colonial Office could not have made a better appointment than that of Sir Frank who in addition to his experience of the Straits for 31 years, takes a keen interest in all matters pertaining to the Malay Peninsula.

The "Penang Gazette" is responsible for the statement that the "Straits Times" and some other Newspapers in the Far East intend to dispend with the service rendered by Reuter's News Agency as soon as arrangements are made for transmission of news through America. If so, why do not Ceylon Paper follow suit?

The Europeans in the Colony and the Federated Malay States have been granted double Exchange Compensation Allowance with effect from the 1st January of this year. The subordinate officers of the Government are also given some hopes of betterment of their present position but whether it will actually take place is doubtful.

The Government Gazette of a recent date contains a Notification prohibiting lotteries in Perak. Why not issue one in Ceylon if there is no such rule in force?

The following appears in a recent issue of the "Singapore Free Press":—

According to a foreign contemporary Professor A. L. Metz of Tulane University, has succeeded in making a small block of solidified air, which was as substantial, for the time being, as a block of ice. It was about an inch in diameter, and lasted for 15 minutes in a fully exposed condition. He laid it on an anvil and as he struck it, the hammer bounded off it as though it had been a piece of rubber. It was so intensely cold that no one could think of touching it with his fingers.

A very amusing and marvellous story is narrated in the "Penang Gazette" to the following effect:—

At the dawn of the South African War, a body of patriotic, and sturdy Yorkshiremen,

gleaned from the Agricultural and Mining classes, under the command of one Captain Crigg, offered themselves at the War Office for Volunteer Service in South Africa. After some hesitation the War Office acceded to their request and the company was christened by the name "98th Company (North Riding Yorkshire) Imperial Yeomanry" and sent to Africa. From that time until now their whereabouts are unknown. No one has any knowledge of them nor is their history recorded in any of the South African fights. Neither the Officer commanding the Forces in South Africa nor the War Office is cognisant of their whereabouts or existence. A wonder. A wonder of the wonderful century.

The following is taken from the "Penang Gazette" as reproduced from the "Rangoon Times":—

The Atomic Theory. (Rangoon Times.)

Very few of us may be scientists, but we are all interested in the phenomena of life. It is easy to understand, therefore, the wide interest taken in the address read the other day before the British Association for the advancement of Science by Professor Rucker, its president, who dealt with that most interesting question—fascinating to scientist and layman alike—the atomic theory. Stripped of all scientific jargon the atomic theory consists in the belief that all matter is composed of atoms in a state of constant movement and that these atoms are capable of expanding or contracting to an indefinite degree. This is the accepted theory of the physical constitution of the universe, and although it has been attacked it has, as Dr. Rucker pointed out, been able hitherto to withstand the assault made upon it. Of those who support the atomic theory some go further than others are inclined to do. For instance, it has been asserted that matter is not dead and moved only by extrinsic force; but is endowed with sensation and will, and that the atoms are constantly striving after condensation, for which they have an inclination, and struggling against strain, which they have a dislike for. We are to believe that when a potter is making a pot, there is a lively struggle between the clay and the potter, the one with as much life as the other, and each understanding the other, and struggling together to make a pot. This is a wonderfully fascinating theory which endows with life everything which we in our ignorance and in our loose everyday phraseology designate inanimate. Apparently nothing is dead in this world—everything is endowed with life and vitality. Even the cold, still corpse over which we mourn is composed of living, thinking atoms. To carry the atomic theory so far is to bring it to the borderland of metaphysical speculation, although it has often been argued that there is a wide gap dividing the cold material laws of science from metaphysical theories. Other scientists again, and Dr. Rucker amongst them, do not go so far as to say that matter is endowed with sensation and will, nor do they, on the other hand, assert that matter is only moved by extrinsic force. They declare that until more is known as to the seat of the controlling influence it is sufficient to believe that matter consists of separate moving parts which scientists call atoms. Indeed, without this theory as a basis many of the simplest phenomena would be irreconcilable and unintelligible. In regard to this question there is more of belief in the scientific deduction arrived at than actual certainty—for it must be said that the ultimate particles of matter cannot be rendered evident to the senses—and it must strike everyone that science and religion (which are said to be as wide as the poles asunder) are after all both based largely on belief.

Indeed, the atomic theory is of the very essence of Hinduism. The Hindu believes that men, animals, everything in fact, contain particles of that vital force which controls the universe, and that all these particles are constantly striving to join the seat of this force—which is God. What is commonly known as death is said to be the consequence of the disruption between the particle of vital force, which gaining its desire is merged in the central force, and the matter in which it was lodged.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TAMIL LITERATURE.

To
The Editor,
"Hindu Organ".

Sir,
Please insert the following in your popular journal.

I think that it is now high time that the patriotism of Tamilians should be directed to the rescue of their golden literature from decay and death. If the Tamils are lethargic, most of the literary works are sure to be lost irrecoverably. The Tamil literature, one of the most refined and perfect of the mundane languages and literatures, threatens to lose its pristine glories which as far as I am cognisant of, among many others, is attributable to a great extent to the fact of Tamils confining their ambition

to the securing of Government appointments. I am not wronging the Tamil character when I say that even a babe in the cradle cherishes a desire to obtain a berth under Government. Though I am not prepared to say that one should not aspire to Government appointments, I would urge that it should not be made the be-all and the end-all of man's existence. Hankering after Government appointments alone is sure to work the downfall of the nation. Those who have got the wealth and leisure to devote themselves to Tamil literature, should not try to become quill-drivers.

The object of fathers in educating their children is to fit them for Government service or the learned professions as the Westerns understand them, to the total neglect of the study of the Tamil language. It is acknowledged on all hands that the aim of education is to train and educate the mind. This aim the ancient Hindus had always in view. Fathers and through them their children, have lost sight of the only reason for the existence of humanity, the amalgamation with the Almighties, which could be attained, only if one has a perfect command and a thorough grasp of the Tamil literature and abides by its teachings. But now the study of Tamil is entirely neglected.

Communications and conversations amongst the present day Tamils are conducted in English and even babes of four and five years of age are made to speak English with their parents and others, thereby, instilling a dislike for their mother tongue. Whatever efforts we may put forth to forget and disown our mother tongue, we cannot yet change our customs, manners, and will always be the subject Tamil race in the eyes of Europeans.

It should be the endeavour of every individual of every nationality to stand, as far as possible, by his national customs, etc, and above all to find means for the cultivation of his mother tongue. As it is now, the Tamil language is in a decaying condition and is likely to decline more and more if Tamils do not come to their rescue. If the Tamil language and literature should die what will be the language of the Tamils? Can they become English simply by adopting the English language. The Tamils will only present the spectacle of a people speaking a foreign language without the rights and privileges of the foreigners.

If the Tamil language is to be revived, if it is to be brought to its pristine glory, if the Tamils are to show to the world that they are not decaying but progressing, if the Tamils are possessed of any national respect or reputation, if they are to enjoy the blessings of True Religion, their language should be brought to life, and for achieving it every patriotic Tamilian should give his support to the proposed Association. He should see that Tamil children are given a thorough training in Tamil. He should also learn to regard agriculture as an independent and noble calling on which the mechanism of Government turns, and above all should have a respect for his own nationality.

If the Tamil language is allowed to go on declining, the Tamil race itself will decline.

I am etc,
A Tamil.

Taiping
Perak.

SELECTIONS.

A CHRISTIAN BISHOP'S SLANDER.

The Bishop of Bombay, in spite of his wide outlook on Indian national politics, when dealing with the affairs of his profession, can be as unfair as—Dr. John Murdoch. Ten days ago the Bishop addressed a meeting of Church people in support of the Poona Mission. In the course of his remarks, according to a local paper, he "next alluded to the moral degradation of the masses of Indians, and stated that the people generally were not so possessed of English people's perceptions of honesty, truthfulness, and purity, and he doubted very much that they could come to have those perceptions which would be to their advantage except through the influence of Christianity." Somebody should make his Christian Lordship acquainted with the criminal statistics of his own country and of India. Such acquaintanceship would inform him that in godly Scotland, that part of the United Kingdom which, above all others, is especially Christian, crime amongst those who live under "the influence of Christianity" is seven times greater than it is amongst the non-Christian people of India. If, however, all this were brought to Dr. MacArthur's attention, it is doubtful if it would lead him to retract his observations. Exactly the same wrong-doing in Christian England and in heathen India is in the first place a trifling aberration on the part of a misguided individual, in the second, a proof of "moral degradation" and of the absence of all "honesty, truthfulness, and purity." It is strange that of all the vilifiers of their neighbours, Christians whose ideal is "to think

no evil" of others, are the most ready to libel whole communities who do not happen to be guilty of the misconduct on which the libel is founded. Is it any wonder when Bishops are so remiss as the Metropolitan of India and the Bishop of Bombay have proved themselves to be, that the conversion of India to Christianity proceeds at so slow a pace?

Close upon the heels of the Bishop's disparagement of the Indian people comes a piece of information which should make Bishop, priest, missionary, civilian, every one in fact of British birth dumb as regards the unsatisfactory characteristics of their own people. Alone amongst the nations, so far as I know, England needs and possesses a Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Children. So much of abominable cruelty is shown by some English people whom the Bishop unreservedly praises, that a Society, with Inspectors everywhere, has had to be called into existence to protect the helpless children against their parents. This, too, after a thousand years of Christianity. Let the Society be as active as it may, my friend, Benjamin Waugh, the Founder and now Chief Director of the organisation, finds even more and more work to do. Now, to our crowningshame an American comes forward and presents Rs.1,50,000 to start a fund to provide permanent premises from which to direct the Society's operations. The announcement is in these words:—"Mr. William Waldorf Astor has sent to the Earl of Ancaster, the Chairman of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, a cheque for £10,000 to open a fund for premises for its national offices adequate to the requirements of the vast business into which the Society's work has grown. With this purpose in view, an account has been opened with the Bank of England, the Society's bankers." Probably, nothing more discreditable has ever been recorded of England than this: many of its parents are wanting in even that animal maternal and paternal love which will lead the timidest of brutes and birds to face overwhelming danger and even death for love of their offspring. So much are they wanting that a small army of officials is needed to find out the cases of cruelty and to prosecute parents or guardians in the Courts. The nation of which this is true is the nation *par excellence* of missionary effort. If this zeal for the good of other races were devoted to the inculcation of kindness and mercy in England, it might be found that there was so much to be done in this direction at home, that the "poor heathen" might be left to the enjoyment of such poor virtues as kindness and general love of offspring as they may possess.

The Society, which is thus helped in its work of mercy by a foreigner, has eight hundred and forty centres in all parts of the country, the cases in which it had to interfere on behalf of the sorry-stricken children, last year, only numbered 30,000—or more than eight every day. Sundays included. It has one hundred and sixty-seven. Inspectors and fifty-thousand subscribers. Since it was established the Society has "interfered" on behalf of six hundred and seventy thousand children. I remember its establishment well. Its Director did me the honour of talking over his project with me. What he wanted to do seemed hopeless. But Benjamin Waugh was a man whose heart had been fired with enthusiasm for the cruelly-treated: he was very much in earnest: he set out to do a great work, and he has done it. What he has done for the suffering people of India, if only but all this is an old story in my letters, and I forbear troubling you. Had the Indian people cared, and had they been ready in 1885 to carry on the work then begun, they, too, might have had eight hundred and forty centres in the United Kingdom, from which true information concerning India could have been disseminated, and five hundred thousand voters pledged to support only such Parliamentary candidates as would help forward legitimate Indian aspirations. Your people, however, were blind to their own interests then: are they any more clear-sighted now? An Indian organisation might have run side by side with Benjamin Waugh's Society and have done even more good. It was only the year before that in which the delegates visited England that the Children's Society first began its operations.

"Of all the words that men have seen,
The saddest are: 'It might have been'"
—The Hindu.

NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
ORDER NISI

Testamentary }
Jurisdiction } No. 1197
Class II In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Chinnamma wife of Ramalingam of
Kaikudi —Deceased
Arumugam Suppaiya of Kachchai—Petitioner
Vs

1. Vaitianather Ramalingam of Kachchai
 2. Chellachchi wife of Suppaiya of do
 3. Nagamattu Sellaturai of do and
 4. Kathiresar Nagamattu of do —Respondents
- This matter of the Petition of Arumugam Suppaiya of Kachchai praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Chinnamma wife of Ramalingam coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire, District Judge, on the 17th day of October 1901 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 14th of October 1901 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the husband of one 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 Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 25th day of November 1901 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 17th day of October 1901
W. R. B. SANDERS
District Judge.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
ORDER NISI

Testamentary }
Jurisdiction } No. 1199
Class I In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Nagamattu wife of Kanapati of Delft
East

- Deceased
Naganathar Ramanathar of Delft East
Petitioner
Vs
1. Sinnattampi Kanapati of Delft East
2. Aiyattai wife of Ramanathar of do
3. Chethuppillai daughter of Kanapati of do
4. Kanapati Kantaya of do

Respondents
This matter of the Petition Naganathar Ramanathar of Delft East praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Nagamattu wife of Kanapati of Delft East coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire, District Judge, on the 23rd day of October 1901 in the presence of Messrs Casippillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 22nd day of October 1901 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the husband of 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 Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 29th day of November 1901 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 23rd day of October 1901
W. R. B. SANDERS
District Judge

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