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NOTICE.

Mr. S. S. Vytilingam who was connected with our Printing Press for the last two years has been appointed Travelling Agent for the *Hindu Organ*. He is authorised to collect the subscriptions (arrear as well as current) due to the paper, to enlist new Subscribers, and to sign bills and receipts on behalf of the Manager, *Hindu Organ*.

P. CARTHIGASAPILLAI
(Manager, Hindu Organ)

Jaffna 3rd July 1901.

NOTICE.

Ceylon Technical College.

Entrance Examination.

Department of Telegraphy & Electrical Engineering.

An Entrance Examination to admit an additional 30 students to be trained for Government Service in the Railway Department will be held in Colombo at the College on Monday, December 16th at 10.30 a. m.

Candidates admitted as students at that examination will serve a special shortened course for one year, instead of two years as usual, in order to fill vacancies in the Railway Department.

Students who serve the course and pass the examinations will be eligible for selection for appointments to vacancies in the Railway Department as they may occur in the year following the completion of their course.

Forms of Application can be obtained from the Superintendent of the College, and those who send in applications are to attend, without waiting for further notification, at the College at 10.30 on Monday December 16th 1901.

E. Human
Superintendent.

Ceylon Technical College,
Colombo, 13th November 1901.

NOTICE

Ceylon Technical College.

Entrance Examination.

Department of Surveying & Levelling.

An Entrance Examination for admission of students to the Department of Surveying & Levelling of the College will be held on Monday January 6th 1902.

Students who serve the full course and pass the final examination (being the Examination for the License under Ordinance No. 8 of 1897) are entitled to the Diploma of the College and to the Government License to practise as Surveyors & Levellers, according to the Ordinance.

Forms of Application can be obtained from the Superintendent of the College, and those who send in applications are to attend, without waiting for further notification, at the College at 10.30 a.m. on Monday January 6th 1902.

E. Human
Superintendent.

Ceylon Technical College,
Colombo, 13th November, 1901.

NOTICE

Ceylon Technical College

Entrance Examination

Department of Mechanical Engineering.

An Entrance Examination for admission of students to the Department of Mechanical Engineering of the College will be held on Monday December 16th at 10.30 a.m.

Forms of Application can be obtained from the Superintendent of the College, and those who send in applications are to attend, without waiting for further notification, at the College at 10.30 a.m. on the 16th December 1901.

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Colombo, 13th November, 1901.

NOTICE

"Tenders are invited for landing and stacking Railway material at the port of Jaffna during the present season.

Forms of tender may be obtained at the office of the Chief Assistant Engineer, Northern Railway, Jaffna, up to noon on the 3rd December 1901

Tenders to be submitted to the Chief Assistant Engineer not later than 4.P.M. on December 4th 1901. The Railway Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender."

A. E. KINDERSLEY

Chief Assistant Engineer
Northern Railway

Jaffna 23rd November 1901



THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1901

"Ignorance, Darkness, and Superstition."

We marked for comment last month a native Christian gentleman's letter in the *Patriot* on "St. John's Church and Her Independence", but pressure of more urgent matter on our space has hitherto prevented our doing so. With the subject with which the writer is immediately concerned, we have nothing to do. Whether the affairs of St. John's Church are looked after by European clergy or Tamil clergy is a matter of perfect indifference to us. But in the course of the letter, which is inserted not in a Missionary publication, but in a secular newspaper, the writer speaks of the "means of dispelling the darkness of heathenism", "heathen sunk in ignorance and superstition", "the condition of thousands of poor perishing souls both in the vicinity of the Church and in places widely remote" &c. &c. Now, there can be no question that these words published in a professedly secular paper, are intended to be read by the members of the Hindu community, and do apply to the Hindu community. "Heathenism" in Jaffna means Hinduism and nothing but Hinduism. For, Muhammadanism which is the only other religion prevailing in Jaffna, is no "heathenism" according to Christian notions.

If the writer has studied the relative civilization of the masses in the West and East, he will find that the heathen "sunk in darkness and superstition" in Ceylon are more intelligent, more law-abiding, and less influenced by violent passions whether in the field of politics or religion. His own co-religionists who had been to Europe or America will testify to this. He will also find from an extract published elsewhere in this issue how harrowing are the tales of cruelties perpetrated on innocent Negroes by the Christians of America. The relative merits of the Christian and the Hindu are to be judged, not by the number of words and epithets the former is privileged to use against the latter, but by what each does in actual and practical life. Revelling in words avails nothing. The Western man can claim superiority over the Asiatic in the inventing and making of machines (including the manufacture of torpedo boats and maxim guns), in commerce, in subjugating weaker races &c. &c. These are all elements of materialistic civilization.

But in religious fervour, spiritual knowledge, obedience to the law, and morality, it is admitted on all hands that the Asiatic is superior to the European. This is the opinion not only of ourselves, but of many an impartial European and American whom space does not permit us to quote.

Confining ourselves to Jaffna, we should ask the writer of the letter in the *Patriot* whether he is in a position to support his statements by facts. Let him not take shelter under the words "heathen", "darkness", "ignorance", "superstition", &c. Let the question whether the Hindus are sunk in "ignorance" and "darkness" be decided by reference to their conduct in practical relations of life. The world has already grown sick of Christian professions. Let the practices of Christians be tested in Jaffna as they are done all over the world now. Let hundred Christians and Hindus, equally educated, holding the same position in society, and subject to the same environments, be taken and compared. Can the writer in the *Patriot* prove that the percentage of "dark and ignorant" men among the latter is greater than among the former? On the contrary, we should think that barring instances of Christian gentlemen in independent walks of life, the majority of the Mission Agents are sunk in "ignorance" and "darkness". Interesting anecdotes current in Mission circles of how one pastor tries to circumvent another, how a junior catechist succeeds in supplanting a senior, how falsely one teacher makes a report against another for private and selfish ends, must make one pause before hazarding opinions on the "heathen" of Jaffna. The teachings of Christ make for good we admit. We do not belong to that class of narrow-minded religionists who see nothing but evil in the religion of their neighbours. But we should be sorry indeed that the "evangelization of the heathen" of Jaffna should take place, if it should only result in creating Christians of the stamp of the bulk of the Mission Agents in Jaffna, or of the slaughterers of innocent men, women, and children in China, or of the law-makers of Natal or Australia, or of the smugglers and importers of opium into China, or of the emperors of give-no-quarter-to-any-Chinese policy, &c. &c.

Has the writer who waxes eloquent on the "darkness" and "superstition" of the "heathen", studied the criminal statistics of his country? If so, he will find that according to Mr. Lee's Census Reports the percentage of Christians among the convicts in the jails is larger than among the outside population? What is the explanation? Among whom does greater "darkness" prevail?

Modern Christianity is called so only on the *lucus a non lucendo* principle. It has departed entirely from the teachings and traditions of Christ. Christ never taught the principles practised by the Christians of the present day. Does the writer in the *Patriot* know that if Christ should be living now he would not be permitted to land in Natal or Australia, nor allowed to take service in Australian Mail Steamers. If he is bent on war, as his followers are, he will not be privileged to fight the Boers. If he happens to be in China, he will be shot in spite of all his protestations of innocence, for, according to the moral code of the Christian powers, any China man or woman or child is as good a victim as a Boxer. While all the world stands aghast at the doings of Christians both at home and abroad, while the "Christian" conduct of Buddhist Japan is the admiration of the whole of Christendom, it is too late in the day to speak of non-Christians as sunk in "ignorance", "darkness", and "superstition". Man does not live by words, but by acts. Let the acts of Christians show that they are neither

"heathen" nor "sunk in 'ignorance', 'darkness', or 'superstition'.

One word more on the writer's "thousands of poor perishing souls" in Jaffna. Many a Christian divine has now taken leave of this inhuman doctrine. It means that even such Hindus as are good, honest, moral and God-fearing will be thrown into eternal hell-fire simply because they are not Christians. On this position of some Christians, an eminent American writer observes:—".....the doctrine that a good man must be damned because he was a Buddhist or Muhammadan fell into disrepute. Sixty years ago the clergy began to retreat into phrases about 'the uncovenanted mercies of God'..... There is no educated Christian who believes that a man will be damned for being a Buddhist or a Confucian. The Missionary boards continue their assemblies and go on singing Heber's fantasies such as that about Ceylon—

(Where) every prospect pleases
And only man is vile—

though every instructed person knows that in any large city in Christendom more crime and immorality occur in one day than Ceylon knows in a year. The Missionaries in Ceylon and India seem to be well aware that they cannot claim any superior moral fruits for the Christian tree, and the only argument I heard from them was the larger prosperity and progress of Christendom..... The larger prosperity and progress of the Christian powers this eminent American attributes to their having unlearned the lessons taught in the Gospels, in other words, to scepticism and scientific materialism.

LOCAL & GENERAL

A Lecture—A lecture in connection with the Victoria Reading Hall will be delivered by Mr. I. Mudaliyar Kanagaretnam in the Hindu College Hall, on Saturday, the 30th Instant. Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai is expected to preside on the occasion. The subject is "Hinduism."

A Welcome—We extend a most hearty welcome to M. Thambapillai, Mudaliyar of the Governor's Gate, who returned from Colombo on Sunday last, after being invested with the rank of Mudaliyar of the Governor's Gate. On landing he was received, in a *pandal* put up at the Jaffna Jetty, by a large concourse of people who had been waiting there to do him honour. From there he went to the Hindu College where an address of welcome was presented to him couched in terms of the highest praise. We have great pleasure in adding our own testimony to that of the signatories to the address. The Maniagar has been always a most popular and public-spirited headman. No public servant has ever won the affections of the people more than Thambapillai Mudaliyar who has ever reconciled the interests of the people and those of Government. We hope that the good Maniagar will continue in office for several years to come.

A New Publication—The Hon. Mr. R. W. Ivers, Government Agent of the Northern Province, and now acting Colonial Secretary of Ceylon, has compiled a manual of the North-Central Province. Mr. Ivers who was for several years Government Agent of that Province is the fittest gentleman in Ceylon to undertake the compilation of the manual, which is admirably got up and affords very interesting and instructive reading.

The Sub-Collector of Mullaitivu—Mr. Savirumuttu has been transferred to Trincomalie. On the eve of his departure for the latter station, his friends and brother officers presented him with an address and a purse.

A Memorial from the Jaffnese Resident in India—While sympathising with the hardships felt by our countrymen in India who have to come to and go from the Island every now and then, we cannot but think that the time has not yet come for the relaxation of the plague regulations. Jaffnese in India being in a plague-stricken country and enjoying an immunity from it, do not see how deep and widespread is the dread of the people in Ceylon for the plague.

A Jaffnese to the Fore—Mr. D. C. Anketell, Officiating Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Wardha District of the Central Provinces of India, has been appointed a magistrate of the

first class. We congratulate Mr. Anketell on his preferment.

Dr. Saravananattu Hallak—This well-known Doctor whose departure from Trincomalie we recorded in our last issue, has been appointed to take Dr. Chinniah's place at Batticaloa.

Dr. W. A. Chinniah—L. Chinniah who was for several years employed as Medical Officer, Batticaloa, and who discharged his duties to the satisfaction of all concerned, has been transferred to Hambantota.

Marriage in High Life—Mrs. Kandyah Pillai, the young widow of the late Dr. Kandyah Pillai, M. B., and daughter of Mr. M. Supramaniam, Proctor, was married on the 16th Instant to Mr. Chandrasekarampillai of Point Pedro, who is employed as a Telegraph Signaller in the Straits Settlements.

A New School—Mr. V. Valantham Pillai, the enterprising manager of the Hindu High School, Point Pedro, has opened a vernacular school for girls. Seeing that Mr. Valantham Pillai's school for boys is well managed and is in a flourishing condition, the new school started under his auspices is also bound to succeed.

The Karaitivu Educational Board—A public meeting was called for the 11th October last by Mr. Vathacuddy Ayer and others to adopt measures for the raising of the status and the standard of education in the Tamil Classical School and "Arumuga Navalar's Leading Hall" conducted by Mr. S. Arunasalam with the aid of the funds contributed by the public. The meeting was held in the D. G. S. M. N. Vidyasaly. M. R. RY. Arampu Iyer, Tamil Preacher, was voted to the Chair. Messrs. S. Arunasalam, M. Sayambu, and S. Saravananattu Pillai, Editor, addressed the meeting on subjects appointed previously. After Messrs. Muttotamby Pillai of Messrs. Ward & Davy, K. Visuvanathar, Registrar, V. Muttiah, Notary Public, T. Kailasapillai, Chairman of the Tamil Sangam, and K. Vathacuddy Iyer offered appropriate remarks, the Chairman explained the reasons for the establishment of an Educational Board for Karaitivu and its necessity and utility. Mr. Arunasalam read out the names of twelve respectable gentlemen including seven outsiders as having been elected as directors, the rules framed to guide them, and the rules for the carrying on of the school. Mr. Sayambu moved a vote of thanks to those who generously contributed for the maintenance of the school, which was duly seconded and supported. The Ayer concluded the proceedings by thanking the members for their attendance. The meeting commenced and ended with Divine worship. Another meeting to consider the final measures to be adopted to perfect the scheme of education will be held on the 4th January 1902 in the Tamil High school.

A Singhalese Muhandiram—Among the recipients of honours on the King's Birth-day, Mr. D. S. Jayatilaka of the Registrar General's office was one. He was invested with the rank of Muhandiram. The general opinion is that he should have been honoured with this rank long ago. Mr. Jayatilaka is a genial and kind-hearted gentleman and is thoroughly unobtrusive and unassuming. Being a man of great intellectuality, he has been the President of many a Literary Association and is now the President of the Wellawatte Literary Association. It is to be hoped that at the celebration of the next birth-day of the King, the honour of Mudaliyar will be conferred on him. On the 16th instant, Mr. and Mrs. Jayatilaka held an "at home" for their friends and relatives at their residence at Wellawatte. It was very largely attended by friends and relations hailing from different parts of Colombo. There were splendid fireworks, and grand music, and four or five Singhalese addresses were presented to them.

Obituary—We regret to have to record the death on the 5th Instant of the beloved wife of Mr. M. Mutusamy, who was the daughter of Mr. K. Chinniah Pillai of Colombo. She leaves behind three children. The funeral was largely and respectably attended, and the body was cremated at the Hindu Crematorium at Kotahena. We express our condolences with those who bemoan her loss.

The Public Instruction Department—Mr. S. M. Burrows, the Director of Public Instruction, being about to proceed home on leave, Mr. Harward, Principal of the Royal College, has been appointed to act for him. Mr. Hartley, one of the Masters of the Royal College, will act as Principal of the Royal College during the

employment of Mr. Harward as Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. J. Ferguson—The senior Editor of the *Ceylon Observer* has left for India on an extended tour. We hope his travels in India will enable him to appreciate Hinduism and Hindus better than the *Observer* now does.

A Singhalese Newspaper—We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *Sihala-Samaya*, a Singhalese newspaper published at No. 15, Chatham Street, Fort, Colombo. The paper is well-sized and well-got up, and from the English headings of the contents we make out that it deals with a variety of instructive, interesting, and readable matters. It is published weekly.

A Dog-Tax—It was recently announced by us that the Government was likely to impose a tax on dogs. The draft of an ordinance to impose such a tax is published in the Gazette for the information of the public.

Extension of the Governor's Term of Office—A contemporary learns that His Excellency Sir West Ridgeway's term of office has been extended by one year. In February next, His Excellency shall have completed his six years' term of office. If an extension of a year has been granted, His Excellency shall have ruled over us for seven years before relinquishing the reins of Government in February 1903. It is also stated, on what authority we do not know, that His Excellency will go on leave next year to be present at the King's Coronation, which is to take place in June next.

Crime—Several cases of serious crime have of late occurred in different parts of the Peninsula. A riot at Theumaradchy, cattle-stealing at Karaiyoor, grievous hurt at Chivaterru, poisoning at Kondavil, theft of jewels at Moor Street, &c, &c, &c.

The New General Manager of Railways—Mr. Greene, the newly appointed General Manager of the Ceylon Railway, has arrived and assumed duties.

Japan and Manchuria—The Japanese newspapers in discussing the question of the Russian occupation of Manchuria state that Japan will never allow Manchuria to become a Russian province.

The King's New Title—The King has been proclaimed "King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and all British Dominions beyond the Seas, Defender of the Faith and Emperor of India."

—Prince Arthur, who is the only son of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, proceeds to South Africa. The prince is only 13 years of age.

SELECTIONS.

INTERNATIONAL ANARCHISM.

(BY J. M. ROBERTSON.)

The shock produced by the assassination of President McKinley proves one thing that might lately have seemed doubtful—that the average man in England can still be shocked by a bloody deed. But the susceptibility is conditional. When little Boer children die at the rate of 400 per 1,000 in our concentration camps, our average man is not disturbed. He would doubtless prefer to have it otherwise, just as he would rather that the birds should not starve to death in winter; but "Rachel weeping for her children" does not affect his sleep or nights, any more than the mortality of sparrows. If Boer children die in our camps like flies, why, it is the fathers and mothers, who will not submit to English rule. Mr. Lloyd George once declared that the needless death and suffering of one of those little ones affected him more, in one aspect, than all the carnage of the war. To our average man that utterance was at the very best foolishness. But our average man too has his susceptibilities. The shooting of President McKinley by a crazy anarchist is to him the thing that outweighs all the slaughters of the wars in South Africa, China, Cuba, and the Philippines. He indicates as much by his language; and his journals say the same for him. For the political acts which have cast the shadow of death over a hundred thousand homes, they have not a word of denunciation. For the wretched anarchist who slew poor McKinley, the language cannot yield them epithets enough. He is for them the incarnation of murderous wickedness. His devilishness consists in this, that he slew only one man. For such a case there is no shielding formula. When it comes to years of bloodshed, as in South Africa and the Philippines; episodes of massacre and rape and rapine and child-slaying as in China; the ruin and devastation of vast territories; the monthly decimation of multitudes of helpless women and children in pestilential camps, all is solved by a formula of exquisite simplicity: "War is War." But the anarchist has omitted to frame such an antidote. So his single act

of assassination outweighs all the horrors of four preventable wars in three-quarters of the globe.

ANARCHY IS ANARCHY.

And yet formulas are so easily made! All that the miscreants of the Czolgosz type need to do, to be even with the respectable people, is to affirm that Anarchy is Anarchy! Can it be denied? The argument is quite clear. President McKinley, like the Boers, had his choice. He knew that Anarchists vowed war against all heads of Government; he had heard of the death of President Faure, King Humbert, and even the Empress Elizabeth. He thus knew that for a man to be head of a Government is to bring risk of death at Anarchist hands even on his wife. But President McKinley would persist! He would not abdicate, though that would have ensured his safety! In fine, he brought his death on himself, like the Boers. Thus might the Anarchist reason, if he were a reasoning man. In that case, doubtless, he would cease to be an Anarchist. It is left to the average majority of all countries to go through the form of reasoning, and, without showing his symptoms of sheer insanity, to practise international anarchism on the most stupendous scale. Anarchism means essentially the negation of all current law; and homicidal anarchism is the extension of that negation into destructive practice—the resort to brute force. In other words, it is war, war declared by the few against the many. Our respectable people, and our respectable press, are quite satisfied that when war is declared by the many against the few, when the many decide to negate all the current principles of international law, the procedure becomes holy; and the majority of all our orthodox churches are prepared to declare as much in solemn assemblage. "It is magnificent, but it is not war," was the French professional verdict on the Charge of the Light Brigade. That was a charge of the few against the many. "It is magnificent because it is war" is now the British and American verdict on acts of international burglary and murder which violate all the principles of public morality on which Britain and the United States profess as nations to stand. The difference is that here we have the assault of the many on the few.

THE NEMESIS OF THE SWORD.

One wonders whether poor President McKinley, calmly and bravely facing his death, carried his fortitude so far as to realise that he had given to all the desperate and senseless men in the United States a pretext for resort to the bullet as a political weapon. It is certain, I believe, that he was at first strongly opposed to the war against Spain. He knew perfectly well that the Spanish Government were not at all responsible for blowing up the Maine: no rational man in cool blood ever believed they were. He knew that the American public lashed itself up, with the help of its ruffian press, into a fury for war on the pretext of the destruction of the Maine. But as a party leader he knew that his choice lay between obeying "public opinion" and being for the time driven out of public life. He might have made a great mark in the world's history by declaring that he would not lend himself to an act of national wickedness and folly; that he would rather abdicate all power and keep his hands clean. But for such action he was not moulded: he did as all politicians, save perhaps one in a million, would have done in his place. Doubtless he comforted himself by thinking that the war would in the end do good. I find many Americans who can see the folly and wickedness of the war in South Africa, but who are yet feign to think that their own war against Spain will finally "do good." Has it occurred to them, I wonder, that the Anarchist assassin also believes he is "doing good"? Is it in no way possible to bring home to ostensibly right-loving people the simple truth that the very ideal of law is the restriction of random impulses to right wrongs by violent means? Are the majority for ever going to keep up the pretence that it is noble and right to assassinate or bludgeon nations, while it is wholly evil to assassinate the heads of nations?

THE NEUROSIS OF SLAUGHTER

An outstanding effect of all wars, and one peculiarly obvious at the present moment, is a neurosis of brutality, affecting whole societies. Christian women can now be heard saying in England, as they could be a year ago, that the way to deal with the Boers is to exterminate them. "I would shoot them all," is a phrase often heard from women's lips. And those women show no tremor of horror over the record of the deaths of the children in the camps: horrible as it is to think of, some of them seem positively to rejoice that the iron is thus made to enter the soul of the Boer women who extort their husbands to fight to the death. In the United States things have not gone quite so far; but while the bulk of the nation was screaming "Remember the Maine!", the women appeared to be just as savage as the men. And if Mr. Chamberlain is to be believed on such a point, the United States Government has actually done in the Philippines what he and so many of his tribe are lusting to do in South Africa—decreed that after a given date all resistance shall be treated as murder, and all prisoners shot or hanged. And with all this monstrous stimulation of the instinct of slaughter, all this divinization of the spirit of murder, the average respectable person becomes frantic with rage and amazement when the contagion reaches a cracked Anarchist, and sets him upon shooting the official head of a State. The very spirit of the assassin is displayed by the yelling mob which strove the other

day to lynch him: they are as truly Anarchists as he, with the added touch of bestiality which would gladly tear his flesh from his bones.

RACIAL ANARCHISM IN THE UNITED STATES.

While the United States Press tears passion to tatters in execration of the Anarchism that assassinates Presidents, it is the literal fact that Anarchism of a markedly more savage sort goes to work with perfect freedom in the Southern States. According to the last statistics have chanced to see, some 320 negroes were lynched in one year, many of them with circumstances of insane cruelty, such as drenching the victim with petroleum and setting him on fire. The common American pretence is that all negro lynchings are inflicted for assaults upon women; but the statistics prove him to be one more of the lies of racial hate, for not twenty of the whole three hundred odd were even charged with such assaults; and some were accused solely of "impudence." The United States Government claims to be bestowing good administration on Cuba and Philippines; and meantime this is how it governs the coloured race in its own territory. Year after year the abomination goes on; and save for an occasional isolated protest the whole nation acquiesces. Since the Cuban war, the word has passed round that the nation must show a united front; and accordingly the north and west must say nothing against southern tastes in the matter of lynching. Thus is murderous Anarchism of the vilest sort freely tolerated simply because the victims are black.

CLERICAL ACQUIESCENCE.

So far as I have been able to gather from the reports, the recent Ecumenical Methodist Conference (which should have been peculiarly concerned with the matter of negro lynching, seeing that the Methodist Churches are strong in the South) passed nothing in the nature of a declaration against the practice, though at least one coloured member delivered a speech of protest on this own account. The Methodist majority simply acquiesces in negro lynching, as it has acquiesced in all the wars of the last four years. And while thus virtually endorsing such an infamy in the United States, the same majority have the effrontery to pretend that it is in the interest of the native races that they approve of the extinction of Dutch independence in South Africa. The same American Methodist Churches, be it remembered, substantially supported slavery in the United States, with all its atrocities, up to the point of the civil war. There are worse things than insane Anarchism in the world; and one of them is the gross egoism which enables men in daily life to out-Herod Herod in hypocrisy, and outdo burlesque in collective conceit. It was the fate of poor President McKinley, before his murder, to be paraded with pride by the Methodist Conference as a distinguished Methodist. At the same time, though the Conference could find nothing to say against negro-lynching, it was at pains to discuss and denounce, among other things, the vice of excessive smoking. All the while it was perfectly notorious that President McKinley was one of the heaviest smokers in the States. And they tell us that Tartuffe is an effete type!

BEGIN AT THE BEGINNING.

If there is to be a return to the decencies of civilisation in the so-called Anglo-Saxon race or any other (there is apparently nothing to choose between the competitors, for the French and German and Russian participants in the Chinese war seem to have taken the lead in all manner of conceivable or inconceivable cruelty) there will have to be some new development of the primary virtue of doing as one would be done by. That formula is commonly called by Anglo-Saxons "The Golden Rule"; and like so many golden articles it is treated as much too fine for daily use. "What has become of the Golden Rule?" asked a Jewish correspondent of Mark Twain, with regard to the anti-Semitic mania in Austria. "It exists," was the answer. "It continues to sparkle, and is well taken care of. It is Exhibit A in the Church's assets, and we pull it out every Sunday and give it an airing. But you are not permitted to try to smuggle it into this discussion; where it is irrelevant, and would not feel at home. It is strictly religious furniture, like an acolyte, or a contribution-plate, or any of these things. It has never been intruded into business; and Jewish persecution is not a religious passion, it is a business passion." Add that it is a racial passion, and the case is seen to be on all fours with those we have been discussing. The spirit of race seems to make any aggregate anarchist towards any other provided only that one aggregate is large, and the other apparently too small to defend itself. The American people, who still declaim about their glorious revolution, are no mere ashamed of the transaction of buying the people of Philippines like cattle, and then slaughtering them into submission, than of the threehundred annual lynchings of negroes in the South. As for our own national doings in South Africa, we seemed at last to have come to the policy of deliberately causing pestilence as a method of war. I remember in South Africa to have heard an educated English lady charge Cronje with having deliberately created the typhoid infection by leaving rotting carcasses in his camp when he was surrounded. That was one of the absurdities of racial malice: but now we ourselves seem to be deliberately doing what was irrationally charged on Cronje, I suppose the next step will be to poison wells; and that we shall then be told as usual that War is War. I have only to add that is Anarchy, and does the work and reaps the reward thereof.

The prospect of betterment is not bright. But perhaps it would improve if for a generation or two men gave up taking of the law of love, and were content to preserve or plead for a bare conformity to the law of the prize-ring, calling it, say, "The Copper Rule," or if it be preferred, "The Brazen Rule." In that way, things might at least be kept decent.—N.W. AGE.

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