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(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)
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"THE HINDU ORGAN"

THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY
NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON.

We have now the pleasure of presenting to our subscribers and to the public in general, an English Weekly Newspaper whose sole aim is to safeguard native interests and to foster national aspirations and undertakings.

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THE MANAGER.

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in the different centres of Hindu population in the Island, and by such other means as would bring about the desired object

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(Proctor, Supreme Court.)

PRINCIPAL:—N. SELVADURAI Esq: B. A.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

in aid of the College will be thankfully received by

THE MANAGER

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that it is proposed to buy and send from Jaffna specimens of gold and silver jewellery and brass work for the Paris Exhibition of 1900. Persons willing to dispose of such articles are requested to bring them to the Kachcheri on every Tuesday and Thursday at 2 P. M.

No specimens will be bought after the 30th September next.

J. H. LEAK

For Govt. Agent.

Jaffna Kachcheri

27th June 1899

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

As previously announced, we are now publishing the "HINDU ORGAN" as an English Weekly Newspaper with a Tamil Fortnightly Supplement.

We are sending both the English and Tamil issues to all our Subscribers in the hope that they would willingly subscribe for both.

Any gentleman who may not like this arrangement, will kindly let us know his wish, by a Post Card, without putting us to unnecessary expense and trouble.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS IN ARRARS

Should also settle up their accounts without delay. It is rather hard on their part to expect us to continue supplying them with the paper without their paying for it.

We CANNOT bring ourselves to believe that most of them are NOT ABLE to remit the small sums that appear against their names as arrears.

THE MANAGER,



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1899

The Law Courts at Jaffna.

When even in towns of minor importance in the Island, the courts of justice have witness-sheds attached to them, it is strange that those at Jaffna have not been provided with these indispensable adjuncts. Till very recently, one was considerably amused to hear the peons of the Jaffna Minor Courts call out to the witnesses in stentorian tones to locate themselves under the trees standing to the west of the road fronting the Courts, the witnesses to be examined being consigned to the care of one of the trees and those examined to another. It required all the circumspection of a shrewd Magistrate to discover that the trees stood in such close proximity to each other that the examined witnesses and those awaiting examination could communicate with each other or actually did so. The discovery resulted in the transference of the last mentioned set of witnesses to the east of the court house—to the verandah of the building now occupied by the Jaffna Library, the examined witnesses being, as heretofore, left to the mercy of the trees standing by the Esplanade road. This state of things, which to say the least of it is most primitive, continues unto this day, without any protest being made to it by the litigant population, the witnesses, or the Bar. One of the consequences of the want of witness-sheds is, that persons of respectability and high social status attending the Courts as witnesses are not, and cannot be, accommodated in a manner befitting their position. Such witnesses are now provided with seats either at the Library or in the Clerks' rooms. But those who are not known to the Librarian or the officers of the Courts are either obliged to stand the whole day or squat on the ground

or floor, untidy and dirty as it is, rubbing shoulders with the riffraff and the bobtail of the villages, who frequent the Minor Courts of Jaffna, as indeed those of all other towns in the Island.

The witnesses attending the District Court do not in any sense fare better. The witnesses to be examined are put in the verandah of the Clerks' rooms—to the north of the covered walk leading to the record room. The examined witnesses are consigned to a wing of the Office of the Registrar of Lands or to the foot of the whip tree standing close to it or to a side of the tea-boutique. Here too, as in the Minor Courts, respectable witnesses are not provided with seats, and it is not possible to accommodate them in a fitting manner, there being no sheds. But the officers of the Court who are all courteous and obliging try to minimise the discomfort and inconvenience felt by such witnesses as much as possible, seats being provided for them in the clerks' rooms. Perhaps by way of consulting the greater dignity of the District Court, the witnesses attending that court are made to sit on mats spread on the cemented floor of the verandah, which, we believe, is the only point of difference between the treatment accorded the District Court witnesses and that accorded to those of the Minor Courts.

We understand that the Government is about to acquire a plot of ground behind the record room of the District Court for the purpose of building a witness-shed. Better late than never. Acting on this principle we have not only to accept the gift gratefully, but thank the Government for it. But what about the Minor Courts? It is to be hoped that Government having made a beginning, the necessary provision will be made to the Minor Courts as well.

The half-yearly interruption caused to the District Court work by the holding of the Supreme Court Criminal Sessions in the District Court-house has become a scandal. From the 14th August last up to the time of our going to press the District Court work has been at a stand still. We hope to notice this matter at length in our next issue.

THE JAFFNA COMMERCIAL CORPORATION LTD

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Jaffna Commercial Corporation Limited was held at their registered office on Friday 8th Instant commencing at 4-30 P. M. There were present Messrs. W. Mather R. C. Alexander M. B. Swampillai, A. Sabapathy, S. T. Arnold, S. Venasitamby, S. Ramupillai, S. Thambimuttoo, T. S. Cooke, C. T. Mills, C. H. Cooke, A. Toussaint, W. Bryant, M. S. Abdul Cader, S. Naganather, R. M. M. S. T. Raman Chetty, S. Casyar S. T. Thambapillai, S. Vaitilingam, J. K. Chanmugam and A. Kanagasabai.

Mr. Mather held the proxies of Captains J. C. Whitley, A. Haryie, and Messrs C. Parsons J. P. Thampoe, R. Lawton, W. Sangarapillai, M. M. Pully, G. V. Sinnatamby, S. M. Chinnappah, A. Sittampalam, V. Tampoe, W. Valupillai, N. Cathirasapillai, N. H. David, S. A. Thiagarajah, S. M. Culasekarampillai, J. A. Gunasegaram, N. Sellaturai, V. Visuvanather, K. Visuvalingam, S. Sabapathy, S. Subramaniam, R. A. Naganather, S. Macneath, S. N. Strong, J. Mather, Geo. Veerasingam, S. Valupillai, E. M. Kanagasabai, and C. M. Samuel.

Mr. S. T. Arnold held the proxies of Messrs R. N. Samuel, E. C. Mattuvaloo, and C. Daniel. Mr. R. C. Alexander held those of Messrs C. Murugasoe, and C. Veeragathipillai.

Mr. Alexander Toussaint was voted to the chair. The Secretary Mr. S. T. Arnold read the minutes of the last annual meeting, which were duly confirmed. On the motion of Mr. Sabapathy seconded by Mr. Mather the Report of the Directors and the Balance sheet for the year ending 31st June 1899 was taken as read. The dividend of 15% payable to the shareholders who have met all their calls was declared payable forthwith.

The election of the Directors next ensued and as the result the following gentlemen form the Board for the year that has just commenced viz; Messrs Wm. Mather, M. B. Swampillai, A. Toussaint, S. Naganather, S. Venasitamby, A. Kanagasabai, V. Casippillai, S. Valupillai, T. S. Cooke, J. K. Chanmugam, A. Sabapathy, C. T. Mills, T. C. Changarappillai, S. T. Arnold, and S. A. Ailegacone.

The date of the next annual meeting was fixed for the 10th September 1900 and Mr. W. E. Hitchcock M. A. was appointed auditor for the next year.

The meeting closed at 6 20, P. M. with a vote of thanks to the chair.

The newly elected Board held a meeting shortly afterwards when Mr. Wm. Mather was re-appointed Managing Director and Mr. S. T. Arnold Secretary. Messrs Wm. Mather, V. Casippillai, and A. Toussaint were re-appointed the committee to authorize loans, and Messrs J. K. Chanmugam and A. Sabapathy were appointed to verify the cash and other accounts of the corporation occasionally.

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER—After a long spell of drought which lasted for over four months, an welcome shower of rain fell here last night.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—A meeting of this body was held on the 13th instant.

POLICE COURT OF KAITIS—Mr. T. C. Changarappillai J. P., Crown Proctor, has been gazetted to act as Commissioner of Requests and Police Magistrate of Kaitis for one month and twelve days from the 18th Instant, during the absence of Mr. Woutersz from the station. We congratulate Mr. Changarappillai on this appointment, though temporary it may be, the duties of which he is well qualified to discharge to the satisfaction of the Government and the public.

THE MANIAGARSHIP OF KARACHI—We are glad to learn that Mr. Varitambi Velupillai of Chavakachcheri has been recommended by the Government Agent for this office. In our opinion no better selection could have been made. Mr. Velupillai is not only one of the largest landed proprietors in that division but is also a gentleman of education, enlightenment and public spirit. We congratulate him on the appointment which will no doubt be confirmed by the Government, and the Government Agent on the excellent choice he has made.

THE MANIAGARSHIP OF POONAKARI—By an oversight we omitted to record in our last issue the appointment of Mr. F. R. Sandrasegara of Jaffna Town as Maniagar of the Division of Poonakari. Mr. Sandrasegara is a member of a well-known Catholic family.

MARRIAGE—The marriage of Miss Gertrude Chellamma, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anasampillai of Jaffna Town with Mr. Mariampillai a rising Merchant of Kaitis was celebrated with great éclat on the 6th Instant. The elite of the Jaffna Society graced the occasion by their presence. We wish the married couple long life, health, wealth, and prosperity.

MR. N. PONNAIAPPILLAI—This gentleman who was the Maniagar of Poonakari for about fifteen years has retired from the public service. We hope that the Government will in recognition of his long and faithful services confer a suitable appointment on his son Mr. Rajagopalupillai.

A MURDERER HANGED—Vyravan Kaddyan who was convicted on the 18th ultimo of the atrocious murder of a girl at Myliddi after having raped her, underwent the extreme penalty of the law within the precincts of the Jaffna Jail on Monday the 18th Instant.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS—Mr. Leembruggan, after examining the Schools of the Eastern Province, has returned to Jaffna.

A NEW NOTARY—We are glad to learn that Mr. S. Sivappiragasam who is a teacher in the Hindu College, Jaffna and who is a cousin of the Jaffna Maniagar, Mr. Tampapillai Mudaliar, has been appointed as a Notary public for Vannarponnai and Jaffna Town. We wish Mr. Sivappiragasam every success in his new sphere of life.

PT. PEDRO—By a Government proclamation published in the Gazette of 15th September the town of Pt. Pedro in the Northern Province is to be brought from the 1st day of January 1900 under the operation of "the Small Towns Sanitary Ordinance 1892."

Valluvettyturai—By another proclamation in the same Gazette the town of Valluvettyturai in the Northern Province is also to be brought under the operation of the said Ordinance from the same date.

New Steamer Service to Jaffna—We learn that Mr. Jeevunjee Noorbhai will soon be utilising the "Heafee," in addition to the service to the Maldives, between this and Jaffna also. The service will probably be a fortnightly one and will no doubt be taken full advantage of both on this and the other side of the water.

—The Ceylon Independent.

Mr. T. Ponnampalam Pillai—We are glad to find that the appointment of this gentleman as acting Superintendent of Police of the State of Travancore has been hailed with satisfaction by the public of that State. The WESTERN STAR, a tri-weekly paper published at Trivandram, the capital of Travancore, in a leader under the heading of "Recognition of Merit", in its issue of the 30th ultimo, thus refers to the appointment of our countryman to that important and responsible post:—

"Another appointment which has given much general satisfaction is that of Mr. Ponnampalam Pillai to act as Superintendent of Police during Mr. Bensley's absence in furlough. As the Senior Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Ponnampalam has the first claim to this post when it chances to become vacant, and he has other claims

as well, based upon considerations of personal fitness and meritorious services; but it was thought that the place would be reserved for Europeans alone, and that, accordingly, either an outsider would be brought in to fill the appointment, or that Mr. P. Sweeny would be put into it, thus superseding his immediate senior in the Department. The appointment of Mr. Ponnambalam Pillai recognizes the principle that, other things not being wanting, seniority in service should secure the first claim to promotion; and it shows further that the highest post in the police Department is open to the fittest men in the service, without distinction as to race or creed."

The Travancore correspondent of the Madras HINDU also writes as follows approvingly of Mr. Ponnambalam Pillai's appointment:—

"Mr. Bensaley, the Superintendent of Police has gone on 15 months furlough, and Mr. P. Ponnambalam Pillai, the senior assistant Superintendent of Police, officiates for him. It is really creditable to the Dewan that he has made use of local talent, instead of resorting to the usual method of importing into the State service some broken down coffee planter or some young hopeful of a former Political Agent."

OUR RELIGIOUS COLUMN.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA



PARAMAHAMSA.

The portrait we insert gives the living presentiments of the spiritual guide, of Swami Vivekananda, whose influence on religion is daily attaining a widening sphere. The expression of the face indicates an utter renunciation of the things of the world coupled with complete absorption in the Godhead. The scrupulous neatness and costly elegance of the professional preacher and priest is as absent in him as are the obtrusive marks of sanctity displayed, by a profusion of beads, ochre coloured cloths and sacred ash streaks. Nor does he appear to have affected the austere sanctity of the ascetic by dispensing with clothing. A simple Sannyasin, without much erudition, he yet saw deeply into things spiritual and attracted the homage of numbers. "When the rose is blown, and sheds its fragrance all around, the bees come of themselves. The bees seek the full blown rose and not the rose the bees." "This saying of Sri Ramakrishna" says Professor Max-Müller, "has been verified often and often in his own life. Numbers of earnest men, of all sects and creeds, began to flock to him to receive instruction and drink the waters of life." From day dawn to night fall he had no leisure to eat or drink, so engaged was he in teaching exhorting, and ministering to the wants of those hungry thirsty millions. Men possessed of wonderful Yoga powers and great learning came to learn from this illiterate Paramahansa of Dakshinesvara and in their turn acknowledged him as their spiritual director (Guru) touched as they were by the wonderful purity, the child-like simplicity, the perfect unselfishness and by the simple language in which he propounded the highest truths of religion and philosophy. It was on such occasions as above were the memorable "sayings" were delivered and gathered by living disciples to be spread into the admiring world.

THE SUPREME COURT CRIMINAL SESSIONS JAFFNA.

The sessions which commenced here on the 14th Ultimo came to a close today. This is the longest sessions ever held in Jaffna, within the memory of men now living, although the number of cases tried was only fourteen. We have already published the proceedings of the five cases disposed of before the 24th Ultimo, and continue in this issue the proceedings of the case of perjury and forgery against Mr. H. R. Solomon. We hope to conclude the proceedings of this case in our next issue.

FRIDAY 1st SEPTEMBER.

Murder—One Sinnacuddi Saravanamuttu of Kokuvli West was charged with the murder of his wife Achehicuddi. He admitted the offence. But he was tried and convicted of the capital offence. He was sentenced to be hanged. The jury recommended him to mercy. Mr. Sandrasekhara was assigned to defend the prisoner who thanked the Judge and Jury for the just sentence passed on him. He did not like to live, he said, after taking away the life of his wife.

MONDAY 4th September.

Murder—A young nan of Chiviateru belonging to the Palla caste named Arumugam Valli was tried for the murder of a woman of his own caste. Mr. Kanagasabai instructed by Mr. Casipillai defended the accused. He was convicted the following day and sentenced to be hanged.

TUESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER.

Bigamy—After the Chiviateru murder case was over Chithampary Mailvaganam was put on his trial charged with bigamy. Mr. Sandrasekhara instructed by Mr. Casipillai appeared for the defence. The trial of this case was continued on the 6th and 7th Instant and ended in the acquittal of the accused.

THURSDAY 7th SEPTEMBER.

Rape—Three men of Udopiddi were charged with rape. This case resulted on Monday the 11th Instant in the acquittal of all the accused. Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai defended the accused.

TUESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER.

Murder—A young man of Thavadi by the name of Appapillai Marimuttu was tried for the alleged murder of Naganather Katigaso of Kokuvil West on the night of 19th May last in the Pattirakali Temple at Thavadi. It will be remembered that two men of Kokuvil West were stabbed to death on that occasion and several others were seriously injured. It is with the murder of Naganather Katigaso, Marimuttu was charged. An English-speaking jury with Mr. M. B. Swampillai as foreman tried this case. Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai assisted by Mr. Advocate Tirunavukarasu and instructed by Mr. Proctor Casipillai defended the accused. This case took up the remaining days of the week and ended on Friday the 15th Instant in the conviction of the accused on the lesser offence of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The prisoner was sentenced to ten years' rigorous imprisonment.

MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER.

Murder—Two other young men, Appacuddi Kulasakarampillai and Kanapathy Thambiraja were put on their trial charged with the murder of Naranar Vesuvalingam of Kokuvil West which took place in the Thavadi Temple on the night of 19th May last. Mr. Kanagasabai instructed by Mr. Casipillai defended the accused. The jury of which Mr. Philips was foreman convicted the 1st accused the same evening of the lesser offence of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and he was sentenced to ten years rigorous imprisonment. The second accused was acquitted and discharged.

TUESDAY 19th SEPTEMBER.

Causing Hurt—Appapillai Marimuttu who was convicted on the 15th Instant of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and sentenced to ten years imprisonment was this day put on his trial charged with causing hurt with knife to three other men on the night of 19th May last. The jury found him not guilty.

WEDNESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER.

Causing Hurt—Appacuddi Kulasakarampillai who was convicted on Monday the 18th Instant of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment was tried this day charged with causing hurt with knife to some persons on the night of 19th May last at Thavadi. He was also found not guilty on this charge.

The sessions were then closed at 2. P. M.

The Judge and suite leave here for Colombo by the "Lady Gordon" on the 22nd Instant travelling via Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Galle.

THE SEQUEL TO THE ABDUCTION CASE.

THIRD DAY.

On the re-assembling of Court on Monday the 28th

Ultimo at 11. A. M. Mr. T. S. Cooke was called to give evidence for the prosecution. He said: I am a Proctor of the District Court. I was present in the Police Court when letter B was produced by the accused. I think this is the letter. I took a copy of the letter along with other proceedings of the case. It came into the hands of the Proctors for the prosecution. I took the copy in Pencil at 12. A. M. It did not go to any other hands till I gave it to my Clerk two or three days afterwards to get a fair copy made. I did not part with it to anybody nor did I show it to anybody. The pencil copy remained with me, and I destroyed it after the trial of the abduction case. The last two lines were scored out when I took the copy. Miss Niles made attempts to read the scored lines and she read them in ten minutes. After adjournment Miss Elaiyatamby read the scored lines. Miss Niles was examined in regard to letter C at 2-30. P. M.

Cross-examined by Mr. Allegakoen: Mr. Constantine adjourned Court at 12. A. M. At that time letter B. was in the hands of Miss Niles. It was first given to her. Then we Proctors for the complainant got it. I then made pencil copy of the first portion. The Magistrate then got it. He asked Miss Niles to read the scored portion. This was after a portion of the pencil copy was made. I believe she read the scored portion before the adjournment. But after the adjournment she stood near the window in order to make herself sure of some of the letters or words of which she had some doubts. I don't know who got the letter from her. I don't know how long she kept the letter with her. To the best of my recollection I copied the latter part of the letter when it was read to me either by Mr. Casipillai or Mr. Carpenter. The accused did not object to the copy being taken. I did not get the permission of the Magistrate to take the copy. The Magistrate asked Miss Niles to return the letter B. to the Interpreter after she had fully made out the scored portion. I did not take a copy of letter C. as I had no opportunity of doing so. I never took a copy for an ulterior purpose. Rev. Mr. Niles was in Court at the time. I know the accused. He used to go to Mr. Niles' house, not very often. Accused wanted to marry Miss Allagamma Niles. He had been telling me this off and on for about five months from June or July 1897. He told me that Allagamma also loved him.

The next witness was Rev. D. P. Niles. He said:— I am a Wesleyan Minister and father of Allagamma Niles. I was present in the Police Court when letter B. was produced. This is the letter. I saw the letter being handed to Mr. Advocate Allegakoen by the accused and then the Advocate produced it in Court as having been written to accused by my daughter who was also present. I noticed the scoring which was quite recent. When she was examined she said it was written by her not to the accused but to her school mate Nallamma Elaiyatamby. She denied that she scored those lines. She read those lines as "Has Ratnam Paul come to school." The first portion she read in five minutes and the rest in 10 or 15 minutes. I saw letter C. in the afternoon. My daughter stated in her evidence that letter B. was reply to letter C. She gave information to me as well as to my son William that letter C. might probably be found among her other letters in Vannarponnai. She went to Vannarponnai in a carriage with her two brothers, and I left for Uduvil with my wife in another carriage. I met my sons and daughter on the way and asked them if the letter had been found. My son William said "Yes". They were then returning to Jaffna. I then said I was going to Uduvil to fetch Miss Elaiyatamby. It was at about 1. P. M. I started for Uduvil. My daughter started for Vannarponnai a little after 12. A. M. I went to Uduvil and asked Mr. Elaiyatamby to allow his daughter to come to court and identify letter B. He allowed her to come. I did not stop anywhere on the way except a minute opposite to my house at Vannarponnai to hand over some mangoes to my servant. We reached Court at about 2-45 or 3. P. M. Miss Elaiyatamby was taken to a room. When she was examined the same evening she identified letters B and C. The accused and his counsel carefully looked at letter C. and got nonplussed (The Judge here objected to the use of the remark "nonplussed." The witness then contented with saying that they remained silent.) Between the production of letters B. and C. I did not see a copy of letter B. It was not shown to Nallamma also. I did not talk to her about letter B. on the way. As far as I recollect I remember seeing Mr. Hunt on my way to Uduvil and asking him if Nallamma was well enough to come to court as she was required to give evidence. I did not stop at Mr. Hunt's on my return from Uduvil. My daughter and Nallamma never met at Mr. Hunt's house between the production of letters B. and C. The accused used to come to my house. He was not long in Jaffna. He returned here finally in the early part of 1897. In April 1897 Mr. Alexander, his brother-in-law, proposed to me to give my daughter in marriage to accused. I did not agree and gave my reasons. My daughter was not aware of the proposal at the time. It was in July I told her when she informed me that a letter was attempted to be forced on her through Fanny Walton at Mr. Thampo's. She then told me if she had known that she would have avoided his company. I removed my daughter from school in August 1897, having heard from Mrs. Tampoe that the accused was determined to carry her by force. I kept her at home for a fortnight, and then brought her back and gave her in charge of Mr. Trimmer.

SELECTIONS.

She used to send letters by me and sometime by the horsekeeper. My horsekeeper at the time I took away my daughter from school was Velan. He got into my service in May 97, got ill by the end of August and was absent till October 98. One Sinnatamby was my horsekeeper in September and part of October. Mylan was my horsekeeper till Velan came back. Mylan was a witness in the abduction case. He told me he was intimidated by the accused party and left my service. When I went to a wedding at Point Pedro in September 97 Marian Sinnatamby was my horsekeeper. I engaged his services only the previous day.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kanagasabai—The accused's younger brother is married to one of my daughters. The mother of the accused suggested that that daughter may be married to the accused. I considered the younger brother more eligible not on account of his salary but on other grounds. I swear accused did not decline to marry my eldest daughter. I also swear that accused did not then say he would wait for the younger. I cannot say if my younger daughter is fairer and handsomer than the younger. Both are fair in my estimation. It is true that at a farewell meeting I was complimented as a Bismark, but I attached no importance to it. Accused returned to Jaffna suspended from office. He personally proposed to me in May or June 97. I then gave him some good advice and told him that my daughter was very young and I should not think of giving her in marriage for another three or four years. She was then 15 years old. It is not true that I was willing and that my wife was opposed to the alliance. I heard of jewellery being made by accused for my daughter. This was two months previous to her removal from school. It is possible that my daughter was present when I was informed of it. No, she was not present. (Here His Lordship remarked that the witness need not attempt to speak positively of things which he did not remember)

Mr. Kanagasabai subjected this witness to a very severe cross-examination in regard to the playing of cards by his daughter with the accused and her removal one day "in hot haste" from Mr. Tampoe's house.

The next witness called was Mr. William Chellappa Niles. He corroborated the evidence of his father the Rev. Mr. Niles and of his sister Miss Allagamma Niles, in regard to the finding of letter C, in Vannarponnai and his handing it to Mr. Proctor Carpenter to be produced in Court on the 1st June 1898.

Mr. E.B. Hunt deposed—I am a surveyor. I remember the inquiry into the abduction case on 1st June 98. A packet of letters was put into my hands on that day, four or five in number, by Miss Nallamma Elaiyatamby, my sister-in-law. I put them in an envelop and handed them over to the Rev. Mr. Trimmer. I do not remember having seen Allagamma Niles that day. I saw my sister-in-law in my house at 4 P. M. after she was examined in Court. She went back to Uduvil. I say positively that Nallamma and Allagamma did not meet in my house that day, nor did I see any letter being written in my house that day.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kanagasabai—I am not on bad terms with the accused. I never intended to harm him. I never visited him. I visited him once in Colombo. I am in indifferent terms with him. A niece of mine was never proposed in marriage to the accused. I deny that Nallamma got down and came to my house on her way to the court house. She gave me some letters at about 3-30 P. M. She destroyed some and retained with her others. I met Mr. Niles at Mr. Tampoe's after the Court was over. I cannot say if it was after the letters were handed to me by Nallamma. Mr. Niles told me that he should ask Mr. Trimmer to make an inquiry as to how the letter in possession of Nallamma was taken away. Within an hour and a half of Nallamma handing those letters to me I gave them to Mr. Trimmer. It was daylight when Mr. Niles and I went to Mr. Trimmer. I got those letters from him during the trial of the abduction case, and gave them back to him two or three weeks after that case was over. It was thought that they might be of use afterwards. There was then a suggestion that the accused might be prosecuted for perjury. I know nothing of the destruction of letters in the Boarding school by my sister-in-law Pooranam Elaiyatamby nor of the inquiry held by Mr. Trimmer.

Rev. G. J. Trimmer—I am an Wesleyan Missionary. I am Manager of the Wesleyan Girls Boarding School. I know Emily Allagamma Niles. She was in that school from 1890 to 1898. She was a boarder in November 1897. I am unable to say from the register if she was a boarder before that. I know a girl Chellamma Thillaiambalam. She was in School at that time. Ratnam Paul also was in school at the time. She was at times a boarder and sometimes a day scholar. There is no record to show whether she was a boarder in August 97 or not. Mr. Niles having brought to my notice at that time that the accused sent a letter to Allagamma, removed her from school. She was brought back after some time. For 13 days in the month of August 97 she is marked as absent. Allagamma finally left school on 22nd March 1898. I have seen more than one letter written by girls ad-

dressed as "My dearest darling friend." They were written not by Allagamma. Chellamma Thillaiambalam was admitted as a boarder on a reduced fee of 75 cents a month. I know her father who is a teacher under the mission and is paid Rs. 10 per month. He gets also an additional pay of Rs. 1 a month for cleaning the lamps at the Vannarponnai chapel. I had a matron of the Girls' Boarding School by the name of Mrs. Fredrick. She could have access to the room where the boxes of the girls were kept. Her daughter Rasamma also was a pupil of the school in 1897. The matron was in the receipt of Rs. 7-50 a month. Mr. Hunt handed me certain letters. They were sealed. They were said to have been written by Allagamma Niles to Nallamma Elaiyatamby. I returned them either to Mr. Niles or Mr. Hunt. They were given to me during the Magisterial inquiry into the abduction case. The result of my inquiry as regards the destruction of some letters in the Boarding School showed that nothing of any consequence had happened. As Manager I would object to girls corresponding with each other, but personally I have not the slightest objection.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kanagasabai—Miss Ratnam Paul is marked in the Register as having been present during the days Miss Niles was absent from it in August 97. When I inquired into the burning of letters in the Boarding School Pooranam Elaiyatamby admitted the burning of some useless papers. I have no recollection of saying in the Police Court that letters were also included among the papers burnt. It was sometime after the production of a letter in the Police Court the complaint as to the burning of letters in School was made to me. I have no recollection of the time when the letters were given to me by Messrs Niles and Hunt. Probably I stated in the Police Court that it was between 10 and 11 P. M. Miss Paul was probably a boarder in August 1897. But I cannot speak positively to this fact as she also, her house being close to the school, used to attend now and again as a day scholar. In August 97 the English School contained 37 girls. I know Messrs Sabapathy and Chellappa who were teachers in the Girls School in August 1897. Mr. Niles did not consult me about instituting this case. I had a talk with him on the subject, and when he told me after the acquittal of the accused in the abduction case that he could be prosecuted for perjury, I told him it would have been better of he left the matter alone.

Mr. Aserappa put in the statement of the accused and closed the case for the prosecution.
(to be continued.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

CLERICAL EXAMINATION.

Sir,

In the Government Notice about Clerical Examination, published in the "Hindu Organ" of the 16th Ultimo, there are certain points requiring further explanation, namely,

1. The 8th article of the Notice says, "any candidate failing to obtain two thirds of the marks allotted for hand writing and half those allowed for Spelling and Arithmetic respectively, shall be excluded from the remainder of the examination."

This means, I suppose, that the papers of such candidates on the remaining subjects of the examination shall not be looked into, and they shall be considered as having altogether failed.

2. "Should a candidate obtain less than one fourth marks in any of the subjects other than Hand writing, Spelling and Arithmetic, or*****less than two thirds marks in his native language, such marks shall not be counted in his favor."

As the minimum of pass marks is not mentioned, it is evident that those candidates who shall have obtained the 20 highest number of marks shall be the elects for 20 appointments (ten appointments being left for Clerks already in the 1st class)

3. "In all the written papers marks will be deducted for bad writing and mistakes in spelling."

The above three provisions in the 8th article are in respect to persons not now in the Public Service, and Clerks of the 1st class of the Clerical Branch who have completed 3 years service, and to those employed by Provincial and District Road Committees whose appointments date prior to 1st July 1875.

4. The 9th article of the Notice says "officers who have served in the 1st class of the Clerical Service for over six years will be allowed to compete amongst themselves, and be eligible for one third of the appointments offered for competition, if they obtain a minimum of 33 per cent in the compulsory subjects."

This is a privilege accorded to the said older Clerks. And it is clear that the above three provisions in the 8th article are not applicable to them and that they are required only to obtain 33 per cent, at least not in each of the compulsory subjects, but collectively in all of them.

These explanations may be of interest to the candidates. Those who think that I have taken a mistaken view of the rules are kindly requested to correct such mistakes and to enlighten the candidates.

Vannarponnai
5th Sept 1899

A. CANDIDATE

THE RT. HON. PROF. MAX-MULLER'S LATEST BOOK

The Rt. Hon. Prof. Max-Muller has laid the philosophical world under great obligation by the publication of his latest work entitled, "The Six Systems of Indian Philosophy"—a stout volume of about 600 pages. It is written in the charming style peculiar to the author and is a highly valuable addition to the existing philosophical literature. The book was evidently written by the author for the purpose of satisfying a general desire which according to him, has arisen and has repeatedly been expressed, for the publication of a more general and comprehensive account of the six systems in which the philosophical thought of India has found its full realisation, and a reading of the book leaves no doubt that it will quite answer the purpose for which it has been intended. The book furnishes the reader with the general outlines of the different systems of philosophical thought which had exercised the minds of the greatest men of the East from the earliest times and which had been, generation after generation, the boasted heritage of the Indian nation. The author does not descend into minute details, nor does he indulge in the critical examination of the arguments on which the ultimate conclusions of the individual systems of philosophy are based. He contents himself with explaining the fundamental doctrines of the various schools of thought in a language at once simple and lucid, and points out concisely but clearly where they differ from one another. Being the production of his mature age, the book bears the impress of nearly fifty years of thought spent in the study and the assimilation of the abstruse principles of the Indian systems of philosophy and is almost free from the errors, if they may be so called, that could be detected in the philosophical contributions of his less mature age. The author's love and admiration have apparently been growing with his age and he speaks, in the Preface, of the Vedanta philosophy as a system in which human speculation seemed to him to have reached its very acme. Again, at page 253 of the book, the author speaking of the Vedanta philosophy says: "I quite admit that, as a popular philosophy, the Vedanta would have its dangers, that it would fail to call out and strengthen the many qualities required for the practical side of life, and that it might raise the human mind to a height from which the most essential virtues of social and political life might dwindle into mere phantoms. At the same time I make no secret that all my life I have been very fond of the Vedanta. Nay, I can fully agree with Schopenhauer, and quite understand what he meant when he said—'In the whole world there is no study, except that of the original (of the Upanishads), so beneficial and so elevating as that of the Oupnekhat (Persian translation of the Upanishads). It has been the solace of my life, it will be the solace of my death.' It is needless to quote more passages wherein he writes admiringly of the Vedanta philosophy. It may no doubt be pointed out that here and there in the book passages may be found where the author's admiration for the Vedanta philosophy is qualified or faintly expressed. But it must be remembered that the author is writing under environments not quite favorable for the expression of his unqualified admiration of the Vedanta philosophy; and it is impossible, as the Right Hon'ble author has himself told us in one of his earlier writings, to divest oneself altogether of the prejudices which one might have formed. We have therefore sufficient cause to be gratified at the fact that the Right Hon'ble author has been getting bolder and bolder with age in the expression of his admiration of the Vedanta philosophy, and that in his latest work under review he has rendered to the master-minds of the East the highest tribute of praise that could be expected from him.

Nor is the book welcome merely on account of its value as an excellent contribution to the existing philosophical literature. The book so appreciative of the products of the mighty intellects of the East exercised in solving the eternal problems of the world and written by one of the greatest of living European savants cannot fail to raise the Indian nation in the estimation of the people of Europe and bring about a kindlier feeling between the European and the Indian. Such great scholars are, as it has often been remarked, the interpreters between the East and the West. Neither the East nor the West can afford to ignore their opinions, and their admiration for the products of the Indian intellect must necessarily create a responsive feeling in the West towards the East.

The philosophical activity in Europe has been at its lowest ebb for the last two or three decades. Either there have been no great thinkers in Europe during this period that would indulge in philosophical speculations or the European mind had been satisfied with the results of philosophical enquiry before that period. Anyhow there has been during this period no noticeable philosophical activity in Europe, and it is to be hoped that this publication will give a fresh impetus to the study of philosophy and the world problems in European countries. This work attests the hold which the works and thoughts of Dr. Thibaut have had on the author's mind; and the author informs us that we may soon expect from the excellent pen of Dr. Thibaut a translation of Ramanuja's SRIKASHYA. The author in comparing and contrasting the Advaita philosophy of Sankara with the Visisthadvaita philosophy of Ramanuja admits that Sankara's is inexorably consistent. We would therefore suggest that a book from the pen of the Right Hon'ble author presenting in a readable and assimilable form the whole body of Sankara's doctrines, culled from his numerous writings and arranged under appropriate topics of discussion, stripped of all that is now useless, trivial and adventitious, would be a boon to the student of philosophy both in the East and in the West; and we hope and trust that he will be spared long enough in the full enjoyment of his faculties to accomplish this task.

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