

The Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1903.

THE GLANVILLE MURDER CASE.

In our article on this case, in our last issue, we dealt with its general aspects and appealed to His Excellency the Governor, in the name of justice and humanity, to exercise his prerogative of pardon and save two innocent lives from the fate to which they have been doomed, as the result of the verdict of the Jury that tried the case. We were not then able to notice the editorials in the "Times of Ceylon" and the "Ceylon Independent", supporting the verdict, without any regard to the justice of the case, with the view, as it must strike any one, to curry favour with the Planters. In a case which concerns two human lives, though they are the lives of poor Tamil labourers, and in the face of the clear summing up of the presiding Judge for their acquittal, one would have hesitated to write in the manner our contemporaries have done.

The policy of the "Times" has been to uphold planting and European interests, without any consideration whatever for any other interests. It is not, therefore, strange that

the "Times" should have acted in the manner it has done, though its deliverance on the subject, in its issue of the 25th Ultimo, was, on the face of it, a special pleading of the worst type. But the attitude of the "Independent" which poses as the champion of native interests is inexplicable to us. We do not mean to say that our contemporary should not have called for the severe punishment of natives who are really guilty of murdering Europeans. But the *Independent* should have approved the verdict in that light-hearted manner in which it expressed itself in its issue of the 26th ultimo, and called for the blood of the unfortunate men who are under sentence of death—a verdict which, in the opinion of an impartial and experienced Judge of the Supreme Court was not a proper one to be pronounced against them—is a disagreeable surprise to us. But our contemporary seems to have made amends for that wrong by giving editorial prominence to a communicated article on this case which appeared in its issue of the 5th Instant. We quote that article in full elsewhere, and it will be noticed that the bearings of this case are calmly and dispassionately discussed and a conclusion is arrived at that the Jury should have acquitted the accused, instead of convicting them. His Excellency the Governor also is asked to intervene and save the lives of those unfortunate men.

There are instances of accused being acquitted by the Jury, in the face of the presiding Judge's summing up for conviction, as it generally happens in India when Europeans are tried by European Jury for the murder of natives. There are also not wanting instances in which Ceylonese Jury in the Island acquitting accused, although the presiding Judges were of a different opinion. Although verdicts of acquittal, when the accused ought to have been convicted, are also bad and cause miscarriages of justice, yet they are not so bad and harmful as the conviction of innocent persons, on mere suspicion and in defiance of the charge of the Judge. Hence instances of such convictions are very rare, not only here but also in all places where the Jury system prevails. But the Jury that tried the Glanville case have taken upon themselves the responsibility of condemning the two men to the gallows, though Mr. Justice Middleton who presided over the trial repeatedly warned them in explicit terms against convicting the accused on the circumstantial evidences adduced. In the opinion of the "Times of Ceylon" "His Lordship (Mr. Justice Middleton) has not yet been long enough in Ceylon to fully grasp the subtlety of the native criminal mind"; which means that the Planters who tried the case are men with greater experience of the Island and the "subtlety of the native criminal mind". Surely these Planters know better of the inner life of their brethren in the planting districts than Mr. Middleton could claim to know of it, such as the relationship alleged to have existed between Mr. Glanville and his Appu; but to say that Mr. Middleton is less qualified than those Planters to find out the truth of the case or to express an opinion on the weight or sufficiency of the evidence adduced is a mockery and a deliberate insult on one of the ablest and most conscientious Judges that have ever graced the Supreme Court Bench of this Island. If a Ceylonese Jury would acquit their own countrymen in an important case, against the intention of the presiding Judge although not so pronouncedly and clearly

expressed as Mr. Middleton expressed his opinion in the Glanville case, the *Times* would mercilessly attack the Jury system in Ceylon and the fitness of the Ceylonese to serve as Jurors. Our contemporary has often said that the Ceylonese are unfit to enjoy the privilege of being tried by their peers, because Ceylonese Jurors sometimes acquit accused in opposition to the opinion of the presiding Judge. In the Glanville case, however, the Judge who charged for the acquittal of the accused is an inexperienced person and the Jurors who convicted them on their sole responsibility are men well fitted to be entrusted with the life and liberty of His Majesty's subjects!! If Mr. Glanville was not an Englishman and the Jurors also be not men of that nationality, our contemporary would never forgive a Jury who have so unceremoniously disregarded the opinion of an English Judge of the highest tribunal in the Island.

To show how strongly and clearly Mr. Middleton expressed his opinion against the conviction of the accused we quote below some portions of his masterly summing up. In regard to the motive assigned for the murder His Lordship said:—

I have been on the bench now for some twenty years, and I never have heard put before a jury a motive such as is alleged in this case to-day. It may be that such motives exist, but that they are rare; but I think I may say that from my own experience—I have had experience in many hundreds of murder cases—I have never heard of such a motive as jealousy on the part of a person in the alleged circumstances of the second prisoner. You have had quoted to you certain medical authorities which are said, by competent gentlemen here, to be of the highest value, that there is no actual case ever referred to showing that such a thing has ever been known to have actually occurred. It is said that is possible. It may be that this possibility is derived from certain German authorities—that a man who engages in such a perverted habit as this may be so perverted in his mind as to be psychically a woman and subject to the same feelings as a woman. But the medical gentlemen can give us no case of that kind within their own medical experience. I do not know gentlemen whether in your experience you have ever heard of such a theory as this. However, that is the theory suggested for your consideration to show that this man here in the dock committed this crime. As regards the particular man, if that is the motive for the crime—and the Crown have very properly told you that they are not called upon to prove motive in this or in any case. It would, however, occur to one to look for a motive in the presence of a crime. It is the first thing that everybody usually asks—Why was this thing done? When any action is committed, it is natural instinct at once to ask why it was done, and what motive prompted it. The Crown have therefore thought it right—although they did not believe it to be incumbent upon them to prove any motive—to show you that there is a motive here, and that that motive is jealousy. But then, again, a great deal of evidence is called before you to prove that this man was on the best of terms with his master, that his master was exceptionally kind to him, that he bought him clothes and other things as presents, that he raised his wages, and that his master did a great deal more for him than most masters do in regard to the personal comfort and happiness of their servants. Of course, all that may be owing to the relations between the deceased man and this prisoner; but all that nevertheless goes to show that there was but small reason why this man should take his master's life. Again, there is another point which is put before you, and that is about this boy knowing that his master was about to be married. But it was generally known that the latter was going to be married. There was no secret about it, and apparently, the prisoner knew it for some time. Now, you are asked to say that there has been sufficient motive in this case for this Tamil boy getting a knife, watching his master, entering the room when he fell asleep, and trying to cut his throat as he slept there in his room. You have to consider whether all this shows you a sufficient motive. As I say, the Crown has put forward a theory, a theory based on a motive of jealousy. You have heard evid-

ence that such things are apparently possible, but there is no instance given to you that they have occurred. The authorities merely say that such things may occur. It seems to me that, even if it were so here, even supposing that the relationship alleged did actually exist, circumstances show that it would have been more to the benefit of Peter if his master had lived than if he had been killed.

Again as regards the alleged complicity of the 1st accused, the cook, he said:—

Theories have been put before you by the counsel for the Crown and by counsel for the defence, and it was urged that each would suit the facts of the case. We know that that night the conductor and the teamaker were roused by the cook. There is no doubt about that; we know that this man, the cook, went down and called them up. When they all got to the bungalow they saw Mr. Granville lying outside Peter's door, still alive and still able to speak and to say the word "doctor" twice. That to my mind is a most important part of the case. The Crown suggests that, this offence having been committed, the cook being aided by Peter, the former, having apparently cut his master's throat, went down to the lines to call these men. Now, he must have known that his master was not dead; yet he goes down and gives information to the tea-maker and the conductor, and calls them up and tells them that his master has been stabbed and that they must come up at once. He must have known that his master was alive, he must have had it in his mind that there was a strong possibility that his master would be able to tell the people who had cut him. That you must agree, is an important fact, if you look at the evidence. The man went away, not only leaving his master alive, but he brought these men back while he was alive still. How was he to know whether or not his master was dead? If he had been the man who did it why should he bring these men back? That is one of the things which you will have to consider, and one which I consider extremely important. The doctor tells you that this offence must have been committed while there was a light in the room—the wounds are so straight and regular that the assailant must have had light to do the deed. Mr. Glanville seized the knife. It is inevitable that the man must have been seen by Mr. Glanville. If he had seen him, as the doctor says, and knew that it was the cook who had done it why should the cook go down and bring these people up to his master knowing that there was a possibility that the master might be able to say "That's the man who did it." Then there is the statement of the cook recorded the next day—the very first witness. Now what is the evidence against the cook? That he hid his cloth, that his umbrella was found outside the window, and that he had blood-stains. As regards the clothes, the cook apparently wore the clothes which had blood-stains on them when he went down to the lines. They saw him with them, and, when he was examined, he was wearing a banian with blood-stains on it. He says the blood fell on him when his master woke him. That banian was not hidden. Then, again, there is the other cloth in which he is alleged to have wrapped himself. On both his clothes there was blood and they were seen, and he exhibited them, and he made a statement as to the way in which he got the blood. All that is certain. Then again it is said that Mr. Glanville went into the kitchen. Glanville did go to the kitchen took down a shirt, the cook says, and put it upon his neck. It is said that, if he had gone there as the cook described, after pushing the door open, that door should have had blood marks; but there was no blood on the door. Would it be possible for Mr. Glanville to get in without touching the door. It seems possible that he pushed it with his body, the contact being where there was no blood on him. It is said that the cook hid these cloths. As I said at an earlier part of the case, and repeat now, it seems to me quite unnecessary that he should have concealed these cloths afterwards after they both had been looked at; that that banian which he had shown to the Magistrate and on which there was blood—where the blood had spurted out, it was, said, but there does not seem to me to be any proof of that—that banian was quite enough to show that he had had blood on his person.

THE PLEASURE TRIP OF THE SS. "JAFFNA" TO DELFT.

This little steamer which belongs to the Jaffna Steam Navigation Company having arrived at Kankasanturai on Thursday last

from Colombo, the pleasure trip to Delft took place on Saturday the 10th Instant. There were about 50 passengers, including Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Messrs. William Mather, Managing Director, R. B. Alexander, R. M. Valupillai, S. Valupillai and A. Sapapathy, Directors; W. Mudaliyar Kumaravelupillai, Thomas Paul, Arnold, Dudley, K. Singarampillai, V. A. Ambalavanapillai, V. Vinasitamby, R. M. M. S. T. Raman Chetty, P. M. Supramanian Chetty, P. K. N. Periakaruppan Chetty, and Drs. V. Muttucumar and P. Tampoo. The weather was very clear and propitious. The steamer left Kankasanturai at 12 a. m., and reached Delft at 5. p. m., after being delayed at Nainativu for about three quarters of an hour to pick up the Maniagar of Delft and his family who were detained in that Island for a few days and were unable to proceed to Delft and who sent a special messenger to Jaffna asking the Managing Director to take them also on board at Nainativu. All signals from the steamer having failed to bring the Maniagar and party on board, she steamed away and reached Delft at 5. p. m. Gunfire was heard on shore as soon as the steamer anchored, and the whole of Delft, as it were, was there with drums and music of the place to welcome the visitors and to see the steamer. The party on board immediately landed and were accorded a most hearty reception by Mr. J. N. Saurasekara the Maniagar and President V. T., the Headmen and the leadingmen of the place. The Maniagar with his family had arrived there by a native boat from Nainativu only about an hour previous to the arrival of "Jaffna" at Delft. Mr. Cherubim, Agent of the B. I. Company and Mr. Paul Sandrasekara, brother-in-law and brother respectively of the Maniagar, who had also just arrived there from Nainativu, were among those who waited on shore to receive the new visitors, who were conducted amidst the din of native drums to the residence of the Maniagar and thence under the hospitable roof of a banyan tree in the compound, where chairs and benches were ready to accommodate the whole party. After light refreshments were served to those who were in need of them, a welcome address in the form of a lyric in Tamil specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Pedropillai Savirimuttu, Teacher of the Vernacular school, Delft Nadukurichi, was excellently sung by some boys of the school, to the accompaniment of instrumental music. The boys also admirably performed Koladdam feats to the delight and amusement of the visitors. The Maniagar expressed his regret that, owing to his unfortunate detention at Nainativu he was not able to carry out all the arrangements he had made for the reception of the party. He was, however, glad that they had come with the steamer which the inhabitants of that out of the way Island hoped would occasionally call at there to their immense benefit and relief. He wished the steamer and the Steamship Company success and long life. Mr. Kanagasabai, on behalf of the party thanked the Maniagar for the warm and splendid reception accorded to them and said that the request to run the steamer occasionally to Delft would have the best consideration of the Directors. Mr. Mather also expressed his thanks for the kind references to him in the address. The Maniagar then called for three cheers for the steamer "Jaffna" which were heartily given by the hundreds collected on the occasion. Mr. Kanagasabai afterwards called for three cheers for the Maniagar which had also a similar response. The party then led by the Maniagar inspected some places of interest, such as the old fort, the ruins of Nolan's residence, the wells for different

castles, which are all near the sea shore. It was a matter of great regret to the Maniagar as well as to the party of visitors that they did not land earlier to see the horses and the horse plain which is about 3 miles from the place of landing. The party then went on board the steamer at 6-30. p. m., and started on their return voyage at 7. Kankasanturai was reached at 11. p. m.

The trip was a great success and the party enjoyed it very much. The deck accommodation in the steamer was excellent, and, there being little or no rolling of the vessel owing partly to the calm and fine weather that prevailed that day after continuous hard blowing for some days and partly to the excellent sea-going capacity of the steamer, the passengers were quite at home and no one felt sea-sick. There was every kind of refreshments, on board, save intoxicating liquors, which were prepared with scrupulous regard to the taste and convenience of all classes and creeds. Above all the passengers very much enjoyed the scenery from the moment they left Kankasanturai till they reached Delft—one expanse of palmyrah groves interspersed here and there by coconut plantations. Most of the Islands also came into view as they passed along—Karaitivu, Kaits, Eluvaitivu, Analaitivu, Punguditivu, and Nainativu. The return journey was made partly in dark and partly in bright moon light. The rising of the moon from the deep at about 9. p. m., was observed by some passengers and the grandeur of the scene was not less enjoyable. Everyone on board, on reaching back at Kankasanturai, expressed his delight at having availed of the opportunity and made the trip which was one of the most enjoyable incidents in his life. Some people who had accepted the invitation of the Directors to take part in this pleasure trip, did not do so at the last moment fearing the risks and inconveniences of a sea voyage in a new steamer and at a time when the weather was unsettled.

Captain Williams is a courteous and kind-hearted gentleman—just the sort of person who should be in command of a steamer like the "Jaffna". By a curious coincidence the 10th Instant happened to be his birth day and he was naturally glad that the pleasure trip happened to be undertaken on that day. The chief Mate Mr. Fernando, an intelligent and experienced sea-man of Kaits, Mr. Ismail, the Engineer of the steamer, and the crew were very obliging and serviceable to the passengers during the trip to and from Delft.

LOCAL & GENERAL

The Weather—We are now enjoying very fine weather for the last fortnight or so, after the heavy rains which we had throughout last month. A large area still remains unown, being still under water. Even some fields which were sown during the rains of last month require to be resown, the seed having not germinated owing to the excessive rains. The plants that were not thus damaged come up very well.

The Government Agent—Mr. Lewis is expected to return here from circuit today. He will conduct the sale of toll rents and the salt rent tomorrow in the Kacheheri.

The Jaffna Police Court—We are glad to learn that Mr. M. Sapapathy's appointment as Interpreter of the Kurunagalla Court has been cancelled and he is allowed to remain in Jaffna as Interpreter of the Police Court here. Mr. Muttiah is now appointed Interpreter of the Court at Kaits and Mr. Valupillai of that Court goes to Kurunagalla. Mr. Muttiah has already arrived here and he assumed duties on the 10th Inst. in the Jaffna Police Court. But on the same day he received orders to take up duties at Kaits.

In cancelling Mr. Sapapathy's appointment to Kurunagalla which was without any increase in salary, the Government has only done an act of bare justice. Mr. Muttiah does not count the same period of service as Mr. Sapapathy but draws a higher pay, and in an expensive place like Kurunagalla his services ought to have been retained instead of transferring from Jaffna poorly paid men on their present salaries. A great injustice will be done to Mr. Velupillai of Kaits who is now appointed to Kurunagalla if no increase is made in his emoluments.

Y. M. H. A.—The inaugural Meeting of the Jaffna Y. M. H. A. was held at the Hindu College Hall on Tuesday the 13th Inst. at 6 p. m., when Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai, the President of the Association, delivered an address on "Character" before a large and appreciative audience.

The S. S. "Jaffna"—This Steamer leaves again to-day for Delft on another pleasure trip. A large number of native ladies and a few gentlemen go

in it this time. The success of the first trip has created a desire on the part of many to go themselves on another trip. The trip to Trincomalee has therefore been postponed.

The Legislative Council—We learn from the Government Gazette of the 9th Inst. that His Excellency the Governor will open the Session of the Legislative Council for 1903-1904 on Monday, October 26, 1903 at 3 P. M.

The Batticaloa Kachcheri—Mr. W. C. R. Allegacoon, who is a Clerk in the Batticaloa Kachcheri and eldest son of Mr. R. W. Allegacoon, Police Magistrate of Chilaw and Marawila, has been made a Probationer attached to that Kachcheri. Under a new scheme of his Excellency the Governor, deserving sons of Native high Officials are selected for this Probationership and are trained in the Kachcheries to which they are attached to become Presidents of Village Tribunals and for other high native offices. Mr. Casie Chitty, son of the late Mr. J. J. Casie Chitty, who has now been appointed President of Village Tribunal, Trincomalee, was for some time attached to the Colombo Kachcheri as a Probationer. We congratulate Mr. Allegacoon, who is an intelligent and deserving youngman on this appointment.

Anuradhapura Riot Case—The trial of this case commenced in Kandy on the 5th Inst. before Mr. Justice Middleton and an English-speaking Jury. Mr. Templer, Crown Counsel prosecutes and Mr. Dornhorst defends the accused assisted by several other Advocates.

The S. S. Illford—This steamer which brought a large consignment of railway materials left Kankasanturai on the 10th Instant for Calcutta after landing them.

Advocate's Preliminary Examination—We are glad to hear that Mr. Arnlampalam, son of Mr. Proctor V. Casipillai has come off successful in the Advocate's Preliminary Examination recently held in Colombo.

Jaffna Railway—The ballast train now runs as far as Kockavil which is 52 miles from Jaffna.

Death by drowning—A corpse was found in a tank near Sivan Temple at Tionevely and it was identified to be the body of a young man of Kaladdy. It appears that the young man committed suicide by drowning himself owing to some quarrel he had at home.

Obituary—We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Kulasekarampillai the eldest son of the late Mr. Kasipillai of Kandarmadam which took place at his residence at Kandarmadam on the 6th Instant. The deceased was well educated and belonged to a respectable family. We tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved widow and others who bemoan his loss.

An accidental death—One of the crew of a native vessel which anchored at Pt. Pedro while ascending the coast fell from it and died almost instantaneously, in the presence of the Health Officer who then boarded the vessel for inspection.

SRI RAMAKRISHNA'S TEACHINGS

BHAKTI

Be diluted in the Lord even as crude medicine is diluted in spirit.

Nothing can be impressed on glass, but when its surface is coated with chemicals, pictures can be impressed upon it, as in photography. So on the human heart coated with the chemical of Bhakti, can be impressed the image of the Divinity.

Q. What is the violent form of devotion?

A. It is becoming mad with the constant and fierce uttering of "Jai Kali" (victory to Kali) or dancing like a maniac with arms upraised and shouting praise to Hari (Hari-bol). In this Iron age, violent devotion is more suited and brings quicker fruition than milder forms of contemplation. The citadel of God must be taken by storm.

As there are shades of satva, rajas and tamas even in worldliness, so also Bhakti has its satva, rajas and tamas aspects. There is Bhakti partaking of the humility of satva, the noise of rajas and the brute force of tamas.

The satvic Bhakta goes on with his religious devotion in secret. Perchance he meditates in the night in his bed within the mosquito-curtain, and therefore comes out late in the morning, a fact explained by his friends as due to want of good sleep. Also his care for his body ends with having anything—a little rice and vegetable. Of luxury he has none, either in food or in dress, no show of fittings and furnitures in his house and he never seeks to rise in the world by flattery.

The rajasic Bhakta has perhaps the distinctive sectarian marks on his body and beads round his neck—with peradventure a few golden

ones interspersed. He is particular about outward observances, as wearing silk at the time of worship, celebrating the pujas (religious ceremonies) with pomp and splendour and so on.

The tamasic Bhakta has a fiery faith. He exerts pressure upon God, like unto robbers seizing things by force. "What, I have uttered His name and yet I shall have sin! I am His son! I am duly entitled to the inheritance of His wealth"—such is his vehement ardour!

—The Awakened India.

THE GLANVILLE CASE.

(Communicated.)

The interest in this mysterious case has not ceased with the termination of the trial; it has increased rather than abated. The rumour that was current the other day about contemplated action in the matter by the Attorney-General could not find any definite corroboration, but the circumstance that it existed serves to indicate the drift of public sentiment on the subject. It is one of the kind that, even if not absolutely true, people instinctively feel ought to be true. At any rate, most persons of reflection will be glad to find it prove to be true. The details are doubtless clumsily invented but there need be no wonder, in fact there would be a feeling of relief and of gratification, if the Attorney-General were to make a strong and authoritative representation of what the situation precisely is. In doing so he would be only going on the line of his duty and would be answering the expectations formed of him. More than that, he would be doing a great deal to redeem the reputation of a portion of his department. For some time past, what has come to be known as the Prosecuting Department—rather a loose term but one whose application is sufficiently well understood for all practical purposes—has not been in the best odour with the public. A certain laxity of procedure, wrong committals, faulty indictments and other defects and irregularities have evoked remark from the judges and comment in the Press. Worse still, the committing of public prosecutions into the hands of private advocates, and the taking away of particular cases out of the hands of the officer entrusted with the conduct of the prosecution at a particular sessions has led to the forming of an unfortunate impression as to the functions and aims of the Crown in a criminal prosecution. The belief is gaining ground that the Crown here, as in a case under the Waste Lands Ordinances, is straining after victory rather than seeking the vindication of truth and justice. A victory in the circumstances is of course always easy, but it always presents also the sorriest of spectacles. It brings the Crown under suspicion, and brings the tribunals of justice into disrepute. Of course the impression is erroneous; but it is unfortunate that any excuse should exist for its being for a moment entertained. And the Attorney-General would be rendering no small and no superfluous service were he to do anything that would tend to dispel so baseless and so baneful an illusion. Let all things be so ordered that nobody can help believing—what everybody knows to be the fact—that the Crown, in the prosecution of a criminal charge, is not seeking to snatch a verdict from the jury, but is in the words in which ran the indictments of former days, only submitting to them the facts so "that justice may be done between our sovereign and the prisoner at the bar."

It is natural that interest should be felt in this particular case, and the manifestation of that interest does great credit to the right feeling and the sense of justice of the community. For after all is said, here are two men condemned to death upon what amounts to no more than a very strong suspicion of their guilt. The suspicion is uncommonly strong indeed, and is supported by much in the appearances and the surrounding circumstances. Yet strong and irresistible as it appears to be, it falls far short of legal evidence and it is by strictly legal evidence that the question of guilt or innocence must be determined. The evidence put forward is entirely of a circumstantial sort. There is of course the cant that witnesses may lie but that circumstances cannot lie. A greater lie than this has never been uttered nor one more senseless. For apart from other considerations, it is by witnesses alone that the circumstances have to be attested. Moreover in the present case, all we have is mere theory or at best a theory helped out by suggestions more or less ingenious and more or less fanciful. Nor does the theory stand alone. Rival theories are suggested, some of which are, to say the least quite as probable as the one to which exclusive credence is asked. Besides, it is plain that, in the "working up of the case" ingenuity has been greatly strained to prop up a preconceived theory. Mr. Sproule's observations upon this point were simply unassailable. The lamp, the umbrella, the key, the bottle-lamp and other things put it beyond all doubt, as he remarked, that some one was behind the scenes to manufacture evidence. What can be the value of circumstantial evidence when the circumstances are such as these?

It is impossible to speak of this trial without speaking in the highest terms of praise of the part

borne in it by the presiding Judge. Justice Middleton has always been known as furnishing the very highest example of judicial fairness and propriety and good sense. In the trial of this case these qualities were, if possible, even more conspicuous than they ever were before. His Lordship's charge was a model of patient analysis, of close reasoning, of accurate and lucid exposition. It is a pity the Jury did not adopt his views. Doubtless they were within their rights in declining to do so. In so doing they acted constitutionally, and no one doubts they acted conscientiously. But it is very doubtful whether they acted rightly, and it is certain they did act wisely. In the Judge's charge there was laid before them the effect that a patient consideration of the evidence had produced upon a mind trained to expertness in the sifting and weighing of evidence and familiar with the application to that evidence of the established rules of law. To disregard such high authority was to run a great risk as well as to incur a grave responsibility, and the jury would have been far better advised had they yielded to it the difference that is its due. Happily, however, neither Judge nor Jury can finally dispose of the matter.

The ultimate appeal is to His Excellency, and in that court may be confidently expected a decision that will be as just and as considerate as it will be final.

—The Ceylon Independent.

NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA, ORDER NISI.

Testamentary }
Jurisdiction }

No. 1420

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sangarapillai Vissuvanatar of Puloly West Point Pedro

Deceased.
Vissuvanatar Sangarapillai of Puloly West
Petitioner.

Vs

1. Maruthattai widow of Vissuvanatar Sangarapillai
2. Paramu Arumngam and wife
3. Parupathipillai
4. Murugar Alvapillai and wife
5. Ponnupillai all of Puloly West

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Vissuvanatar Sangarapillai of Puloly West praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Sangarapillai Vissuvanatar of Puloly West coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire District Judge, on the 29th day of September 1903 in the presence of Mr. S. Kandayya Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 25th day of September 1903 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is a son 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 26th day of October 1903 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 29th day of September 1903.

Sgd. W. R. B. SANDERS

District Judge

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA, ORDER NISI.

Testamentary }
Jurisdiction }

No. 1415

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Chetamparam widow of Chankarapillai Mootatampy of Pattaiveny

Deceased.
Mootatampy Chellamuttoo of Pattaiveny
Petitioner.

Vs

Mootatampy Chinnappoo of Pattaiveny

Respondent.

This matter of the Petition of Mootatampy Chellamuttoo of Pattaiveny praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Chetamparam widow of Chankarapillai Mootatampy of Pattaiveny coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire, District Judge, on the 21st day of September 1903 in the presence of Mr. T. C. Changarapillai, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 16th day of September 1903 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is an heir of the said intestate and as such is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said Intestate issued to him unless the Respondent or any other person shall on or, before the 2nd day of November 1903 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 21st day of September 1903

Signed W. R. B. SANDERS

District Judge.