

# The Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

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VOL XV.

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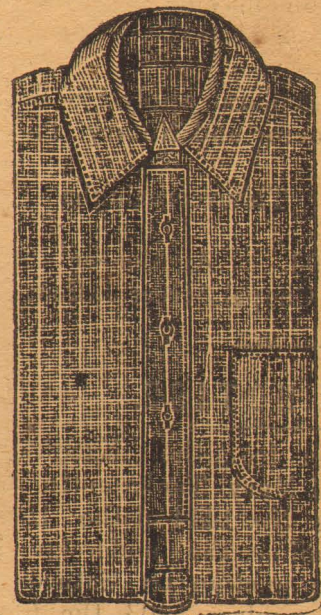
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## NOTICE.

Under instruction from the Attorney of the Guardian and Curator of (1) Sathasivam, (2) Muttachy, minor children of Kanthappar Kumarasapillai of Batticaloa in Guardianship case No. 364 of the District Court of Batticaloa, the undersigned will sell by public auction on the spot on Saturday 12th December 1903 the following property.

(1) An undivided 2/14 share of all that House and garden called "Tamil-Paranki-tharai" Saya-Suyampoo-Panthi Panku-Nirai Uppu Kulam-karai situated at Vannarponne East in Jaffna in extent 5 Lms. V. C. bounded on the east by road, on the north and south by the property of Kanmani and others and on the west by the property of Chellamuttu.

The said property faces the road running west of the F. N. S. Hospital Premises Jaffna.

(2) An undivided 5/14 share of the above said house and Premises belonging to Kanthappar Muttiah of Batticaloa.

The latter portion may be disposed of by private contract if terms are agreed to.

For further particulars apply to Mr. V. Casipillai, Proctor and Notary Public Jaffna.

G. A. Tisseveerasingha

Jaffna,

20th November 1903. Auctioneer  
Chapel Street Jaffna.

## SALE NOTICE.

Under instruction from the Executor of the Last Will of Mary Tankamuttu in Testamentary case No. 1414 of the District Court of Jaffna the undersigned will sell by public auction on Saturday the fifth (5th) December 1903 the following property.

All that land called "Eachampitty and Elumullyan cadu" in extent 18 Lachams V. C. situated at Navaly in Jaffna bounded on the east by the property of Muruger Sinnatamby, north by the property of Kathirgaman Kanapathy, on the west by the property of Chellamah and on the south by road.

For further particulars apply to Mr. V. Casipillai, Proctor and Notary Public, Jaffna.

Jaffna 20th Novr. 1903.

G. A. Tisseveerasingha

Auctioneer

Chapel Street Jaffna.

## NOTICE.

It is hereby notified that the number of pilgrims who will be permitted to attend the Kataragama Festival on December 4, 1903, has been limited to fifty, viz:—

Fifteen for the Colombo band.

Ten for the Jaffna band.

Five for the Badulla band.

Five for the Galle band.

Five for the Kurunegala band.

Five for the Batticaloa band.

Five for the Kandy band.

Only such persons as hold tickets from the Government Agent of their province will be allowed to attend the festival.

No pilgrims will be permitted to pass by the routes *via* Passara, Buttala, or Elle-Wellawaya, and Koslande-Wellewaya.

By His Excellency's command,

EVERARD IM THURN,

Colonial Secretary

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, November 10, 1903.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS  
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A Straits Money Order	Remitter's name not known	26	00



## THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1903

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
REFORM.

Sir J. West Ridgeway has disappointed all lovers of political progress in Ceylon by his pronouncement on the question of the reform of our constitution in his famous Review of his Administration. He says:—

Gentlemen, under your existing constitution you have most of the advantages of a self-governing community. You have complete command of your finances; no law can be passed without your concurrence no wise Government can turn a deaf ear to your remonstrances.

The day has not yet dawned when this Colony can become self-governing, not because the people of Ceylon are not sufficiently loyal or intelligent, but because there is no unity of race. As one of my predecessors pointed out to this Council, democratic rule means the rule of the majority, and in a country of various races the rule of the majority would mean the rule of one of these races, and this would be far from acceptable to the others. No; your present constitution, if judiciously worked, seems to be admirably suited to your needs and requirements, and so long as men of light and leading, men respected and influential, can be found to serve in this Council, and so long as the Government listens to wise advice and reasonable representations, so long as it prefers persuasion and conciliation to force and dictation, so long will you enjoy the best elements of constitutional Government which are possible in an Eastern community of mixed races, creeds, and interests.

Nothing can be more delusive than the above deliverance of the late Governor. Is it true that "You have complete command of your finances; no law can be passed without your concurrence"? The history of the Council during the last 70 years shows that not only the Legislative Council of Ceylon really has no command of the finances of the Colony, but any obnoxious law can be passed in spite of the opposition of the unofficial Members. The Council contains a majority of official Members whose votes are at the disposal of the Governor. Unless His Excellency allows the officials to vote according to their conviction they have no freedom of vote. The Governor is again bound to obey the order of the Secretary of State. There are several instances of the finances of the Colony being unjustly levied for Imperial purposes at the bidding of the Secretary of State and in spite of the protest of the Governor and the Executive Council. We will cite only two instances—the military vote in the time of Sir Hercules Robinson, owing to which all the Unofficial Members in a body resigned; and the Creasy Special Pension Ordinance, which was passed by order of the Secretary of State in the time of Sir William Gregory, who first protested against the measure, but was obliged to

carry it through Council with the official vote, and in the teeth of unofficial opposition. It is true that no law can be passed without the concurrence of the Legislative Council. But, under the present constitution, the Governor has the power to pass any measure with the official votes, even if all the unofficial members be opposed to it. Sir West Ridgeway, therefore, simply wants to throw dust into the eyes of the Ceylon public when he attempts to convince them that they are living under an ideal and perfect constitution which leaves nothing to be desired.

The present constitution of Ceylon remains almost the same as it was established nearly three-quarters of a century ago, the farcical nature of which has become a common saying in Ceylon. If the unofficial members of our Legislature be strong, able and independent men, the Governor is obliged, as some of Sir West Ridgeway's predecessors were obliged, to exercise his despotic powers and command the official vote to enforce his views or those of the Secretary of State, when opposed by the so-called representatives of the people. Our late Governor takes credit to himself for never, during his long administration of Ceylon, called to his assistance the official vote. This fact does not prove that our constitution was reformed during his time, or that he never introduced any measure which was distasteful to the public. But it is a well-known fact that unanimity prevailed at the Council Board, during the administration of Sir West Ridgeway, owing to his adroit management, his tactics as a politician, and chiefly to the absence of independence and public spirit among the native unofficial members appointed by him.

Sir West laments that "the day has not yet dawned when this Colony can become self governing, not because the people of Ceylon are not sufficiently loyal or intelligent, but because there is no unity of race". Here again he raises unnecessarily another false issue. So far as we are aware the Ceylonese have never agitated for the establishment of self-government such as prevailing in the Colonies of Australia, South Africa, and Canada. What we urgently require in Ceylon, to keep pace with the advancement of the times, is the enlargement of the Council and the introduction of elective elements into it, on the model of India, where the diversity of races and creeds are more numerous and conflicting than in Ceylon. If India which, till lately, remained far behind Ceylon in political progress, is fit for the introduction of the elective franchise, surely our Island is not unfit to enjoy the same privilege. The Hon'ble Mr. John Ferguson's motion introduced into the Legislative Council, some months back, aimed only at the reform of our Council on the model of those of India; and the request being a reasonable one the Government was not able to give a direct refusal to it. But an evasive answer was given on the occasion and the matter has been shelved.

Even on Sir West Ridgeway's own showing it is only the want of unity of race in Ceylon and not lack of loyalty and intelligence among the Ceylonese that stand in the way of this Island becoming a self-governing Colony. Cannot the educated and propertied among each race in Ceylon be entrusted with the privilege of at least electing its own Representative in Ceylon, instead of allowing the Governor to despotically do it, sometimes in defiance of public feeling and sentiment? Surely this question of Council reform should engage the serious attention of all men of light and leading among the Ceylonese; and no time should be lost in organizing a movement having for its object the reform

of the Legislative Council on the model of India. We have no doubt that in Sir Henry Blake we will have a Governor who will do justice to all legitimate and reasonable aspirations of the people committed to his care.

## OUR SUBSCRIBERS. PLEASE NOTE.

1. We are very sorry that our earnest appeal calling for prompt payment of arrear subscriptions due to the Hindu Organ has not had the desired effect. The 15th September last, was the date, before which we asked our subscribers to remit the subscription in full, due for Vol. XIV. We tender our thanks to those who responded to our call, but to those who treated our appeal with studied indifference, we mean to give them another date, viz.,

31ST DECEMBER 1903

before which date, we earnestly solicit each and all of our subscribers to remit their dues to this paper in full.

2. Our subscribers in arrears are particularly requested to note that, unless they pay and settle their dues before the 31st December 1903, their names will be struck off our list of subscribers and in due course steps will be taken to recover them.

### LOCAL & GENERAL

**The Weather**—On the 18th and 19th Inst. it rained so heavily as to flood fields and fill up our ponds and tanks. The weather has since been clear.

**Salt for Jaffna**—The B.J. Steamer Chilka, which brought 40,000 cwt. of salt for Jaffna leaves this place to-day after landing the whole quantity in 2½ days. The stipulated time was five days, but the contractor, Mr. S. Sinniah, was able to do the work within half the time. He deserves great credit for it. About 70 cargo boats were engaged in the work.

**Our New Governor**—Sir Henry Blake has left Hong Kong for Ceylon amidst demonstrations of sincere regret felt by the people on his departure, and is expected to land in Colombo on the 3rd proximo. Two Scholarships have been established there in His Excellency's name and valuable presents were made to Lady Blake. We have no doubt that the Ceylonese will have a bright future under Sir Henry Blake.

**The Case of Obscene Publication**—This case came on for further hearing on the 19th Inst. when Drs. Pararasasingha Mudaliyar, and Dutton, and Mr. V. Ramalingam gave evidence for the defence. Mr. Advocate Isaac Thambyah who defended the accused then made one of the ablest and most eloquent speeches ever made in the Jaffna Courts, contending that Regasianool was not an obscene publication. He severely criticized the evidence of some of the prosecution witnesses. The learned Magistrate, however, convicted the accused and intimated that he would deliver his judgment on the 26th Inst.

**Teachers' Certificate Examination**—We are glad that Mr. A. Ponniah one of the teachers of the Hindu College, Jaffna, has come off successful in the Teachers' certificate examination held in October last. He has passed in the second class.

**Personal**—Mr. William Mather has returned to Jaffna from Colombo by the last trip of the "Lady Gordon" via Batticaloa and Trincomalee. Mr. Tetley also has accompanied him.

**The "S. S. Jaffna"**—This steamer has gone back to Colombo to undergo some repairs. It is said that the leaking was the result of some mistakes made by the fitters in Colombo.

**The Review of Sir West Ridgeway's Administration**—We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of an excellently bound volume of this publication from the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary.

**Jaffna Kachchery**—Mr. T. B. Russell has arrived here and has taken up duties at the Jaffna Kachchery as Office Assistant.

**A new Notary Public**—Mr. C. Arumugam of Colombo is appointed as Notary Public of Suthumalai, Jaffna, in the place of Mr. Sapapathy retired.

**The Vaniyampady Disaster**—We hear that some household articles, such as brass utensils, boxes, implements of husbandry and coconuts have been washed ashore near Kayts and other places along the North-

ern coast of this District as far as Point Pedro. These we believe are some of the articles carried away into the sea by the floods which lately devastated Vaniyampadi in South India.

**Obituary**—We regret to chronicle the death of Mrs. Ramalingam, wife of late Mr. Yairamuttu Odaiyar Ramalingam of Anaicottai which took place at her residence at Anaicottai on the 15th Inst. The deceased lady belonged to a respectable family and lived to a good old age. We tender our heart felt sympathy to the bereaved relations who bemoan her loss.

—We also regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Eliatamby, the retired Vidhan of Vannarponnai North-West which took place at his residence at Vannarponnai on the 20th Inst. The deceased was a brother of the late Mr. Kutticamby who was Salt-store-keeper in Jaffna, and father of Mr. E. Oathiravalu of Police Office Jaffna. We tender our heart felt sympathy to the bereaved sons and others who bemoan his loss.

### SIR WEST RIDGEWAY AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

#### PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS.

##### AN ELOQUENT AND IMPRESSIVE REPLY.

One by one the links in the chain connecting Sir West Ridgeway with the Administration of this Colony are being snapped, bringing more and more home both to His Excellency and all classes of the community the sense of irreparable loss which that severance means. Yesterday, Sir West Ridgeway formally bade good-bye to the members of the Legislative Council which will not meet again until after the Governor's departure. H. E. was presented with an address, which was adopted at a preliminary sitting of the Legislative Council under the presidency of the Hon. the Lieut. Governor. The proceedings were very brief. The motion in regard to the loan for the Pettah Library was moved and carried without remark. Indeed most of the time was taken up in reading the minutes and the draft Address which had been drawn up by the sub-Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Legislative Council. Then came a brief wait in order that the signal might be passed to Queen's House that all was in readiness for His Excellency's arrival. The first to act upon this information was Her Excellency Lady Ridgeway and Miss Ridgeway, who accompanied by Mr. R. Pousonby, P. S., drove to the Council Chamber a little ahead of His Excellency and were accommodated with seats to the right of the Governor, where also sat Mrs. im Thurn and next to her the Chief Justice, Sir Chas. Peter Layard, His Lordship the Bishop of Colombo, Mr. Justice Middleton, Mr. Justice Grenier, His Grace Archbishop Melizar, His Lordship the Co adjutor Dr. Condeat, and a bevy of ladies including Mrs. F. R. Ellis, Mrs. F. W. Vane, Mrs. H. H. Cameron, Miss Lascelles, &c.. There was just a little confusion about the character of yesterday's gathering. The *communicque* published in our issue of yesterday mentioned that the meeting would be a full dress one which was interpreted to mean that the gathering would partake of the same ceremonial character as on the opening of the Session, but at the last moment His Majesty's Judges received the gratifying information that they need not wear their robes and evidently similar intelligence had been conveyed in other quarters. In all respects, save the full splendour of dress, yesterday's function was very similar to that which marked the opening of the session on the 26th Ultimo. There was a larger attendance of ladies than usual, there were the members of the Municipal Council in their accustomed places on the left of the Governor; the principal dignitaries on the right, while ample seating accommodation was provided in front of His Excellency for the general public, the first few rows being reserved for the ladies. When the L. T. Governor took the chair at 2.30. p. m., all the members were present with the exception of the Hon. the the Low-Court y Sinhalese Member. The minutes having been read, the Hon. the Treasurer, on behalf of the Colonial Secretary, moved, "That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,000 be advanced to the Committee of the Colombo Pettah Library for the purpose of erecting a building to be used as a library, to be repaid, by sinking fund of one per cent. per annum, with interest at the rate of three and a half per cent. per annum." The Hon. the Attorney-General seconded and the motion was carried. The Attorney-General then brought up the report of the sub-committee appointed to draw up an Address of Farewell to H. E. the Governor and moved that it be read by the Clerk. The Hon. the Tamil Member seconded and the motion was carried. The Attorney-General then moved the adoption of

the Address. Dr. Rockwood seconded and the motion was carried.

#### VALEDICTORY PROCEEDINGS.

The entrance of Her Excellency Lady Ridgeway and Miss Ridgeway accompanied by Mr. Pousonby was the signal for a general uprising, a compliment which must have been all the more appreciated because of its rarity. Shortly after the Governor entered the Council Chamber, preceded by Capt. Gooch A. D. C., and Capt. Sir Francis Burdett Bart, Extra A. D. C., the former announcing H. E. the Governor.

#### THE ADDRESS.

The Hon. the Tamil Member (Dr. W. G. Rockwood), in his capacity as senior unofficial member, then rose and read the following Address:—

To His Excellency the RIGHT HON. SIR WEST RIDGEWAY G. C. M. G., K. C. B., K. C. S. I., &c.. May it Please Your Excellency,

On the eve of your departure from the Island the Legislative Council desires to express its sense of the great services rendered by Your Excellency during your tenure of office for the past eight years.

Among the many works undertaken or inaugurated by Your Excellency are the improvements at the Port of Colombo, the impulse given to Sanitation through loans to Local Boards, the duplication of the pipes for the Colombo water supply, the scheme for the drainage of Colombo, the successful working of the Plague Committee, the comprehensive scheme of Railway Extensions and the introduction of the narrow gauge, the creation of a separate Irrigation Department, the encouragement given to the Volunteer movement, the assistance to Agriculture through a staff of scientific advisers and the establishment of an Experimental Station at Peradeniya, the great advance made in the work of the Survey Department, and the very successful control and management of the Prisoners-of-War. These are among the works which have benefited and will yet benefit the Colony, and which will stand out as imperishable memorials of Your Excellency's wise and just Administration.

Your Excellency has spared no pains in undertaking and carrying out measures for developing the resources of the Island, for benefiting its various interests, and for promoting its moral and material advancement, and the Council recognizes with the utmost satisfaction the comprehensive and statesmanlike view that Your Excellency has invariably taken of all measures that have come before you, and the readiness with which you have given a full and impartial consideration to the views of all classes alike.

In conclusion, we wish to place on record our appreciation of Your Excellency's able conduct of the business of the Council as its President. At no previous time has its work been done so expeditiously or with so little friction, and we record with pleasure that on no single occasion under Your Excellency's Administration have the official Members of Council been restricted in the freedom of their votes.

The Council views Your Excellency's departure and bids you farewell with deep regret and humbly and sincerely wishes Your Excellency all happiness and prosperity in the future.

All the members stood during the recitation.  
THE GOVERNOR'S FAREWELL.

His Excellency the Governor, replying to the address, said:—Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, I am profoundly touched by the gracious and eloquent address which you have just presented to me, and I assure you that I shall ever guard and treasure it as evidence of the appreciation which my poor attempts to perform my duty have met with at the hands of my friends and colleagues in the Council. In this address you have spoken of various measures and works which have been undertaken, with your co-operation, during my term of office, and which I fervently hope will conduce to the prosperity and welfare of the Colony. I do not mean this afternoon to attempt the stupendous task of reviewing the administration during the last eight years. I have done that as concisely and precisely as I could in the minute—the very lengthy minute, I fear—which has been placed on the table to-day, and which is entitled "A Review of the Administration of the affairs of Ceylon from 1896 to 1903". That review will enable you to judge of the situation, and I think that after studying its contents, you will come to the conclusion that the progress which has been made by this Colony during my term of office has been remarkable, and that its prosperity is continually and steadily advancing. I have not attempted in this review to set myself the impossible task of proving that my administration has been fault-

less and unmarred by mistake, but I have tried—and I hope successfully—to show that I have made some use of the opportunities that have been placed at my disposal, and that I have succeeded to some extent in developing the resources of the Colony by profitably investing its revenues and by improving and perfecting the machinery of Government. It is difficult to perform a duty like this without an appearance of boasting and self-glorification, and although some licence in this respect is allowed to the veteran who puts off his armour, I feel sure, gentlemen, you will acquit me of any unworthy motive, and will not suppose me to be actuated by any spirit of egotism or rivalry when I try to prove I have not been an unfaithful or unworthy servant. If I have succeeded in showing that I have emulated the vigour and efficiency of my predecessors, and if I manage to leave on record a clear and full statement of the position of the Colony, and show what has been done, and consequently what remains to be done, then I shall have achieved my object. Of course, the most important subject we have to deal with is the financial position of the Colony, and I have tried to place that position before you as clearly as I possibly can. Finance, of course, gentlemen, is the keystone of our prosperity. It is the foundation of our administration, and, unless that stone is well and truly laid, the superstructure, however imposing it may be, will certainly fall and subside in the time of storm and stress. I hope I have succeeded in this review in showing you that the future of this Island rests on the bedrock of sound finance. I shall not on this occasion go into any details on this subject, but I may remark that your revenues have increased 23 per cent. during my term of office. It is true that your expenditure has proportionately increased; but I hope I have shown that that expenditure has been judicious and on lines which will conduce to the prosperity and the welfare of the Colony. Each department in this review is fully dealt with, its history, the work it has done, and I think you will find in the case of each department that its machinery has been improved and that its efficiency has been enhanced. Today, there is on this table ocular and tangible evidence of the good work done by one of these departments—the Survey Department. I think, gentlemen, there has been placed here. Yes here there is—for the first time in the history of Ceylon a complete and accurate map of the Island. When I came here I was astonished to find that there was no such map, that the only map of Ceylon was full of gross inaccuracies and that it was entirely unreliable. Since that time the Topographical branch of the Survey Department has devoted its energies to make this map, and I now have the pleasure of handing this to you. That I am in a position to do so before I hand over the reins of office is due to the strenuous exertions of that Department, so ably directed by its chief—Mr. Griplin. There is another important matter, gentlemen, which I have dealt with at more than usual length in my review, and that is crime. You know this is a subject which has caused me constant anxiety since I assumed the reins of office. I think I may claim to have achieved some success. There is no doubt that the machinery for reporting crime is remarkably improved, and I think that it is generally admitted that very few cases are now compromised. As regards ordinary crime the condition of this colony is satisfactory, but, unfortunately, the prevalence among the Sinhalese towards personal assaults—grave personal assaults—among themselves remains the great problem of the Criminal administration in this Colony. But you must not hastily judge and condemn 3½ millions of people because of the sins of the comparatively few. I say, notwithstanding, that the moral condition of the people of this Colony is good. They are quiet, gentle under ordinary circumstances, quiet, gentle and tractable, and charitable to a degree which would be considered Utopian in Europe. Out of Colombo there is in this happy Island no necessity for poor houses or any other form of poor relief. Destitution, poverty, there may be, but no starvation. Private charity and neighbourly kindness to the blessed work of relief quietly and effectually. There still remains much to be done and much may be done by rigorous prosecution and prompt punishment, but I do not think you can expect any radical improvement until education has made its mark upon the rising generation. As I have said, I shall not attempt any summary of this review to-day. To do so would be to detain you here inconveniently and unnecessarily long. These questions—these important questions—can be much better dealt with at your leisure, in the quiet of

your libraries, and therefore let it suffice for me to say that I leave the Colony in a highly prosperous condition. Its revenues are flourishing, its trade is reviving, its population is increasing, and on every side are there signs of increased and diffused wealth, especially among the native population. All our official returns—Saving banks, railways, customs house, all our returns give the same evidence, and that I consider, gentlemen, is a satisfactory state of things, and especially the adoption of a higher standard of living among the masses. All these ought to convince the most gloomy pessimist. Now, gentlemen, in saying you farewell, let me quote the concluding words of this review, let me express the hope that you will be satisfied that the golden opportunities which I have enjoyed have not been wasted or frittered away, but, whatever your verdict may be, my conscience assures me that I have tried to do my duty, and that I have unremittingly and unstintingly placed at the service of the Colony such ability and capacity as I possess. For any success which has attended my administration, I am indebted to the advice and assistance which I have received from my colleagues in the Executive Council and also to the loyal and zealous co-operation of the Public Service in all its branches. And last, but not least, to you, gentlemen, the unofficial members, of the Council, who so patriotically place at the service of the Colony so much valuable time and labour without compensation or remuneration. I deeply regret the severance of our official association which has been so edifying and so pleasant. And there has been no tribute which has been or can be rendered to me which is more pleasing to me than that which is contained in this address, especially when you say that "At no previous time has its work been done so expeditiously or with so little friction, and werecord with pleasure that on no single occasion under Your Excellency's Administration have the Official Members of Council been restricted in the freedom of their votes." It is hard to realise, gentlemen,—I do not realise it—that this is the last time I shall preside over this Council. I said I do not realise it and it is just as well that I do not realise it, for, if I did, I could not command that outer calmness in addressing you to-day which befits the occasion, but in future years it will be a great consolation to me to remember that no fleeting cloud ever darkened the friendliness of our relation, no jarring note has ever disturbed the harmony of our proceedings in this Council and no misunderstanding has ever interfered with the transaction of public business. For that happy result we are indebted to this, that we were mutually convinced that we had the same object in view,—the welfare and prosperity of this colony and its inhabitants—and that we have been steadfastly making for the same goal, although occasionally some of us may have differed as to the shortest road by which we ought to travel. When I first came here, I promised you, gentlemen that I should always be ready to hear, say, to invite, the expression of your views and opinions, and to give them most careful consideration. Well, I think that I have redeemed that pledge. Indeed, you give me an assurance of that fact in this address. I do not think that I have ever persisted in any legislative or administrative measure against your collective opinion. Your views have had the same weight, your opinions have commanded the same deference as of the existence of the Government depended on your vote. I came here from the Loyal Isle of Home Rule, where the Governor commands no official majority in the Legislature, and where he has to depend on persuasive argument, conciliation, and compromise in order to push his measures through and to obtain the necessary supplies. That experience has been useful to me here, and I have always tried to forget and ignore the fact that I commanded in this Chamber an official majority wherewith to enforce my views and as you point out, gentlemen, in your address during the eight years of my rule I have never availed myself of the official vote, but I have preferred, and expressly preferred, to attain my end by appealing to your reason and good feeling, and also by subordinating my own views and opinions to yours when this could be done without danger to the public interests. The records of this Council will show that the opinion of the unofficial members has often prevailed; that more than once bills have been withdrawn; and frequently bills have been rigorously and substantially amended in accordance with the wishes of the unofficial members. Some may blame me for so much concession, but I do not agree with my critics. I think that the pulse of the public should be felt that its temperature should be tested. Even a useful patent medicine may do harm if the patient is not prepared and ready for its assimilation; even a desirable and useful law may be mischievous if it is inoppor-

tune or ahead of public opinion. Heroic measures should be kept for critical times, and to force a measure on an unwilling community does not necessarily prove the rules to be strong. I think, gentlemen, under the existing constitution you practically enjoy all the advantages of a self-governing Colony. You have got complete command of your finances; no law can be passed without your concurrence; and I do not believe that any wise Government would turn a deaf ear to your remonstrances. Gentlemen, when on assuming office, I first addressed you, I promised to hold the scales of my administration evenly balanced and that I should equally guard the interests and equally promote the welfare of all classes of His Majesty's subjects, whatever their race and whatever their creed. Have I been true to this pledge? If I have failed to do so, I have failed in the most essential and vital duty which devolves upon the King's representative in an Eastern country. But the still small voice of conscience assures me, for I know, whatever has been the outcome, that it has always been my unswerving aim, my inflexible intention to be true to the dignity of my office as His Majesty's representative and to rise above the mists of bias and prejudice, more especially of racial bias and prejudice; and now on the eve of the surrender of my high office I religiously examine my record and analyze my conscience I can truly say that never have I consciously permitted any racial bias or personal prejudice to influence or to interfere with my treatment to any man or question. In conclusion, gentlemen, let me again express my deep and sincere regret at the close of my administration and at my approaching departure from this beautiful Island where I have spent eight happy, and, I hope, useful years of my life, and let me assure you that so long as I live I shall be a most interested, attentive and sympathetic observer of your destinies and if ever the opportunity presents itself to me for which I shall eagerly watch and as eagerly seize of in any way serving the interests of this country which I have learned to love so well, most promptly and effectually will that opportunity be seized. That God's blessing may rest on this Island, and ever will be, my fervent prayer.

His Excellency then rose and left the Council Chamber which was the signal for a general exodus.  
—The Ceylon Independent.

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary }  
Jurisdiction } No 1428

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Ramalinga Ayar Tambiah Kurukal of Anaikoddi Deceased.

Ramalinga Ayar Chellaiyar of Elalai —Petitioner  
1. Sornamma widow of Tambiahkurukkal and  
2. Ramalinga Ayar Suntharakkurukkal both of Anaikoddi —Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Ramalinga Ayar Chellaiyar of Elalai, the abovenamed Petitioner praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Ramalinga Ayar Tambiahkurukkal coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esquire District Judge, on the 26th day of October 1903 in the presence of Mr. R. Mailvaganam Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 23rd day of October 1903 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the brother 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 30th day of November 1903 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 26th day of October 1903.

Sigd. W. R. B. SANDERS  
District Judge.

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary }  
Jurisdiction } No. 1432

In the matter of the estate of the late Casippillai Kulasegarampillai of Vannarponnai D. ceased.

Nannittampi Kantiah of Chandiruppay —Petitioner  
Thaiyalnayagiammai widow of Kulasegarampillai of Vannarponnai East. —Respondent

This matter of the Petition of Nannittampi Kantiah of Chandiruppay praying for letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Casippillai Kulasegarampillai coming on for disposal before W. R. B. Sanders Esq. District Judge, on the 6th day of November 1903, in the presence of Messrs. Casippillai & Cathiravalu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 5th day of November 1903 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the brother-in-law of the said intestate and 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 11th day of December 1903 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 6th day of November 1903

Siged. W. R. B. SANDERS  
District Judge.