

Hindu Organ

(THE CHEAPEST WEEKLY IN CEYLON)

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY!

VOL XV.

JAFFNA: WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2ND 1903

NO. 23

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE HINDU ORGAN.

FOR SUBSCRIBERS.

	Tam: Rs. Cts.	Ed: Rs. Cts.	Both Ed: Rs. Cts.
Jaffna Town per annum	1-50	3-00	4-00
Outstations and India	2-00	4-00	5-50
Straits Settlements	2-25	4-50	6-25

FOR PATRONS

	Rs. Cts.
Jaffna Town per annum 10-00 and upwards	
Outstations and India	11-00 do
Straits Settlements	12-00 do

Fortnightly Tamil, and weekly English editions of the *Hindu Organ* will be sent free to patrons for one year.

NOTICE.

DR. GOPINATH CRUSHNAJEE KSHATRIYA'S.
Most Efficacious World-Wide and Renowned **FAMILY MEDICINES** These Medicines Defy Competition



Certificate of Merit has been awarded by the Poona Native Arts Exhibition of 1888.

	Rs	As
Fever Mixture or Drops, (cure within 3 days, specific for ague &c.) each...	1	0
Ague Syrup for Billions, Intermittent Fever, (cure within five minutes)...	2	0
Tonic Pills No. 1; or for Sterility, Impotence... 100 pills...	3	8
Emulsion for Leprosy (for internal and external use) for Red Leprosy...	6	0
Diarrhoea and Cholera Dispeller (no family should be without it. specific)...	0	12
Infant Protector, Carminative and tonic, best for Children...	1	0
Digestive pills for 100 pills (for Indigestion, &c.)	1	4
Cough Syrup, (for Bronchitis, Asthma, &c.)	1	0
Cough pills, for 100 pills (of 30 years trial)	0	12
Purgative pills, (for costiveness, bilious habit)	0	6
Liver complaint...	0	12
Female pills (for all sorts of female complaints)...	0	12
Eucoderma powder (for internal and external use) White Leprosy...	1	8
Tonic pills, No 2. (specific for Enlargement of Spleen, Opium Habits, &c.)...	1	0
Wind Killing Oil (for Rheumatism, &c.) Annas four and...	2	0
Ringworm Ointment (specific) supercedes all other ointment...	0	6
Hair Dye -instantaneous, WITH BRUSHES...	1	4
Hair Oil -perfumed- for baldness, &c.	1	0
randharinath Gopinath & Co.'s SASAPARILLA PILLS on all sorts of venereal diseases...	1	0
Parasodyne for purifying blood and all sorts of venereal diseases. A giant remedy...	1	0
Headache Remedy cure within 5 minute...	1	8
Gopinath's Anti Corpulence for obesity...	2	8
Eye drops -for Ophthalmia, &c., &c.	1	0
Ear drops -for purulent discharges &c.	0	12
Universal Ointment -for Healing Ulcers, Wounds &c.	0	8
powder and Ointment for Piles each...	2	0
Tooth powder -for Toothache, &c.	0	4
Silver Gilding Fluid -gilds an article within 2 minutes...	0	8
Scorpion Sting Remedy...	0	12
Oozona Remedy for stinking ulcer in the inside of the Nostrils...	2	0
Depilatory powder removes hairs within 5 minutes...	1	0
Gonorrhoea cure certain within 3 days. Try once.	1	0
Gonorrhoea pills...	1	0
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion with Hypophosphite &c. best for consumption...	1	8
Hypophosphite of Lime Syrup, best nerve tonic	1	0

packing and postage Extra AGENTS WANTED. The exhibition composed of a Committee of most eminent physicians, who carefully examined the medicines before passing their high encomiums thereon, and the numerous testimonials from thousands of Customers, RAJAS, JAHAGIRDARS, ZEMINDARS, AND LANDLORDS bear testimony to the high and specific qualities of the preparations.

Dr. GOPINATH CRUSHNAJEE KSHATRIYA
General Commission Agent, 1st Sadashiv Street, House No. 72, Girgaum Post Office, BOMBAY.
Telegraphic Address:—DR. GOPINATH Girgaum Post, BOMBAY.

RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.

		Rs.	Cts.
For one Column ...	Yearly ...	60-00	
do ...	Half Yearly ...	35-00	
do ...	Quarterly ...	20-00	
For 1/2 Column ...	Yearly ...	35-00	
do ...	Half Yearly ...	20-00	
do ...	Quarterly ...	12-50	
For 1/4 Column ...	Yearly ...	20-00	
do ...	Half Yearly ...	12-50	
do ...	Quarterly ...	7-50	
First insertion	Single line	10 Cents.	
Subsequent insertions	do	5 do.	

SARASWATI DEPOT JAFFNA.

School books, reference books, and books for general reading both in English and Tamil.

Terms Cash or V. P. P.

N. Ponniah Pillai.

TAMIL IS SWEET

To Tamils, nothing is so sweet, nothing is so dear as our Mother Tongue "sweet Tamil".

Every Tamil, who is proud of his mother Tongue, should have a copy of

"ABIDANAKOSAM"

Price Rs 5.

It contains a historical and critical account of Tamil Poets, Rajahs, Hindu Deities, Sages, superhuman beings sacred places, classical works &c arranged in alphabetical order.

No such work has hitherto been published nor indeed has any comparable to it been yet issued. It will be an invaluable companion to all as it is very instructive, interesting, amusing and refreshing to the mind.

Copies to be had of

A. MOOTOOTAMBYPILLY

Messrs: Ward & Davy

31-1-03.

Jaffna.

TAMIL CHEMISTRY.

By T. P. Masilamany Pillai with an introduction from Rev. Dr. G. U. Pope

Price Cts. 75, Postage extra.

Apply to T. P. Masilamany Pillai

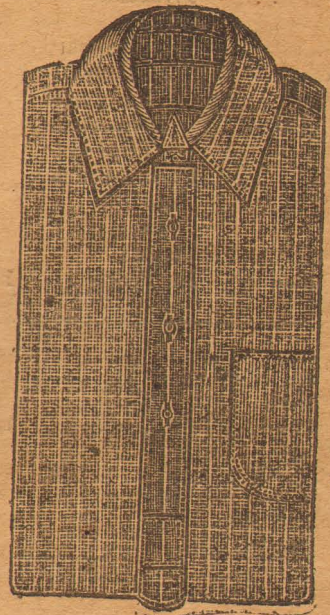
Jaffna.

THE ORIENTAL STORES GRAND BAZAAR, JAFFNA.

JUST ARRIVED.

A large consignment of:—
Benares (Koorai) Chelai clothes, Ravukais, Velvets, Embroidery works &c up to-date fashion.
The cheapest house for Koorai Chelais.

TWILL SHIRTS.



Cheapest and Durable Twill Shirts Rs 1-40 each.

Best Value in Shirts. Send an Order at once Rs 1-40 Each.

PITH TURBANS.

Well made Turbans:—Muslin, Rose Satin silks, white Koddady, Red Koddady, Cashmere, Congress caps, and Velvet caps.

ALUMINIUM WARES.

Aluminium Lottas, Tumblers, plates, Trays, Wedding presents, Cooking utensils, &c, &c., &c.

Orders for Turbans and shirts should be accompanied by measurement.

Terms cash or V. P. P.

GAURI BOOK DEPOT.

DICTIONARY.

	Rs.	cts.
Dr. Annandale's Concise English Dicty.	2-65	
Collins' National Pronouncing Dicty.	1-00	
Webster's New Pronouncing Dicty.	0-25	
English Tamil Dicty. by Percival	1-75	
Do. guilt back and nice	2-00	
Tamil English Dicty.	3-50	

ATLAS.

Royal Indian World Atlas	0-87½
Gauri Exercise Book ruled 48 pp each	0-06

All kinds of Tamil and Sanskrit books can be had.

Apply to

MANAGER

Gauri Book Depot
Jaffna.

WANTED.

Immediately a first class English Composer, must be able to read poor English handwriting. apply in Person to
The Manager
American Ceylon Mission Press
Tellippallai.

NOTICE.

Just received Large Stock of Quinine from
Messrs. Howard & Sons London.

100 Oz. at a time	Rs 1-35	per Oz.
50 Oz. at a time	Rs 1-40	do
25 Oz. at a time	Rs 1-45	do
1 Oz. at a time	Rs 1-50	do

EDWARD STORES
Chemmah St.
Jaffna.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE HINDU ORGAN.

Messrs.		Rs.Cts.
T. Kulanthaiveluppillai	Valvetty	5-50
A Strait Money Order	Remitter's	
not known		8 50
V. Annamalai	Trincomalie	2 00
V. Appasamy	Jaffna	2-50
N. Selvadurai	Sandiruppai	5-00
V. Nallatampi	Maskelya	2-75
T. Sinniah	Mawanella	7-50
T. Sapapathippillai	Dehiowitta	5-50
N. Chellappa	Teldenya	5-50
S. Sathasivam	Fiscal's Office	2-00
S. Ayakkuddy	do	1-00
J. R. Mann	do	1-00
Isaac Tampiah	Jaffna	5-00
V. Velauthampillai	Pt. Pedro	10-00



THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1903

OUR NEW GOVERNOR.

Tomorrow our new Governor, Sir Henry Blake, will land in Colombo and assume the Government of the Colony. His Excellency succeeds a Governor who, favoured by fortuitous circumstances, was able to carry out some of the greatest works in the Island and leave his mark as an able and brilliant Administrator, notwithstanding the fact that all the communities that constitute the Ceylonese Society did not receive just and equal treatment at the late Governor's hands. Sir Henry Blake, comes to Ceylon with high credentials as a just, liberal, and large-hearted ruler of great abilities and ripe experience in all quarters of the globe. His Excellency's reply to a farewell Address presented to him at Hong Kong, as wired by Reuter to our daily contemporaries, breathes lofty sentiments which augur well for the future welfare of all races and creeds in Ceylon—sentiments which, we have no doubt, will be translated into action in this Island also by His Excellency. The telegram referred to is as follows:—

"Sir Henry Blake replying to a Farewell Address before leaving Hong Kong for Ceylon referred to newspaper criticism on his Administration and strenuously denied that he had favoured the Chinese at the expense of Europeans. His duty as His Majesty's Representative was not to destroy social distinctions nor to

decrease the respect due to the educated, upright and successful of every race, but to show that under the British flag justice was pure and unpurchasable while all from the highest to the poorest coolie were free to think, speak and act as they like as long as they obey the laws."

It appears His Excellency had to defend himself against the attacks of his own countrymen who charged him with having been a pro-Chinese. Representatives of the King are sent to Crown Colonies and Dependencies of the British Empire, not to promote the sole interests of the British officials, merchants and planters, but to rule justly and benevolently over all races alike who owe their allegiance to His Majesty. The European Colonists are powerful enough to need any special protection at the hands of the Governor, but it is the helpless native races who form the vast majority of the inhabitants of these colonies that need special attention being paid to promote their interests by him. A pro native Governor is not necessarily anti European. On the other hand the Governor who sympathises with the just aspirations of the native races and strives to promote their social, political and moral welfare, thus strengthening the ties that bind them to the British Empire, is the best friend of his own countrymen. Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, in a speech which he delivered a few weeks ago said that the late Queen on his leaving England to assume the Government of that great Dependency specially asked him to be kind to Her Indian people. That is the wish in regard to the native subjects, not only of the Sovereign but also generally of the British public at home. But the vast majority of Europeans, when they leave their own country and come to these Colonies to make their fortune, insist on special rights and privileges being granted to them and cannot bear to see equal, just, and generous treatment accorded to the sons of the soil. The Governor who tries to do justice to all alike without distinction of caste or creed and who does not recognize the unjust pretensions and claims of the ruling race is vehemently attacked as pro-native by a section at least of the European Colonists, and the greatest harm is thus caused to the harmony that ought to prevail under the British flag. We suppose that Sir Henry Blake was subject to the attack of his countrymen in Hong Kong for showing, as he says, in his reply to the farewell Address, "that under the British flag justice is pure and unpurchasable while all from the highest to the poorest coolie are free to think, speak, and act as they like as long as they obey the laws".

Sir Henry Blake is not the only British Proconsul who is thus attacked by the Europeans for his so-called pro-native leanings. Lord Curzon is more vehemently attacked in India for his laudable attempts to protect the lives and liberties of Indians from the violence of Europeans, in connection with the Bain case, the Emerson case, and the case of the 9th Lancers. Although the relations between the Europeans and the native communities here are not so strained as they are in the neighbouring Continent, yet we have a taste of what the irresponsible section of the Europeans even in this Colony are capable of doing when their own interests and safety are concerned, in the conviction of two poor and helpless Tamil coolies in the Glanville murder case by a Jury composed entirely of European planters in the face of the summing up of the presiding Judge for acquittal, and in the abuse heaped on our late Governor by a section of the Europeans for commuting that sentence of death to imprisonment for 20 years.

On behalf of the Tamils of this Island in

general, and the Hindus in particular we offer His Excellency and Lady Blake a most cordial welcome to Ceylon and wish them a happy and prosperous sojourn in this Island. We earnestly hope that under His Excellency the Island will make greater progress materially, politically, and intellectually, than it has made under any of his predecessors, and that all communities and races inhabiting it will receive equal, just, and impartial treatment at his hands. We have pointed out in our review of Sir J. West Ridgeway's administration how the interests of the Hindus were neglected by the late Governor in regard to their representation in the Legislative Council. It is hoped that Sir Henry Blake will do them only bare justice and will not do anything, to use his own words, "to decrease the respect due to the educated, upright and successful" among the Tamils, of whom the vast majority are Hindus.

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 Government Agent—Mr. Lewis has gone to Delft and Iranativu on circuit. The Chief Madaliyar having been summoned to serve as an Assessor in the District Court in the trial of the Kaddavan riot case the second Interpreter has accompanied the Government Agent.

The Loss of a Native vessel—Great anxiety is felt by the owners of Brig. "Sivasupramaniapuravy" as she is over due here for some weeks. She left Masulipatam about six weeks ago with a cargo of 60 cars (960 bushels) of paddy for Jaffna. But nothing has been yet heard of her. The general impression is that she has been lost in this stormy weather that lately prevailed in the Indian sea. She was owned by a leading Chetty Firm in Jaffna and was built at a cost of about Rs 30,000 only last year. She was manned by a crew of 21 Valvettiturai men.

A Public Lecture—Under the auspices of the Jaffna Young Men's Hindu Association a very able and interesting lecture was delivered at Hindu College Hall on the evening of the 1st Instant by Mr. A. Kanagaretnam, Proctor, on "Social Tyrannies". Mr. A. Sapapathy, one of the vice Presidents of the Association occupied the Chair. Remarks were offered on the subject and in eulogistic terms of the lecture by Messrs N. Selvadurai Pillai B. A. Principal Hindu College; M. T. Kanagasabai, Advocate; C. Sivapiragasam, Proctor; S. Kandiath, Proctor; A. Cathiravelu, Proctor; and Swaminathan B. A., Professor Hindu College. A vote of thanks to the Lecturer was passed on the motion of the Chairman. The meeting which commenced at 6. p. m., came to a close at 8. p. m.

The Rekasiandool Case—Mr. T. M. Tampo, the Police Magistrate, delivered judgment in this case on the 26th Ultimo. He convicted the accused Mr. Kantar Velupillai of having printed or sale an obscene pamphlet called Rekasiandool (Secret science) in Tamil and thereby committed an offence punishable under section 285 of the Ceylon Penal Code and that he had in his possession the said obscene pamphlet for the purpose of sale and thereby committed an offence under section 286 of the Ceylon Penal Code. The accused was sentenced for the first offence to pay a fine of Rs 100 or to undergo three months rigorous imprisonment, and for the second offence to pay a fine of Rs 50 or to undergo two months imprisonment. It was further ordered, under section 417 of the Criminal procedure Code, that all the pamphlets now in custody of the Court or in possession of the accused in his house or elsewhere be all destroyed and that if an appeal be taken the said pamphlets be all brought into Court and kept securely till the decision of the Supreme Court shall be known. We understand that the accused has appealed to the Supreme Court against the Judgment.

The Kaddayan Riot Case—This case came on for trial in the Jaffna District Court today before Mr. W. R. B. Sanders, the District Judge and three Assessors, V. z, Messrs A. Sapapathy J. K. Saumugam B. A., and Sabretua Mpdaliyar. Mr. Advocate Isaac Thambiyah instructed by Mr. Changanapillai, Crown Proctor, and Mr. Proctor S. Ponnampalam, prosecuted, and Mr. Advocate A. Kanagasabai, assisted by Advocates Sandrasekara and M. T. Kanagasabai and instructed by Mr. Proctor R. Mailvaganam defended the accused who are 20 in number and are all Vellalas. They are charged on three counts (1) rioting, (2) of being members of an unlawful assembly and (3) committing mischief, on the 20th July last on the occasion of a Kavadi procession of the potter caste people with music. Only three witnesses were heard today including Mr. Kumarakulasinge, Maniagar of Valligama North. The case is likely to last for one or two days more.

Accidental death—A girl of Enuvil about ten years old while returning home from school was injured seriously by the branch of a Jack tree falling on her which was cut down by a man just at the time the girl was passing beneath it. It is a pity that neither the man was aware of the girl coming beneath the tree nor the girl knew that the branch would fall on her before she could pass through the place.

Smallpox—There was a case of smallpox at Kondavil some two weeks ago and the patient was promptly removed to the Hospital where he is now improving. We understand that there are one or two fresh cases in the same house.

Jaffna Railway—The work of the Jaffna Railway is not progressing fast. There are only 130 coolies working now in the line and this number is also daily thinned by fever we understand. The ballast train now runs up to within three miles of Mankulam which is about 60 miles from the Jaffna Station.

Personal—Mr. S. Asaipillai who is employed in the Railway Dept at Perak has come here on leave.

Matrimonial—Mr. A. Kanagasabai of the Revenue Survey Office, Perak who came here on leave was married on the 30th ultimo to the daughter of Mr. Veerakattypillai who is a well-known merchant and farmer at Karaitivu.—Cor.

THE VANIYAMBADI DISASTER.

TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY.

(From our own correspondent.)

Salem, November 17—Information has been received of a severe disaster which has befallen the town of Vaniyambadi, caused by the sudden and unexpected floods in the Palar river. It would appear that on the night of the 12th Instant, when the whole town was in sound sleep, the river suddenly rose to the height of about 12 feet above its highest recorded flood level and immersed a greater portion of the town in water. The river with its trifurcation commencing at the north-western extremity of the town, surrounds it on all sides. Periapett and Chennampett form an island between two of its courses, while the Fort and Amberpett form another island. The Fort and Periapett are somewhat on a higher level than the other Pettas, and except the elevated portion, the major part of the island was flooded over and immersed in water. The public offices which are situated at the tail end of Amberpett, came under 15 feet of water and the Deputy Tah-

sildar's office is now filled with sand, mud, and other washings of the river up to its ceiling. The loss of lives and property is terrible, and it is difficult to make any estimate of them at present. Corpses are found in several places and it is believed that at least 500 have met with a watery grave. Many of the Survivors are rendered homeless and are struggling hard for provisions. Food supplies are now being sent from the neighbouring town of Tirupatur. The Acting Collector, Mr. F. J. Richard left for Vaniyambadi on Friday and returned to Salem on Saturday Morning. It is said that he made arrangements to start relief operations, and himself came out with a subscription of 100 Rs towards the relief Fund. Considering the very short stay he made at the scene of disaster, it would be too much to believe that all his philanthropic suggestions would be faithfully carried out by the local, subordinate officials. I hope, they will; but I think that Mr. Richard's stay in Vaniyambadi would be more comforting and assuring to the panic-stricken people than his 100 Rs.

Salem, November 18—Further information received from Vaniyambadi about the disastrous floods in the Palar lays bare in all its horror the extent of damage caused to property and loss of lives. Some idea may be formed of the nature and extent of the havoc wrought by the floods from the fact that the lower portion of the island tracts were all covered up with one sheet of water. Between old Vaniyambadi and Kadabett, a distance covering more than a mile, the river had risen to the height of more than 15 feet and submerged the entire portion of chennampett and the lower portion of Periapett and Amberpett. In this submerged portion there were nearly 2000 houses, many of which have been completely swept away. It was in this locality that the poor people had been living in huts and ill built houses. Accounts of people rushing to Mandapam, temple, Mosque, towers and terraces of big houses in their panic stricken condition, and being driven away in the strong current of the river are pouring in and seem too horrible to contemplate. It is believed that people are still clinging to the roofs of houses which have not collapsed, and one account shows that those who found shelter in roofs of temples and mosques were seen dropping off one by one in the raging floods through sheer exhaustion. An estimate of 1000 houses clean swept off and 3000 lives lost should seem to be much below the mark, and I should not be surprised if the actual loss considerably exceed the above estimate. There is very urgent need for organizing rescue parties and relief fund towards supporting the rescued and the living. Mr. C. Vijaraghava Chariar of Salem Bar has very kindly sent a small party of public-spirited men who undertook to go and render what help they can. Mr. Vijaraghava Chariar has sent Rs 100 towards these expenses of rescue operations and has promised more. It is a pity that many others of his stamp have shown no such sympathy for the sufferers in Vaniyambadi.

It would appear that the Deputy Tahsildar of Vaniyambadi and the Collector of Salem were both apprised of the coming danger on Thursday evening. Both of them did not realise the full gravity of the danger that was threatening Vaniyambadi by the breaches of several tanks in Kolar District, and principally that of Bettamangalam tank whose waters rush into the Palar river and caused it to rise abnormally high. The Collector, Mr. Richard, did not go immediately to Vaniyambadi by the Mail train that leaves Salem by 9. p. m. He went by the local train on Friday morning and returned by the next Mail. It was very thoughtless of him to have not stayed at Vaniyambadi and done the needful towards receiving the persons clinging to roofs and terraces of temples and mosques. He seems to have behaved nothing better than a mere boy with no ideas of sufferings and difficulties of the situation. Evidently he seems to have thought that his 100 Rupees subscription and an order to his Tahsildar who is not more resourceful than himself to get supplies of provision from Tirupatur were all that had to be done during his few hours' stay in Vaniyambadi on Friday evening. The acting Deputy Tahsildar behaved like another school-boy. The responsible officers could easily have arranged to keep in readiness a number of boats in different centres to carry the people outside the Islands. The Deputy Tahsildar treated the warning with his boyish ideas and feelings. In fact he took no steps to be in readiness to meet the threatening danger. It is even doubtful if he communicated the warning to the people and put them on

be alert. The want of boats to get across the river heightened the difficulties of the people, and had a good number of them been kept in readiness, most of the dying would have been saved. Surrounded on all sides by the river, how can the people think of saving themselves? The Amberpett people had to cross one branch of Palar while the Periapett and Chinnampett residents had to cross two branches of the Palar, and all the branches were not fordable even before the high floods.

The District Board Engineer also would seem to have contributed to the disaster by his ignorance of the situation, and in a certain way falsely lulling the officials into security and repose. It would appear that in the early rains of October, there was danger of the Palar rushing into the middle of Chennampett, the very portion now washed away, and Mr. Whetty, the Head Assistant Collector and Chairman of the Vaniyambadi Municipality, asked the L. F. Engineer for suggestions as to the best means of averting any such diversion of the river during high floods. The Engineer in his ignorance and perhaps with cool indifference seems to have suggested that planting of reeds might be adopted. It is a thousand pities that the danger which threatened Chennampett, in October was not fully studied in all its aspects, and arrangements not made to prevent a catastrophe of the kind that has befallen Chennampett and its inhabitants. There is, I believe, more urgent necessity for philanthropic efforts in Vaniyambadi than there is in relieving the Oudapah unfortunates. The Salem people are a set of unpractical men and it would be too much to expect of them to do anything of their own accord. Suggestions might stir them up but substantial relief must come from Madras.

—The Hindu.

The "Madras Mail" publishes the following:—

Vaniyambadi Town is divided into three islands by the Palar River viz, (1) Khadripett and Govindapuram, (2) Fort Amberpett and Rahimanpett and (3) Periapett and Chennampett. Owing to the breaches of some tanks in the Mysore Province, the Palar rose to an unprecedented height on the night of the 11th Instant. At about 2.30 a. m., on the 12th Instant, the entire town was under water. There was from 10 to 12 feet of water in the streets of Chennampett, Periapett, Fort Amberpett, Rahimanpett, and Govindapuram, and communication between Khadripett and Fort completely cut off. About 1,210 houses, valued at Rs 1,73,500 collapsed, and about 125 lives were lost. Some were washed away and some buried alive under the collapsed houses. The Acting Deputy Tahsildar, Mr. Thomas Kamarason, was living in Fort and the Telegraph posts having fallen down, he could do nothing. The permanent Deputy Tahsildar, Mr. Mahomed Ghouse Sahib, who had just arrived at the Railway Station on being relieved from his acting appointment at Yerand sent messages to the Collector, and to the Head Assistant Collector. He then went to Khadripett and had the houses that were close to the river vacated. While doing so he noticed two women being washed away on the Govindapuram side and in trying to rescue them he himself was in imminent danger of being drowned. At Govindapuram, 13 persons were buried under the debris of houses. Mr. Elder, the Police Inspector, Mr. J. G. Swamidas Nadar, the Medical Officer and Mr. Mahomed Ghouse Sahib personally conducted the work of rescue and recovered the bodies, one child of about three months old being found living by the side of its mother. Property worth several lakhs was washed away comprising grain, cattle etc. Numbers of the inhabitants sought shelter in the few pukka houses in the town otherwise the loss of life would have been far greater. The suffering and distress caused is naturally intense. The Head Assistant Collector, Mr. Moscardi, I. C. S., and the Assistant Superintendent of Police arrived at noon and inspected the locality, and on the 13th Mr. F. J. Richards, I. C. S., the Acting Collector, arrived. A relief party was organized and a relief fund was started. About Rs 1,000 was raised and provisions were purchased and distributed free to the distressed in all the pettats. Mr. Haji Abdus Samath Sahib also sent cloths to Chennampett and Periapett for distribution among the distressed. In consultation, with Mr. Mahomed Ghouse Sahib, Mr. Haji Abdus Samath Sahib, and Mr. T. V. Kandasami Chettiar arranged for the transport by ferries of the distressed and houseless from Chennampett and Periapett. Dead bodies and carcases are being removed from the ruined houses. The scene is heart-rending in the extreme. Thousands of persons have been rendered homeless and many have become paupers.

TIBETAN EXPEDITION.

As we hinted yesterday, referring to the Tibet affair, the present situation reminds us of that period of our history when the Indian Government sent an expedition to Afghanistan. Dost Mahammad, the then Amir of Cabul, was thought to be more friendly towards Russia than England. To remedy this state of affairs a military expedition was sent to Cabul which succeeded in driving Dost Mohamad from the "gadi" and installing Shah Sujah in his place.

Tibet is said to be showing more friendliness towards Russia than England, and hence one of the objects of the Government is to give Tibet a lesson as was given to Afghanistan. Here, however, let us parenthetically remark that we are not quite sure whether the lesson imparted by the English authorities to Afghanistan, was as important as the one the former received at the hands of that country. We shall, however, discuss this aspect of the case later on.

As regards the moral question involved in this business, we must bear in mind that imperialism and morality cannot always work in concert. England asks Tibet, in a most friendly way to trade with her. Thibet says she has no desire to establish such a relationship with a foreign country. England reminds Thibet that she had already broken her rule in the case of Russia. Thibet replies that England has no business to interfere with what she thinks best for her own interests to do. But England closes the discussion by observing that, if Thibet refuses to be a friend, she will compel her to be one.

Russia has occupied Manchuria, and means to stay there. There is no means of dislodging her from her possession. Naturally enough England intends to do some work in the same direction. The only country open to her in Asia is Thibet, and she is anxious to obtain supreme control over the affairs of that country. The primary object of the expedition seems to be to check-mate Russia in the south, since the British Government cannot interfere with her in the north.

India has interest in the question in this way that, if Russia obtains supreme control over Thibet and garrisons that Country, the British Government will have to station a strong army in the North, as it had to station one in the North West. The question that is to be decided now, is,—who is to bear the expenses of the expedition—India, England, or India and England jointly? If the expedition proves only a walk over, of course the question of expense will not cause any trouble. But if complications arise,—if the expedition is followed by warfare, and a protracted one,—then it will be impossible for India to carry it on with her own resources.

It was Purnanand Giri of Rungpore who first opened Thibet for England. Mr. Hastings was in search of a man who would agree to go to Thibet as an Ambassador of the British Government. It was Purnanand who agreed, and actually for several years served as a medium of communication between Thibet and the India Government. Subsequently Purnanand succeeded in taking with him two Englishmen to the Thibet Durbar. They saw the grand Lama and who, though an infant of 18 months, behaved as a man of mature age would have acted under the circumstances. This amazed the Englishmen who considered the fact so incredible as to apologize for mentioning it. Says Lieutenant Samuel Turner, one of the Englishmen referred to above:—

"As the meeting (with the infant Lama) was attended with very singular and striking circumstances. I could not help nothing them with most particular attention; and though the repetition of such facts, interwoven and blended as they are with superstition may expose me to the imputation of extravagance and exaggeration, yet I should think myself reprehensible to suppress them."

The striking circumstances were these. The grand Lama, "the great religious sovereign of the Buddhist world", it is alleged, never disappears from the world. When his body dies, his soul enters into the body of another. Soon after the death of the grand Lama the discovery is made where he is born again, by many unmistakable signs. And when the infant is discovered, he is carried to occupy the place of the religious sovereign.

Now, when Lieutenant Turner visited Thibet in 1784, this infant was only 18 months old. It was to this infant that the British Ambassador, Lieutenant Turner, and his associate Mr. Saunders had to present themselves. How this infant of 18 months behaved is described by Lieutenant Turner in these words:—

"I advanced, and, as is the custom, presented a white pelong handkerchief; and delivered also into the Lama's hands the Governor's present of a string of pearls and coral, while the other things were set down before him. Having performed the ceremony of the Exchange of handkerchiefs with his father and mother, we took our seats on the right of Theeshoo Lama.

"A multitude of persons, all those ordered to escort me, were admitted to his presence, and allowed to make their prostrations. The infant La-

ma turned towards them, and received them all with a cheerful and significant look of complacency. His father then addressed me in the "Tibet" language which was explained to me by the interpreter that, Teeshoo Lama had been used to remain at rest until this time of the day; but he had awoke very early this morning, and could not be prevailed upon to remain longer in bed; for added, he "the English" Gentlemen were arrived, and he could not sleep." During the time we were in the room, I observed the Lama's eyes were scarce ever turned from us, and when our cups were empty of tea, he appeared uneasy and throwing back his head and contracting the skin of his brow, he kept making a noise, for he could not speak, until they were filled again. He took out of a golden cup containing confects, some burnt sugar, and stretching out his arm, made a motion to his attendants to give them to me. He then sent some in like manner to Mr. Saunders, who was with me. I found myself, though visiting an infant, under the necessity of saying something; for it was hinted to me, that, notwithstanding he is unable to reply, it is not to be inferred that he cannot understand. However, his incapacity of answering excused me many words; and I just briefly said. That the Governor General, on receiving the news of his decease in "China," was overwhelmed with grief and sorrow, and continued to lament his absence from the world, until the cloud that had overcast the happiness of this nation, by his re-appearance was dispelled; and then, if, possible, a greater degree of joy had taken place than he had experience of grief on receiving the first mournful news.

(To be continued.)

THE INDIA-CEYLON RAILWAY.

THE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

Simla 12th November.—The Report of the Commission which assembled at Madras to consider the best means of effecting a broad gauge connection between the Indian systems and the Ceylon Railways on the same gauge is published.

THE OBJECT OF THE COMMISSION.

The enquiries of the Commission were directed principally to the object of obtaining definite answers to the following questions on the fundamental subjects referred for its decision:—(a) Whether there is room for new lines in any of the areas traversed by the various possible routes between Rameswaram and the North; (b) whether the traffic on any of the existing metre gauge lines south of Madras is sufficient to justify an early conversion to the broad gauge; (c) in cases in which new traffic would not otherwise justify the cost of a new chord line, had not the cost of the conversion of the existing metre gauge loop to be faced, are new chord lines, preferable, to the conversion; (d) is it possible, from indications afforded by the general requirements of the Province, to forecast the direction which the future development of the railway system of the Madras Presidency should take in order to meet those requirements efficiently and economically; (e) if so, in what order might steps be taken to carry out the component parts of the ultimate scheme; and (f) what modifications, if any, in the prospective development would be required in order to give a broad gauge connection with Rameswaram as early as possible.

THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

In regard to some of these questions the evidence was incomplete. Nevertheless, on the whole, the information afforded by the enquiry was clear and satisfactory, and enabled the Commission to arrive at definite conclusions which are embodied in the following recommendations for the alignment of a broad gauge line starting from Rameswaram and running northward to join the existing broad gauge system. The alignment will conveniently be dealt with in three sections viz. (1) that portion south of the line passing through Trichinopoly; (2) the portion north of Trichinopoly and south of the line passing through Jalarpet, Tirukkoyilur and Villupuram; and (3) the portion north of the latter line.

From a consideration of the evidence in regard to the needs of the Districts lying south of Trichinopoly, the Commissioners have no hesitation in recommending, as the southernmost section of the required link, an alignment from Rameswaram via Ramnad, more or less direct, to Trichinopoly. Northwards from Trichinopoly the balance of local evidence seems to be in favour of an alignment from Trichinopoly in the direction of Tirukkoyilur but from a point on that alignment near Chinna Salem or Kallakurchi. The evidence given on behalf of the Railway interested is in favour of a turn westwards to join the Madras Railway at Salem or Jalarpet, or somewhere south of the latter place. The information given to the Commission, however establishes the fact that as through connection is suggested, the diversion of the line towards Salem or Jalarpet would cause a long de-

tour for traffic and would force it over heavy grades. The Commissioners, therefore do not approve of the proposed alignment from Chinna Salem westwards, but recommend that the alignment should take a northeasterly direction roughly corresponding to that proposed by the Madras Government for the Trichinopoly Tirukkoyilur railway, a project which, since the commencement of the Azhikal Mangalore line, stands first in precedence on their list of new railways.

The exact point at which the alignment should strike the South Indian Railway between the limiting points of Tirukkoyilur and Panruti respectively, and referred to in the papers dealing with the Trichinopoly-Tirukkoyilur railway and proposed as a possible Junction with the South Indian Railway but neither the evidence given nor information before the Commission afford sufficient material for a definite decision. It seems clear, however, that whatever Junction is selected between these limiting points for the proposed broad gauge, it should extend thence northwards, either by a new line from Tirukkoyilur to Arkonam or by the conversion of the metre gauge from Villupuram to Madras. In the latter case a third rail being laid from Villupuram to the point of junction finally preferred, should it be to the east or west of that place. The northern terminus of the new broad gauge link which the Commission recommends would thus be either at Arkonam or Madras, according to which of the above alternatives is finally decided as the result of further investigations, which the Commission think should now be made.

The link from Rameswaram via Ramnad and Trichinopoly to Arkonam or Madras, on the alignment thus recommended, together with the projected connection from Warangal to the north-east branch of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway would complete the required connection between the broad gauge systems of Northern India and Ceylon by the most direct route practicable; and as regards the portion south of Arkonam or Madras the route selected would offer more favourable conditions for the haulage of through traffic than any alternative route. It would also interfere less with the existing arrangement for the carriage of traffic, open out a larger area of new country requiring railway communication either for commercial or famine protective purposes, and follow an alignment more suitable for cheap railway construction than any other proposal laid before the Commission.

A considerable amount of evidence was offered the Commissioners in regard to the strategical value of the various proposed alignment; but the advice of the Commission on this point had not been specially asked for, and the Commissioners, therefore, only remark that a line which affords facilities for the conveyance of considerable traffic with economic despatch under ordinary conditions is less likely to be found wanting in a time of emergency than lines not so favourably situated for trade. The location of the proposed link on the alignment recommended by the Commissioners would ensure its carrying an important traffic from the outset.

—The Ceylon Independent.

NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA;

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary

No. 1432

Jurisdiction

Class I. In the matter of the estate of the late Casippillai Kulasegarampillai of Vannarpounai D: ceased.

Nannittampi Kantiah of Chandiruppay

Petitioner

vs

Thaiyalnayagiammai widow of Kulasegarampillai of Vannarpounai 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 Esqr. 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

Signed. W. R. B. SANDERS
District Judge.