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(See Hindu Organ of March. 23. 1904)

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JAFFNA.

NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
ORDER Nisi

Testamentary

No. 1491

Jurisdiction

Class II

In the Matter of the Estate of the late
Ponnu wife of Sapapathy of Vannarponnai East
Deceased

Ramu Veluppillai of Vannarponnai West

Petitioner

Vs

Venasittamby Sapapathy of Vannarponnai East
Respondent

This matter of the Petition of Ramu Veluppillai of Vannarponnai West praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Ponnu wife of Sapapathy of Vannarponnai coming on for disposal before T. B. Russell Esquire District Judge, on the 23rd day of March 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casipillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner, and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 23rd day of March 1904 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 Respondent or any other person shall on or before the 25th day of April 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 23rd day of March 1904

Sigd. T. B. RUSSELL

District Judge.

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THE HINDU ORGAN.

JAFFNA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1904.

JAFFNA AND QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

We have times without number written on this subject, in these columns, pointing out the necessity of relaxing the Quarantine Regulations which have been in force here for the last five years. The people of Jaffna also have sent more than one memorial to the Government, praying for the removal or relaxation of these regulations, allowing the landing of passengers from India direct in one of the Jaffna ports, under such safeguards as are adopted successfully in other parts of the Island. It appeared from a letter of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary dated 10th November 1903, which we published in these columns at that time, addressed to Mr. Advocate Kanagasabai, who, on behalf of his countrymen, corresponded with the Government on the subject, that Jaffna was within measurable distance of being restored to direct communication with her mother country, which she had enjoyed till five years back from the time this Peninsula was settled by the Tamils of the neighbouring Continent. The Memorialists were informed that the Government had decided to open Kankasanturai during the South-West Monsoon and Kayts during the North-East Monsoon for the landing of Indian passengers, as soon as certain arrangements were made for disinfecting the passengers so landed. Though more than five months have now elapsed since the receipt of that letter, yet nothing seems to have been done up to date by the Government in the direction of carrying out the proposed arrangements, and allowing the landing of passengers either at Kayts or Kankasanturai. The people here who are interested in the relaxation of the quarantine regulations are, therefore, impatient of the delay and feel surprised that the promised redress of their grievance is so long in coming.

It is only people that have travelled to Jaffna from India via Colombo, under existing conditions, know the hardships, inconveniences, and expenses which the present arrangement entails. Instead of embarking in one of the South Indian ports and reaching Jaffna in half a dozen hours and with an expenditure of a few rupees, Jaffna merchants who have business transactions in India, and Jaffnese who are employed in large numbers there, not to speak of students, pilgrims, and tourists, are now obliged to cross rough and boisterous seas between Tuticorin and Colombo, and Colombo and Jaffna, and incur unnecessary expenditure in the long and hazardous journey which occupies them several days, and weeks if the steamer be not immediately available in Colombo.

There can be no doubt that these restrictions were originally imposed by the Government with the best of intentions, and the people also have borne them with patience under the impression that they were only of a temporary character. But five long years have elapsed since these regulations came into force, and the loss and inconvenience suffered by the people have been immense.

It is, indeed, an anomaly and an unjust-

ice that, while Indian passengers are landed in all other parts of Ceylon, under some safeguards or even without any safeguard whatever, the Jaffna ports alone should be closed against them. Indian passengers to Trincomalie and Batticaloa are allowed to get on board the Colonial steamers at Paumban, mix up freely with the hundreds of passengers from Colombo to Jaffna, and land in the eastern ports without any restriction whatever. Even in Jaffna Indian coolies intended for work in the railway and other public works enjoy the special privilege of landing here direct from India. It is only the respectable people that suffer under the weight of the regulations in question.

The experience gained at two successive pearl fisheries also has shown that Indian passengers, even from plague infected localities, could be allowed to land in Ceylon in any number under proper safeguards, without endangering the public health.

We earnestly hope that His Excellency Sir Henry Blake who has had considerable experience of the administration of plague regulations at Hong Kong and who holds sound and practical views on the subject which he expressed recently at Galle will lose no time in relaxing the regulations which have been the subject of constant complaints by the people of Jaffna and which Sir West Ridgeway just before relinquishing the Government of this Colony undertook to remove, as the letter of the Colonial Secretary above referred to would show.

THE LATE MR. C. W. KATHIRAVALU PILLAI.

It is with the deepest regret we have to record the death of this gentleman, the senior Advocate of the Ceylon Bar and the retired Police Magistrate of Kayts, which took place on the morning of the 14th Instant at his residence in Nellore, after a short illness. It has fallen to the lot of the present writer, during the last twelve years, to write in these columns the obituary notices of some of the most distinguished and respected Tamils of this Province—the late Mr. Advocate Nagalingam, his father Mr. Proctor A. Sinnatamby, the renowned native physician Mr. S. Ramupillai, Mr. Advocate Allegakoen, and the retired Chief Justice of Travancore Mr. T. Chellappapillai, among others—who were all men of great worth and sterling qualities and whose death was felt as a great loss to the community. It is now our melancholy task to chronicle the death of one who is universally admitted here to have been a great man in the true sense of the word.

Mr Kathiravalupillai combined in himself qualities which could rarely be found in one individual. He was not only a person of very high social position, but was also a gentleman of unblemished character, spotless integrity and vast erudition. Neither calumny nor jealousy could point to one incident in his private or public life, as a lawyer or a Government official, which could be considered unworthy of the eminent position which he held among his countrymen. He was one of whom his countrymen were justly and truly proud, and was an ornament to the Tamil community. He was a man of serene temper, calm judgment, and unruffled patience. Nothing could disturb the equanimity of his mind, even on occasions of the sorest trial or the greatest excitement. Although he has died full of years—he was about 80 years of age at the time of his death—and full of honours, yet his death is a great loss to the community; but he leaves behind an example that is worthy of being followed by the younger generation of his countrymen.

Mr. Kathiravalu Pillai was an Advocate of the Supreme Court and was engaged in

the successful practice of his profession till he was appointed by Sir William Gregory in the seventies as Police Magistrate of Kayts, one of the highest offices open to a native in Jaffna. He also acted several times with very great acceptance as Police Magistrate of Jaffna and more than once as District Judge. Having retired a few years ago, he was fully occupied till a few days before his death, in the preparation of a Dictionary of the Tamil language. This work, though incomplete, will be a standing monument to his scholarship and persevering industry. The magnitude of the work will be seen from the fact that its first volume which is just out deals with only words beginning with the first letter of the Tamil alphabet.

It was, indeed, a great consolation to the deceased gentleman that his only son, Mr. Advocate Balasingam, who was practising his profession in Colombo, arrived here from the Metropolis a few days before his death. He leaves behind a widow, an only son, and two daughters who are married to his nephews, Proctors Sivapragasam and Kathirasu.

The funeral which took place on the evening of the 14th Instant was attended by a large number of people, including the elite of the Jaffna society, testifying to the great regard in which Mr. Kathiravalu Pillai was held by the Jaffna public. His remains were cremated at Chemmani in the presence of a large concourse of people, among whom were most of the prominent men in Jaffna.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved widow, children, and other relations, on the irreparable loss they have sustained.

OFFICIAL CHANGES IN JAFFNA.

Mr. T. B. Russell who has been District Judge of Jaffna for the last two months or so goes home on leave, and it is reported that Mr. Freeman, Assistant Government Agent, Puttalam, will be the next District Judge here. In the Jaffna Police Court also there will be change soon. Mr. J. Scott will, it is said, revert to his former office, as Office Assistant to the Government Agent, Jaffna, being succeeded in the Police Court by Mr. R. G. Saunders.

It is only right to say that Mr. Russell's departure is very much regretted by the Bar and the public, as he has already earned their esteem and respect as a conscientious, painstaking, able, and intelligent Judge. Though young in years, he understands the work more intelligently than an officer of his age and experience is expected to do. He is undoubtedly an improvement on his immediate predecessor and has succeeded in wiping off the arrears of work in this court. What has chiefly endeared Mr. Russell to the public here are his unruffled temper and genial disposition, which are qualities not possessed by Mr. Sanders. In our recent article on appointments to this District Court bench we only took exception on principle to the policy of the Government in reducing this judgeship from the first class of the service and appointing inexperienced men in the 3rd and 4th classes to this important office. If Mr. Russell has proved an able and worthy Judge it is an accident, and it cannot be expected that the appointment of other members of the Civil service of his standing and age will prove equally successful.

Mr. Scott is quite inexperienced to work in the Police Court bench, and his removal to some other more congenial sphere of work will not, we think, be regretted either by him or the public. But we do not think that Mr. Saunders who is personally an excellent gentleman will be a great success as Police Magistrate of Jaffna.

though he has had some experience of judicial work.

We also understand that Mr. Weeracon, the Office Assistant to the Government Agent, Jaffna, is under orders to proceed to Ratnapura as Office Assistant to the Government Agent there. He has already established a name here as one of the most efficient and ablest Office Assistants Jaffna has ever had and is very popular with the officers of the Kachcheri. His transfer will, therefore, be very much regretted by them and the Headmen of the District.

THE TAMIL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Hon'ble Dr. Rockwood, the Tamil member of the Legislative Council, leaves for England on the 19th Instant, with his third son whose eyesight requires immediate consultation with and treatment by some specialists there. It is reported that, during the Tamil Member's absence, the seat in the Legislative Council will be temporarily filled up. It is not known who will be the acting Member. We need hardly say that the person representing the Tamils in the Legislative Council, though the appointment may be a temporary one, should be one who would worthily represent their interests and be acceptable to the community. There is no use, under our present constitution, and in view of the arbitrary proceedings of Sir West Ridgeway in regard to appointments to seats in the Legislative Council, to mention the names of fit and proper persons for it. But it is hoped that His Excellency Sir Henry Blake will select the most competent person from among the aspirants for the acting appointment.

Since the above was in type intelligence has been received here to the effect that Mr. W. N. S. Aserappa, Advocate, who has often acted as Deputy Fiscal and Municipal Magistrate, Colombo, has been appointed acting Tamil Member, during the absence of Dr. Rockwood in England.

LOCAL & GENERAL

The Weather—The little monsoon has already set in and the wind is now blowing from the South-West. The heat is still intense and we hope rain will fall before the big monsoon properly sets in.

The Northern Railway—We hear that the Kurunagalle-Anuradhapura section of the Northern Railway will be opened for passenger traffic, during the Sinhalese Wesak festival, to facilitate the travelling of Buddhist pilgrims; and that the section from Pallai to Mankulam will be opened during the festival at Madu.

Accidental death—A Nalaya boy who climbed a cocoanut tree at Neervely to pluck cocoanuts fell from it and died the next day. It is very strange that a brother of this boy who climbed a cocoanut tree in the same compound a few years back met with the same fate.

The Police Superintendent—Mr. Dowbiggin, Superintendent of Police, has gone to Colombo to present himself for the examination. On his way back to Jaffna he will go to Mannar and inspect the Police force there.

Personal—Mr. V. Tampoo, clerk in the P. W. D. Office Colombo who lately retired from Government service has come to Jaffna.

The Pearl Fishery—This year's fishery bids fair to be a record one. The total amount realized for the 26 days fishing was Rs. 1,015,712 which beats all modern records.

The Supreme Court Bench—We learn on very good authority, says the Ceylon Independent, that the vacancy on the Supreme Court Bench consequent on the departure of His Lordship the Chief Justice will be filled by Mr. T. E. de Sampayo K. C. Barrister-at-law.

A Railway gate keeper assaulted—The Railway gate keeper at Chénia street Jaffna was assaulted on Friday last by some Nalaya people of that place.

The Russo-Japanese War—The latest incident of this war is the disaster to the Russian Man of war Petropavlovsk which was sunk off Port Arthur with Admiral Makroff and his whole staff. Only about 20 men were saved out of 700 seamen. The Russian version is that it struck a mine and sank, but the Japanese claim to have sunk the Flagship of the Russian Navy after a naval fight in the open sea. The whole of Russia, it is said, is in mourning.

Mr S. C. Williams Pillai B. A.—We are glad to learn from the Hindu that this gentleman who was Assistant Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division, Madras, and acting Inspector of Schools, Northern

Circle, has been confirmed in his appointment in the place of Mr. Raghunatha Chariar retired. We congratulate our countryman on his promotion.

A POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE FOR CHUNNAKAM.

Pursuant to a notice dated the 28th March 1904, and signed by the leading residents of Chunnakam and the adjoining villages a largely attended meeting was held on the 31st March 1904, at 6 P. M. at the Kantharodai English School Hall, under the presidency of the well-known landed proprietor of Kantharodai Mr. W. Mudaliar Mustaveleppillai, Mr. V. S. Ponnampalam, Proctor, acting as Secretary, to consider the desirability of memorialising the government to open a Post and Telegraph Office at Chunnakam.

The chairman rose amid great applause and explained the object of the meeting dwelling at length on the necessity of a Post and Telegraph Office for Chunnakam. He said that the present receiving Office at Mallakam will not answer the purpose and it causes great inconvenience and unnecessary delay to those who resort to it as a means of Postal communication. The importance of Chunnakam, he continued, as a central place between Jaffna and Kankasanturai has been already recognised by the railway authorities. Other divisions of Jaffna such as Valigamam West have more than one Post and Telegraph Office and Valigamam North is not less important than the others.

Mr. A. Ampalavanar then explained the chairman's remarks in Tamil.

Mr. V. S. Ponnampalam, Proctor, proposed the following resolution in a short speech:—

"That the Postmaster General be memorialised to open a Post and Telegraph Office at Chunnakam for the convenience of the residents of Chunnakam and of the adjoining villages of Kantharodai, Alavetty, Mallakam, Udavil, Punnalaikkadduvan, Elalai, Maheypitty, Uralu, Inuvil, etc., Chunnakam being the central Station for the said villages." In the course of his remarks he said that Chunnakam is not merely a geometrical centre of the said circle of villages, but to borrow a phrase from physical Science, it is also the centre of gravity not only for this circle but also for the whole of Jaffna. He then pointed out that the centre of gravity, he alluded to, lies in the Market of Chunnakam which is the most important and largest one in the Peninsula. The advantages of the market, the Railway Station and the Inuvil Hospital cannot be fully availed of until a Post and Telegraph Office is opened at Chunnakam.

Mr. K. Arulampalam B. A. (Advocate Student) of Mallakam seconded in forcible speech complaining against the inconveniences and hardships to which the people are subjected for want of proper post and Telegraph service for Chunnakam and the adjoining villages

—carried (Nem-con)

Mr. T. Kumarasamy, proctor, (Chunnakam) proposed that a representative committee consisting of the chairman, Hon'y Secretary, Messrs. R. Swaminathan, S. Mudaliar Visuvappah, T. K. Ponniah, S. Mootatampi (Notary Public) A. Kumaraswamippillai (Tamil Pandit) and M. Sthamparanathan be appointed to carry out the object of the meeting.

Mr. R. Swaminathan (Udaiyar of Udavil) Seconded.

—carried (Nem-con)

Mr. S. Mudaliar Visuvappah, Hindu Registrar, Valigamam North, proposed that a copy of the resolutions be sent to the Postmaster General.

Mr. S. Kanthiah, proprietor of the Kantharodai English school seconded.

—carried (Nem-con)

Vythessawarrakurukkal, high priest of Kantharodai Sivan Temple, proposed, that the Government Agent be politely requested to forward the memorial to the Postmaster General with his support.

Mr. S. Asaippillai (Straits Railways) seconded.

—carried (Nem-con)

Mr. T. K. Ponniah of Maheypitty (Headmaster of Kantharodai English School) proposed that the proceedings of this meeting be sent to Local papers.

Mr. K. Thyakarejapillai of Kantharodai Seconded.

—carried.

Pundits Kumaraswamippillai and Thyakarejapillai addressed the meeting at length in Tamil.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the proceedings terminated.—Cor.

THE BRITISH INVASION OF TIBET.

LECTURE BY SIR H. J. S. COTTON, K. C. S. I.

(SPECIAL REPORT.)

Sir Henry Cotton addressed a meeting on the question of the British Invasion of Tibet, at the

Town Hall, Hampstead, on Monday last, under the auspices of the Hampstead Peace and Arbitration Society. Mr. A. H. Thompson, M. A., M. B., presided, and there were also on the platform Messrs. Fulcher and Paget, whilst in the body of the hall were Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Maurice, Dr. C. Taylor, Mr. Arnold White, Mr. J. Daffus, and Mr. C. Herford.

The Chairman, in introducing the lecturer, said that everybody admitted that peace was a good thing, and that war was a bad thing; and it was only when these particular instances arose that there was any difference of opinion. It was then that passions were aroused which made people unable to listen to reason until it was too late. After the war was over it was generally found that it had been a mistake. Thus years after the Crimean War we had a great Conservative statesman stating that we then put our money on the wrong horse, though at the time John Bright and Cobden were almost alone of the prominent men of England in denouncing the war. And, again, four and a half years after the South African war everybody admitted that Sir Wm. Butler was right, though in 1899 he was recalled when he warned the Government what a war against the Dutch Republics in South Africa meant, though he was then regarded by the vast majority of the English people as something little better than a traitor. Happily, this question of Tibet had not reached the acute stage when people would not listen to reason; and they had an opportunity of listening to reason that night. It was a serious question; it was one which might involve us in a war with Russia, which would mean a European war, and he recommended the audience to accept the opportunity of considering the matter in a quiet and reasonable spirit, afforded by Sir Henry's lecture.

Sir Henry Cotton delivered an admirable discourse of nearly an hour's duration. His lecture, of course, was exceedingly interesting, and very instructive, and it commanded the attentive ear of everyone of the audience. He opened by acknowledging that the Government, by the issue of its Blue-book, had now supplied them with all the information relative to the Expedition that they could reasonably expect; indeed, the Book included many incidents and interviews between the Foreign Secretary and the Russian Ambassador which it would not have surprised him had the Government deemed it discreet not to disclose. Accepting the Blue-book as his text, Sir Henry at once proceeded to an investigation of the ostensible reason of the expedition. It was, that it was necessary to take strenuous action in order to develop our trade in Tibet; there was not a word in the Book which was responsibly put forward to justify action on our part as a counterpoise to Russian intrigue. The cause of the mission was simply and solely the failure of the convention entered into with China in 1890 owing to the breaking of it by the Tibetans. This convention dealt with various points. It provided that the boundary between British India and Tibet should be the watershed of the Himalaya, and we were to establish a mart within Tibetan territory, just over the boundary at a place called Yatung. It was hoped that a trade would be developed there, and that British traders would flock thither; but nothing of the kind happened, for various reasons. First of all, the trade of the country was very small. Tibetans were very poor people, and they had nothing to export except wool and yaks' tails. The failure of this convention, however, had been a constant source of irritation with the Government of India; and it was put forward in the Blue-book that the mission was sent to remedy the matter. The Tibetans were certainly alleged to have disturbed boundary works on the Himalaya, and it was quite true that they did, but the Government of India at the time said it was not a serious matter. Lord Carson, however, addressed certain letters to the Grand Lama of Lhasa, and these were returned, not very courteously. But Tibet was a peculiarly situated country. It was a part of China, which itself treated with foreign powers and retained control of the army, the Viceroy or Imperial Resident at Lhasa being the authority charged with the conduct of correspondence with foreign Powers. The Grand Lama, therefore, when he received Lord Carson's letters returned them with an explanation that the correspondence must be conducted with the Chinese Imperial correspondent. This offended Lord Carson very much; but the explanation, satisfactory or not—Sir Henry certainly could not say he thought it very unsatisfactory—was not such as to justify us in adopting hostile or criminal measures against Tibet. Then it was alleged—and this was put forward both by Lord Carson and Lord Lansdowne as a reason for the mission—that some of our British subjects were taken prisoners

by the Tibetans and taken to a place called Gyangtse, the objective of our present mission; but they were only two in number, and the last news in the Blue-book was that they had been released, so this again was not a serious matter. Sir Henry said he was present in the House of Lords the other evening when the subject of Tibet was discussed, and every speaker, he said, swept aside these reasons for sending an expedition into the country as trivial and unworthy. Lord Rosebury said that possibly in the aggregate they might be considered a justification for hostile action if it were desired to pick a quarrel—(laughter)—but not from any other point of view. The discussion dealt much more largely with the question of Russian intrigue. The Blue-book did not put this forward as a strong reason for the expedition; as a matter of fact, it was the strongest possible evidence against the existence of any such intrigue. There were various allegations that, under an agreement between China and Russia with regard to Tibet, China had transferred her rights to Russia; and they were swallowed by those whose prejudice and predilections inclined them to accept such stories as true; but directly any enquiry was made, they were shown to be absolutely baseless. China was the first to deny any such agreement. The Chinese Ambassador said there was not a vestige of ground for it; the subject had never even been discussed between China and Russia, and anyone with the smallest knowledge of China would see that the agreement—which was actually put in some papers—was an invention. Shortly afterwards the Russian Government was addressed by us on the subject, and they gave a complete and categorical denial to any such agreement. There had not, therefore, been any thought of our, and Lord Lansdowne, in his speech in the House of Lords very clearly admitted that there was no justification whatever for any such alleged agreement. The Russians had never gone to Tibet, and did not contemplate going there; but his Lordship added that he believed the feeling had got abroad in Lhasa that in difficulties the Lama would be able to fall back on Russia to help him, and that was an unsatisfactory state of things which the British Government could not tolerate. As a matter of fact, Sir Henry was able to tell his audience that no Russian had ever been into Lhasa, any more than an Englishman. One Englishman got into Lhasa a hundred years ago, but no more, although many had tried. Many Asiatic subjects of the Russian nation as well as of the British Empire had travelled into Tibet and had written interesting accounts, and they had found their way into Lhasa, but although Asiatics were allowed free access to Lhasa, no Europeans were. This question of Russian intrigue was therefore a bogey—(applause)—and it was pretty satisfactorily dispelled by the Blue-book. The Russians were no doubt admirable intriguers; in many ways they were past masters of intrigue; but it could not be said that they had even attempted to intrigue in this instance. The country was far from their sphere of influence, and they had no desire to go there. Still, they had a considerable interest in Tibet, because it was an integral part of the Chinese Empire, and they had protested against the action on the part of the British Empire, which would have the effect of altering the "status quo" of Tibet, and lead to the disintegration of the Chinese Empire. This was a legitimate argument for the Russians to take up; it was exactly on the same footing as our objection to any action affecting the "status quo" of Manchuria on the ground that it would lead to the disintegration of the Chinese Empire. It was alleged that we were acting with the approval and concurrence of China. The king's Speech said, "with the concurrence of the Chinese Government"; and both Lord Hardwicke and Lord Lansdowne declared in the House of Lords that whatever was being done was with the knowledge and concurrence of the Chinese Government and that the suzerainty of China had throughout been recognised. Sir Henry confessed that he was surprised to hear that statement, having regard to the actual facts as they appeared in the Blue-book. There were two missions. One was sent to a place called Khambajong, and was withdrawn because the Tibetans would not treat with our Commissioners, owing to their being accompanied by troops. The Chinese Foreign Office at this early stage addressed our British Government requesting the withdrawal of our troops in order that negotiations might proceed in a friendly spirit, and the frontier question receive an early settlement to the advantage of both sides. This request was not consistent with the statement that we were acting with the entire concurrence of the Chinese Government. It was not, of course, complied with, and the whole of the proceedings in the Blue book at that stage were a continuous record of protests on the part of the

Chinese Commissioners, Captain Parr and Perfect Ho, against the selection of Khambajong as a place of meeting. All their requests, as were those of the Chinese Government and of the Imperial Resident in Lhasa, were utterly disregarded. The mission was ultimately withdrawn, and nothing came of it. Then the Government accepted Lord Curzon's proposal that a forward advance should be made into Tibet, that we should occupy the country as we went along and that we should go to a place called Gyangtse. We were half way there now, and we were supposed to have the concurrence of the Chinese Government. But before the new mission actually started the Chinese Government protested, expressing the hope that the English Government would countermand the advance of Colonel Younghusband and await the arrival of the new Imperial Resident at Lhasa. Of course, it was refused. Lord Lansdowne replied that it was impossible that his Majesty's Government should desist from the measures already sanctioned. On December 22nd the Chinese Ambassador made a further protest. It was really nothing but a series of protests against our advance into the heart of the country; and yet this was the mission which was described in the King's Speech, and by Lord Lansdowne in the House of Lords, as being made with the concurrence of the Chinese Government. Sir Henry felt surprised the point was not taken up and contradicted; but they could only suppose the noble lords had not studied the Blue-book with the care and attention which it deserved. There was no foundation whatever for the allegations of Russian intrigue, or that we had the concurrence of the Chinese Government in our Tibetan policy. Sir Henry expressed the greatest satisfaction with the speech, in the House, of Lord Ripon, who, he said, was not only Governor-General of India, but was a Governor-General pre-eminently more popular than all of them with the people of India. (Applause.) Of all men, he might be described as the friend of India; and when he spoke upon Indian subjects he did so with exceptional authority. He protested in most eloquent language against the immorality of this invasion of Tibet. He said there was no justification for it whatever; it was an intolerable and monstrous thing that we should invade a country in order to force trade upon it; and Sir Henry was glad to say this was received by a section of the house with those gentle murmurs of approval which went by the name of cheers in that august assembly (Laughter and applause.) It was not by any means the first time the English Government had become involved in war in its pursuit of commerce; and Sir Henry did not think there was any form of war more unjustifiable and more immoral. (Applause.) There was, he called to mind, a famous saying of Burke's, that "that which is morally wrong can never be politically right." (Applause.) Sir Henry wished this sentiment were more generally accepted among the good people of England. It was a principle expressed in short and precise terms; it meant the subordination of politics to morals. There was no statesman in the country who would now pronounce such a policy. Cobden, Bright, and Gladstone did so. (Applause.) Although Gladstone's whole connexion with Egypt was certainly not one of the most satisfactory features of his career, he regretted that policy, and probably he did more than any statesman of our time, and even more than Cobden and Bright were able to do, to raise the moral tone of public life in England. What we wanted was a successor to these great men, who would adopt similar lines on public platforms and in the Houses of Parliament. Sir Henry quoted clause 55 of the Act for the Betterment of India, which stipulated that, except for purposes of repelling invasion and cases of sudden and urgent necessity, the revenues of India were not to be employed on military operations beyond the boundary of British India without sanction of Parliament. He submitted that the expedition in Tibet was covered by this section; but the Government said it was not a military operation but a political mission. (Laughter.) Sir Henry outlined the nature of the mission, and ridiculed this statement on the part of the Government. He remarked that for two months our forces had been halting at Tuna, partly because of the difficulty of provisioning them, and partly because the Tibetans in some thousands had collected and encamped about eight miles to the north, practically obstructing further advance. The Indian Government were as reluctant as possible to shed blood, and they were hoping against hope that the Tibetans would withdraw; but the time must come sooner or later when we made a further advance; and it would not surprise Sir Henry to hear in a few days that that advance had been undertaken. We should then know whether the Tibetans were going to actively obstruct us or not. He thought it very probable, judging from

the extreme aversion they had displayed, they would do so, and that we should have to shoot them down. There was no risk to us, for the Tibetans were practically without arms. The only time we had had any fighting with them, a thousand of them were killed, and we did not lose a man. Sir Henry feared something of this kind might happen now, and he thought it would be an indelible blot on the career of Lord Curzon, who was primarily responsible for what had taken place.

At the conclusion of his lecture Sir Henry invited questions. Mr. C. Herford asked whether the Grand Lama himself had said anything in the matter; and the lecturer's reply was emphatically in the negative. Another gentleman enquired as to the evidence in support of the statement that Tibet could rely upon Russia in case of difficulties, and Sir Henry replied that Colonel Younghusband heard it among Tibetans as gossip. Mr. Arnold White asked if the lecturer had any authority outside the Blue book for his denial that we acted with the concurrence of the Chinese Government. The lecturer said he had no other authority, and he agreed that it was possible specific permission might have been given since the issue of the Blue-book. Further questioned, Sir Henry said the expense of the expedition would be borne by the people of India unless someone were able to "work" that 55th section of the Act for the Betterment of India to which he had referred, which was not likely; and he emphasised the injustice of the Indian Revenues bearing the expense of the scientists who were going to join the mission remarking that no doubt we should have a Tibetan section at the British Museum.

A vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer, on the motion of Mr. J. Duffus, seconded by Mr. Paget; and the Chairman was also thanked. —India.

NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI.

Testamentary

No. 1317

Jurisdiction

Class I.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Muttupillai wife of Vaitilingam of Kondavil Deceased

Kantar Muttuvakali of Vannarponnai Petitioner

Vs

1. Tampar Vaitilingam of Vannarponnai and
2. Sinnakkuddi Arumugam of Kondavil

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Kantar Muttuvakali of Vannarponnai coming on for disposal before T. B. Russell Esquire District Judge, on the 31st day of March 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casipillai & Cathiravelu Proctors for the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 30th day of March 1904 having been read. It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the late Muttupillai wife of Vaitilingam granted to Tampar Vaitilingam be revoked and that Letters de bonis usu of the said estate be issued to the Petitioner unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or, before the 28th day of April 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 31st day of March 1904.

Sgd. T. B. RUSSELL

District Judge

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

ORDER NISI

Testamentary

No. 1493

Jurisdiction

Class I.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Sithamparam wife of Arumugam of Chiviatern Deceased.

Kasinathar Arumugam of Chiviatern Petitioner

Vs

1. Nagappan Sinnattampy of Chiviatern
2. Nagappan Navasivayam of do
3. Teivanaipillai widow of Kathesar of do

Respondents

This matter of the Petition of Kasinathar Arumugam of Chiviatern praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased Sithamparam wife of Arumugam of Chiviatern coming on for disposal before T. B. Russell Esq. District Judge, on the 24th day of March 1904 in the presence of Messrs. Casipillai & Cathiravelu Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated the 24th day of March 1904 having been read, it is declared that the Petitioner is the lawful husband 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 28th day of April 1904 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Signed this 24th day of March 1904

Sgd. T. B. RUSSELL

District Judge